



January 3rd, 2021

ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday Before the Theophany

الأحد قبل عيد الظهور الإلهي

Address :

15 Skyview Dr.
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Parish Website :

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Facebook :

<https://www.facebook.com/StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreekCatholicChurchRI/>

YouTube :

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

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.

Troparion of the Resurrection 6th Tone

The angelic powers appeared at your tomb, and the guards became as dead men, and Mary stood by the Sepulcher seeking your spotless Body. You despoiled Hades and yet were not tempted by it, You met the Virgin O Bestower of Life. O Lord who rose from the dead glory to you.

Troparion of the Preparation

Make ready Zebulon and prepare Naphtali and you Jordan River, stop your flow and receive with a thrill of joy the Master coming to be baptized. Adam, rejoice with the first Mother, Eve, and hide not as you did of old in paradise: for Christ at the sight of your nakedness has come forth to clothe you with the robe of innocence. Indeed, Christ has come forth to renew the whole creation.

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 Preparation

Today the Lord has appeared in the waters of the Jordan River. He has cried out to John, saying: "Be not dismayed at having to baptize Me: for I have indeed come to save Adam, the first to be created."

Hirmos

It is truly right to call you blessed, O Theotokos, You are ever-blessed and all blameless, and the Mother of our God. Higher in honor than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, You gave birth to God the Word in virginity, You are truly Mother of God. You do we exalt.

Epistle of the Divine Liturgy

PROKIMENON (Tone 6)

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Stichon: To you, O Lord, I have called: O my Rock, be not deaf to me!



طروبارية القيامة اللحن السادس

إِنَّ القُوَاتِ المَلَائِكِيَّةَ ظَهَرَتْ، عَلَى قَبْرِكَ. وَالْحِرَّاسَ صَارُوا كَالْأَمْوَاتِ. وَمَرِيَمَ وَقَفَتْ عِنْدَ القَبْرِ طَالِبَةً جَسَدَكَ الطَّاهِرَ. فَسَلَبَتْ الجَحِيمَ وَلَمْ تَتَلَكْ بِأَذَى. وَلا قَبِيَّتِ البَتُولِ وَاهْبَأَ الحَيَاةَ. فَيَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الأَمْوَاتِ. يَا رَبُّ المَجْدُ لَكَ.

نشيد تقدمة عيد الظهور الإلهي باللحن الرابع

استعدي يَا رَبُّوَلُونَ، وَتَأَهَّبِي يَا نَعْمَالِيْمَ. وَأَنْتَ يَا نَهْرَ الأُرْدُنِّ، فَفِمْ وَأَسْتَقْبِلِ بِطَرَبِ السَّيِّدِ الآتِي لِيَعْتَمِدَ. إِجْدُلْ يَا آدَمَ مَعَ الأُمِّ الأُوْلَى، وَلَا تُخْتَبِنَا كَمَا فِي الفُرْدُوسِ قَدِيمًا. فَإِنَّهُ لَمَّا رَأَى كَمَا عَارِيْتَيْنِ. ظَهَرَ لِيُلبِسَكُمَا الحُلَّةَ الأُوْلَى. لَقَدْ ظَهَرَ المَسِيحُ. مُرِيدًا أَنْ يُجَدِّدَ الخَلِيقَةَ كُلَّهَا.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

لَقَدْ ذَاعَ مَنْطِقُكَ فِي كُلِّ الأَرْضِ. فَانَهَا قَدْ قَبِلَتْ كَلَامَكَ، الَّذِي بِهِ بَيَّنَّتِ العَقَائِدَ بِنَايَا إلهِيَّةً، وَأَوْضَحَتْ طَبِيعَةَ الكَائِنَاتِ، وَنظَّمَتْ أخْلَاقَ البَشَرِ. فَيَا أَيُّهَا الآبُ البَارُّ ذُو الكَهَنُوتِ المَلُوكِيِّ، إِبْتَهَلْ إِلَى المَسِيحِ الإلهِ فِي خِلاصِ نَفُوسِنَا.

قنداق الختام للتقدمة

اليَوْمَ وَقَفَ الرَّبُّ فِي مَجَارِي الأُرْدُنِّ، وَهَتَفَ بِبُوحَاً: لَا تَخَفْ أَنْ تُعَمِّدَنِي. فإني آتيتُ لِأُخْلِصَ آدَمَ أَوَّلَ مَنْ جَبِلَ.

النشيد لوالدة الإله

إِنَّهُ وَاجِبٌ حَقًّا أَنْ نُعْبِطِكَ، يَا وَالدَةَ الإلهِ، الدَائِمَةَ العَبِطَةَ، وَالمُتَّهِّةَ عَنِ كُلِّ عَيْبٍ، وَأُمَّ إلهِنَا يَا مَنْ هِيَ أَكْرَمُ مِنَ الشُّرُوبِيمِ، وَأَمْجَدُ بِلَا قِيَاسٍ مِنَ السَّرَافِيمِ، يَا مَنْ وَلَدَتْ اللهُ الكَلِمَةَ وَلَبِثَتْ بِتَوَلَّا، إِنَّكَ حَقًّا وَالدَةُ الإلهِ. أَيَّاكَ نُعْظَمُ.

رسالة الليترجيا الإلهية

مقدمة الرسالة

خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ، وَبَارِكْ مِيرَاثَكَ اليك يَا رَبُّ اصْرُحْ، أَلهي لا تتصامم عني

الرسالة (2 تيموثاوس 4: 5-8)

يا ولدي تيموثاوس، تَبَقِّظْ فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، احْتَمِلِ المَشَقَّاتِ، اعْمَلْ عَمَلِ المُبَشِّرِ، أَوْفِ خِدْمَتَكَ. لِأَنِّي الآنُ أَرَأُكَ سَكِينًا،



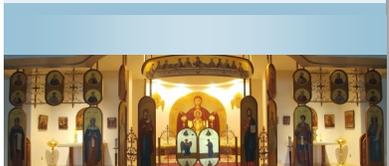


Our church organizations:

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>



READING from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy

My son Timothy be watchful in all things, bear with tribulation patiently, work as a preacher of the Good News, fulfill your ministry. As for me, I am already being poured out in sacrifice, and the time of my deliverance is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have completed the course, I have kept the faith. For the rest, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the just Judge, will give to me on that day: yet not to me only, but also to those who love his coming.

ALLELUIA (Tone 4)

May God have mercy on us and bless us.

Stichon: May he let his face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

The Holy Gospel Mark 1: 1-8

Sunday before Theophany

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, "Behold, I send my messenger before thee, who shall prepare thy way, the voice of one crying in the desert, 'Make ready the way of the Lord, make straight his paths', there came John in the desert, baptizing and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea went out to him, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. And John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather girdle about his loins, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "One mightier than I is coming after me, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

ووقت انحلاله قد حضر. قد جاهدت الجهاد الحسن، أتممت سعي، حفظت الإيمان. انما يبقي اكيل الير المحفوظ لي الذي سيجزي به في ذلك اليوم الرب الديان العادل، لا آياتي فقط بل جميع الذين يحبون ظهوره أيضاً.

هللوا
 لبرأف الله بنا وباركنا
 ليضيء بوجهه علينا ويرحمنا

الانجيل المقدس

القديس مرقس 1: 1-8

بدء انجيل يسوع المسيح ابن الله، كما هو مكتوب في الانبياء: هاأنذا أرسل ملاكي امام وجهك يهني طريقك قدامك. صوت صارخ في البرية: أعدوا طريق الرب، واجعلوا سبله قويمه. كان يوحنا يعمد في البرية ويكرز بعمودية التوبة لغفران الخطايا. وكان يخرج اليه كل اهل بلاد اليهودية وجميع سكان اورشليم، فيعتمدون منه جميعهم في نهر الاردن معترفين بخطاياهم. وكان لباس يوحنا من وبر الإبل، وعلى حقه منقطة من جلد، وكان طعامه الجراد وعسك البر، وكان يكرز قائلاً: انه يأتي بعدي من هو اقوى مني، وانا لسب باهل ان انحي وأحل ستر جذائه. انا عمدتكم بالماء، واما هو فسيعمدكم بالروح القدس





Divine Liturgy Intentions



TODAY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, AND SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2021: SUNDAY BEFORE THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

4:00p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- +JAMES ALLAM by Martha & Jay Acquisto.
- +JOSEPH HARRAKA by Mrs. Alberta Mardo.
- +LEONA FAYAN (Birthday Remem.) by Ron & Mary DiGregorio & Family.
- +WILLIAM T. ASERMELY by Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Gaglione & Family.
- +MARY TAHAN by Frederick & Linda Koussa.
- +BARBARA CIMINI by Shirley Moon Lemay.
- +ANITA & JOSEPH BRULE by the Family.
- +EMILY NOURY (Birthday Remem.) by her nieces and nephews.
- +VICTORIA PROCHNIAK by Marcel & Claudia Georges & Family.
- +LOUIS AGAG (52nd Anniv.) by Maryjoan & Stephen Walsh.
- +STEVEN KILSEY by his brother Jeffrey Kilsey.
- +WAYNE LACY by Maryjoan Walsh.
- +JAY PAUL by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.

11:00a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- +ELAINE LAYTON by Joe & Connie Fayan.
- +MARIE CLAIRE CHOUHA by Samir & Dolly Chouha.
- +ALICE SARKAS NASSANEY by Najib & Seda Hana.
- +ALBERT ALBA, SR. by John & Brenda Voas.
- +YOUSEF AGHIA by George & Chery Mardo.
- +FRANCIS A. SAGGAL by Bud & Mary Saggal & Family.
- +GEORGETTE A. SAGGAL by Kawsar Boudjouk.
- +ROBERT D. KING, SR. by Justin, Danielle Boudjouk & Family.
- +RUTH PERRY by Kenneth, Ann, Allyson & Kimberly Sabbagh.
- +JOSEPH P. AZAR, JR. by Josephine Nassaney.
- +ROSE KHOURY by Dr. Roland & Micheline Ghanem.
- +GEORGE BOUDJOUK by Faiz & Susan Albatal.
- +YOUSSEF MADOUR by Issa Helalaeh.
- +DR. YUSUF & BLANCHE MUSSALLI by Chantal & Rob Simon.
- +GEORGE DECKEY by Gloria Deckey & Family.
- +GEORGEANNA DECKEY by George & Sherine Mussalli & Family.
- +ELIAS J. KISHFY by George & Jeanne Harraka.
- +JULIA & FRED KISHFY by the Family.
- +ALBERT J. KISHFY by Nelly Kishfy.
- +JAY PAUL by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- +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.





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



ST. BASIL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SACRIFICIAL GIVING: December 27, 2020: Budgets: \$3,916.00; Envelopes: \$3,896.00, Loose: \$20.00; Stipends: \$445.00; Candles: \$97.00; Addit'l Fuel: \$75.00; Christmas Offerings: \$1,926; Melkite Diocesan Support: \$265.00; Poinsettias: \$60.00; Building Fund: \$100.00.

TODAY, there will be a special collection taken up for your **FUEL OFFERINGS**. Please be generous in your support.

Next weekend, Saturday & Sunday, January 9 & 10, there will be a special collection taken up for the **UPKEEP, MAINTENANCE, & IMPROVEMENT OF THE CEMETERY**. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated.

On New Year's Eve & New Year's Day, December 31st, & January 1st 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 you-tube.

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.

THANK YOU: Besides those who worshipped with us on the Feast of Christmas, much work of many hands was necessary for the decorum and ambiance of the Church Complex. To one and all, our heartfelt gratitude for a job well done!

We the clergy, wish to thank all our good parishioners and friends for their beautiful Christmas Cards, wishes, gifts, and offerings to the Church. We also take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the loyal and generous cooperation you have shown us throughout the year. May our Divine Savior, the Prince of Peace, bring you all the joys of this holy season, and bless you with health and prosperity in the coming New Year 2021; and may we ask the newly born Babe of Bethlehem to put an end to this devastating Pandemic and bring universal peace and renewed health to all nations, make our joy deeper, our spiritual awareness keener, and our satisfaction more abundant.

REFLECTION: The wise understand by themselves; fools follow the reports of others.

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.



Behold the Redeemer of the World

CHRISTMAS EVE AND NEW YEAR'S EVE are holiday milestones in American society. In our tradition January 5, Theophany Eve, is also a special day of preparation and anticipation leading into one of the most important festivals of the Church year.

Like Christmas Eve, Theophany Eve is a **paramony**, a day of continual prayer and fasting, leading up to the celebration of the feast. Part of what makes this a day of continual prayer is the celebration of the **Royal Hours** which replaces the ordinary First, Third, Sixth and Ninth Hours served every day in Byzantine practice. The Divine Liturgy is not served until the end of the fasting day, when it is joined to vespers to begin the feast.

The Royal Hours are served on the Paramony of Christmas, the Paramony of the Theophany and on Great and Holy Friday which we might call the "Paramony of Pascha." In addition, some Greek Churches

serve the Royal Hours on the Eve of Pentecost, but without fasting.

Our cycle of daily services has its origin in the experience of the Jews during the Babylonian exile. Since the prescribed round of morning and evening sacrifices could only be conducted in the Jerusalem temple, the exiled Jews developed a cycle of prayers, hymns and Scripture readings to be said throughout the day instead. When the Jews returned to Jerusalem after the exile, these prayers were incorporated into the usage of the temple. Jews today observe three daily services (morning, afternoon and evening) corresponding to the times of the three daily temple sacrifices.

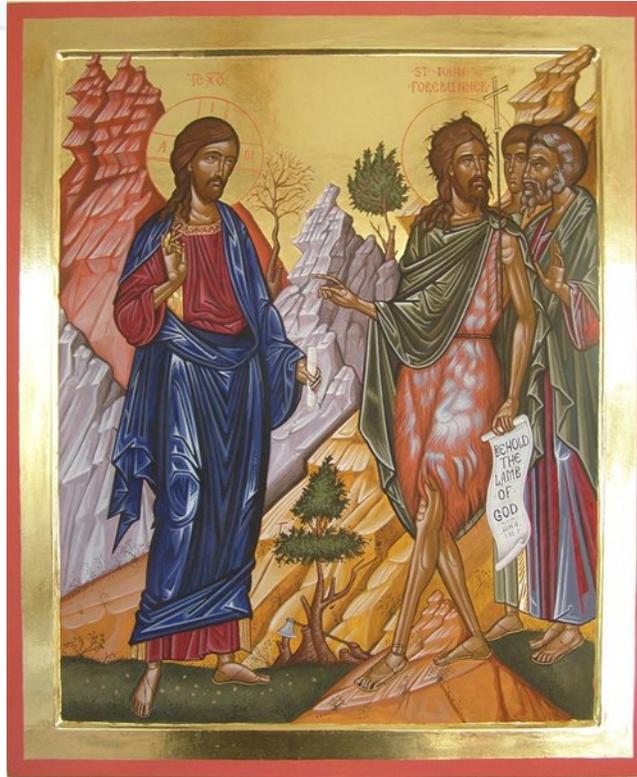
The first Christians continued the custom of praying at these specific times. The Acts of the Apostles records St Peter going apart to pray at the sixth hour (Acts 10:9) and at the ninth hour (Acts 3:1). With the development of monasticism these daily prayers took on the character of formal services. Other services were added in imitation of the Psalmist's witness, "Seven times a day I praise You, because of Your righteous judgments" (Ps 119:164).

The hours came to commemorate important events which the Scriptures say took place at those times. Thus our Third Hour recalls the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (see Acts 2). The Byzantine Sixth and Ninth Hours evoke the memory of Christ's crucifixion and death: "Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice ... and yielded up His spirit" (Mt 27:45, 50).

Scripture in the Royal Hours

As a rule, the Scriptures read at the Hours are all taken from the Psalms. In the Royal Hours, however, selections from both the Old and New Testaments are read, in addition to the Psalter. The New Testament selections recount the ministry of John and the baptism of Christ as well as the meaning of baptism in the Church. The Old Testament readings, all taken from the Book of Isaiah the Prophet, provide us with an illustration of how Old Testament prophecies are ultimately fulfilled in Christ.

The Prophet Isaiah lived in the eighth century BC and, like other prophets,



called on his hearers to repent and to conform their lives to God's way. The following passage, read at the Third Royal Hour, illustrates Isaiah's message: "Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow" (Is 1:16-17).

Isaiah warned that, if people did not repent, the nation would suffer at the hands of its enemies (at that time, the Assyrians). If they did repent, however, they would be restored and given new life. We see this in the selection read at the Sixth Royal Hour, "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His Name; make known His deeds among the nations, proclaim that His Name is exalted. Sing

praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel" (Is 12:3-6).

The second half of the book, added some 200 years later, reflects the same themes. At this point in Israel's history their great enemy was Babylon rather than Assyria. The Babylonians would conquer Jerusalem and destroy the temple, dragging the most prominent Jews into exile.

Streams in the Desert

The promise for their restoration dominates the second half of Isaiah. Jerusalem, no longer desolate, will be rebuilt and will water its thirsty people. At the First Royal Hour we read, "The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the lily. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon... Behold, your God will come.... He will come and save you. ... For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water" (Is 35:1-7).

The power of Babylon ended just as that of Assyria had centuries before, but the ultimate fulfillment of these prophecies would only come with Christ. We see in Him the Source of eternal life, the One who truly turns the arid wilderness of thirsty hearts into springs of water. This theme would be taken up in the Gospel of John, where we read the words of the Lord Jesus "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those who believe in Him would receive" (Jn 7:37-38).

The frequent mention of water in these passages, then, does not just allude to the Lord's baptism in the Jordan but to the Lord Himself. He is the One who can refresh with the living water of the Holy Spirit all who come to Him. He is the One who is revealed at the Jordan by the Father's voice and the Spirit's hidden presence and who begins to announce the good news of our salvation to the world.

الأحد الذي قبل عيد الظهور الإلهي

الخطية الجسدية والروحية " كما أحب المسيح الكنيسة وأسلم نفسه لأجلنا لكي يقدسها مطهراً إياها بغسل الماء بالكلمة لكي يحضرها لنفسه كنيسة مجيدة لا دنس فيها

ولا غضن أو شيء من مثل ذلك بل تكون مقدسه وبلا عيب " (أف 5: 27) .

بالمعمودية بالماء بأسم السيد المسيح نسمع صوت الله ينادينا لنقترب من لاهوته كما نادي ابنه الحبيب . " أن بنوه المسيح لله ليست بنوه مادته ولا جسميه ، بل هي ولاده روحيه وعقليه ، كولادة الفكر من العقل ، والنور من النور . وهي بنوه أزليته وليست زمنية المسيح ابن الله الحي بمعنى انه من طبيعة الله وجوهه وهو ضياء مجده وصوره وجوهه

بالمعمودية بالماء بأسم السيد المسيح نسمع صوت الله ينادينا لنقترب من لاهوته كما نادي ابنه الحبيب.. ففي يوم المعمودية المجيد لايد من أن نجدد المعمودية التي نلناها لأول مرة وتبقى نفوسنا وديعة كوداعة الحمامة رمز السلام بالجسد والروح كما عبر عن ذلك القديس غريغوريوس بقوله:

" كما أن في أحشاء الأم قوه لمنح الحياة الجسدية ، هكذا ماء المعمودية قد نال قوه لمنح الحياة



الروحية " .

* رموز المعمودية في العهد القديم:

1. الطوفان:- كان الطوفان رمزاً للمعمودية (تكوين 8) والولادة الجديدة "كانت أناة الله تنتظر مرة في أيام نوح إذ كان الفلك يبني الذي فيه خلص قليلون أي ثماني أنفس بالماء الذي مثاله يخلصنا نحن الآن أي المعمودية لا إزالة وسخ الجسد بل سؤال ضمير صالح عن الله بقبالة يسوع المسيح" (رسالة بطرس الأولى 3: 20) والوصية تقول أن لا يأكل أحد من خروف الفصح إلا المختونين فقط" (خروج 12: 47).

2. قصة عبور البحر الأحمر:- (خر 14) عبور بني إسرائيل في البحر كان رمزاً للمعمودية والسحابة تظللهم إشارة إلى الروح القدس وغرق فرعون وكل قواته الذي كان يرمز إلى الشيطان الذي سحق بمياه المعمودية وفي هذا قال الرسول بولس " أن آباءنا جميعهم كانوا تحت السحابة وجميعهم اجتازوا في البحر وجميعهم اعتمدوا لموسى في السحابة وفي البحر وجميعهم أكلوا طعاماً واحداً وروحياً وجميعهم شربوا شراباً واحداً وروحياً لأنهم كانوا يشربون من صخرة روحية تابعتهم والصخرة كانت المسيح " (كو 10: 1-2).

3 لم يعطى الرب الكهنوت لهارون: ألا بعد أن غسل جسده أولاً بالماء "فقال الرب لموسى اذهب إلى الشعب وقدسهم اليوم وغدا وليغسلوا ثيابهم ويكونوا مستعدين لليوم الثالث لأنه في اليوم الثالث ينزل الرب أمام عيون جميع الشعب على جبل سيناء" (خر 19).

4. ذبيحة إيليا:- قد قبلها الرب بالماء ثلاث مرات (سفر ملوك الأول 18: 33) "وبني الحجارة مذبحاً باسم الرب وعمل قناة حول المذبح تسع كيلتين من البزر ثم رتب الحطب وقطع الثور ووضع على الحطب وقال املاؤا أربع جرات ماء وصبوا على المحرقة وعلى الحطب ثم قال ثنوا فنثوا وقال ثلثوا فنثوا فجرى الماء حول المذبح وامتألت القناة أيضاً ماء" (1مل 18: 33).

5 الختان: الله يريد قتل موسى بسبب عدم ختان أولاده. "وحدث في الطريق في المنزل أن الرب التقاه وطلب أن يقتله فأخذت صفورة صوانة وقطعت غرلة ابنها ومست رجله فقالت انك عريس دم لي فانفك عنه حينئذ قالت عريس دم من اجل الختان" (خر 4: 25).

في البدء كان الخلق وخلق الله الانسان على صورته وخلق الله آدم وحواء ..أخطأت حواء ، وأخطأ آدم ولم يطلب أيا منهما التوبة أو المغفرة ولم يسعيا إليهما ..وأنتقلت الخطية إلى كل نسلهما من بني البشر ..

وعادت وتجسدت كلمة الله فولدت إليصايت يوحنا المعمدان . وجاء يوحنا المعمدان خاتمة أنبياء العهد القديم ليجسد للعهد الجديد "هذا جاء للشهادة ليشهد للنور لكي يؤمن الكل بواسطته. لم يكن هو النور بل ليشهد للنور. كان النور الحقيقي الذي ينير كل انسان اتيا الى العالم.

كان في العالم وكون العالم به ولم يعرفه العالم. الى خاصته جاء وخاصته لم تقبله. وأما كل الذين قبلوه فأعطاهم سلطاناً أن يصيروا أولاد الله أي المؤمنون بأسمه. الذين ولدوا ليس من دم ولا من مشيئة جسد ولا من مشيئة رجل بل من الله.

عادت وتجسدت كلمة الله في القديسة مريم العذراء والكلمة صار جسداً وإذا بالسيد المسيح وحل بيننا وراينا مجده مجدداً كما لوحد من الأب مملوءاً نعمة وحقاً. يوحنا شهد له ونادى قائلاً هذا هو الذي قلت عنه ان الذي ياتي بعدي صار قدامي لانه كان قبلي.

ثم كلم الله يوحنا المعمدان وإذا بالسيد المسيح القدوس الذي هو وحده بلا خطية، يقف أمام المعمدان، كناطق، نائباً عن آدم وذريته، مقدماً عنهم جميعاً معمودية توبة في أسمى صورته. حمل خطاياهم، ليس فقط أثناء صلبه، وإنما في حياته أيضاً كإبن للبشر.

ولذلك سر الآب به وقال: "هذا هو ابني الحبيب الذي به سررت.

وفي تلك اللحظة ظهرت الأقانيم الثلاثة الآب والابن وروح القدس "هذا هو ابني الحبيب الذي به سررت .." إن الله لا يسر بتبرير الإنسان لذاته، وبأن يلمس نفسه الأعداء كما فعل آدم وحواء، اللذين بدلوا من أن يدينوا نفسيهما أمام الله، أخذ كل منهما يلقي بالذنب على غيره.

أما السيد المسيح، فلم يلق ذنباً على غيره، وإنما أخذ ذنب الغير، وحمله نيابة عنه، وقدم عنه معمودية توبة، وأفرح بكل هذا قلب الآب، فقال: "هذا هو ابني الحبيب الذي به سررت "السيد المسيح الذي ولد بلا خطية، صار حامل خطية، من أجلنا نحن البشر. أبناء آدم وحواء ..

لم يخجل السيد المسيح من أن يتقدم وسط صفوف الخطاة، ليطلب العماد من يد عبده يوحنا. ولما استحي منه هذا النبي العظيم، أجابه في وداعة " اسمح الآن، لأنه يليق بنا أن نكمل كل بر .." وأعطانا السيد المسيح بهذا درساً عملياً في حياتنا .. أعطانا درساً أن نحمل خطايا الغير وبكل محبة لأن الله يسر لذلك .. وأن ندفع الثمن نيابة عنهم، بكل رضى.. وأن لا نقف مبررين لذواتنا، مهما كنا أبرياء . وأنا بهذا نكمل كل بر وهبنا إياه الله ..

إن القديس يوحنا ذهبى الفم يعبر عن ذلك بقوله : "إن لم تستطع أن تحمل خطايا غيرك وتسيبها إلى نفسك، فعلى الأقل لا تجلس وتدين غيرك وتحمله خطاياك"

إن لم نستطع أن نحمل خطايا الناس، فعلى الأقل فلنحتمل خطايا الناس من نوحنا، ولنغفر لهم.. بهذا نشبه المسيح، بهذا نستحق أن ندعى أولاد الله. وبالحنان الذي تعامل الناس به، يعاملنا الله.. وبالمحبة التي تعامل بها الناس يعاملنا بها الله

ويقول القديس بولس الرسول : " الآن كلكم الذين اعتمدتم بالمسيح قد لبستم المسيح "

(غلا 3 : 27) . لذلك بالمعمودية بالماء بأسم السيد المسيح تفتح أبواب السماء للمعمدين بعد أن كان مغلقاً بسبب معصية آدم التي تورثت من خلال الدم حتى أن داود النبي قال : " ها أنا بالإثم صورت وبالخطية ولدتني أمي " (مز 51 : 5) وبالمعمودية بالماء بأسم السيد المسيح نتظهر من أقامنا وتولد فينا المحبة والحب للكنيسة السيد المسيح هو الكنيسة الروحية التي اسلم نفسه لأجلها وأسس لها سر المعمودية للتطهير من

THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD

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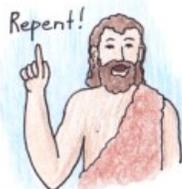


The Feast of the Theophany of our Lord
will be celebrated
on January 6th, 2021
at 9:00 am

Following Jesus Kids bulletin



John the Baptist: Was He the Messiah?



Everybody thought that John the Baptist was a great preacher and prophet. Some people thought that he might even be the Messiah who would save their people. But John knew that was not his job. When Jesus came to him at the river to be baptized, John pointed at Him and told the people, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" He told the people that he was not the great one; Jesus was.

Saint John the Baptist is an example to all of us. If we are really good then our lives will show other people the way to Jesus.



John the Baptist taught the people by telling them to repent of their sins and be baptized. God wants some people to teach about Him by teaching and preaching to the people. But for most of us, the best way to teach others about God is by living a good life and loving God. If you really do your best to love God then your life will be like St. John the Baptist's and point the way to Jesus.



What is something that you can do today to lead someone to Jesus?



What did Saint John the Baptist say about Jesus?

Use the code to figure it out!

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St. Basil's Fellowship Organization



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 Children's 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 new and packaged...

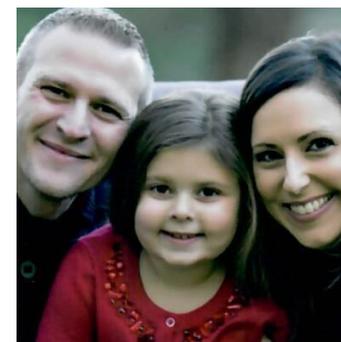
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| dolls | action figures | play doh |
| baby rattles | baby toys | kids blankets |
| themed pillow cases | hand-held games | kids wall decals |

...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



ANNOUNCEMENTS



We are pleased to announce

The Daily Divine Liturgy

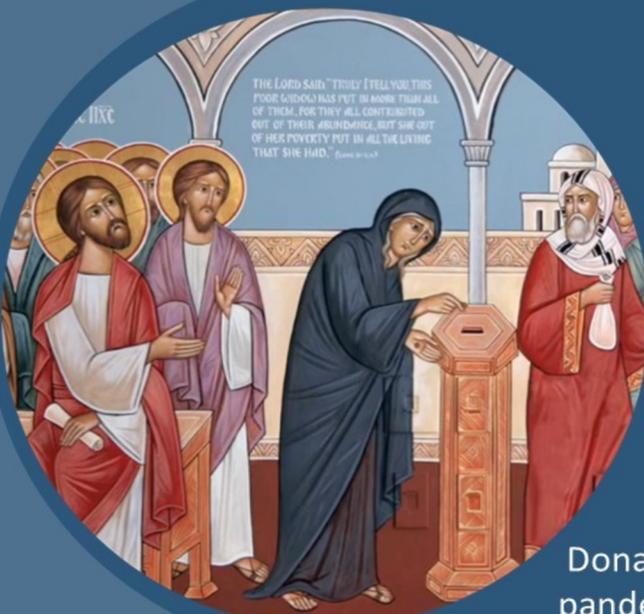
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Tuesday through Friday at 9 A.M.

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
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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/32BgttB>

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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)

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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.

REOPENING RI

Wear a mask that protects you and others

Wearing a face covering in public places helps protect you and anyone near you from COVID-19. **Your mask should fit snugly but comfortably over your nose, mouth, and chin without any gaps.**



RECOMMENDED

- Face mask worn the right way and at least two layers thick
- * N-95 respirators are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare providers and other first responders



NOT RECOMMENDED

- Face shield alone
- Loose-fitting bandana
- Face mask with valve
- Face mask worn the wrong way
- Neck gaiter only one layer thick

Always wash your hands after handling or touching a used mask. Wash and dry cloth face coverings after use each day. Learn more about how to handle and care for your mask at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html

Masks should not be worn by children younger than age two, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without help.

Last updated: 08/25/2020

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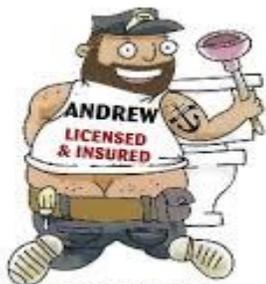
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