



January 8, 2023

ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH



Address

15 Skyview Drive
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Tel (401) 722-1345

Parish Website

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreek
CatholicChurchRI/](https://www.facebook.com/StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreekCatholicChurchRI/)

YouTube

<https://bit.ly/3gkl2Uk>

Email

office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Office hours

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

Divine Liturgies

Sunday Divine Liturgy

9:00 AM - 11:15 AM

Pastoral Emergencies and anointing of the sick

(401)722-1345

Holy Mysteries

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will
be available before the Divine
Liturgy 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



Sunday after Theophany

الاحد بعد عيد الظهور

Troparion of the Resurrection (6th tone)

The angelic powers were around Your tomb, and the guards became as dead, and Mary stood at the tomb, seeking Your spotless body; Then You despoiled Hades without being tried by it, and You met the Virgin O Bestower of life. O Lord, who rose from the dead, glory to You!

Troparion of Theophany (1st Tone)

At your Baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was revealed: for the Father's voice bore witness to you by calling You his Beloved Son, and the spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words. O Christ God who have appeared to us, and enlightened the world, glory to You.

Troparion of St Basil The Great

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.

نشيد القيامة باللحن السادس

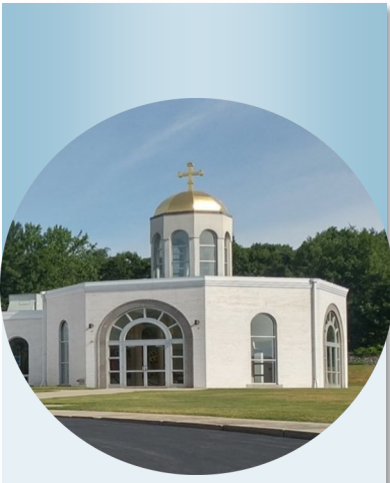
إن القوات الملائكية ظهرت على قبرك،
والحراس صاروا كالأموات، ومريم وقفت عند
القبر، طالبة جسدك الطاهر. فسلبت
الجحيم ولم تنلك بأذى، ولاقيت
البتول واهباً الحياة. فيا من قام من بين
الأموات، يا رب المجد لك.

نشيد عيد الظهور باللحن الاول

في اعتمادك يا رب في نهر الاردن، ظهر
السجود للثالوث، فإن صوت الآب تقدم لك
بالشهادة، مسمىاً أياك أبناً محبوباً. والروح
بهنيئة حمامة يؤيد حقيقة الكلمة. فيا من
ظهر وانار العالم، أيها المسيح الاله المجد
لك.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

لقد ذاع منطلقك في كل الأرض. فإنها قد
قبلت كلامك، الذي به بينت العقائد بياناً
إلهياً، وأوضحت طبيعة الكائنات، ونظمت
أخلاق البشر. فيا أيها الآب البار ذو الكهنوت
الملوكي، إبتهل إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص
نفوسنا.



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>



Kondakion of the Theophany, 3rd Tone

Today You have appeared, O Lord, to the universe and Your light, O Christ our God, has been impressed upon us who sing to You with full knowledge: You came and appeared, O Inaccessible Light.

Epistle Eph 4:7-13

Prokimenon (Tone 1)

May your kindness, O Lord, be upon us, for we have hoped in you.

Stichon: Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting.

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians:

Brethren, to each one of us the grace was given according to the measure of Christ's bestowal. Thus, is says, Ascending on high, he let away captives; he gave gifts to men (Ps.61:19). Now this ascending, what does it mean but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended, he it is who ascended also above all the heavens, that he might fill all things. And he himself gave some men as apostles, and some as prophets, and others as pastors and teachers, in order to perfect the saints for a work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the deep knowledge of the Son of God, to perfect manhood, to the mature measure of the fullness of Christ.

Alleluia (Tone 5)

Your favor, O 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 Matthew 4:12-17

Sunday after Theophany

At that time, When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen." From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Hirmos (6th Tone)

O my soul, magnify the Higher in honor and glory than the heavenly powers. All tongues are at a loss to praise you properly, and every intelligence even super natural is rapt in wonder when it come to honor you, O Mother of God. But in your graciousness accept our faith, knowing our holy longing. Intercessor of Christians, we extol you.

نشيد الختام (القنداق) لعيد الظهور باللحن

الرابع
اليوم ظهرت للمسكونة يا رب، ونورك قد ارتسم علينا، نحن مُسبحيك عن معرفة. لقد أتيت وظهرت أيها النور الذي لا يُدنى منه.

الاحد الذي بعد الظهور

مقدمة الرسالة

لنكن يا رب رحمك علينا، بحسب إنكنا عليك
ابتهجوا أيها الصديقون بالرب، بالمستقيمين يليق التسبيح

الرسالة (أفسس 4: 13-7)

يا إخوة، لكل واحد منا أعطيت النعمة على مقدار موهبة المسيح. لذلك يقول: لما صعد إلى العلى سبى سبباً وأعطى الناس عطايا. فكونه صعد هل هو إلا أنه نزل أولاً إلى اسافل الارض؟ فالذي نزل هو نفسه الذي صعد أيضاً فوق السماوات كلها ليملأ كل شيء. وهو الذي جعل بعضاً رُسلًا وبعضاً أنبياء وبعضاً مُبشرين، وبعضاً رعاةً ومعلمين لأجل تكميل القديسين، لأجل عمل الخدمة، لأجل بنيان جسد المسيح، إلى أن ننتمي جميعنا إلى وحدة الإيمان ومعرفة ابن الله، إلى رجل كامل، إلى مقدار قامة ملء المسيح.

هللوا

بمراجعتك يا رب انتم إلى الابد، إلى جيل فجيل أعلن حقل بفي
لأنك قلت: إن الرحمة تُبنى إلى الابد، وفي السماوات يُهيأ حقل.

انجيل الاحد الذي بعد عيد الظهور

الانجيل (متى 4: 12-17)

في ذلك الزمان، لما سمع يسوع أن يوحنا قد أسلم، انصرف إلى الجليل. وترك الناصرة وجاء فسكن في كفر ناحوم التي على شاطئ البحر، في تخوم زبولون ونفتاليم، ليتِم ما قيل بأشعيا النبي القائل: أرض زبولون وأرض نفتاليم، طريق البحر عبر الأردن جليل الأمم. الشعب الجالس في الظلمة أبصر. نوراً عظيماً والجالسون في بقعة الموت وظلاله أشرق عليهم نور. ومنذئذ ابتدأ يسوع يكرز ويقول: توبوا فقد أقترت ملكوت السماوات.

النشيد لوالدة الاله باللحن الثاني

عظمي يا نفسي. من هي أكرم قدراً من الاجناد العلوية أن الالسن بأسرها تتحير كيف تمدحك بحسب الواجب. وكل عقل وإن كان فائقاً العالم، ينذهل من تسبحك يا والدة الاله. لكن بما أنك صالحة، تقبلي إيماننا، لأنك عرفت شوقنا الالهي. فإذا أنت نصيرة المسيحيين، أياك نعظم.





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.



Divine Liturgy Intentions

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023: SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY. SOLEMNITY OF THE FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY.

9:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGIES:

- + **EMILY NOURY (Birthday Remem.)** by her nieces and nephews.
- + **MARIE SAURIOL** by Deacon & Mrs. Edmond B. Raheb.
- + **GHTTAS AL CHIAKH** by Najib & Saydeh Hana.
- + **DR. GHANEM HANA** by Najib & Saydeh Hana.
- + **IBRAHEEM HANA** by Najib & Saydeh Hana.
- + **M/M HABIB & ALICE NASSANEY** by the Family.
- + **YVONNE (HAGGAR) COLABELLA** by Father Joe and Family.

11:15 DIVINE LITURGIES:

- + **GEORGE DECKEY (3rd Anniv.)** by his children.
- + **ROSE & HOUNEIN KHOURY** by Micheline Ghanem.
- + **ALBERT J. KISHFY** by Nelly Kishfy & Family.
- + **EFRAIN MARTINEZ** by M/M Jalal Dekki & Family.
- + **VIOLETTE (HAJJAR) SAGGAL (Australia)** by Deacon Gilbert & Mimi Altongy.
- + **GEORGETTE S. SAGGAL** by Joseph & Yolanda Saggal.
- + **MICHAEL GEORGE BOUDJOUK (NJ)** by Mrs. Nelly Kishfy.
- + **JEANNETTE AYOUB DAIKH** by George, Norman, Christopher Kishfy & Mouna Badro.
- + **YVONNE (HAGGAR) COLABELLA** by Father Joe and Family.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: January 1, 2023: Budgets: \$5,070.00: Envelopes: \$5,000.00, Loose: \$70.00; Building Fund: \$2,000.00: Addit'l Fuel: \$170.00; Addit'l Melkite Diocesan Support: \$30.00; Initial Offerings: \$140.00; Addit' Christmas Offerings: \$175.00: Poinsettias: \$320.00. Stole Offerings: \$150.00.

TODAY, JANUARY 8th, 2023, there will be a special collection taken up for the **UPKEEP, MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT OF THE CEMETERY**. Please be as generous as you can, and we thank you for your continued support in providing a peaceful resting place for our beloved deceased.

PLEASE NOTE: Before making any **ENGAGEMENT/BAPTISM/MARRIAGE RECEPTION PLANS**, please contact the Church in advance. We would rather not have you disappointed if you've already made commitments without checking our schedule first.

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

2023 ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDARS are available – free for the taking – at both entrances of the church. By following the liturgical cycle of the church year and remembering the Saints each day is an excellent way to attach yourself more closely to the worshipping community that is the church.

ENVELOPE USERS: It would be helpful to us if you could please check off the amount on the outside of the budget envelope. This will allow for more efficiency and accuracy in the recording of your budgets. Thank you kindly!

Also, it has been observed that some people have forgotten to fill their budget envelopes with their offering (some sealed, others unsealed), and it is awkward to put us in this kind of position. We humbly ask you to be more careful in this regard.

IN PRAYERFUL REMEMBRANCE: Please continue to remember in your prayers all the needs of the parish family, the sick and suffering, those who have asked for our prayers, the priests and bishops of the Catholic Church, those people who have been denied their basic human rights and dignity, the oppressed, the lonely, the homeless and those who suffer, and those who have no peace of mind or heart.

CLEANLINESS & HEALTH: Please pick up after yourselves and the children during and following Coffee Hour; insects and rodents are attracted by what we leave throughout and around the interior and exterior of the building; it takes but a few moments to clean up well. Cultural Center, kitchen, and bar should always be free of open food items. Everyone: please take note. Hall dining tables, coffee serving areas, stainless steel tables, counters, sinks, stove, etc. should be soap washed after every use and before leaving the building. The custodian does not always come in on our desired schedule. Thank you!

EPHESIANS 4:22-24: Many of us like to make resolutions in the new year. It's a great idea to get off to a fresh start and begin now, good habits. Ephesians 4:22-24 speaks to this.

"Change the former way of life that was part of the person you once were, corrupted by deceitful desires. Instead, renew the thinking in your mind by the Spirit and clothe yourself with the new person created according to God's image in justice and true holiness."

We welcome your ideas. Please feel free to place them in the suggestion box in the narthex of the church.

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.





The Byzantine Church attaches a great importance to the Theophany because of its deep theological significance. What is celebrated is not so much the historical fact of the manifestation of the Holy Trinity to the world for the very first time, nor the beginning of Christ's public life, nor again the Baptism administered by John: it is rather the manifestation of God's glory, of his love for mankind, of His mercy and compassion expressed in the Person of Jesus Christ, who assumed flesh and became Man in order to become a sacrifice of salvation for the sake of all men. "The grace of God our Savior has appeared to all men" (Titus 2:11).

Inspired by the baptism of Christ and by this stirring of divine life poured forth for the salvation and sanctification of mankind, the early Church reserved this day for the baptism of the catechumens, unceasingly repeating with St. Paul: "All of you who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ." Alleluia!

10 TIPS FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR: 1. Believe in fresh starts. 2. See your resolutions as a growth process. 3. Let go of resentments. 4. Prepare for the year ahead. 5. Choose healthy lifestyle. 6. Forgive yourself first. 7. Apologize if you need to. 8. Be better to yourself. 9. Keep your cool. 10. Keep your promises.

This is a New Year, with new joys and challenges. Be open to the good, don't hold on to the bad, and try to be a little bit nicer than anyone else. That alone can make for a good year. (Dr. Barton Goldsmith Providence Sunday Journal).

REFLECTION: "The best index to a person's character is how he treats people who can't do him any good, and how he treats people who can't fight back." - Abigail Van Buren

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Following Jesus Kids bulletin



Baptism

Today we celebrate the baptism of Our Lord. After Jesus had prayed and fasted in the desert for forty days He went to where Saint John the Baptist was baptizing people in the Jordan river. People were coming to Saint John, confessing their sins, and he was baptizing them with water. Saint John told the people that he only baptized with water, but One would come after him Who would baptize them with the Holy Spirit. He was talking about Jesus.

When Jesus came to him, Saint John did not want to baptize Him- he said that Jesus should baptize him instead! But Jesus wanted Saint John to baptize Him so that He could be an example for all of us.

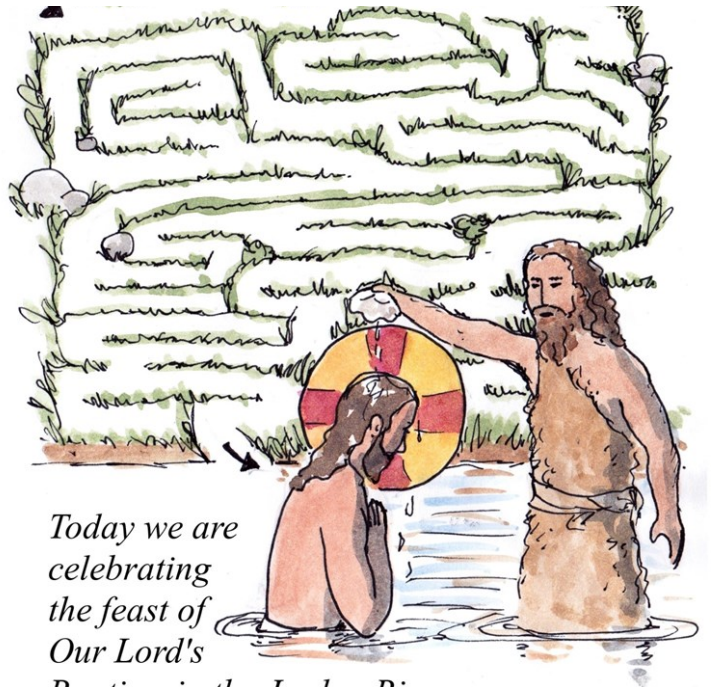


The baptism that Saint John was giving was only a sign of people being sorry for their sins. The baptism that Jesus gave us really takes away our sins. It makes us members of Jesus' Church and takes away both original sin and any actual sins we have done. We still have the effects of original sin, which are pain and death and a tendency to sin, but our souls are made perfectly clean when we are baptized. If we sin after our baptism we can be forgiven in the sacrament of confession.



Today ask your parents about your baptism, and thank God for letting you become part of His family, the Church.

The Kids' Bulletin



Today we are celebrating the feast of Our Lord's Baptism in the Jordan River.

See if you can find your way through the maze to where Saint John is baptizing Jesus!

The Fruit of repentance (St. Gregory)



"Repentance is the beginning, middle and end of the Christian way of life (St. Gregory Palamas)."

It is the beginning of a blessed New Year! There seems to be joy in the hearts of many as the need to embrace a positive new beginning of things is once again given to us. The Church too, sends out a strong and powerful message with the Feast of Theophany, on January 6, which is echoed loudly in the words of St. Gregory – *repentance is the beginning, middle and end of the Christian Way of life*. The word for repentance in Greek is *metania* which means to have a *change* in one's thoughts, thinking and way of living in the world. Let us enter once again into the waters of baptism and the great gift of Christ it brings into our lives.

When St. John the Baptist explained the meaning of repentance he was specific and gave instructions according to the occupation of each person. St. Gregory points out that following confession *fruit* would appear in the lives of those repenting.

The Fruit of repentance (St. Gregory)

- **Righteousness** – doing and being right before God. To have Christ dwelling in us so that we treat everyone as if Christ is dwelling in them. To live righteously is to work truthfully with all clients. This requires ceasing to lie and deceive others just to take advantage of them or a situation.
- **Almsgiving** – sharing from the abundant blessings given to us by God. Having made enough money to live on and take care of our basic needs – with an abundance we can now take care of the needs of others with joyful hearts and thankfulness of everything received. Withholding from others deprives us of the joy of being able to give unto others as we have been given.
- **Moderation** – being content with what God has blessed us with.

To live not beyond one's means but within the boundaries of God's blessings is accomplished by not desiring what others have. Envy is the absence of moderation.

- **Love** – caring for others who have no one to care for them. What does it mean to love in the workplace? It means to seek the benefit of someone else over oneself. It means to give someone our entire attention and listen to their needs and not my need to make a sale. It means to treat each person without labeling them with any other label than *child of God*.
- **Truthfulness** – integrity and honesty dictate our behavior in our professions. When we are true with God; we can begin to be true to ourselves and others. Integrity is being able to speak the truth in love. It means being able to be who we truly are in the presence of others. It means being able to pursue truth above all else even when it means knowing that someone else may be able to help someone better than we can and having the honesty to be able to tell them so. "As I speak these words to you, brethren, I feel no small pain in my soul, that we who were long ago granted Christian baptism have not yet accomplished those very things which John demanded of those approaching his own baptism...Christ who takes away the sin of the world enters the water before us to be baptized...He draws the grace of the all-holy Spirit from above to dwell in the water with Him, so that later when those being baptized as He was enter the water, He is there, clothing them ineffably with His Spirit, attaching Himself to them, and filling them with the grace that purifies and illumines reasonable spirits (Gregory Palamas)."

أنت هو إبنى الحبيب، بك أنا سررت.



يعلن الخلاص، بنا يصلح العالم مع الله، بنا يشفي القلوب الجريحة، بنا يعيد بناء حياة تحطمت. بمعموديتنا نعلن أننا صرنا ملك الله ووسيلة قداسة العالم، نضع ذواتنا بتصرف المسيح ليعمل من خلالنا، نصبح، كما قال بولس "سفراء المسيح لدى الأمم كلها". نحن الفقراء، لا نملك شيئاً، نصبح أغني الأغنياء، لأننا نحمل المسيح في حياتنا، وفي جسدنا، وفي قلوبنا، ننطلق به نحو إخواننا، ليختبروا هم أيضاً عظم المسيح وغنى محبته.

هي دعوة الى القداسة

معمودية المسيح هي صورة عن حقيقة كل واحد منا، نُصغي لدعوة الله في قلبنا، نعود إلى صوت الضمير، نقبل الله في حياتنا، نتكرس له بالمعمودية، نصبح له بكليتنا، نضع ذاتنا بين يديه، نقول له: **أريد أن أكون وسيلة لك، لتقدس الإخوة من خلالي.** حلول الروح على المسيح في الأردن هو صورة عن حلول الله على حياتي.

كما كان روح الرب يرفرف على العمار في البدء، قيل أن يخلق الله السماوات، وكانت الأرض خربة خالية، فحوّلها الله بروحه إلى تحفة تمجد الخالق بجمالها، كذلك يحلّ عليّ أنا ساعة المعمودية، يحلّ عليّ خراب ذاتي، وعلى الحطام الذي سيّته خطيئتي، يحلّ عليّ قلبي الفارغ كفراغ الوجود قبل الخلق، يحلّ عليّ فيجعلني أنا أيضاً تحفة رائعة الجمال، أعلن للكون عن جمال الله من خلال جمال النعمة التي نلتها، نعمة أن أكون ابناً لله.

هي دعوة الى التوبة

الله لا يختار كماله، فهو أحبني رغم ضعفه، ورغم خطيئتي، أحبني كما يحب الأب ابنه المريض الضعيف، يحبني رغم سقطاتي ورغم هفواتي، يريدني أن أكون له، ليعمل في حياتي، ويبدل ضعفه بقوة، ويبدل خطيئتي بنعمته. **دعوة الله هي ليست لأني كامل، بل لأني ابن لله، وكما لي يتحقق بطاعتي الكاملة لإرادته التي تقدسني. أتباعي لله لا ينتهي بعد المعمودية، بل هي دعوة مستمرة لتوبة يومية.** في كل لحظة من حياتي أنا مدعو لأن أعود إلى الله، ولأن أعلن له كل لحظة أنني إحتبه، فهو دعائي لأنه اختارني، وهو اختارني لأنه أحبني، وهو أحبني لأنه أبي، ولأنه جعل مني ابناً له بالمعمودية.

بالمعمودية تتحقق في حياتنا الشخصية إمكانية الاتحاد بالحب الإلهي، فبالمعمودية نصبح أبناء الله، نسمع صوته يقول لنا: أنت إبنى الحبيب. يفرح قلب الأب بنا، ويُسّر بأن قد وُلد له بالنعمة وبالروح القدس ابن جديد. هذا هو سر المعمودية، هذا سبب دخول المسيح اليوم في مياه الأردن.

فهل نعي في حياتنا هذه الحقيقة؟ هل ندرك عظمة حبّ الله لنا؟ هل نفهم كم أننا نجرح قلب الله الذي أحبنا بإصرارنا على البقاء في خطيئتنا؟ هي دعوة لنا لأن نتوب، لأن نعود إلى الأب، لأن المسيح قد فتح لنا باب العودة إلى حالة النوبة. هي دعوة لنا لأن نحافظ على شرف معموديتنا، فلا نرمي جواهر الروح القدس في أحوال خطيئتنا. هي دعوة لنا لأن نعود إلى الأب في حال سقطنا، ونعينا، ونسئنا، فالله يحبنا وينتظرنا، ينتظرنا ليغفر لنا، ليضمنا إلى قلبه، ويهمس في أذننا من جديد: **أنت هو إبنى الحبيب، بك أنا سررت.**

ثلاثون عاماً من حياة محتجة انقضت، ثلاثون عاماً منذ ليلة ميلاد بيت لحم، منذ انحدار الرب لملاقة واقعنا الإنساني. في بيت لحم اتخذ الرب جسداً مائتاً، وُلد فقيراً لئلا يربو كم هو قريب منا ومن حقيقتنا. أراد أن يقول لنا أنه يحبنا، وأنه معنا، لأنه صار واحداً منا.

واليوم، بعد حياة الناصرة الخفية، حيث كان الرب ينمو مثل كل واحد منا بالقامة والنعمة والحكمة، طائعا لمريم ويوسف، بدأ المسيح حياته العلنية.

طالما انتظر اليهود يوم الرب هذا: انتظروا وصول المسيح المخلص، يأتي ليرفع الظلم عن شعبه. لقد انتظروا مسيحاً قوياً، مقاتلاً، قائداً جيش إسرائيل. انتظروا مسيحاً معاقباً يحرق الخطاة بنار غضبه. انتظروه ملكاً يخلق بالقوة ملوك الطغيان ليعيد إحياء عرش داود أبيه، ملك إسرائيل، ويوجد بقوة ذراعه قبائل إسرائيل المشتتة.

لم ينتظروه مسيحاً ضعيفاً، لم ينتظروه مسيحاً ينحني أمام يوحنا، لم يقبلوه مسيحاً يعلن ملكه لا بالسيف بل بالماء، ويغلب الشر لا بالحرب بل بمعمودية التوبة.

هو منطق مسيح بيت لحم، المولود كالفقراء، لم يجد له مكاناً فحلّ في إسطبل. هو منطق مسيح البشارة، لم يجد له موضعاً يلقي عليه رأسه، هو منطق مسيح الناصرة، ظنّ أقاربه أنه قد فقد العقل، هو منطق مسيح اورشليم، ينحني الرأس أمام رعا ع راع يضربونه بقصبة، يهزأون به، يقولون له متهمكمن: "تنبا من ضربك".

هو منطق الإنسان المسالم، يرفض قبول منطق العنف، لأن "من يأخذ بالسيف، فبالسيف يؤخذ"، ولأن العالم لا يمكن للعنف أن يشفيه، وحده السلام، وحده الحب، وحدها المصالحة، يمكنها أن تشفي جراح قلبنا العنيف فتعطيه السلام.

المسيح الداخل مياه الأردن هو نفسه المسيح الذي يدخل عالماً، يدخل واقعنا ويتبنّى حقيقتنا ليعبّرها من الداخل، يعبّرها بصمت، يلقى في حقيقتنا حقيقته، فتنمو فينا بصمت كما تنمو السنبل، دون ضجيج، دون هتاف الانتصار، ودون قسوة السيف وعنف الحرب. **حقيقة المسيح تنمو في حياتنا وفي عالمنا بهدوء، وبسلامها تبدل واقعنا.**

لقد دخل المسيح مياه الأردن، هو غير المحتاج إلى التوبة، لأنه لم يقترف معصية، هو البراة المتجسدة، جاء يعلمنا، يقول لنا أن الدخول في علاقة مع الأب لا يمكنها أن تتم إن لم نخبر معنى التوبة، معنى العودة إلى الأب. بخطيئتنا فقدنا صداقتنا مع الله، وحدها التوبة تعيدنا إلى حالة النوبة.

المسيح في نهر الأردن هو صورة كل واحد منا، إنسانيته التي دخلت مياه معمودية يوحنا هي صورة إنسانيتنا المدعوة إلى التوبة وإلى العودة إلى الله.

معمودية المسيح هي دعوة لنا

دعوة إلى المعمودية، فبالمعمودية نعلن أننا ملك الله، نرفض الشيطان وكل تعاليمه، نعلن أن خيرنا الأوحده هو الله وحده. بالمعمودية نلبس المسيح، نصبح أعضاء في جسد المسيح السري، أي أبناء الكنيسة وأعضاءها. بواسطتنا نعلن الكنيسة حبّ الله للعالم، بواسطتنا تقدس الكنيسة العالم، بواسطتنا نعلن الكنيسة إنجيل الخلاص.

بواسطتنا نحن الأعضاء، يمكن للمسيح أن يعمل اليوم في عالمنا: بنا



LITURGICAL CALENDAR



JANUARY	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 St Basil the Great Circumcision of our Lord Jesus Christ ختان الرب Colossians 2:8-12 Luke 2:20-22, 40-52	2 Pope Sylvester Hebrews 5:4-10 John 3:1-15	3 Holy Prophet Malachi James 5:10-20 John 15:17-16:2	4 Synaxis of the 70 disciples 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Mark 10:11-16	5 Paronymy of Theophany بارمون الظهور الالهي (الغطاس) 1 Corinthians 9:19-27 Luke 3:1-18	6 Theophany of our Lord عيد الظهور الالهي (الغطاس) Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 Matthew 3:13-17	7 Synaxis of John the Baptist السابق المجيد يوحنا المعمدان Acts 19:1-8 John 1:29-34
كثون الثاني - يناير 2023	8 Sunday after Theophany الأحد بعد الظهور الالهي Ephesians 4:7-13 Matthew 4:12-17	9 St Polyeuctos James 2:14-26 Mark 1:9-15	10 St Gregory of Nyssa James 3:1-10 Matthew 4:25 & 5:1-12	11 St Theodosios Hebrews 13:7-16 Luke 3:19-22	12 St Tatiana 1 Corinthians 9:2-12 John 10:39-42	13 Sts Eremylos and Stratonicos 2 Timothy 2:1-10 Luke 20:1-8	14 Leave-taking of Theophany وداع الظهور الالهي Ephesians 6:10-17 Matthew 4:1-11
DECEMBER 2022	15 12 th Sunday after Holy Cross الأحد الثاني عشر بعد عيد الصليب Colossians 3:4-11 Luke 17:12-19	16 Veneration of the Chains of Peter the Apostle تكریم سلاسل الرسول بطرس Acts 12:1-11 John 21:14-25	17 St Anthony the Great القديس أنطونيوس الكبير Hebrews 13:17-21 Luke 6:17-23	18 Sts Athanasios and Cyril Hebrews 13:7-16 Matthew 5:14-19	19 St Macarios the Egyptian Galatians 5:22-6:2 John 10:9-16	20 St Euthymios the Great 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 John 6:17-23	21 St Maximos the Confessor 1 Corinthians 14:20-25 John 25:1-13
FEBRUARY 2023	22 15 th Sunday after Holy Cross الأحد الخامس عشر بعد عيد الصليب 1 Timothy 4:9-15 Luke 19:1-10	23 St Clement of Ancyra 1 Peter 2:21-3:9 Mark 12:13-17	24 St Xenia the Roman 1 Peter 3:10-22 Mark 12:18-27	25 St Gregory the Theologian Hebrews 7:26-8:2 John 10:9-16	26 Australia Day St Xenophon and relatives 1 Peter 4:12-5:5 Mark 12:38-44	27 Relics of St John Chrysostom Hebrews 7:26-8:2 John 10:9-16	28 St Ephrem the Syrian 2 Timothy 2:11-19 Luke 18:2-8
	29 Publican & Pharisee Sunday أحد الفريسي والمغشاة 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Luke 18:10-14	30 The Three Hierarchs Hebrews 13:7-16 Matthew 5:14-19	31 Sts Cyrus and John 2 Peter 2:9-22 Mark 13:14-23				



Church Major Feasts



Abstain from Meat



Fast from midnight until noon



Lenten Season

BISHOP'S APPEAL 2022-2023



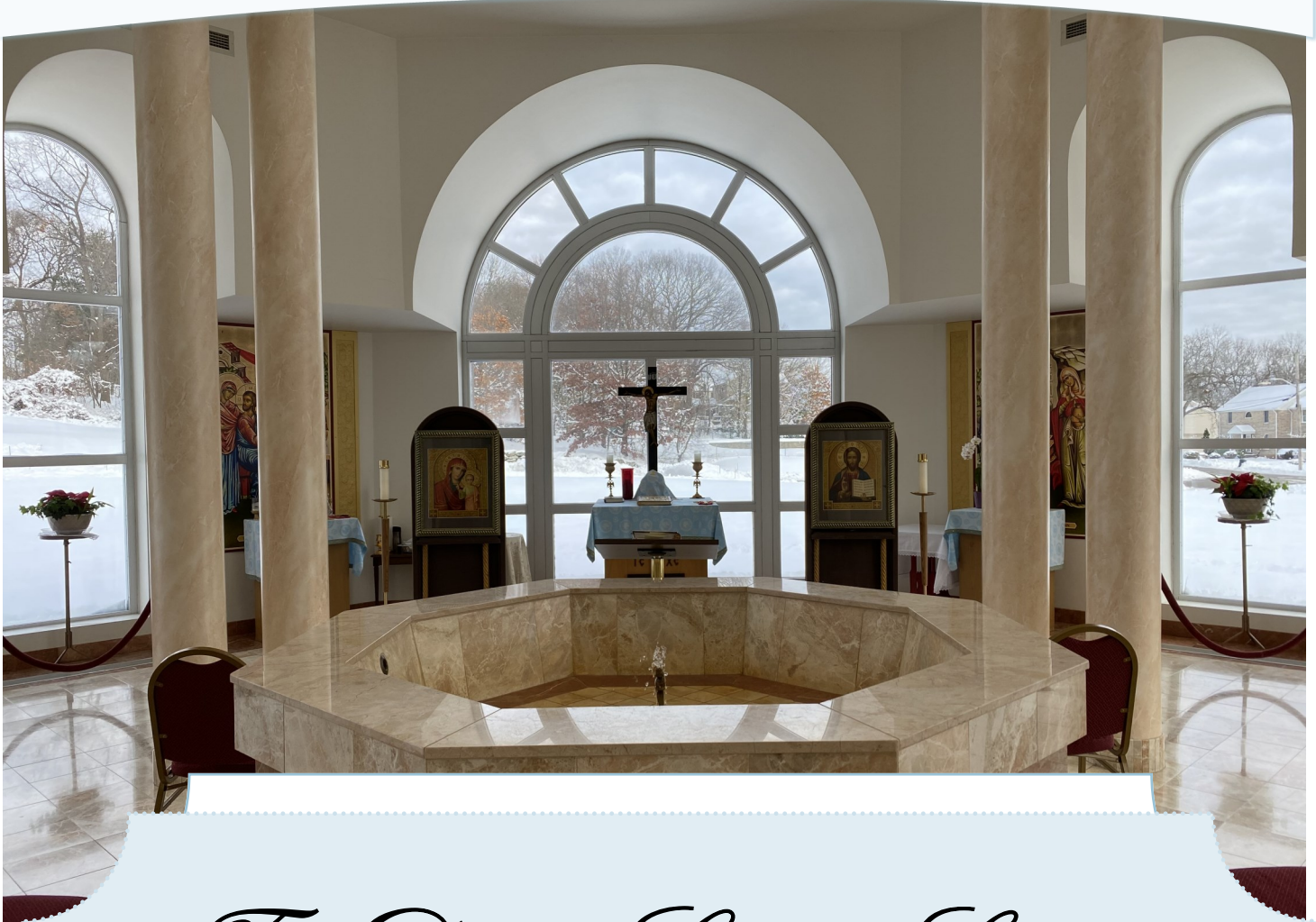
Follow this [link](https://melkite.org/eparchy/2022-bishops-appeal) for Bishop François Beyrouti's full letter.

Or to make a commitment

Please follow the link below:

<https://melkite.org/eparchy/2022-bishops-appeal>

Weekly Divine Liturgy Schedule



The Divine Liturgy Schedule

Sunday Divine Liturgy

- **9:00 am**
- **11:15 am**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available
Tuesday to Friday before or after the Divine Liturgy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome to

St. Basil The Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

**Check our website
for Church news and updates at**
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<https://bit.ly/2VJgvnS>

Contact us for information and ideas
office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com



"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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

As of 12/30/2022



St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

15 Skyview Drive Lincoln, RI 02865

Sharing our Faith
SECURING OUR FUTURE



Campaign Facts:



Campaign Goal: \$1,000,000



Outstanding Goal: \$340,000



Contribution Ranges: \$20 to \$50,100

Parish Community Facts:



Total Registered Families: 415



Active Families: 250



% of Active Families Participation: 51%

"It's not about how much we give, but how much love we put into giving"
-Mother Teresa

Current & Future Projects:



Church Roof Repair: Project completed, estimated cost of \$400,000...final cost \$321,000.



Rectory Roof Repair: Proposals received, estimated cost \$18,000, pending review.



Church Window Repairs: Proposals received, estimated cost \$9,000, pending review.



HVAC & Boiler Replacement: Proposals received, estimated cost \$196,000.



Flooring Upgrades: Proposal received, estimated cost \$50,000 (carpeting for Church, Cultural Center, office & hallway), pending review.



Parking Lot Sealing: Project complete at both Rectory & Church...final cost \$14,000.



Interior Repairs, Expand Storage & Vent Cleaning: Partial proposals received. Vent cleaning estimated cost \$9,000.



Exterior/Masonry /Walkway Repairs: Awaiting proposals.



Security Cameras/Door Upgrades: Camera system complete, final cost \$10,500. Door proposal received, pending review.

Important Highlights

- We are extremely grateful to all of those who have contributed and supported the campaign thus far.
- The finance committee has begun strategy planning on maximizing the return of current financial reserves for future projects. God willing, this will prevent the need for another capital campaign and *allow for a more spiritual focus!*
- As reflected above, donations have varied in amounts, we do not expect everyone to support with the same amount...*However, we do pray that everyone will support this important campaign!*
- This is an open and transparent campaign, if you have any questions, suggestion, or concerns Fr. Ephrem or any of the committee members would be more than happy review/discuss during coffee hour or feel free to call them at the numbers listed below.



For more information contact any of the committee members, [click here](#), or scan this code with your Smartphone Camera!

Jeff Boudjouk: 401-441-2737

Ann Sabbagh: 508-243-1190

Kyle Mardo: 401-578-5369

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Saturday, February 11, 2023

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(Snow Date, Feb. 18)

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Chris Barrett : 401-265-0386

St. Basil Rectory : 401-722-1345 or any MYO member

Tickets purchased in advance only –

Deadline Sunday, February 5, 2023

All proceeds go to St. Basil's MYO

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Or place in the Sunday collection basket at Church

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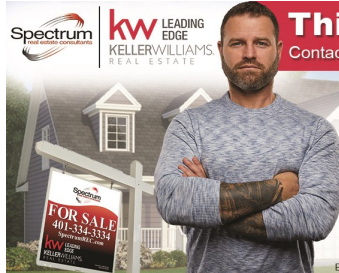
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