St. Basil the Great
Melkite Greek Catholic Church

Sunday after the Nativity

Commemoration of the Holy and Just Man Joseph, spouse of the Mother of God, of James, brother of the Lord & of David, the King and Prophet

الأحد الذي بعد عيد الميلاد

تذكار القديس يوسف خطيب والدة الاله، ويعقوب اخي الرب وداود النبي الملك

Troparion of the Resurrection (5th Tone)
Let us, O faithful, praise and worship the word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our Salvation; for He was pleased to be lifted in the flesh upon the cross and to endure death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Troparion of St. Joseph (2nd Tone)
O Joseph, proclaim to David, the ancestor of Christ our God, the great miracles you have witnessed: you have seen the Virgin with child, given praise with the shepherds, adored with the wise men, and an angel of the Lord has appeared to you. Intercede with Christ God that He may save our Souls

Troparion of the Nativity of our Lord
Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shed the light of knowledge upon the world. Through it, those who had been star-worshipers learned through a star to worship You, O Sun of Justice, and to recognize in You the One who rises and who comes from on high. O Lord glory to You!

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 our Lord
Today the Virgin gives birth to the One who surpasses al essences, and the earth offers a cave to God, the Inaccessible One. Angels sing his glory together with the shepherd: for to us is born a Child, God in all eternity

نشيد القيامة باللحن الخامس
لننشد نحن المؤمنين ونسجدْ للكلمة، الأزلي مع الآبِ والروح، المولود من العذراء لخلاصنا. لأنه ارتضى أن يصعدَ بالجسدِ على الصليب، ويحتمل الموت، وينهضَ الموتى بقيامته المجيدة.

نشيد للقديس يوسف باللحن الثاني
يا يوسف بَشِّرْ داودَ جَدَّ الإلهِ بالعجائب. فقد رأيتَ العذراءَ حامِلاً، ومجدتَ مع الرعاة، وسجدتَ مع المجوس، وبالملاك أوحيَ إليك. فابتهل إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسِنا.

طروبارية الميلاد
ميلادُكَ أيُّها المسيحُ الهُنا، قد أظهر نُورَ المعرفةِ للعالم. لأن الساجدِين للكَواكِب، فيه تعلَّموا من الكوكبِ السُّجود لك يا شمسَ العدل، وعَرفوا أنَّكَ من المشرقُ الذي منَ العَلاء. يا ربُّ المجد لك.

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

قنداق ميلاد ربنا يسوع المسيح
اليومَ البتول تلدُ الفائق الجوهر، والأرضُ تقدمُ المغارة لِمنْ لا يدنى منه. الملائكة، مع الرعاة يمجدون، والمجوسُ مع الكوكبِ يَسيرون. لأنه من أجلنا وُلد طفلٌ جديد، وهو الإله الذي قبلَ الدهور

Address :
15 Skyview Dr.
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Parish Website :
www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com
Facebook :
https://www.facebook.com/StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreekCatholicChurchRI/
YouTube :
https://bit.ly/3gkI2Uk
Email :
office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Telephone : (401)722-1345

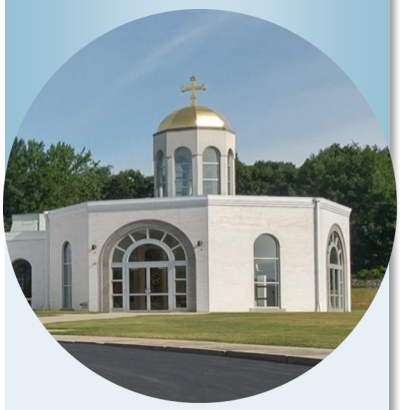
Office hours :
Tue-Fri 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Divine Liturgies :
Tuesday through Friday at 9: 00 A.M.
Saturday at 4:00 P.M.
Sunday at 11:00 A.M.

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

Holy Mysteries:

Reconciliation:
Saturday 2:30 –3:30 P.M.,
Sunday 9:30-10:30 A.M., or by appointment.
Baptisms: Please arrange with the pastor.
Marriages: 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.



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.com/myo.html

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

Hirmos

Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin more glorious than the heavenly powers. Behold a strange and wonderful mystery: the cave is heaven, the Virgin a cherubic throne, the manger a noble place where reposes Christ the Uncontainable God. Let us praise and magnify him!

Epistle of the Divine Liturgy

Gal 1:11-19 - 20th Sunday after the Pentecost
Prokimenon (Tone 3)
Awesome in His saints is God, the God of Israel.
Stichon: in the churches, bless God, the Lord out of Israel's wellsprings.

READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians

BRETHREN, I give you to understand that the Good News that was announced to you by me is not of man. For I did not receive it from man, nor was it taught to me [by man], but I received it by a revelation from Jesus Christ. For you have heard of the way I lived before in Judaism: how I persecuted the Church of God and ravaged it beyond measure. And I advanced in Judaism above many of my contemporaries in my nation, showing much more zeal for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased him who from my mother's womb set me apart and called me by his grace, to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the Gentiles, immediately, without taking counsel with flesh and blood and without going up to Jerusalem to those who were appointed apostles before me, I retired into Arabia and again returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went to Jerusalem to see Peter, and I remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles, except James, the Lord's brother.
ALLELUIA (Tone 3)
O Lord, remember David and all his anxious care!
Stichon: The Lord has made a truthful oath to David from which he shall never depart: "Of the fruit of your loin, I will place one upon your throne."

The Holy Gospel

Mt 2:13-23 - Sunday after the Nativity
(The Flight to Egypt) The Gospel of the ninth hour of the Paramony of Christmas

When the Magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph, saying, "Arise, and take the child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and remain there until I tell thee. For Herod will seek the child to destroy him." So, he arose, and took the child and his mother by night, and withdrew into Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod; that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, "Out of Egypt I called my son." Then Herod, seeing that he had been tricked by the Magi, was exceedingly angry; and he sent and slew all the boys in Bethlehem and all its neighborhood who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had carefully ascertained from the Magi. Then was fulfilled what was spoken through Jeremias the prophet, "A voice was heard in Rama, weeping and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children, and she would not be comforted, because they are no more." But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, and take the child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." So, he arose and took the child and his mother, and went into the land of Israel. But hearing that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there; and being warned in a dream he withdrew into the region of Galilee. And he went and settled in a town called Nazareth; that there might be fulfilled what was spoken through the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

النشيد لوالدة الإله

عَظِّمي يا نَفسي. مَنْ هِيَ أَكْرَمُ وأمجَدُ من الجنود العُلْوِيَّة. إِنَّني أُشاهِدُ سِرًّا عَجيبًا مُستَغرَبًا. فالمغارةُ قد أَضحتْ سماءً. والبتول عرشًا شيروبيميًّا. والمِذودُ محلاً شريفًا إِتَّكأَ فيهِ المسيحُ الإله. الذي لا يَسَعُهُ مكانٌ. فلنُسبِّحهُ مُعظِّمين.

رسالة الليترجيا الإلهية

الاحد العشرون بعد العنصرة -مقدمة الرسالة
عجيبٌ الله في قديسيه، إله إسرائيل
في المجامع باركو الله، الربَّ مِن ينابيعِ إسرائيل

الرسالة (غلاطية 1: 11 – 19)

يا اخوة، أُعلِمُكم ان الانجيلَ الذي بُشِّرَ به على يدي، ليسَ بحسبِ الانسان. لأَني لم اتسلمهُ ولا تعلمتُه من انسان، بل بوحيِ يسوعَ المسيح. اذ قد سمعتم بسيرتي قديماً في مِلةِ اليهود كيف كنتُ اضطهدُ كنيسةَ اللهِ الى الغايةِ وأُدمرها. وأَزيدُ إقبالاً في مِلةِ اليهودِ على كثيرينَ من اترابي في أُمَّتي، بكوني أَفوقُهُم غَيْرَةً على تقليدات آبائي. فلمَّا ارتضى الله، الذي فرزني من جوفِ أُمي ودعاني بنعمتِه، أَن يُعْلن ابنَهُ فِيَّ لأُبشِرَ به بين الامم، لساعتي لم أُصغِ الى اللحمِ والدم، ولا صعدتُ الى أُورشليمَ الى الذين هم رسلٌ قبلي، بل سِرْتُ إِلى ديارِ العرب، ثم رجعتُ الى دمشق. وبعد ثلاثِ سنوات صعدتُ الى أُورشليمَ لأزور بطرس. فأَقمتُ عندَه خمسةَ عشرَ يوماً. ولم أَرَ غيره من الرسل سوى يعقوبَ أَخي الرب.
هللويا – أذكرْ يا ربُّ داودَ وكلَّ عنائه
حلف الربُّ لداودَ بالحقِ ولنْ يُخلِف: لأجلِسنَّ مِن ثمرةِ بَطنِكَ على عَرشِك

الانجيل المقدس

انجيل بارامون عيد الميلاد - (الساعة التاسعة)

لمَّا انصرفَ المجوسُ إِذا بملاكِ الربِّ يَتراءَى ليُوسفَ في الحُلمِ قائلاً. قُم فخُذِ الصَّبيَّ وأُمَّهُ واهرُبْ إِلى مصر. وكُنْ هُناكَ حتى أَقولَ لك. فإِن هيرودُسَ مُزمِعٌ أَن يَطلُبَ الصَّبيَّ ليُهلكَهُ. فقامَ وأَخذَ الصَّبيَّ وأُمهُ لَيلاً وانصرفَ إِلى مصر. وكانَ هناكَ إِلى وفاةِ هيرودُس. ليتِمَّ ما قالَ الربُّ بالنَّبيِّ القائل. من مصرَ دَعَوتُ ابني. حينئذٍ لمَّا رأَى هيرودُسُ أَن المجوسَ قد سخِروا بهِ غضِبَ جداً. وأَرسَلَ فقتلَ كلَّ الصبيانِ الذين في بيتَ لحمَ وفي جميعِ توخمها. مِن أَبنِ سَنَتينِ فما دُون. على حسَبِ الزَّمانِ الذي تَحقَّقَهُ مِنَ الَّمجوس، حينئذٍ تَمَّ ما قيلَ بإرميا النَّبيِّ القائل: صوتٌ سُمعَ بالرامَة. نَوحٌ وبُكاءٌ وعَويلٌ كثير. راحيلُ تَبكي بَنيها ولا تريدُ أَن تَتعزَّى لأَنهم لَيسوا في الوُجود. فلما مات هيرودُس، إِذا بملاكِ الربِّ يَتَراءَى ليوسفَ في الحُلمِ بمِصرَ، فقام وأَخذَ الصَّبيَّ وأُمَّهُ وجاءَ إِلى أَرضِ إِسرائيل. ولمَّا سَمِعَ أَن أَركيلاوُسَ يَملكُ على اليَهوديَّةِ بدَلَ هيرودُسَ أَبيه. خافَ أَن يذهبَ إِلى هُناك. وأُوعِزَ إِليهِ في الحُلمِ. فانصرَفَ إِلى نواحي الجَليل، واتى وسكَن في مدينةٍ تُسمَّى الناصِرة. ليَتم ما قيلَ بالأَنبياء، إِنَّهُ يُدعى ناصِريًّا.

Divine Liturgy Intentions

TODAY, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020: SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD. HOLY JOSEPH, JAMES & DAVID. COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY PROTOMARTYR AND ARCH-DEACON STEPHEN.

4:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

+ **PAUL FARLEY** By the community of St. Basil's.
+ **LEALA (SAYEGH) READ** By the community of St. Basil's.
+ **CARL NICOTERO** by the community of St. Basil's.
+ **BARBARA CIMINI** by Cheryl & Stanley Balon.
+ **JOSEPH HARRAKA** by Sandra Elias Longtin.
+ **ALBERT & JOSEPHINE HARRAKA (Birthday Remem.)** by the Harraka Family.
+ **SADIE & LOUIS TAGER** by daughter Barbara, Doug & Family.
+ **MARY TAHAN** by Mary & Ron DiGregorio.
+ **JOSEPH & ANGELA KAYATA** by Michael & Barbara O'Rourke & Family.
+ **CHARLES & ANNE O'ROURKE** by Michael & Barbara O'Rourke & Family.
+ **LAYLA ANGELA CHARETTE** by Uncle Michael, Auntie B., Greg & Katie.
+ **KENNETH MACKSOUD, ESQ.** by Dennis Dakake.
+ **STEVEN KILSEY** by his brother Jeffrey Kilsey.
+ **ANITA & JOSEPH BRULE** by the Family.
+ **JAY PAUL** by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
+ **WAYNE LACY** by Joseph Najjar.
+ **WILLIAM T. ASERMELY** by Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Gaglione & Family.
+ **JOSEPH P. AZAR, JR.** by Maryjoan Walsh.
+ **JANE MURRAY** by Martha & Jay Acquisto.

11:00 a.m. DIVINE LIT

+ **MAMOUN NEMEH** by his family and the community of St. Basil's.
+ **GEORGE BOUDJOUK** by Vicky Boudjouk.
+ **MR SAMUEL G. RAHEB** by Mrs. Laila Raheb & Family.
+ **ALICE SARKAS NASSANEY** by Lydia Deeb.
+ **GEORGETTE A. SAGGAL** by Dr. Jason B.Boudjouk.
+ **ALBERT ALBA, SR.** by Delores & Loriann Agag.
+ **JEAN LOZE** (Venezuela) by Craig & Natalia Kishfy & Family.
+ **ROBERT D. KING, SR.** by Joseph & Yolanda Saggal.
+ **FRANCIS A. SAGGAL** by Marco & Pamela Pacheco & Family.
+ **YOUSEF AGHIA** by Margaret Sabbagh.
+ J**AY PAUL** by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
+ **VICTORIA PROCHNIAK** by M/M Michael & Lina Raheb & Family.
+ ALBERT **J. KISHFY** by Laila Raheb.
+ **GEORGE DECKEY** by Charles & Francine Robat.
+ **GEORGEANNA DECKEY** by Brenda & Roger Hultquist.
+ **YUSUF & BLANCHE MUSSALLI** by Tony & Andree Charchafliah.
+ **ROSE KHOURY** by Dr. Roland & Micheline Ghanem.
+ **RUTH PERRY** by Abe, Michele, Nick, Missy & Khristina Domaney.
+ **JULIA & FRED KISHFY** by the Family.
+ **ELIAS J. KISHFY** by Mrs. Alberta Mardo.
+ **YOUSSEF MADOUR** by Imad Massabni & Family.
+ **HOLY & FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY** by M/M Joseph Saggal.

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 All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

St. Basil's Announcements:

SACRIFICIAL GIVING: December 20, 2020: Budgets: $3,955.00; Stipends: $620.00; Candles: $43.00; Addit'l Fuel: $70.00. Building Fund: $140.00.

Next weekend, Saturday & Sunday, January 2 & 3, there will be a special collection taken up for your **FUEL OFFERINGS.** Your generosity would be greatly appreciated.

On New Year's Eve, December 31st, there will be a special collection taken up for your **INITIAL OFFERINGS.** Your offering will help us defray the cost of the envelope system, which is so vital in our parish support, **MAKE A GOOD BEGINNING.** Often the strength of our first effort indicates the manner in which we maintain our responsibilities.

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.

Our thoughts and prayers are directed to our elderly and sick parishioners in this joyous season. We ask the Emmanuel to strengthen your faith so that you may accept His will and may He bring you peace, joy, and health for the coming year.

THE BISHOP'S APPEAL: Thank God for all the blessings you received in 2020 by making a generous thanksgiving gift to your Melkite Catholic Church in America. The annual Bishop's Appeal officially ends in all the parishes of the Eparchy on 31 December 2020. **However, gifts to the Appeal will continue to be received and credited to your parish until 31 January 2021 for anyone who makes an end-of-year, tax deductible donation.** Your gift means so much to so many! Thank you for your generosity. May God bless you and all your family in the New Year.

Remember the Melkite Church in Your Will: Give a lasting gift for future generations of Melkites in America by remembering the Melkite Catholic Church in your will. Simply add the following statement to your last will and testament: **I hereby bequeath to the Melkite Eparchy of Newton the following sum; $_____.** Contact Bishop NICHOLAS personally to inform him of your generous bequest: 3 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132.

REFLECTION: The riches that are in the heart cannot be stolen. *Russian Proverb*

MYSTERIES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION: The three Mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation and Holy Eucharist are always celebrated together in one ceremony. One month notice is required and one baptismal preparation meeting is required with the pastor.

MYSTERY OF HOLY CONFESSIONS: In one way or another, we have neglected God. None of us have lived a perfect life. No matter what we have done, we can always return home. Available weekly one hour before the Divine Liturgy or by appointment.

MYSTERY OF HOLY CROWNING: Six month notice, an initial meeting with the priest, marriage preparation sessions are required. You must be an active member of the parish.

MYSTERY OF HOLY ANOINTING: Available for anyone who is ill. Please contact Fr. Ephrem.

IN GOOD STANDING: For your Pastor to sign letters of recommendation, family and student school related papers, character reference or any civil document for a registered parishioner, one must be in good standing with the Church, spiritually and giving noticeable TIME, TALENT, & TREASURE on a regular and continuing basis to our parish.

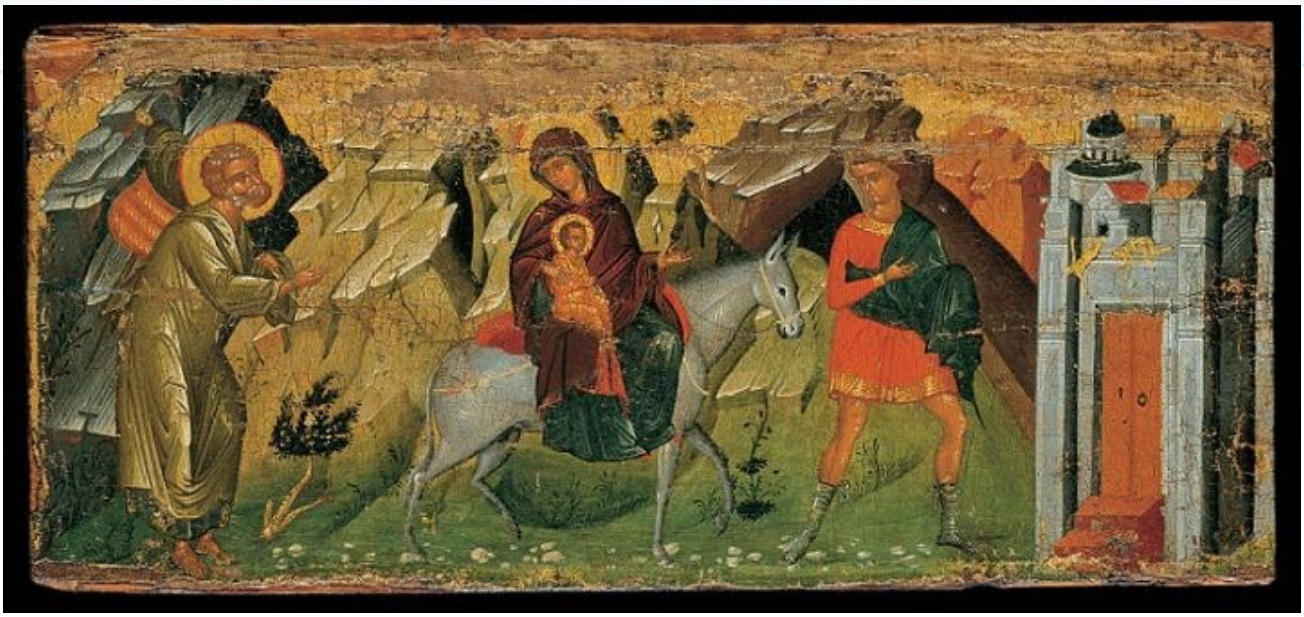
PLEASE NOTE: There is no charge for the celebration of the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments). However, it is appropriate to offer a gift of thanksgiving. Following are the suggested offerings to the Church for parishioners who request pastoral services. Liturgy $10.00; 40-Day Memorial $35.00; Baptism $75.00; Wedding $300.00; Funeral $300.00.

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.

Flight to Egypt through Joseph's Eyes



"Flee to Egypt." With those words echoing in his ears Joseph got up, took Jesus and Mary by night and went to Egypt. The names and faces might change but it's a story that continues to be lived in lands throughout the world today. We've seen the pictures. We've read the news. We've heard and maybe even participated in the arguments over what to do about this situation. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph were not the first refugees and they are not the last.

Dreams are a thing in the Bible. Joseph, of amazing colored coat fame, interpreted dreams of others and earned himself a place in Pharaoh's government. Daniel did as well and got to work for King Darius. Pilate's wife warned him to not get involved with Jesus after a dream she had.

Joseph, was no stranger to divine communication via dreams. In the first chapter of Matthew we read about an angel coming to him with a message to not be afraid of marrying Mary; her child is from the Holy Spirit. Good man that he was, he recognized the veracity of the dream and did not dismiss it as the result of having eaten some meat that had gone bad the night before. Joseph knew it was not physiological in nature. It was the real thing and he proceeded with the original plan of marrying Mary.

A Family Man

There are no recorded words spoken by Joseph in the Bible. He has been referred to as Joseph the Silent. But from his actions we gain insight into who he was. Joseph was tasked to be the earthly father of the Son of God. He, in effect, had his own annunciation experience in the first dream when the angel came to him. His fatherhood and the authority that goes with it is conferred on him when the angel tells him to name Mary's baby Jesus. Such an honor is reserved for the father of the baby.

We see Joseph acting with complete trust in God. In a time and place where women were killed for adultery, others would understand had he quietly divorced her. When he agreed to God's plan and committed to Mary and the fatherhood of Jesus, he acted counter-culturally. He trusted that the angelic message regarding Jesus' conception was real and not the product of an odd dream.

He served God in the vocation of fatherhood that he was called to. We can use our imagination to envision what that looked like. We can impose our own experience of parenthood, or if we are not parents, our own experience of loving family, on him and imagine what his life living with and raising Jesus was like. Joseph, as Jesus' father, was involved in his care and responsible for his safety. He may have felt the weight of having to provide for his family.

His Vital Role in the Story

After two years of fatherhood, Jesus' life was threatened by Herod and Joseph is told in a dream to rise and take the family to Egypt. A second dream was probably not a big surprise. He was obedient and he trusted. Despite having nowhere specific to go and no way of supporting himself or his family, he went, in the dark of night. He did what any loving father would do to protect his child, trusting that God would take care of them. God did.

We can imagine his fear for the safety of his wife and child. We can imagine his worry about the necessities of life. We can imagine his awe at the instructions and the immediacy and we can wonder if he wondered about it. But we know he acted. We know that from the moment of his acceptance of the message in the first dream, Joseph embraced God's perfect plan.

Exile is a terrible thing, for it means that one cannot live among one's own people. It entails alienation and the experience of being an outsider, an Other. It brings hardship, uncertainty, and fear. All of these are likely part of the Holy Family's experience of fleeing Bethlehem shortly after Jesus is born, and they further show the poverty of the God-man who chooses to humble Himself to be born in a manger.

From what is the Holy Family fleeing? Certain death, the extinguishing of the hope of Israel, and the loss of future glory of their nation. But more than these, they are fleeing from the possibility that God's plan for the salvation of the world might be thwarted.

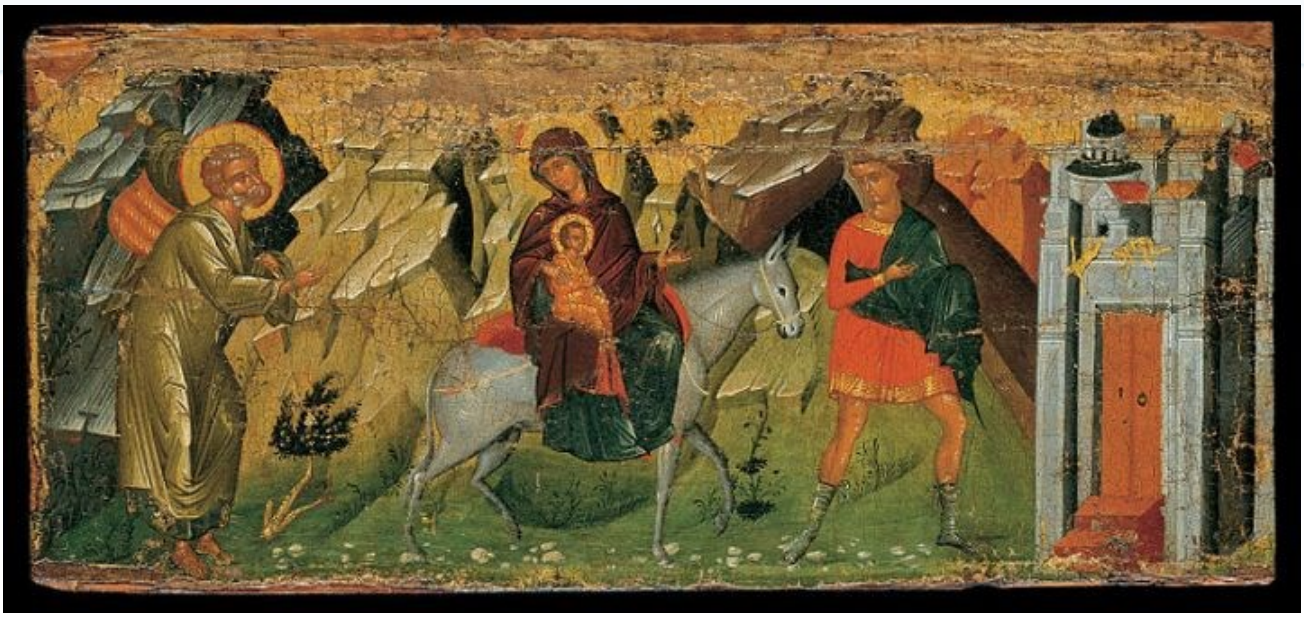
Joseph and Mary were attentive to the word of God that came to them in a dream, and so they were able to contribute to the thwarting of the plans of God's enemies. God made use of them in their lowliness, depending upon their obedient generosity for the care and protection of His only beloved Son. The obstacles to Jesus's fulfillment of His salvific mission here on Earth are indeed great, but God's providence provided for His protection at the moment in His life when He was most poor and vulnerable, depending upon Joseph and Mary for everything.

Mary and Joseph, in their turn, relied entirely upon God, not knowing where their journey into exile would lead, when they might be able to return to their native land, or how the promises that had been made to them would come to be fulfilled. Without understanding fully, they trusted in God's word and escaped the destruction that was chasing them in the land of Israel.

In Joseph we see a man who radically trusted God. We do not know if he initially struggled with what God asked of him; we only know he obeyed.

Whether you are man or woman, single or married, a parent or not, we can hold Joseph up as a model of trust and fidelity to God and his plan. When we struggle with what God asks of us, we can ask for intercession from St. Joseph. We can thank him for his obedience and docility. He played an important, yet quiet role in salvation history.

تأمل في عيد الميلاد



في هذه الأيام المباركة نحتفل بعيد الميلاد المجيد ونرى ان العالم كله منشغل بشراء الهدايا لتقديمها الى افراد العائلة و الى اصدقاءهم الأعزاء وهذا التقليد أصبح متوارثاً في البشرية كلها تعبيراً للهدايا التي قدمها ملوك المجوس للطفل يسوع حين ولد في مغارة بيت لحم . ولادة ملك الملوك لم تكن مثل اي ولادة أخرى فغالبية البشر. وحتى الفقراء ولدوا في ظروف تحسد عليها مقارنة بميلاد هذا العظيم الذي ولد رضيعاً بلا ملبس في حين نعرف ان الطقس يكون بارد جداً في بيت لحم في مثل هذا الوقت. يذكر الأنجيل المقدس " وبينما هما هناك تمت ايام ولادتها لتلد فولدت ابنها البكر وقمطته وأضجعته في المذود اذ لم يكن لهما موضع في المنزل". وينقل لنا التقليد الذي نعرفه اليوم ان الطفل يسوع كان محاطاً بوالدته ويوسف مضافاً اليهما بقرة وأتان وبضعة خراف وزفير هولاء جميعاً كان المدفاة لهذا الرضيع الذي كل العبرة من ولادته هي خلاص الجنس البشري وهنا يكمن سر المحبة التي هي أساس المسيحية محبة الله لنا ان يكون لنا حياة ابدية خالية من عذابات الحياة الأرضية التي لآ أحد يجرأ ويقول اني ما رأيت مشقة فيها. فمن المؤكد على مر العصور أن الحياة على هذه الأرض سادتها الحروب والكوارث الطبيعية والمظالم الآتية من البشر. انفسهم مضافا اليها المرض والفقر واليأس وتحصيل المعيشة بعرق الجبين، وحتى ان كنا محظوظين. في حصول المال نراه لا يكفي لآشباع كل متطلباتنا الحياتية .وخاتمة كل العذابات هو الموت الذي هو مفروض على كل البشر. .ويا ويل الذي لم يعتبر من سر محبة الله لنا حين ارسل ابنه الوحيد لخلاصنا.

في ولادة المسيح تتجسد العلاقة بين الخالق والمخلوق بين الله والأنسان وفي هذه العلاقة تتجلى محبة الله للأنسان. وها هي مريم العذراء تحبل بقوة الروح القدس ليحل الأبن ، ابن الأب، بيننا ليس كملك جبار تخضع له المسكونة يجلس على عرش ارضي لأن مملكته ليست من هذا العالم بل جاء بسيطاً متواضعاً ، لا يحمل سلاح ولا يقوم بغزوات يقتل فيها البشر. فهو اله عادل يريد خلاص كل البشرية حتى الذين صلبوه طلب من ابيه ان يغفر لهم لأنهم لا يعرفون ما كانوا يفعلون، فقد جاء لخلاص البشر. لا لهلاكهم . جاء يشفي المرض ، يُبصّر العميان ، يخرج الشياطين ويحي الأموات كي يؤمن به العالم ويعملوا بتوصيته التي هي المحبة التي فيها سر مجيئه الى الأرض وكما يقول يوحنا الأنجيلي ." لأنه هكذا أحب الله العالم حتى بذل ابنه الوحيد لكي لا يهلك كل من يؤمن به بل تكون له الحياة الأبدية "

هكذا علينا نحن أن نتعظ من الطفل يسوع ونضع فعل المحبة في مقدمة اعمال البر متخلين عن الأنانية وحب الذات.

عدم الاهتمام بالمظاهر:

يظهر هذا جليا من ميلاد السيد المسيح في بلدة صغيرة تدعي بيت لحم. وفي مكان حقير هو مذود بقر. وفي يوم لم يعلن للناس مازالوا يختلفون في موعده.. كما يولد بدون احتفالات أرضية. كما يحدث لسائر الناس. استعاضت عنها السماء بحفل من الملائكة والجند السمائيين.

كما ولد من أسرة فقيرة. وفي رعاية رجل نجار. وقيل عن يوم ميلاده "لم يكن له موضع في البيت". وحتى الآن لا تزال صور الميلاد تبين المذود وما يحيط بالفراش القش من حيوانات. وولد في يوم شديد البرد. لم يجد فيه أقمطة كافية ولا دفئًا..

كل ذلك نأخذ منه درسا روحيا. وهو أننا بالبعد عن المظاهر الخارجية ندخل في مشاعر الميلاد. بعيدًا عن العظمة والترف.

فالعظمة الحقيقية ليست في المظاهر الخارجية من غني وملابس وزينة.. وباقي أمثال هذه الأمور التي فيها إعلان عن الذات.. إنما العظمة الحقيقية هي في القلب المنتصر المملوء من الفضائل.

فليبحث إذن كل شخص عن مظاهر العظمة الخارجية التي يقع في شهوتها ويسعي إليها. لكي يتجنبها.. إن أراد أن تكون للميلاد فاعلية في حياته..

من دروس الميلاد أيضا : الاتضاع

إن ميلاد السيد المسيح هو أكبر درس في الاتضاع. وقصة الميلاد بدون اتضاع. تفقد جوهرها.. سواء في ظروف الميلاد التي أخلي فيها ذاته من كل مجد عالمي. أو حياته حوالي ثلاثين عامًا وهي تكاد تكون مجهولة لكثيرين. علي الرغم مما حدث فيها من معجزات في فترة مجيئه لمصر.. واتضاع السيد المسيح. كان معه اتضاع أمه العذراء أيضاً.

فإن أردنا الاحتفال بالميلاد. فلنحتفل بالاتضاع فيه وفينا. ولنبحث ما هي أعماق الاتضاع. وكيف تكون وكيف نحياها؟ وما هي الأمور التي تضاد الاتضاع في حياتنا لكي نتجنبها؟ لأنه ما الفائدة في أن ننظر إلي اتضاع السيد المسيح دون أن نتشبه باتضاعه علي قدر طاقتنا؟!

أليس أنه ترك لنا مثالًا. حتى كما سلك هو. نسلك نحن أيضا..!

من دروس الميلاد أيضا: البساطة

نلاحظ في قصة الميلاد أن السيد المسيح له المجد - لما بدأ رسالته - اختار له تلاميذ بسطاء. غالبيتهم من الصيادين. ولكنهم كانوا أبرارًا ولهم قلوب مستعدة لحمل الرسالة. كما أن بشارة الميلاد أعلنت لجماعة من الرعاة البسطاء. ولكن كانت لهم بساطة الإيمان وعمقه. ولم تعلن هذه البشارة لكثيرين من القادة كالكتبة والفريسيين وكهنة اليهود وشيوخ الشعب.. فلماذا؟

ذلك لأن أسرار الرب. إنما تُعلن لقلوب بسيطة تفرح بها. إن المجوس والرعاة كانوا بسطاء القلب. لما سمعوا ببشارة الميلاد. صدقوا وآمنوا وفرحوا. وذهب المجوس إلى المزود وقدموا هداياهم..

أما الكبار فلم تكن قلوبهم مستعدة ولا بسيطة. مثال ذلك هيرودس الملك. الذي لما سمع الخبر "اضطرب وكل أورشليم معه". واستخدم الفحص والاستقصاء. وأيضا الحيلة والدهاء في كيف يقتل المولود!!

إن العذراء كانت لها بساطة القلب. فآمنت بما قيل لها من قِبل الرب عن طريق ملاكه. وصدقت أنها ستلد وهي عذراء. فكانت لها هذه البركة.. وكذلك يوسف النجار أيضًا آمن بأنها حبلى من الروح القدس.. والمجوس علي الرغم من أنهم كانوا حكماء وعلماء. إلا أنهم كانوا أيضًا بسطاء في قلوبهم. ولم يكن لهم مكر هيرودس الملك وخبثه. لذلك استحقوا هم أيضا أن يروا المسيح وينالوا بركته. وعلي الرغم من أنهم رأوه في مزود. إلا أنهم آمنوا وقدموا هداياهم.

وفي احتفالنا بالميلاد. نذكر المبادئ التي نادي بها المسيح:

ولعل في مقدمة ذلك : المحبة والسلام. جاء المسيح ينشر الحب بين الناس. وبين الناس والله. ويقدم الله للناس أبًا محبًا. يعاملهم لا كعبيد. بل كأبناء. ويصلون إليه قائلين "أبانا الذي في السماوات".وهم في الحرص علي محبته. يعملون بوصاياه. لا خوفًا من عقوبة. بل حبًا للخير.

وهكذا قال السيد المسيح إن جميع الوصايا تتركز في وصية واحدة وهي المحبة "تحب الرب إلهك من كل قلبك. ومن كل فكرك. ومن كل قدرتك. وتحب قريبك كنفسك" بهذا تتعلق جميع الوصايا.

وإلي جوار المحبة. جاء المسيح أيضا ببشارة السلام:

سلام بين الناس. وسلام بين الإنسان والله. وسلام في أعماق النفس من الداخل. سلام من الله يفوق كل عقل. وعلّم بأن الصلح أفضل من تقديم القرابين. فقال : "إن قدمت قربانك علي المذبح. وهناك تذكرت أن لأخيك شيئًا عليك. فاترك قربانك قدام المذبح. واذهب أولًا اصطلح مع أخيك". وفي سبيل السلام بين الناس. دعتهم تعاليم المسيح أن يكونوا مقدمين بعضهم بعضًا في الكرامة.

إن العالم بميلاد المسيح قد بدأ عصرًا جديدًا. يتميز عن كل ما سبقه من عصور. وأصبح الميلاد المجيد فاصلًا بين زمنين متمايزين: ما قبل الميلاد. وما بعد الميلاد.

Liturgical Calendar
December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Holy Prophet Nahum 1 Timothy 5:11-21 Luke 19:45-48	2 Holy Prophet Habakkuk 1 Timothy 5:22-6:11 Luke 20:1-8	3 Holy Prophet Zephaniah 1 Timothy 6:17-21 Luke 20:9-18	4 St Barbara St John the Damascene Galatians 3:23-4:5 Mark 5:24-34	5 St Sabbas the Sanctified Galatians 5:22-6:2 Matthew 11:27-30
6 St Nicholas of Myra 10th Sunday after Holy Cross الأحد العاشر بعد عيد الصليب Hebrews 13:17-21 Luke 13:10-17	7 St Ambrose of Milan 2 Timothy 2:20-26 Luke 20:27-44	8 Prep of Maternity of Anne, grandmother of our Lord 2 Timothy 3:16-4:4 Luke 21:12-19	9 Maternity of Anne Galatians 4:22-27 Luke 8:16-21	10 Beginning of the Nativity Fast بدء صوم الميلاد Titus 1:5-14 Luke 21:28-33	11 St Daniel the Stylite Titus 1:15-2:10 Luke 21:37-22:8	12 St Spyridon the Wonderworker Ephesians 5:8-19 John 10:9-169
13 Holy Ancestors of Christ أحد الأجداد القدّيسين Colossians 3:4-11 Luke 14:16-25	14 St Thyrces and his companions Hebrews 3:5-11, 17-19 Mark 8:11-21	15 St Eleutherios 2 Timothy 1:8-18 Mark 2:23-3:5	16 Holy Prophet Haggai Hebrews 5:11-6:8 Mark 8:30-34	17 Holy Prophet Daniel Hebrews 7:1-6 Mark 9:10-15	18 St Sebastian and his companions Hebrews 7:18-25 Mark 9:33-41	19 Saturday before the Nativity السبت الذي قبل الميلاد Galatians 3:8-12 Luke 13:19-29
20 Genealogy of Christ أحد نَسَب السيد المسيح Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40 Matthew 1:1-25	21 St Juliana of Nicomedia Hebrews 8:7-13 Mark 9:42-10:1	22 St Anastasia Hebrews 9:8-23 Mark 10:2-12	23 Ten Holy Martyrs of Crete Hebrews 10:1-18 Mark 10:11-16	24 Paramony of Christmas بارمون الميلاد Hebrews 1:1-12 Luke 2:1-20	25 Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ ميلاد سيدنا يسوع المسيح Galatians 4:4-7 Matthew 2:1-12	26 Synaxis of the Theotokos محفل مقدس إكراما لوالدة الإله 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Matthew 12:15-21
27 St Joseph the Bethrothed St Stephen Sunday after the Nativity الأحد الذي بعد الميلاد Acts 6:8-7:5; 74-60 Matthew 2:13-23	28 Holy Martyrs of Nicomedia Hebrews 11:17-31 Mark 10:46-52	29 Holy Innocents in Bethlehem Hebrews 12:25-27, 13:22-25 Mark 11:11-23	30 St Anysia James 1:1-18 Mark 11:22-26	31 Leave-taking of the Nativity وداع الميلاد James 1:19-27 Mark 11:27-33	Liturgical Symbols: Abstain from meat Church Major Feasts Fast from midnight until noon Lenten Season	

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.”
At your command, the sick were made well.
Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.
Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.
Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.
Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.
Stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with those who have died from the virus.
May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace. Be with the families of those who are sick or have died.
As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.
Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected
and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.
Be with our priests and spiritual care givers. May they know that they are loved and cared for.
Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people
they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks.
May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.
Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few,
Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.
For You are a God of mercy, kindness, and love, and we glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Christmas-New Year-Theophany

Liturgical Schedule

* New Year Eve, Thursday, December 31st : 4:00 p.m.
* New Year Day, Friday, January 1st : 11:00 a.m.
* Feast of St. Basil the Great, Saturday, January 2nd : 4:00 p.m.
* Sunday Divine Liturgy, January 3rd : 11:00 a.m.
* Feast of the Theophany, January 6th : 9:00 a.m.

St. Basil's Fellowship Organization

Christmas TOY Drive

Layla's Dream

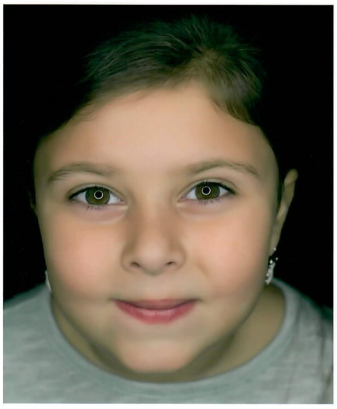
Layla Angela Charette was granted her angel wings February 12, 2017 following a sudden illness(SEPSIS). She was only five years old but left a lifetime of loving memories. She was a dreamer with a gracious smile and eyes that could melt your heart. Layla was a creative, kind, imaginative, and giving spirit who truly loved being with her family and friends. She has a giving and nurturing way about her and we want to spread that love to others in need. "Layla's Dream" was created as a way to honor her and all the things she loved. Any money raised will go directly towards bringing joy and a little hope to those going through difficult times at Hasbro Childrens' Hospital. As a family, we will shop for things like dolls, stuffed animals, books, play doh, etc. and donate our time to brighten the days of those going through tough times like our sweet Layla did. Thank you and God Bless.

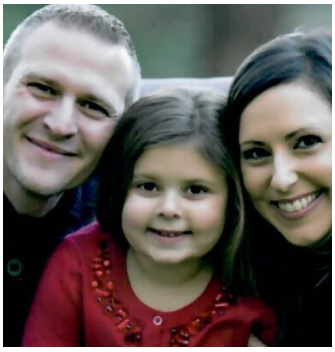
In lieu of monetary donations we would graciously accept <u>new and packaged</u>...

dolls	action figures	play doh
baby rattles	baby toys	kids blankets
themed pillow cases	hand-held games	kids wall decals

...or anything that a child confined to a bed/hospital room would be able to hold or play with. Please refrain from donating stuffed animals that are not in sealed packages, as they can bring germs into the hospital.

Layla Charette is the daughter of BJ and Alaina (Kayata) Charette,
Grand-daughter of Nicholas and Joyce Kayata
Niece of Joe and Meghan Kayata
Great-Niece to Michael & Barbara O'Rourke and Tom and Joanne Sabbagh

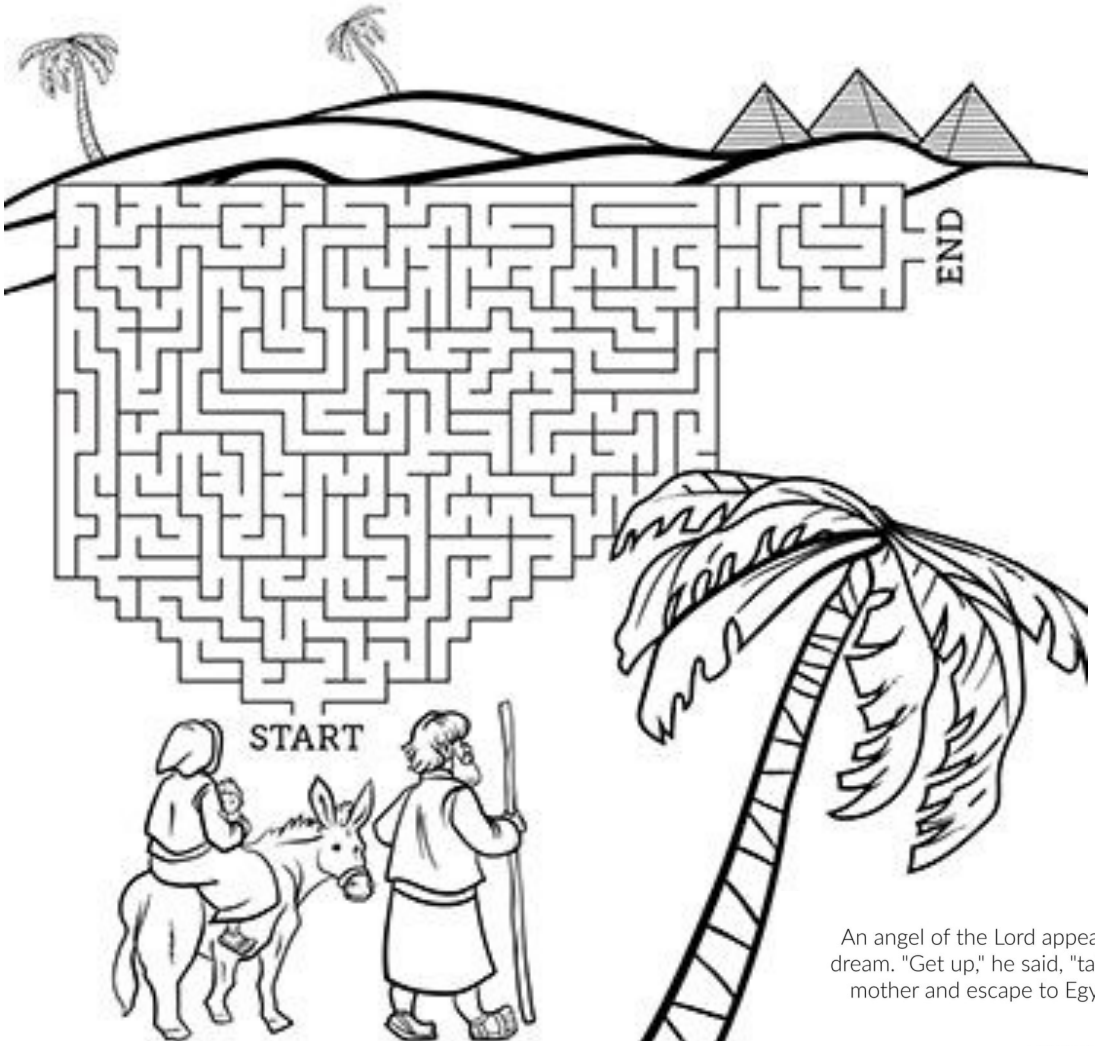




Following Jesus–Kids bulletin

THE STORY OF MARY AND JOSEPH

Help Mary and Joseph escape to Egypt.



An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Matthew 2:13

Announcements

We are pleased to announce

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.

"GOD LOVES THE CHEERFUL GIVER"
2 COR 9:7

Donations are greatly appreciated especially during this pandemic crisis. Please click on the link below to donate. Thank you and God bless you and yours.

Click here for donations https://bit.ly/32BgjtB

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

"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. مَنْ آمَنَ بِي وَلَوْ مَاتَ فَسَيَحْيَا. *(يو 11: 25)*

اذكرني في ملكوتك

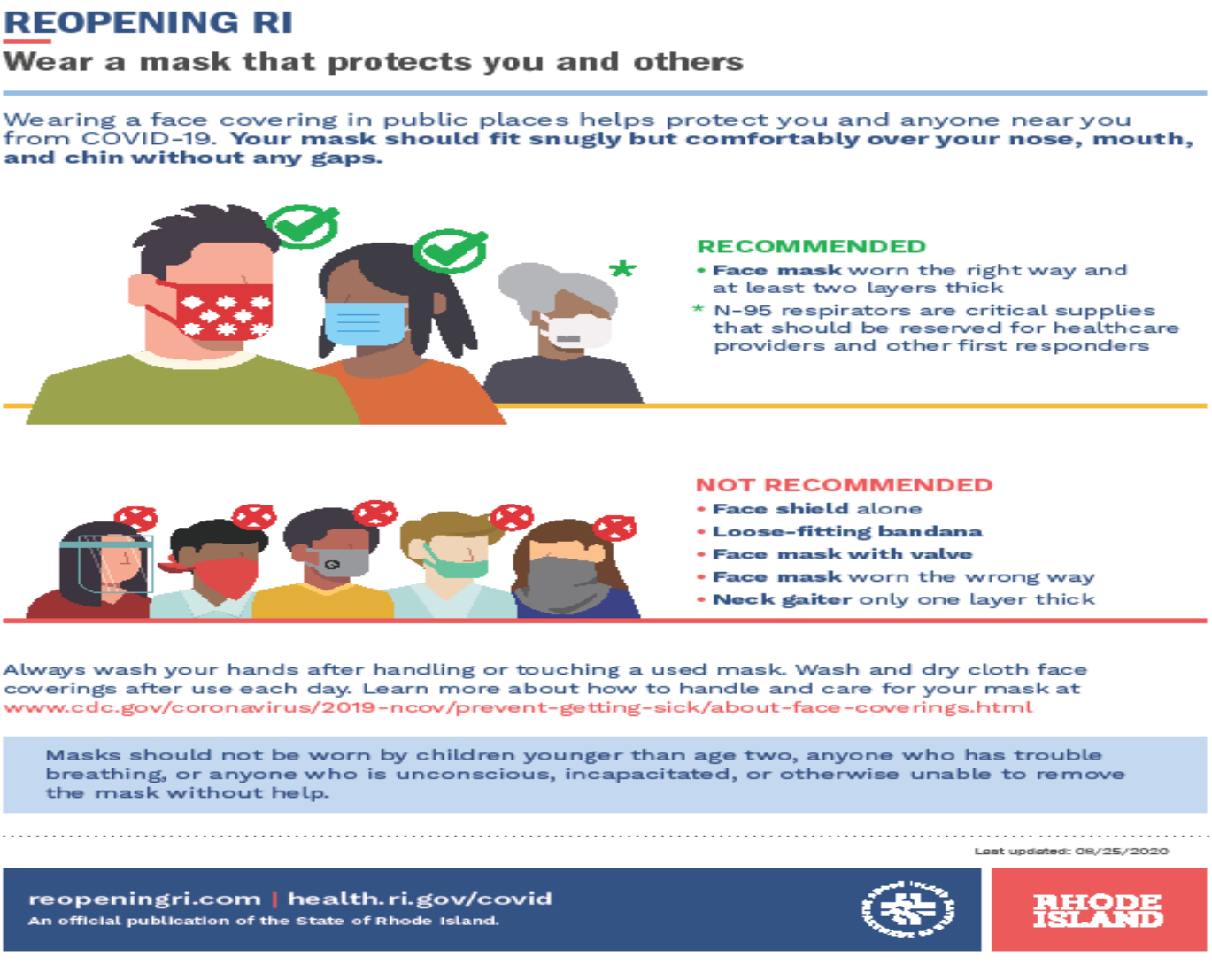
أدعوكم إلى القداس الإلهي

من اجل الراقدين على رجاء القيامة

في الأربعاء الأخير من كل شهر الساعة 6:30 مساء

Alerts and Latest Guidance

- **Social Gatherings:** as of October 30, the indoor and outdoor social gathering limit is 10 people because social gatherings have been the source of many positive cases.
- **Early closures:** All restaurants, bars, gyms, recreational facilities, and personal services must close at 10 p.m. Sunday – Thursday and at 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. (*Effective November 8, 2020)*
- **Stay-at-home advisory** is in effect from 10 p.m. – 5 a.m. Sunday – Thursday and from 10:30 p.m. – 5 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. (*Effective November 8, 2020)*
- **Venues of assembly:** The capacity limit for indoor venues (performing arts venues, movie theaters, houses of worship) is 50% of normal capacity with a maximum of 125 people. The limit for outdoor venues is 66% of normal capacity with a maximum of 150 people. (*Effective November 8, 2020)*
- **Catered events:** The capacity limit for indoor catered events is 25 and for outdoor catered events is 75, with exceptions for previously scheduled weddings. (*Effective November 8, 2020)*
- **Large retailers:** The capacity limit for big box stores (more than 30,000 square feet of space) is one person per 150 square feet. (*Effective November 8, 2020)*
- **Business travel:** Businesses are asked to cancel any non-essential, work-related travel. (*Effective November 8, 2020)*
- **Masks** are required any time you're near people who don't live with you, including at the gym.



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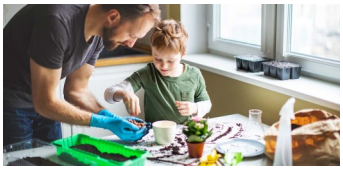

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