

Address

15 Skyview Drive Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Tel (401) 722-1345

Parish Website

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/ StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreek CatholicChurchRI/

YouTube

https://bit.ly/3gkl2Uk

Email

 $\underline{office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com}$

Office hours

Tue-Fri 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Divine Liturgies

Tuesday through Friday at 9: 00 AM Saturday at 4:00 PM Sunday at 11:00 AM

Pastoral Emergencies and anointing of the sick (401)722-1345

Holy Mysteries

Reconciliation

Saturday 2:30 –3:30 PM Sunday 9:30-10:30 AM or by appointment

Baptism

Please arrange with the pastor

Marriage

A notice of at least 6 months should be given to the pastor, before the proposed wedding date to arrange for the required interview and instructions



ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH



Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross

الأحد قبل رفع الصليب المقدس

Troparion of the Resurrection (7th tone)

Through your Cross You destroyed death, You opened Paradise to the thief, and turned into joy the mourning of the ointment bearing women, and You ordered your Apostles to proclaim that You rose, O Christ God, Bestowing great mercy upon the world.

Troparion of the Nativity

Your Nativity, O Mother of God, heralded joy to the whole universe, for from you rose the Sun of Justice, Christ our God. He canceled the curse and poured forth His grace: He vanquished death and granted us eternal life.

Troparion of St Basil

Your voice has sounded all over the earth, that accepted your preaching. You gave a divine explanation of doctrine, and made clear the nature of creatures, and set a rule of life for men. Holy Father, and Kingly Priest, intercede with Christ God to grant us great mercy.

Kondakion of the Nativity of the Theotokos, 4th Tone -

Through your holy birth, O Immaculate One, Joachim and Anne were delivered from the shame of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. Your people, redeemed from the debt of their sins, cry out to you to honor your birth: "the barren one gives birth to the Mother of God the Sustainer of our life!"

نشيد القيامة باللحن السابع

لاشيتَ بصليبكَ الموت، وفتحت للصِ الفردوس، وحولت نوحَ حاملات الطيب الى فرح، وأمرتَ رسلكَ أن يكرزوا مبشرين بأنك قد قمتَ، أيها المسيحُ الاله، مانحاً العالم عظيمَ الرحمة.

نشيد لميلاد السيدة باللحن الرابع

ميلاذُكِ يا والدةَ الاله، بشَّرَ بالفرحِ المسكونةَ كلَّها. لأَنه منكِ أَشرقَ شمسُ العدلِ المسيخُ إِلهُنا. فحلَ اللعنةَ ووهبَ البركة، وأَبطلَ الموتَ ومنحَنا الحياةَ الابدية.

طروباربة القديس باسيليوس

لقد ذاعَ منطقُكَ في كل الأرض. فانها قد قَبِلَتْ كلامك، الذي به بيَّنت العقائدَ بياناً إلهيّاً، وأوضحتَ طبيعةَ الكائنات، ونظَمتَ أخلاقَ البشر. فيا أيها الآبُ البارُّ ذو الكهنوت الملوكي، إبتهل إلى المسيحِ الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

قنداق لميلاد السيدة باللحن الرابع

ان يواكيمَ وحنةً من عارِ العُقرِ أُطلِقا، وآدمَ وحواءَ من فسادِ الموتِ أُعتِقا، بمولدِكِ المقدَّسِ أَيتها الطاهرة. فله يُعيّدُ شعبُكِ أَيضاً، وقد أُنقِذَ من تَبِعَةِ الزِلاّت، صارخًا اليكِ: العاقرُ تَلِدُ والدةَ الالهِ مُغذّيَةً َ حياتِنا.



Our church organizations:

MAYA: Organization of Melkite Catholics ages 18 – 26 (and at least 1 year out of high school) under patronage of our bishop, the Most Reverend Nicholas Samra. https://melkite.org/maya

MYO: Provides a common forum for all the young people of St. Basil's Church, and that the Organization initiate, coordinate, and direct religious, social, educational, and humanitarian programs designed to promote the involvement of its membership in the Christian Faith and the Melkite tradition.

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.co m/myo.html

NAMW: Promotes and supports vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the United States. https://melkite.org/namw

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTENCOST-Galatians: 6: 11-18

PROKIMENON (Tone 5)

You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

Stichon: Save me, 0 Lord, for there is no longer any holy man, for truthfulness has vanished from among the children of men. READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians:

BRETHREN, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand! All those who want to please in a human way are forcing you to be circumcised merely to avoid persecution because of the cross of Christ. For not even the circumcised observe the Law: but they want you to be circumcised that they may boast of your subjection to external rites. But as for me, God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision but a new creation is of any account. And whoever follow this rule, peace and mercy be upon them and on God's Israel. From now on, let no man give me trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus in my body. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

ALLELUIA (Tone 5)

Your favor, 0 Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation, my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

Stichon: For you have said, "My kindness is established forever." In heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

Gospel: Sunday before the feast of the Holy Cross, John 3: 13-17

(The Son of Man must be lifted up)

The Lord said, "No one has gone up into heaven except the One Who has come down from heaven: the Son of Man Who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that those who believe in Him may not perish, but may have life everlasting." For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that those who believe in Him may not perish, but may have life everlasting. For God did not send His Son into the world in order to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

الاحد الثاني والعشرون بعد العنصرة مقدمة السالة

أَنتَ يا ربُّ تحفظُنا وتحمينا، من هذا الجيلِ وإلى الدهر —خلّصني يا ربُّ فإِنَّ البارِّ قد فني، لأن الحقيقة قد ضَعُفتْ عندَ بنى البشر.

الرسالة (غلاطية 6: 11-18)

يا اخوة، أنظروا بأي حروفٍ كتبتُ اليكم بيدي. ان جميعَ الذين يُريدونَ أَن يُرضوا بحسبِ الجسد، هؤلاءِ يُلزمونكم أن تَختَنِنوا. وانما ذلك لئلا يُضطهدوا من أجلِ صليبِ المسيح. لان المختونينَ أنفسهم لا يحفظونَ الناموس، لكنّهم يُريدون أَن تَختَ ِتِنوا ليَفْتَخِروا بأجسادِكم. أَما أَنا فحاشى لي أَن أَفتخرَ إِلاَ بصليبِ ربنا يسوعَ المسيح، الذي به صُلبَ العالمُ لي، بولنا يُلعالم. لأنه في المسيح يسوعَ لا يستطيعُ الختانُ شيئاً ولا القلّف، بل الخليقةُ الجديدة. وكلُ الذين يسلكونَ هذه الطريقة، عليهم السلامُ والرحمة، وعلى اسرائيلِ الله. فلا يُعَنِّ ِنِي أَحدٌ فيما بعد، لأني حاملٌ في جسدي سِماتِ الربِ يسوع. نعمةُ ربنا بسوع المسيح. نعمةُ ربنا بسوع المسيح مع روحِكم أيها الاخوةُ، آمين.

للوبا

بمراحِمك يا ربُّ أُرنمُ إِلَى الابد، الى جيلٍ فجيل أُعلنُ حقَّك بفمي لأنك قلتَ: ان الرحمة تُبنى الى الابد، وفي السماوات بهتاً حقُّك.

انجيل الاحد الذي قبل عيد الصليب الانجيل (يوحنا 3: 13 – 17)

قال الرب: لم يصعد احدٌ الى السماءِ، إلا الذي نزلَ من السماء، ابنُ البشر الكائنُ في السماء. وكما رفعَ موسى الحيَّة في البرية، هكذا ينبغي ان يُرْفَعَ ابنُ البشر، لكيلا يهلكَ كلُّ من يؤمن به، بل تكونَ له الحياة الابدية. هكذامأحبَ اللهُ العالم، حتى إنهُ بذلَ ابنَه الوحيد، لكي لا يهلكَ كلُّ من يؤمنُ به، بل تكونَ له الحياة الابدية، لأنه لم يرسل اللهُ ابنَه الى العالم ليدينَ العالم، بل ليُخَلصَ به العالم.







Prayer for the dead



O God of all spirits and of all flesh, who have destroyed death, overcome the devil, and given life to the world: grant, O Lord to the souls of your servants, who have departed from this life, that they may rest in a place of light, in a place of happiness, in a place of peace, where there is no pain, no grief, no sighing. And since You are gracious God and Lover of mankind, forgive them every sin they have committed by thought, or word, or deed, for there is not a man who lives and does not sin: You alone are without sin, your righteousness is everlasting, and your word is true.

For You are the Resurrection and the Life, and the Repose of your departed servants, O Christ our God, and we render glory to You, together with your Eternal Father and your Allholy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.



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Divine Liturgy Intentions

TODAY, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, AND SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021: SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. LEAVE-TAKING OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD.

4:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + JOSEPH HARRAKA (1st Anniv.) by the Family.
- + REV. ARCHDEACON GEORGE YANY & ANGELA MAZZONE by Tony & Myrna Brahimsha.
- + KEVIN DURNIN (Birthday Remem.) by wife Christine.
- + ABOUD & ANTOINETTE TAHAN by Christine.
- + MARY R. AZAR by M/M V. Edward Fayan.
- + ALVERA BANNA by Alan & Shirley Balady Bleurmer (Edison, NJ).
- + MARY TAHAN by Gregory Landry.
- + VICTORIA PROCHNIAK by Caroline St. Germain.
- + YVONNE HAGGAR COLABELLA by Frederick L& Linda Koussa.
- + ADELINE, MARY, ROSALINE SALHANY by Mr. George Salhany.

11:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + ROBERT DANIEL HAKEEM by Leon Hakeem & Family.
- + JAMES MARON by Jayne & Anthony Mardo.
- + **GEORGE BOUDJOUK** by Norman & Diane Kishfy.
- + MARIE CLAIRE CHOUHA by Nelly Kishfy.
- + GEORGE DECKEY by Brenda & Roger Hultquist.
- + **GEORGEANNA DECKEY** by Gloria Deckey & Family.
- + ELIAS J. KISHFY by Elias & Barbara Deeb.
- + YUSUF & BLANCHE MUSSALLI by George & Sherine Mussalli & Family.
- + LOUIS P. KISHFY by M/M Greg & Stephanie Richard & Family.
- + GEORGETTE A. SAGGAL by Georgette S. Saggal.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: September 5, 2021: Budgets: \$2,082.00; Stipends: \$365.00; Building Fund: \$140; Candles: \$90.00; Addit'l Melkite Support: 35.00; Addit'l Cemetery: \$213.00; Miscellaneous: \$180.00.

GRAPE LEAVES: The Food Fair Committee is appealing to all parishioners and friends to donate sufficient grape leaves to accommodate the needs of this popular cuisine. Anyone willing to donate some leaves can bring them to the church and they will be stored in the freezer. Arrangements will be made by the Committee to freeze them.

Please be advised that the weekly bulletin has not been printed due to the COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions, but presently, information is available online, church Facebook page and on YouTube.

FATHER DANIEL NASSANEY UPDATE: Your prayers are precious. Thank you for all your love and concern. The leg is slowly healing. The wound is closing nicely, but it is still, I guess, a good month or 2 away from closure. Tomorrow, I shall be getting hearing aids. Age catches up with all of us. Saturday, September 11th, 2021, will have the 20th SHAWN NASSANEY MEMORIAL RACE at Bryant. I hope to get a ride there. It will be a quick visit but my first trip since arriving back for treatment. GOD BLESS! - **Fr. Dan.**

<u>GENERAL HOME VISITATIONS, SICK CALLS, HOSPITAL VISITS:</u> Father Ephrem has been fully vaccinated and is now available for these parish services. Just email him at <u>office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com</u> and leave him your message. **PLEASE! NO GRATUITIES!** A cup of coffee or tea is just fine. He looks forward to in-person contact.

Canon Law prohibits accepting stipends or offerings for Liturgies more than one year in advance (rolling calendar) Canon 953. The time within which Liturgies must be celebrated (1 year) begins the day the intention is received. (Canon 955 #2). Formerly under the jurisdiction of the local Latin Ordinaries before the Exarchate was established under the leadership of the late Bishiop Justin Najmy of this Parish, all Melkites have been subject to the latter since its erection in 1966. The Constitution of the Melkite Eparchy which is now a sole Diocese since 1976 still acknowledges this definitive protocol. Our parishes follow local discipline in the various customs e.g. every day clergy attire, stipends (Liturgy Offerings), etc. except in Liturgy and Ritual. Our relationship with the local Latin Dioceses and Latin pastors must be permeated with a spirit of love and friendship and cooperation.

Presently effective, the schedule of offerings in parishes is now: Liturgies: \$25.00; Funerals: \$300.00; Weddings: \$300.00; Baptisms: \$100.00.

All Liturgy offerings received from Funerals, which exceed more than one year, have had the maximum and minimum celebrations. Surplus ones have been deposited in the Building Fund and placed on the altar and remembered similarly to the customs of spiritual bouquets, perpetual Mass enrollments, & memorial cards, as in chapels, shrines, & monasteries. May the memories of our beloved deceased rest in peace & be eternal. Many thanks for your understanding and undivided attention in regard to these guidelines and restrictions.

20th ANNIVERSARY OF 911, SAT., SEPT. 11, 2021: Gracious God, our world changed with the 911 attacks. We have seen how easily buildings can fall and how quickly lives can end. As we remember 911, may it remind us that You are our only true security. Give us your strength to face the memory of this attack and the changes it made in our lives. Give us your compassion to help each other & recognize needs around the world. Give us your hope as we face an uncertain future. Give us YOUR PEACE! In the strong name of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. AMEN!

Unfortunately, one of our native sons, SHAWN NASSANEY, lost his life in this tragic event. He was the grandson of the late Harvey & Janine Nassaney of this Parish, the son of Patrick & Margaret Nassaney, and nephew to Father Daniel Nassaney.

MAY HIS MEMORY BE ETERNAL!

O Jesus, Who has said,
"Ask and you shall
receive, seek and you
shall find, knock and it
shall be opened," through
the intercession of the
Theotokos, Your Most
Holy Mother, I knock, I
seek, I ask that my prayer
be granted.

O Jesus, Who has said,
"All that you ask of the
Father in My Name, He
will grant you," through
the intercession of the
Theotokos Your Most
Holy Mother, I humbly
and urgently ask your
Father in your name that
my prayer will be granted.

O Jesus, Who has said,
"Heaven and earth shall
pass away but My word
shall not pass away,"
through the intercession
of the Theotokos Your
Most Holy Mother, I feel
confident that my prayer
will be granted.





PARISH UPDATE: Father Ephrem returned to California on Thursday, September 9, 2021, to attend the surgery & be at his sister's side on Tuesday, September 14th. Originally, the surgery was planned for August 27th. He has graciously been dispensed from attending the **ANNUAL CLERGY CONFERENCE** in San Antonio, Texas, by His Excellency, Bishop Nicholas Samra, and now hopefully, he can continue his visit with the family, and get some well -deserved rest & relaxation. Let us remember him and his family in our prayers for peace, health, salvation, protection and long life, and A SAFE TRIP GOING AND RETURNING. God willing, he should be back in Rhode Island around September 23rd.

<u>New Script by Father Joe's Physician, Dr. Michael Martino:</u> Due to the extenuating circumstances, Father Joe, with due care, may minister the Parish in Father Ephrem's absence, but due to his compromised immune system, may now have some contact with parishioners, with no more than clusters of ten, but must observe distancing, and the wearing of the Mask for both parties. This certainly is an improvement, and we hope and pray restrictions will be lessened. Thank you for your understanding under these precarious health conditions.

There will be no weekday Divine Liturgies during Father Ephrem's absence from the Parish until further notice.

Blessing of Sunday School Students and Teachers will take place today, Saturday, September 11th at 4:00 p.m., and tomorrow, Sunday, September 12th at 11:00 a.m.

The Fall Schedule of Divine Liturgies will begin next Sunday, September 19th at 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. with the official opening of Sunday School, after the 9:00 a.m. Liturgy.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST CLUB OPENS FOR ANOTHER SEASON NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021: George Ghazal, chairperson, with the assistance of the dedicated volunteers who have offered their services since the inception of the Club. This social hour every Sunday morning allows for more fellowship which is very important to the life of the Church. Remember a community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm.

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS, SEPTEMBER 14: According to Christian tradition, the True Cross was discovered in 326 by Saint Helena, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great, during a pilgrimage she made to Jerusalem. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was then built at the site of the discovery, by order of Helena and Constantine. The Church was dedicated nine years later, with a portion of the cross. One-third remained in Jerusalem, one-third was brought to Rome and deposited in the Sessorian basilica Santa Croce in Gerusaemme (Holy Cross in Jerusalem), and one-third was taken to Constantinople to make the city impregnable.

- --- Important: This year, the Divine Liturgy will be elaborately celebrated on the actual day, Tuesday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the Church with the distribution of blessed carnations. At the end, we will all file outside to the front of the Church around the center island.
- --- Surprise: 3 Fire pits will be set up on the island and a special so-called bon fire will be lit and will be explained to you during the homily In Church that evening. This is a first historical event of preserving our heritage and liturgical tradition in our Parish for this Feast. As the Feast was approaching, Fr. Ephrem saw he wouldn't be here for it, and was disappointed, since he had witnessed it in the Middle East all his life and wanted to restore it at St. Basil's. Leaving for California on Thursday, September 9th, he said my dear Father Joe, it will be in your hands. Surprise, surprise, surprise!!
- --- NOW: We can't stress enough, encourage and urge you to attend the entire Celebration which is a first in your lifetime as well as mine. At the end of this service, you are all cordially invited to proceed to the Cultural Center for refreshments, where we can greet each other: Christ is among us! He is and always will be! GOD BLESS! FINALE!!

O Jesus, Who has said,
"Ask and you shall
receive, seek and you
shall find, knock and it
shall be opened," through
the intercession of the
Theotokos, Your Most
Holy Mother, I knock, I
seek, I ask that my prayer
be granted.

O Jesus, Who has said,
"All that you ask of the
Father in My Name, He
will grant you," through
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Theotokos Your Most
Holy Mother, I humbly
and urgently ask your
Father in your name that
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O Jesus, Who has said,
"Heaven and earth shall
pass away but My word
shall not pass away,"
through the intercession
of the Theotokos Your
Most Holy Mother, I feel
confident that my prayer
will be granted.



The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

The Story of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Saint Helen the mother of Saint Constantine the Great, when she was already advanced in years, undertook, in her great piety, the hardships of a journey to Jerusalem in search of the Cross, about the year 325 A.D.

The Venerable Saint Helen had the statue of the pagan goddess destroyed, and the earth removed, revealing the Tomb of Our Lord, and three crosses. Of these, it was believed that one must be that of Our Lord, the other two of the thieves crucified with Jesus; but Saint Helen was at a loss which one might be the Wood of Our salvation.

At the inspiration of Saint Macarius, Archbishop of Jerusalem, who was already at the point of death from a certain disease, was brought to touch the crosses, and as soon as he came near to the Cross of Our Lord, he was made perfectly whole. Consequently, the precious Cross was lifted on high by Archbishop Macarius of Jerusalem; as he stood on the ambo, and when the Christians beheld it, they cried out, "Kyrie eleison" ("Lord have mercy."). It should be noted that after its discovery, a portion of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross was taken to Constantinople as a blessing. The rest was left in Jerusalem in the magnificent Church built by Saint Helen, until the year 614 A.D. At that time, the Persians plundered Palestine and took the Holy Cross to their own country (see Jan. 22, Saint Anastasius the Persian). Late, in the year 628 A.D., Emperor Heraclius set out on a military campaign, retrieved the Holy Cross, and after bringing it to Constantinople, himself escorted it back to Jerusalem, where he stored it to its place. The Church is called the Church of the Resurrection and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

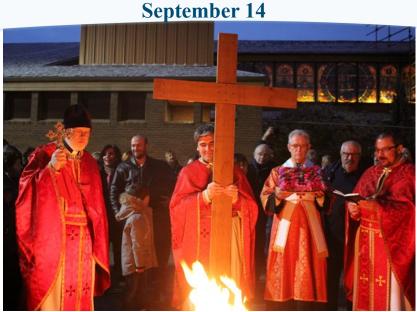
THE GREAT FEASTS OF THE CHURCH are each celebrations of an aspect of the mystery of Christ: Of these feasts Pascha is considered "the Feast of Feasts," the center of our Church life, the mystery of Christ's resurrection. While Pascha is celebrated with feasting, the Great and Holy Week which leads up to Pascha observes the last events of Christ's earthly life along with His death and burial by fasting.

Each Sunday celebrates the resurrection with the Eucharistic banquet, while each Wednesday and Friday remembers Christ's betrayal and death – again, with fasting.

Next in importance to Pascha are "the Twelve Great Feasts" which celebrate events of Christ's life, of His Mother, of His ascension and the coming of the Spirit. Several of these are preceded by days or seasons of fasting. The feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is the only one observed by simultaneous feasting and fasting!

Our Reasons for Feasting

The immediate historical events celebrated on this feast are, first of all, the unearthing of the Cross in the fourth century during the expedition led by St Helena to adorn the Holy Land with fitting shrines to Christ. The second event



remembered is the recovery of the cross in the seventh century by Byzantine forces fourteen years after it had been captured by Persian invaders.

Two traditions common among Eastern Christians celebrate the discovery of the cross. It is said that St. Helena's workmen were led to the site of the cross by the fragrant aroma of basil growing there. It is customary to adorn the cross and, in some places, the entire church with sprigs of basil. Some basil would be given to people when they venerate the Cross to take home and adorn

their icons. In some parts of Greece basil would be ground and added to the dough used to make prosphora.

A second festive act observed throughout the Middle East in both Byzantine and Oriental Churches is the lighting of bonfires, usually after the vespers or vigil of the feast. When the cross was unearthed by St. Helena's expedition, the news of this discovery was spread from Jerusalem to Constantinople by a series of bonfires set on the mountains along the coast through Asia Minor. Today's bonfires are a popular re-enactment of that event.

The recovery of the Cross is remembered by another festive act — the one which gives this feast its name. When the victorious Byzantine army returned the Cross to Jerusalem, Patriarch Zachariah "exalted" the Cross, lifting it high for the veneration of the people who continually cried out Kyrie eleison as they gazed on the Cross. In our ceremony of the exaltation, the Cross is raised high in each direction — north, south, east and west — to bless the entire world as the people repeatedly chant Kyrie eleison.

The first sticheron sung at vespers on this feast echoes this festive sentiment: "By its elevation, the Cross is like an appeal to the whole creation to adore the blessed Passion of Christ our God who was suspended on it, for Christ destroyed by this Cross the one who had destroyed us. In His great goodness, He brought us back to life after we had been dead, and He beatified us and made us worthy of Heaven, for He is merciful. Wherefore, we exalt His name with great rejoicing and glorify His infinite condescension."

Sharing in the Mystery of the Cross

"The Lord accomplished our salvation by His death on the Cross: on the Cross He tore up the handwriting of our sins; through the Cross He reconciled us with our God and Father; and through the Cross He brought down upon us grace-filled gifts and all heavenly blessings. But this is the Lord's Cross itself. Each of us becomes a partaker of its salvific power in no other way than through our personal cross.

"When the personal cross of each of us is united with Christ's Cross, the power and effect of the latter is transferred to us and becomes, as it were, a conduit through which 'every good gift and every perfect grace' (James 1:17) is poured forth upon us from the Cross of Christ.

"From this it is evident that the personal cross of each of us is as essential to the work of salvation as the Cross of Christ." St Theophan the Recluse

عيد الصليب المقدس المحيى

تحتفل الكنيسة يوم الرابع عشر من أيلول بعيد الصليب المقدس

يرمز عمود الصليب الى العلاقة بين الله والبشر والعمود الافقي الى علاقة الانسان باخيه الانسان

بهذا اليوم نحتفل بوجود رمز خلاصنا ونتذكر في هذه الايام قصة حب عظيمة ما عرف تاريخ البشرية مثلها هذه مناسبة لنتذكر ذاك الذي حرَّرنا بحب وقبلنا بذراع ممدودة على خشبة وجراح مؤلمة كانت تتجسد فيها كلماته وحياته ورسالته وحبُه لنا جميعاً. وهي دعوة لنبحث فيها مع الملكة هيلانة من جديد عن الصليب

الممجد في حياتنا ونحتفل بإنارة الأضواء في دواخلنا. وإشعال النيران في قلوبنا، نيران الحقيقة، نيران الحب،نيران التضحية والغفران. ولنطلب من الرب معاً أن يساعدنا فنحمل صلباننا ونسير بثقة وسط الجموع، ونحتضنها بحب وفرح ونرفعها حتى نُرفغ عليها لنكون على غرار ذاك الذي أحبنا وأسلم ذاته بتواضع معلقاً على الصليب

فالصليب هو علامة حب وبذل وتضحية وفداء ،و هو علامة الم واحتمال،ونحن نرسم الصليب لانه يمنحنا القوة لاننا نتذكر ان الرب بالصليب داس الموت ومنح الحياة لكل الناس وقهر الشيطان و غلبه ان فكرة المسيحية هي ليست فقط بلبس الصليب كعلامة على انك مسيحي،بل ان تعيش حقا كمسيحي مؤمن يؤمن بحياة اساسها يسوع المسيح المنقذ المخلص قال المسيح،احمل صليبك واتبعني...متى 10

صليبنا خلاصنا فلنحمل صليبنا بكل سرور وننكر ذاتنا ونتبع السيد المسيح

لقد مات المسيح مصلوباً ، وأصبح صليبه بالتالي رمزاً يذكرنا بحبه وعطائه وعمله الخلاصي .. فدرب الصليب هو مطلب وعنوان مجد المسيح وللمسيحيين .. فلنقبله بإيمان ورجاء

يا مَن رُفِع على الصَّليبِ طوعاً ، أيها المسيخ الإله، إمنَحْ رأْفتَكَ لشعبكَ الجديدِ الملقَّب باسمِكَ. قرّحْ بقدرثِكَ عبيدِكَ المؤمنين. مانحاً إياهم القوة والشجاعة. لتكن لهم نُصرَتَكَ سلاحَ سلامِ وعربون حماية دائمة

كيف عثر على الصليب؟

بعد صلب المسيح وقيامته قام البعض من اليهود المتعصبين بردم قبر المخلص ودفن الصليب المقدس وصليبي اللصيب ربنا يسوع، نظراً للمعجزات التي كانت تحدث هناك وبجوار القبر المقدس. فاختفى أثر الصليب مذ ذاك ولمدة تناهز ثلاثة قرون من الزمان.

وفي مطلع القرن الرابع المبلادي أراد قسطنطين الكبير (من ولادة صربيا، وهو إبن الإمبراطور قسطنطينوس الأول) أنْ يأخذ روما ويُصبح إمبراطور الغرب. شنَّ سنة 312 معركة ضد عدوه ماكسينتيوس Maxentiusعلى مشارف المدينة بالقرب من نهر التايبر، وفي الليلة التي سبقت المعركة ظهر الصليب في السماء محاطاً بهذه الكلمات بأحرف بارزة من نور:"بهذه العلامة تغلب".

كانت أم قسطنطين الملكة هيلانة مسيحية، لذا كان لدى قسطنطين معرفة مسبقة ومودَّة تجاه المسيحية، لكنَّه نفسه لم يكن مسيحياً آنذاك. فجعل راية الصليب تخفق على كل راية وعَلَم، وخاض المعركة وانتصر على عدوِّه. ولما أصبح قسطنطين



إمبراطوراً على أوروبا باكملها، شرقاً وغرباً في 315-324 بعث الكنيسة من ظلمة الدياميس، وأمر بهدم معابد الأصنام وشيَّد مكانها الكنائس.

بعدها نذرت أمّه القديسة هيلانة أنْ تذهب إلى أورشليم لنوال بركة الأراضي المقدسة، بالقرب من جبل الجلجلة. فأمرت بتنقيب المكان، وتم العثور على 3 صلبان خشبية، ولما لم يستطيعوا تمييز صليب الرب، إقترح القديس كيرلس بطريرك أورشليم بأن يختبروا فاعلية الصليب، ولأجل ذلك أحضروا ميتاً ووضعوا عليه أحد الصلبان فلم يحدث شيء، وضعوا الصلبان الأخير قام الميت وضعوا الصليب الأخير قام الميت ومجّد الله، وبذلك توصلوا إلى معرفة وصليب الحقيقي للسيد المسيح.

أما قصة شعلة النار التي نوقدها في عيد الصليب فأصلها أنَّ كانت فِرقُ الجنود المكافة بالبحث عن الصليب قد اتفقت على إشارة إضرام النار في حال وَجَدَت إحداها عود الصليب. وهكذا أضاءت المدينة كلها بوميض الشعلات ساعة إيجادها لعود الصليب، وكان ذلك اليوم هو الرابع عشر من ايلول، ولهذا السبب فإننا نحتفل بعيد الصليب بنفس هذا اليوم. كما وامر الملك قسطنطين ببناء كنيسة في نفس موضع الصليب على جبل الجلجلة، وسميت بكنيسة القيامة، (وتسمى باللغات الغربية بأسم كنيسة القبر ايضاً) وهي لا تزال موجودة الى يومنا هذا. (وقد عمل احتفال التدشين لمدة يومين متتاليين في 13 و 14 ايلول سنة 335 في نفس ايام اكتشاف الصليب).

ويُذكر أنَّ جمعاً غفيراً من الرهبان قد حضر حفل التدشين هذا، قادمين من بلاد ما بين النهرين وسوريا ومصر وأقاليم أخرى، ومابين 40 الى 50 اسقفاً. لا بل أن هناك من ذهب إلى القول بأنَّ حضور الإحتفال كان إلزامياً والتخلُّف عنه كان بمثابة خطيئة جسيمة...).

أما في (ق7) فقد حدث وأن دخلت جيوش كسرى ملك الفرس إلى أورشليم ظافراً، وتم أسر الألوف من المسيحيين وفي مقدمتهم البطريرك زكريا، وأضرمت النار في كنيسة القيامة والكنائس الأخرى بتحريض من اليهود القاطنين في أورشليم، ونجا الصليب المكرَّم من النار بهمة المؤمن يزدين الكلداني، لكنهم أخذوه غنيمة مع جملة ما أخذوا من أموال وذهب ونفائس إلى الخزانة الملكية. وبقي الصليب في بلاد فارس حوالي 14 سنة.

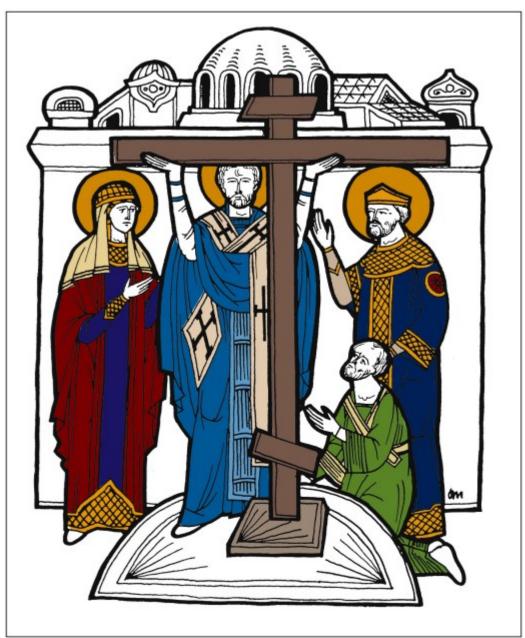
ولما انتصر هرقل الملك اليوناني على الفرس، تمكن من إسترداد ذخيرة عود الصليب أيضا وكان ذلك سنة 628. فأتى إلى القسطنطينية التي خرجت بكل مَن فيها إلى استقباله بالمصابيح وتراتيل النصر والابتهاج ثم أعيد الصليب إلى أورشليم من جديد. ومنذ ذلك الحين بقي الصليب في أورشليم. فيما تبقى من زمن، فأن الملوك والأمراء والمؤمنين المسيحيين بعد ذلك بدأوا يطلبون قطعاً من الصليب للإحتفاظ بها كبركة لهم ولبيوتهم وممالكهم. وهكذا لم يتبق في يومنا هذا من خشبة عود الصليب الاصلية الا قطعتين، الأولى لا تزال في أورشليم، والثانية في كنيسة الصليب المقدس في روما.

ولهذا العيد طقوس خاصة ومنها إشعال النار . فإشعال النار على رؤوس وقمم الجبال وسيلة إتصال للمسافات البعيدة، فكل منطقة ترى النار مشتعلة تقوم بإشعال النار في منطقتها إلى أن يصل الخبر إلى الجهة المقصودة. لذلك تم بهذه الوسيلة إبلاغ الملكة هيلانة بنبأ العثور على صليب المخلص. هكذا صار إيقاد شعلة النار تقليداً للإحتفال بعيد الصليب لدى المسيحيين في كل مكان وزمان

وفي كنائسنا اليوم يشعل نار ويعبر من فوقه كُلُ شخص رمزا للعبور الى حياة جديدة

Following Jesus Kids bulletin





September 14

St. Helena, the mother of St. Constantine, wanted to find the true cross of Christ. When she found the cross she took it to the Bishop of Jerusalem, St. Macarius, who showed it to all of the people. In this icon, you can see St. Macarius displaying the cross and St. Helena on his right side.



THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION **OF THE HOLY AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS**



St Basil's The Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church invites you to celebrate

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross

On Tuesday, September 14th @ 6:30pm

كنيسة القديس باسيليوس الكبير تدعوكم بالاحتفال

بعيد الصليب المقدس المحيي يوم الثلاثاء 14 أيلول، الساعة 6:30 مساءا

SUNDAY SCHOOL



In the spirit of prayerfulness and in oneness of thought, Fr. Joe and I would like to express our very sincere thanks and deep appreciation for making the Sunday School Program successful over the years, and shining the light of Christ through you to show each child God loves them just as they are.

We have been deeply touched and impressed by the teachers and parents' generosity and willingness to do whatever it takes to make the past year a success for our children despite the difficulties that we faced because of Covid-19.

We are very grateful to all of you for taking the time and making the effort to make the Sunday School Program possible.

Together we are building the foundation upon which we will build St. Basil's future, 100 years on. What a wonderful blessing you all are to our community.

Kindly, fill out the new Registration Form for this Sunday School Year according to the grade of your child.

•	Pre-K	https://bit.ly/3z1RNk8
•	Kindergarten	https://bit.ly/3suJv1U
•	1 St Grade	https://bit.ly/3syyqNh
•	2 nd Grade	https://bit.ly/3mem8sg
•	3 rd Grade	https://bit.ly/3mfh9Yn
•	4 th Grade	https://bit.ly/3swVGuV
•	5 th Grade	https://bit.ly/2W8Vlgu
•	6 th Grade	https://bit.ly/3AUdPG6
•	7 th Grade	https://bit.ly/3mhcrJr
•	8 th Grade	https://bit.ly/3z5YjX2



Join the fun and give a hand at St. Basil's Food-Fair Cooking Work-bees

Food Fair Cooking and Baking Schedules.

Baking Schedule

- · Kata: Thursday, September 30 @ 10:00 a.m.
- · Maamoul Walnut + Pistachio: Thurs. October 7 @ 10:00 a.m.
- Saourt Al Sit: Saturday, October 16 @ 10:00 a.m
- · Baklawa: Wednesday, October 20 @ 10:00 a.m.

Cooking Schedule

- · Sfeeha: Thursday, September 16 @ 10:00 a.m.
- Grape Leaves: Thursday, September 23 @ 10:00 a.m.



Food Fair

Saturday, October 23, 10 am - 6pm Sunday, October 24, 10 am - 4pm

Syrian Food

Syrian food sold in bulk and individual dinners

Syrian String Cheese • Syrian Pastry Candy • Meatball Sandwiches

Come and Enjoy our delicious food and sweets with family and friends

We accept credit cards (\$5 min)
We are following CDC covid guidelines

FOOD FAIR 2021-DONATIONS NEEDED

Saint Basil the Great

Mailing Address: Rectory 111 Cross Street Central Falls, RI 02863



Melkite Greek Catholic Church 15 Skyview Drive, Lincoln, RI 02865 Visit us on the web: www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com Tel. (401) 722-1345 Fax (401) 722-2436

ST. BASIL THE GREAT CHURCH FOOD FAIR 2021

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

On the weekend of Saturday, October 23rd, and Sunday, October 24th, 2021, a Food Fair will be held at St. Basil's Cultural Center, 15 Skyview Drive Lincoln. Rhode Island.

All proceeds from the Food Fair will benefit St. Basil's Building Fund.

Many people work very hard to make this event a success, and to finance it, we are requesting donations of \$60.00 or more to have your name or business listed as a Sponsor of St. Basil the Great Church Food Fair. Your ad will appear in a prominent place for hundreds to see. If sponsorship is not possible, for a \$30.00 donation, your name can appear as a Supporter of the Food Fair.

We would appreciate your completing the enclosed form and forwarding your business card or name to us with your contribution check payable to St. Basil's Church in the enclosed envelope by **October 8th, 2021.**

This Food Fair benefits a much-needed cause, and we wish to thank you for your support and generosity.

Sincerely yours,

ST. BASIL THE GREAT CHURCH

ST. BASIL THE GREAT FOOD FAIR 2021



ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST!

For a donation of \$60 or more, have your name or business listed as a Sponsor of the St. Basil the Great Church Food Fair on Saturday, October 23rd and Sunday, October 24th 2021.

Your name or ad will appear in a prominent place for hundreds to see. If

Sponsorship is not possible, for a \$30 donation, your name will appear as a Supporter of

St. Basil's Food Fair.

We would greatly appreciate your completing the form below with your contribution (checks payable to St. Basil the Great Church), and place it in the collection basket or mail to the rectory by October 10, 2021.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

ST. BASIL THE GREAT CHURCH FOOD FAIR 2021

Please	incl	ude	me	as:

Contact Name and Phone Number:

1. Sponsor (Gold)- \$100 or more	2.Sponsor (Orange)- \$60-\$99
3. Supporter (Green)- \$30 (One line	only)
(Enclose your business card OR Name	as it should appear):

LITURGICAL CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER



أيلول – سبتمبر 2021

August 2021 SMTWTFS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

October 2021

3	IVI		vv		г	0
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

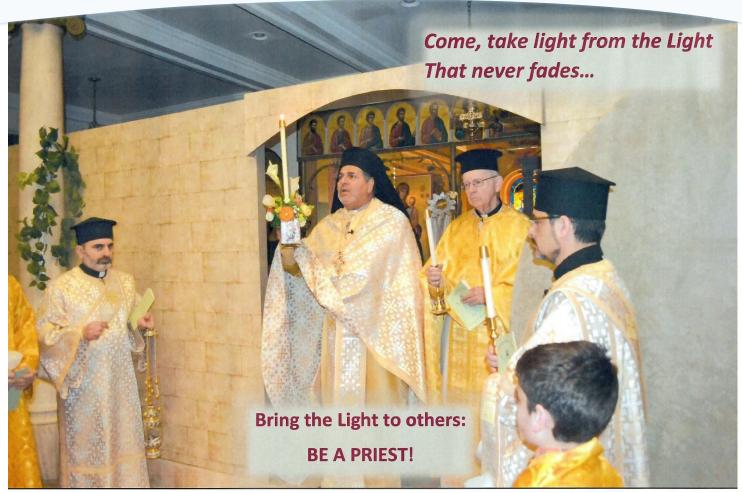
Liturgical Symbols:

Abstain from meat

Church Major Feasts
Fast from midnight until noon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 •	2	3 •	4
			Beginning of the Liturgical Year	St Mammas	St Anthimos of Nicomedia	Holy Prophet Moses
			1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 4:16-22	Galatians 3:23-4:5 Mark 6:30-45	Galatians 4:8-21 Mark 6:45-53	1 Corinthians 4:17-5:5 Matthew 24:1-13
5 Holy Prophet Zechariah	6	7	8 8	9	10 •	Saturday before Holy Cross
15th Sunday after Pentecost الأحد الخامس عشر بعد العنصرة	The Miracle by Archangel Michael at Colossus	Preparation of Nativity of the Theotokos	Nativity of the Theotokos میلاد و الدة الآله	Sts Joachim and Anne	Sts Menodora, Metrodora and Nymphodora	Leave-taking of the Nativity of the Theotokos
2 Corinthians 4:6-15 Matthew 22:35-46	Hebrews 2:2-10 Luke 10:16-21	Galatians 5:11-21 Mark 7:5-16	Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28	Galatians 4:22-27 Luke 8:16-21	Ephesians 1:7-17 Mark 8:1-10	1 Corinthians 2:6-9 Matthew 10:37-11:1
12	13	14 🛭 🗗 🖎 😂	15	16	17 •	18
Sunday before Holy Cross	Preparation of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Exaltation of the Holy Cross رفع الصليب المقدّس	St Nicetas	St Euphemia	St Sophie and her daughters	Saturday after Holy Cross
Galatians 6:11-18 John 3:13-17	Hebrews 3:1-6 John 12:25-36	1 Corinthians 1:18-24 John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-35	Ephesians 3:8-21 Mark 11:22-24	2 Corinthians 6:1-10 Luke 7:36-50	Ephesians 4:17-25 Mark 12:1-12	1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5 John 8:21-30
19	20	21	22 •	23	24 •	25
Sunday after Holy Cross	Sts Eustathios, Theopista and their sons	Leave-taking of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	St Phocas of Sinope	Conception of St John the Forerunner	St Thecla, Woman Protomartyr	St Euphrosyne
Galatians 2:16-20 Mark 8:34-9:1	Ephesians 4:25-32 Luke 3:19-22	Ephesians 5:20-25 Luke 3:23-4:1	Ephesians 5:25-33 Luke 4:1-15	Galatians 4:22-27 Luke 1:5-25	Ephesians 6:18-24 Luke 4:22-30	1 Corinthians 15:39-45 Luke 4:31-36
Passing of St John the Apostle	27	28	29 •	30		
1st Sunday after Holy Cross الأحد الأول بعد عبد الصليب	St Callistratos and companions	St Chariton	St Cyriacos	St Gregory of Armenia		
1 John 4:12-19 John 19:25-27, 21:24-25	Philippians 1:1-7 Luke 4:38-44	Philippians 1:8-14 Luke 5:12-16	Philippians 1:12-19 Luke 5:33-39	Philippians 1:20-27 Luke 6:12-19		

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS MESSAGE



Melkite Eparchy of Newton ~ Office of Vocations

 $1428\ Ponce\ de\ Leon\ Ave., NE \sim Atlanta,\ Georgia\ 30307$ $Voice: 404-373-9522\ ^{\sim}\ Fax:\ 404-373-9755\ ^{\sim}\ www.melkite.org/vocations\ ^{\sim}\ E-mail:\ vocations@melkite.org$

Behind and before every vocation to the priesthood or to the consecrated life there is always the strong and intense prayer of someone: a grandmother, a grandfather, a mother, a father, a community....

This is why Jesus said: "Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest," that is, God the Father, "to send out laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38). Vocations are born in prayer and from prayer; and only through prayer can they persevere and bear fruit.

- Pope Francis, Regina Caeli Message, Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 21, 2013



The Daily Divine Liturgy

At St. Elias Chapel (St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church)

Tuesday through Friday at 9 A.M.

Saturday at 4 P.M.

Sunday at 11 A.M.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available on Saturday 2:30 - 3:30 P.M. and Sunday 9:30 - 10:30 A.M.

"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live" John 11:25

Remember me in your Kingdom

You are invited to the Divine Liturgy for the departed in the Lord in the Hope of Resurrection
On the last Wednesday of the Month at 6:30 pm

أَنَا هُوَ الْقِيَامَةُ وَالْحَيَاةُ. مَ<mark>نْ آمَنَ بِي وَلَوْ مَاتَ فَسَـيَحْيَا. (يو 11: 25)</mark>

اذكرني في ملكوتك

أدعوكم إلى القداس الإلهي

من اج<mark>ل الراقدين</mark> على رجاء ال<mark>قيامة</mark>

في الأربعاء الأ<mark>خير من كل شـهر السـاعة 6:30 مسـاء</mark>

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome to

St. Basil The Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

Check our website for Church news and updates at

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

On Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/StBasilMelkiteChurchRI/

YouTube

https://bit.ly/2VJgvnS

Contact us for information and ideas

office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com



LITURGY OR MASS INTENTIONS



Divine Liturgy intentions can be scheduled for those who have died, and on the occasion of a birthday, wedding anniversary, for healing for the conversion of sinners, for the grace to face the challenges in life, for the success in a new job, for those serving in the church and country in different levels, for good weather, bountiful harvest, for world peace, in thanksgiving for the blessings received, etc. You can find so many reasons to think about a Mass offering. We offer the Mass for a specific intention because we believe in the immense spiritual value of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The custom of giving offering to have Liturgies said for specific intentions is a laudable one and should be maintained as much as possible. Church teaching and Canon Law (nos. 942-958) provide important guidelines on how to preserve the dignity and appreciation of this practice. Overall, it should be well noted that Liturgy offerings are never to be viewed as a means of parish fundraising.

<u>COMMEMORATIONS OF THE DEAD</u>: The Apostolic Constitutions refer to the repetition of the Mass on the third, ninth and fortieth days: "Let the third day be observed in remembrance of the dead with psalms, lessons, and prayers, because Christ rose from the dead on the third day. Let the ninth day be observed in remembrance both of the living and the dead, and also the fortieth day, in accordance with mourning customs of the Israelites at the time of Moses' death. Finally, let the anniversary day be observed in memory of the dead."

In contemporary Byzantine practice, the dead are commemorated on the ninth and fortieth days and on the anniversary of their departure from this world.

Formerly under the jurisdiction of the local Latin Ordinaries before the Exarchate was established under the leadership of the late Bishop Justin Najmy of this Parish, all Melkites have been subject to the latter since its erection in 1966. The Constitution of the Melkite Eparchy which is now a sole Diocese since1976 still acknowledges this definitive protocol. Our parishes follow local discipline in the various customs e.g., clergy attire, stipends (Mass Offerings), etc. except in Liturgy and Ritual. Our relationship with the local Latin Dioceses and Latin pastors must be permeated with a spirit of love and friendship and cooperation.

Effective January 1, 2008, which by-passed us, the schedule of offerings for Masses in parishes is now \$25.00; Funerals: \$300.00; Weddings: \$300.00.

Canon Law prohibits accepting stipends or offerings for Masses more than one year in advance (rolling calendar) Canon 953. The time within which Masses must be celebrated (1 year) begins the day the intention is received (Canon 955 #2.)

May the memories of our beloved deceased be eternal and many thanks for your understanding and undivided attention in regard to these guidelines and restrictions.

The House of God Etiquette (Page 1 of 2)

WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT CHURCH:

- •Remind yourself why you are here: Jesus Christ. You have an appointment every Sunday morning at 10:30am with Him, so you should not be late. Would you be late to any other appointment? Get extra rest so that you can make it to Church on time.
- •Shut off all beepers, phones, and electronic devices. NO text messaging!
- •As we sing in the Liturgy, "Let us lay aside all earthy care."
- •When entering the Church, venerate/kiss the icon at the entrance, cross yourself in prayer, and light a candle.

9

YOU MAY NOT ENTER THE CHURCH AT THE FOLLOWING PERIODS:

- During the Entrance of the Holy Gospel
- During the reading of the Epistle and the Holy Gospel
- During the Sermon
- During the Entrance of the Holy Gifts

If you arrive during the above mentioned times, please wait at the back of the church. When you enter or exit the Church, use only the side aisles. No one is to use the middle aisle at any time during the service, except for the Communion line.



YOU SHOULD NOT BE SEATED DURING THE FOLLOWING MOMENTS:

- •The singing of the Great Doxology ("Glory to Thee who has shown us the Light")
- •At "Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit..."
- During the Entrance of the Holy Gospel
- •During the reading of the Holy Gospel
- During the Entrance of the Gifts
- During the Consecration of the Gifts
- •During the Creed and the Lord's Prayer ("Our Father")
- •While the priest and deacon are distributing Holy Communion
- •Any time the priest blesses you with his hand or the cross

CONDUCT IN CHURCH:

It is important to keep a reverent attitude and demeanor in Church at all times.

- •Be on time! The proper time to arrive is **before** the service begins.
- •Should you have an emergency and think you will be late to Church, still come, pray, and give thanks to God for all things!
- •You are there to pray, so focus on the prayers and hymns of the Liturgy
- •Do not cross your legs while seated; please be firm while standing
- Do not stand with your hands in your pockets
- •Do not chew gum; absolutely no eating or drinking
- Do not talk during the Divine Liturgy, especially during the Gospel reading and in Communion line (wait until Coffee Hour to say hello)
- •Communion is not the end of Liturgy; do not leave until Liturgy is completely over and you have kissed the cross. You may not go to the Hall during Liturgy.



MAKING THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:

The sign of the Cross is extremely powerful due to the reminder it gives of Christ's sacrifice. Tracing the sign of the Cross on ourselves serves as the accepting of that sacrifice and the blessing to emulate it in our everyday life. Making the sign of the Cross is the reception of the blessing bestowed on you by the Bishop or the Priest. It is the pious custom of devout people to trace themselves with the sign of the cross at important parts of the Divine Liturgy.

WHEN TO MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:

- •At the beginning and end of prayers and services
- Upon entering Church and leaving Church
- •At the mention of the "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit"
- When offering glory or blessedness to God
- •At any prayerful invocation of God
- •When the priest exclaims "Peace be to all"



The House of God Etiquette .. Continued

- •When the priest blesses the faithful with his hand or cross
- •When the priest censes the people
- •During the Entrance of the Holy Gospel
- During the Trisagion Prayers or Hymn (Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy...)
- After receiving Holy Communion (after you have taken a few steps away from the chalice)

BOWING YOUR HEAD:

There are certain times in the service when parishioners should bow their heads:

- •When the priest exclaims "Peace be to all"
- •At the exclamation "Bow your heads unto the Lord"
- •When the priest blesses the faithful with his hand or cross or censer
- •When the priest or deacon bows toward the people during the services
- During the Entrance of the Holy Gospel
- When the Holy Gospel is read
- •During the Entrance of the Gifts
- During the Consecration of the Gifts
- When you feel you need to focus on the service as to not get distracted

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:

To receive Holy Communion a person should:

- Prepare by prayer, by repentance, ultimately by receiving the Sacrament of Confession
- Prepare by fasting from food and drink (except for those with medical reasons) upon rising in the morning at lease an hour before
- •Refrain from smoking or chewing gum upon rising in the morning
- Ask forgiveness of anyone you have wronged
- •Offer forgiveness to anyone who has wronged you
- Approach the chalice with reverence and thanksgiving, with arms crossed or hands folded with one's mind on Christ
- •Say your name to the priest as you approach the Holy Chalice
- •Tilt your head back and open your mouth as wide as you can
- You should NOT receive Holy Communion if you arrive to Church after the reading of the Gospel.
- •Quietly return to your place and recite the Thanksgiving prayers

CHURCH ATTIRE:

Use Good Judgment! Common Sense! We should offer Christ our "Sunday Best", not our everyday or common wear. Our dress should always be becoming of a Christian, and exemplify Christian values.

- No Sleeveless T-Shirts, No Tank-tops, No Sunglasses on head (or baseball caps)
- No Gym Shoes, No shorts, No Flip-Flops
- Dresses and skirts must fall below the knee and must be worn loosely; not tight
- •Ladies' blouses should not be revealing and must cover the chest and shoulders
- Excessive make-up must be avoided. Women who wear lipstick should make sure lips are dry before receiving Communion, kissing cross or the priest's hand.
- •This attire is to be for all ages!
- This attire is to help us realize how to respect our bodies, the Church, and to properly offer up prayer for our sins
- This attire is to help us NOT become a distraction to others who are trying to focus themselves







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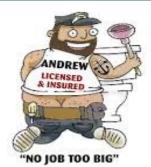
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Jeffrey M. Boudjouk Managing Partner - Wealth Advisor jeff@northeastinvestmentgroup.com

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