



February 14th, 2021

ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

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.



Forgiveness Sunday (*Cheese-Fare Sunday*)

The beginning of The Great and Holy Time of Lent

أحد الغفران – أحد مرفع الجبن
وبداية الصوم الكبير المقدس

Antiphon Prayer

O Creator of the Universe, You fashioned Adam from the dust of the earth. You infused him with a breath of life. You gave him dominion over the earth. By the enticement of the Serpent he rebelled against Your Commandments and fell. You therefore exiled him from Paradise. But your Only-begotten Son was incarnate, endured Passion and restored us to the Garden of Eden which we had lost. We therefore implore You, at the threshold of Holy and Great Lent, to make us worthy of a sincere repentance, so that we may avoid even the shadow of evil and abstain from carnal pleasure in order to gain You, Divine River of Paradise that quenches the thirst of our souls. Thus, having lived according to your commandments, we may share the glory of the Resurrection of Christ, our God and Savior.

For You are long-suffering, most compassionate and You call all people to salvation; and to You we render glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

Troparion of the resurrection (4th tone)

The Women disciples of the Lord heard from the Angels the joyful news of the resurrection, and casting away the ancestral sentence, they announced with pride to the Apostles: Death is vanquished, Christ God is risen! And has bestowed great mercy upon the world

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 Cheese Fare

O You who guide men toward wisdom, and give them intelligence and understanding, instructor of the ignorant and helper of the poor, strengthen and enlighten my heart, O Lord, give me word, O Word of the Father, for behold I will not refrain

صلاة الأنديفونة

أيها الإله المبدع، لَمَّا جَبَلْتَ آدَمَ مِنْ تُرَابِ الْأَرْضِ نَفَخْتَ فِيهِ نَسَمَةَ حَيَاةٍ، وَسَلَّطْتَهُ عَلَى هَذَا الْكُونِ. لَكِنَّهُ سَقَطَ بِغَوَايَةِ الْحَيَّةِ، لَمَّا عَصَى أَمْرَكَ وَتَنَاوَلَ مِنَ الثَّمَرَةِ الْمَحْرُمَةِ. فَنَفَيْتَهُ مِنَ الْفَرْدُوسِ. وَلَمَّا تَجَسَّدَ مَسِيحُكَ وَاحْتَمَلَ الْأَلَامَ لِأَجْلِنَا، أَعَادَنَا إِلَى جَنَّةِ عَدْنِ الَّتِي خَسَرْنَاهَا بِآدَمَ. فَنُضَرِّعُ إِلَيْكَ، وَنَحْنُ عَلَى عَتَبَةِ الصَّوْمِ الْأَرْبَعِيَّيْنِ الْمُقَدَّسَيْنِ، أَنْ تُؤْهِلَنَا لِلتَّوْبَةِ الصَّادِقَةِ، فَنَمْتَنِعَ عَنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَرٍّ، وَنَصُومَ عَنِ اللَّذَاتِ لِنَحْظِيَ بِكَ، أَنْتَ نَهْرُ النِّعَمِ الْمُرْوِيِّ نَفُوسَنَا الظَّمَا، وَإِذَا مَا سَلَكْنَا سُبُلَ وَصَايَاكَ نَبْلُغَ إِلَى التَّمَتُّعِ بِأَمْجَادِ قِيَامَةِ الْمَسِيحِ إِلَيْنَا وَمَخْلَصِنَا.

لأنك أنت الطويل الأناة، الكثير الرحمة والداعي الجميع إلى الخلاص، ولك ينبغي كل مجد وإكرام وسجود، أيها الاب والابن والروح القدس، الآن وكل أوان ...

نشيد القيامة بالحن الرابع

إن تلميذات الرب تعلمن من الملاك بشرى القيامة البهيجة. ونبذن القضاء على الجدين، وقلن للرسول مفتخرات: لقد سلب الموت، ونهض المسيح الإله، واهباً للعالم عظيم الرحمة.

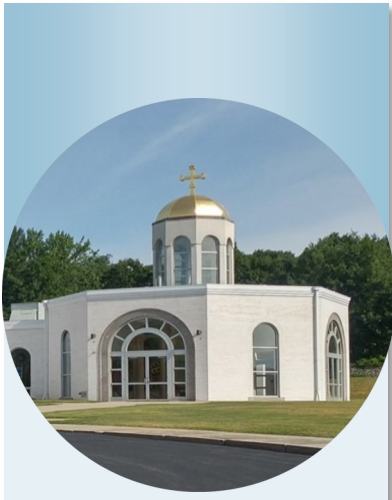
طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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

نشيد الختام لمرفع الجبن

أيها الهادي إلى الحكمة، وواهب الفطنة، ومثقف الجهال، ومُجِيرُ المساكين، شدد قلبي وامنحه فهماً، أيها السيد، وأعطني كلاماً، يا كلمة الآب. فها أنا لن





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.

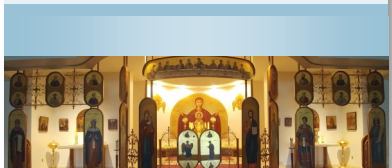
<https://melkite.org/maya>

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>



my lips from crying out to You: O merciful One, have mercy on me who have fallen.

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

Prokimenon (Tone 3)

Sing praise to our God, sing praise!

Sing praise to our King, sing praise!

Stichon: All you peoples, clap your hands! Shout to God with cries of gladness.

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans

Brethren, now our salvation is nearer than when we came to believe. The night is far advanced: the day is at hand. Let us therefore lay aside the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light. Let us walk becomingly as in daytime, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in debauchery and wantonness, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and as for the flesh, pay no attention to its lusts. But whoever is weak in faith, receive him without arguing about opinion. For one believes he may eat all things but another who is weak, let him eat vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who does not; and let not the one who does not eat judge the one who does, for God has received him. Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls but he will stand, for God is able to make him stand.

Alleluia—In you, O lord, I have hoped: let me never be put to shame. In your Justice, save me and deliver me.

Stichon: Be for me a protecting God, a sheltering house to save me.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their offenses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their offenses, neither will your Father forgive you your offenses. And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, who disfigure their faces in order to appear to men as fasting. Amen I say to you they have had their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not be seen by men to fast, but by your Father, who is in secret; and your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where worm and rodent consume, and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither worm nor rodent consumes, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will be your heart."

أُمسِكْ شَفِيعِي عن الصراخ اليك: أَيُّهَا الرَّحِيم، ارحمني أنا الواقع.

النشيد لولادة الإله

إنه واجب حقاً أن نُعَبِّطُك، يا والدَةَ الإله، الدائمة الغبطة، والمُرْهُة عن كلِّ عيب، وأُمُّ إلهنا يا من هي أكرم من الشروبيم، وأمجِد بلا قياس من السرافيم، يا من وَلَدَت الله الكلمة وَلَبِثَتْ بتولاً، إنكِ حقاً والدَةُ الإله. أَيَّاكِ نُعَظِّم.

مقدمة الرسالة

رَبِّمُوا لإلهنا رَبِّمُوا، رَبِّمُوا لملكنا رَبِّمُوا
يا جميع الأمم صَفِّقُوا بالأدي، هَلِّلُوا لله بصوت الإبتهاج

الرسالة (رومة 13: 11 ج الى 14: 4)

يا إخوة، أن الخلاص أقرب إلينا الآن مما كان حينَ آمَنَّا. قد تنهى الليل وأقرب النهار، فلنخلع اذن أعمال الظلمة، ونلبس اسلحة النور. لنسلكن سلوكاً لائقاً كما في النهار، لا بالقصوف والسكر، ولا بالمضاجع والعهر، ولا بالخصام والحسد. بل البسوا الرب يسوع المسيح، ولا تهتموا بالجسد لقضاء شهواته. من كان ضعيفاً في الإيمان فقبلوه بغير مباحثة في الآراء. من الناس من يعتقد أن له أن يأكل كل شيء، أما الضعيف فيأكل بقولاً. فلا يزدري الذي يأكل من لا يأكل، ولا يدين الذي يأكل من لا يأكل، لأن الله قد قبله. أنت من أنت يامن يدين عبد غيره، انه لمولاه يثبت أو يسقط، لكنه سيثبت لأن الله قادر أن يثبتته.

هللوا

عليك يا رب توكلت، فلا أخز إلي الابد، بعدلك نجني وانتشلني

كن لي إلهاً محامياً وبيت ملجأ لخلاصي

انجيل أحد مرفع الجبن الانجيل (متى 6: 14-21)

قال الرب: إن غفرتم للناس زلاتهم، يغفر لكم أيضاً أبوك السماوي زلاتكم. وإن لم تغفروا للناس زلاتهم، فأبوك أيضاً لا يغفر لكم زلاتكم. وإذا صمتم فلا تكونوا معتبسين كالمرايين فإنهم يُنْكرون وجوههم ليظهروا للناس صائمين. الحق أقول لكم، انهم قد نالوا اجرهم. أما أنت فإذا صمت، فادهن رأسك وأغسل وجهك، لئلا تظهر للناس صائماً بك لأبيك الذي في الخفية، وأبوك الذي ينظر في الخفية هو يجازيك علانية. لا تكنزوا لكم كنوزاً على الارض، حيث يفسد السوس والصدأ، وحيث ينقب السارقون ويسرقون. لكن اكنزوا لكم كنوزاً في السماء، حيث لا يفسد سوس ولا صدأ، ولا ينقب السارقون ولا يسرقون. فإنه حيث يكون كنزكم هناك يكون قلبكم أيضاً





ST. BASIL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING: February 7, 2021: Budgets: \$2,419; Envelopes: \$2,408 .00, Loose: \$ 11.00; Stipends: \$185.00; Candles: \$50.00; Addit'l Fuel: \$10.00; Building Fund: \$120.00; Addit'l Melkite Support: \$30.00.

Today, Saturday, February 13, and Sunday, February 14, there will be a special collection taken up for your **FUEL OFFERINGS**. Please be generous in your support.

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.

PRAYERS FOR FR. DANIEL NASSANEY: Fr. Dan is presently under the care of DANA FARBER CANCER RESEARCH HOSPITAL in Boston, MA. Please continue to remember him in your prayers, as he in turn remembers you. May Almighty God, Physician of our souls and bodies stretch forth His right hand above the priest-servant, Fr. Dan, and heal him from this devastating illness in His Divine Providence.

RULE OF FASTING IN THE EPARCHY OF NEWTON: So as not to burden anyone's conscience, the Holy Synod of the Melkite Church permits each Eparchial Bishop to ease the canonical obligations of fasting, while, at the same time, exhorts all the faithful to fast according to the ancient tradition. The minimum rule that Melkites in the Eparchy of Newton must observe: *Fasting* from all food and drink from midnight until noon must be observed on the first day of Great Lent (Monday, February 15th), and on the last three days of Holy Week, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday). *Abstinence*, at least from meat, must be observed on every Friday of Great Lent. These requirements are the minimum. The faithful are encouraged to do more, such as abstaining from meat every Wednesday or throughout the whole of Great Lent.

THE GREAT AND HOLY TIME OF LENT: Great Lent involves deepening of our prayer life. This includes private prayer as well as the services mentioned below. An important facet of Lent is Almsgiving. The "SHEPHERD'S CARE" mandated in our Melkite Parishes and missions throughout the United States is one good way to put the Almsgiving into practice. Various Services will be conducted during the weekday of Lent, thereby making it convenient for more people. All services will be celebrated at 6:30 p.m. except the Saturday Liturgy at 4:00 p.m. and the Sunday Liturgy at 11:00 a.m.

Monday, February 15	- Forgiveness Vespers	Thursday, February 18	- Great Compline
Tuesday, February 16	- Great Compline	Friday, February 19	- Akathist Hymn
Wednesday, February 17	- Divine Liturgy	Saturday, February 20	- Divine Liturgy
		Sunday, February 21	- Divine Liturgy

2020 BUDGET STATEMENTS AVAILABLE: It is that time of year to start thinking about the preparation of your 2020 Federal Income Tax Returns. Statements of your offerings to the Church for 2020 will only be issued upon request. If you would like a statement, please contact Father Joe at the rectory at 722-1345. To those who have been using envelopes, we extend our thanks, and a reminder to please mark the amount enclosed which facilitates the recording of your contributions and allows for more accuracy. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IN THIS REGARD!!!**

REFLECTION: To know how to grow old is the master work of wisdom, and one of the most difficult chapters in the great art of living. *Henri Frederic Amiel.*





Divine Liturgy Intentions



TODAY, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, AND SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021: SEVENTH SUNDAY BEFORE EASTER. CHEESE-FARE SUNDAY.

4:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **YVONNE (HAGGAR) COLABELLA (40 Day.)** by her children and their Families and brother, Father Joe.
- + **LAYLA ANGELA CHARETTE (4th Anniv.)** by her loving grandparents Nick & Joyce Kayata.
- + **MARIA ASERMEY (4th Anniv.)** by her husband Thomas Asermely & Family.
- + **REV. ARCHDEACON GEORGE YANY & ANGELA MAZZONE** by Mrs. Gloria Deckey.
- + **GEORGE KAHLA** by Dennis Dakake.
- + **JOSEPH HARRAKA** by M/M Anthony Harraka.
- + **MARY TAHAN** by Irene Balon.
- + **LILLIAN SALOME** by James & Marzena Salome & Family.
- + **DANUTA ZALEWSKI** by the Community of St. Basil's.
- + **ANITA & JOSEPH BRULE** by the Family.
- + **STEVEN KILSEY** by his brother Jeffrey Kilsey.
- + **JAY PAUL** by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- + **ALICE SARKAS NASSANEY** by Olga Caswell.
- + **VICTORIA PROCHNIAK** by George & Fida Sarkis.

11:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **MICHAEL ALAM** by Elias & Barbara Deeb.
- + **ADEL ALBATAL** by Samir & Hanaa Boudjouk.
- + **MARIE CLAIRE CHOUHA** by Kawsar Boudjouk & Family.
- + **LEYLA BRAHIMSHA** by Tony & Myrna Brahimsha & Family.
- + **SAMUEL & FLAVIE RAHEB** by Deacon Gilbert & Mimi Altongy.
- + **ALBERT ALBA, SR.** by the Alba Family.
- + **LINDA ALKHOULY HADDAD** by Neil, Yola Karraz & Family.
- + **YUSEF AGHIA** by Deacon Edmond & Theresa Raheb.
- + **GEORGETTE A. SAGGAL** by Eugenie Mashata & Family.
- + **ROBERT D. KING, SR.** by George & Kristen Baalbaki & Family.
- + **RUTH PERRY** by Kenneth, Ann, Allyson & Kimberly Sabbagh.
- + **JOSEPH P. AZAR, JR.** by Pamela Azar.
- + **ROSE KHOURY** by Dr. Roland & Micheline Ghanem.
- + **GEORGE BOUDJOUK** by Joan Ray.
- + **YOUSSEF MADOUR** by Basil Khoury & Family.
- + **YUSUF & BLANCHE MUSSALLI** by Terry McMichael.
- + **GEORGE DECKEY** by Jalal & Souad Dekki & Family.
- + **GEORGEANNA DECKEY** by Riad Khoury & Souhair Batal.
- + **ELIAS J. KISHFY** by Faiz & Susan Albatal & Family.
- + **JULIA & FRED KISHFY** by the Family.
- + **ALBERT J. KISHFY** by Jeannette Beaton.
- + **FRANCIS A. SAGGAL** by Paul & Chirin Ashkar & Family.
- + **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.



Forgiveness Sunday

Tomorrow is Monday. Not just any Monday, but Clean Monday, the first day of Clean Week, the beginning of Great Lent, a time of particular prayer and fasting. Great Lent will take us on a journey through forty days, or six weeks, to Lazarus Saturday, Palm Sunday and then Holy Week. At the end of that Week, God willing, we will celebrate the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Night. For we are now fifty days exactly from Easter Day.

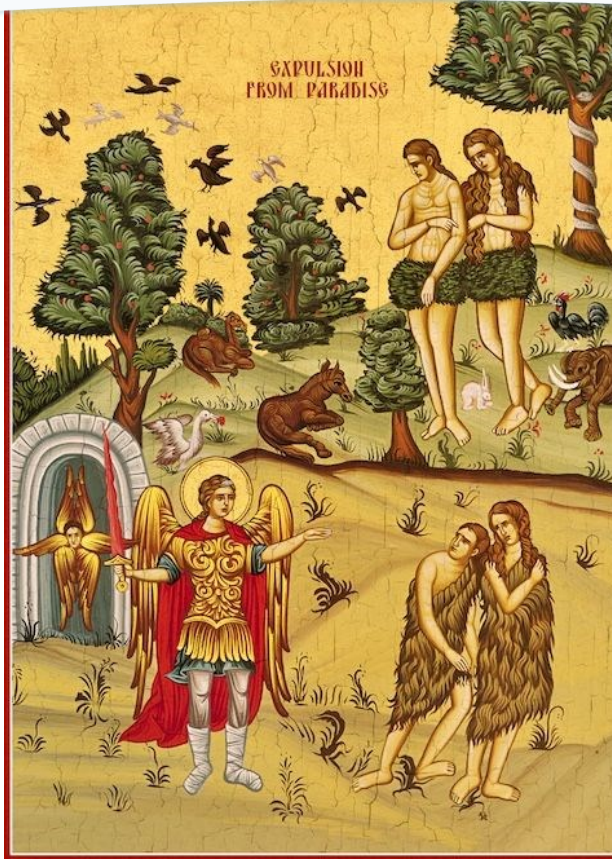
This Sunday is known as Forgiveness Sunday, and also Cheesfare Sunday for it is the last day on which we may eat dairy produce. On it we remember the Fall of Adam and Eve and how they lost Paradise by eating 'the forbidden fruit', which is why we fast, eating only 'the permitted fruit'. How exactly did that Fall happen?

We know from the Scriptures that the first man and the first woman lived in Paradise, in Eden. We know also that they walked with God, meaning that they lived in harmony and communion with God, suffering neither sin, nor sorrow, neither aging, nor death.

We know also that they disobeyed God. The cause of their disobedience was in the temptation of pride: they thought that they knew better than their Maker. Creation, given freedom, thought that it was greater than the Creator. The fact that the first man and first woman preferred to trust in themselves, rather than in God, to trust in their proud self-importance, led to their fall from communion with God. But once they had rejected God, they also rejected freedom from sin and its result, sorrow, and freedom from aging and its result, death.

The cure for their Fall was made clear to them; it was in doing the opposite of all they had done. Instead of disobedience, they needed obedience; instead of pride, they needed humility. In other words they had to turn back on what they had done in repentance and ask forgiveness. At first they had been unable to do this. When God had first spoken to Adam and Eve after their act of disobedience, Adam had blamed Eve, and Eve had blamed the serpent. Neither had had the humility to take responsibility for his errors and ask for forgiveness. It was not that God did not know what they had done; it was simply that He wanted to give them the opportunity to ask Him, and to ask each other, for forgiveness. Instead they blamed each other and in the process blamed God their Maker. We can hear the Devil laughing.

To us, as children of Adam and Eve, God also gives opportunities to ask for forgiveness, as Adam and Eve should have done. He gives us the sacrament of Confession. Confession does not exist because God wants to know what we have done or left undone. He already knows that. Confession exists because God is giving us an opportunity to own up to



our mistakes and failings. He wants us to ask for forgiveness, so that we can then take strength from Him through the prayers of the priest, so as to clean ourselves and strive not to repeat our mistakes.

Giving and receiving forgiveness is an action that purifies and that opens the door for even greater things. The more the soul is filled with God the more He calls it to move further beyond. If we refuse to forgive, it is not that God is unable to forgive us. Forgiveness shines from the Cross for all whether we desire it or not. But if we refuse to forgive, then we cannot know forgiveness for ourselves. We will not recognize what it is when it comes. "In thy light we shall see light," we sing every Sunday because only in God can we know God. So it is with forgiveness. Only by forgiving can we recognize and come to embrace forgiveness and if we are in God, then forgiveness flows from us. It is a movement that goes both ways. For if forgiveness does not flow from us to others, then it is a sign that we have not embraced it for ourselves.

God does not need our confession, but we do.

Every confession is a repeat, in the New Eden of the Church, of that opportunity given to Adam and Eve in Eden, to ask God for forgiveness.

Unlike human-beings, God always forgives those who sincerely, with repentance, ask Him for forgiveness.

However, before we ask forgiveness of God, we first have to ask forgiveness of each other.

And just at this time, on Forgiveness Sunday and all during Clean Week, it is the custom of Orthodox throughout the world to come to Confession, to ask God for forgiveness, preparing ourselves for Communion next Sunday. First, therefore, we must ask each other for forgiveness. We can ask forgiveness of those who are not here by visiting them or telephoning them. But of those who are here, we can now ask forgiveness directly, for all our errors towards them in thought, word or deed, whether conscious or unconscious.

For if we do not first ask each other for forgiveness, we cannot ask God for forgiveness. And without forgiveness, there is no way back into Paradise for any of us.

Forgive me, brothers and sisters.

When you fast

Jesus said, 'and when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your father who sees in secret will reward you:'

Matthew 6: 16-18 (Gospel of Cheesefare Sunday)



When people think of the word "Lent," the word "fasting" is one of the first things that comes to mind. The cornerstone of Lent is not fasting, but repentance and growing in our faith. Fasting is a tool that is used to assist in spiritual growth. Fasting is also mischaracterized as a form of deprivation, rather than a spiritual discipline. Because fasting is so misunderstood, it is many times done incorrectly.

In the Orthodox world, we use the word "passions" to describe tendencies that each person has that lead us to sin. Each of us has a "passion" for anger, lust, power, greed, ego, etc. We do not get through life without wrestling with each of these, sometimes on a daily basis. The most basic "passion" is hunger. While we can go a day without a lustful thought or an angry thought, we can't go more than a few hours without a hungry thought. So, if we can tame our passion for eating, we can hopefully tame our other passions. If we can discipline ourselves to go without certain kinds of food, we can hopefully discipline ourselves so that we can go without certain kinds of behavior that are spiritually destructive. Thus, fasting is not about giving up something only to get it back. Fasting is about getting control of our passions, maintaining control over them, and ultimately giving control of ourselves to God.

If you've never fasted before, I would not recommend doing a strict fast. Try fasting from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent (and then throughout the year), then next year try fasting Wednesdays and Fridays plus all of the first week of Lent and all of Holy Week. Then work up from that.

Below is a guide of some levels of fasting:

- Level one -- Fast from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays and during Holy Week
- Level two -- Fast from meat and fish on Wednesdays and Fridays and during Holy Week
- Level three -- Fast from meat the entirety of Lent and Holy Week
- Level four -- Fast from meat and fish the entirety of Lent and Holy Week
- Level five -- Level four and eliminate dairy products during Holy Week
- Level six -- Level four and eliminate dairy products on Wednesday and Fridays and during Holy Week.
- Level seven -- Level four plus eliminate dairy products during all of Lent and Holy Week
- Level eight -- Level seven plus eliminate oil and wine during Holy Week
- Level nine -- The strict fast - no meat, fish, dairy products, wine or oil during the entirety of Great Lent

****Fish is allowed on March 25 (Annunciation) and Palm Sunday; oil and wine are allowed on Saturdays and Sundays, except for Holy Saturday.**

After a few years at one level, challenge yourself to go up a level.

More important, however, than fasting from food, is fasting from the behaviors that are spiritually destructive. We need to fast from things that get us in trouble - perhaps the television, alcohol, inappropriate materials on the computer and in movies, foul language, etc. Fasting also does not mean "looking" deprived, complaining about what you can't eat, or making a show of your fasting. In fact, if you are fasting and you are invited to someone's home for dinner and they serve meat, eat the meat, don't make a big deal out of your fasting. Also, do not pass judgment on others who are not fasting to the degree you are. Saint Paul reminds us in Romans 14:3-4: *"Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own Master that he stands or falls."* As Christ tells us, our fasting is seen by our "Father who is in secret," and He will reward us for our efforts.

Again, Lent is not a season of deprivation, nor should we "give up" something only to get it back once Lent is over. Lent is about repentance, and making small and permanent changes to bring us closer to the Lord, changes that will last long after Lent is over. This is the purpose of the Lenten journey. Fasting is an aid to help us in this.

The time has come - the start of our spiritual contests, the victory over demons, the full armor of self-control the angels' dignity, the confidence before God. Thereby did Moses become conversant with the Creator, and heard the invisible voice. Lord, through fasting make us worthy to worship Your Passion and Holy Resurrection, as You love humanity. (Doxastikon of Orthros, Cheesefare Sunday, Trans. by Fr. Seraphim Dedes)

Give some thought to your fasting plan for Lent today!

الصوم . المحبة والمسامحة (مرفع الجبن)

الاخرين .

فكيف ان نسامح من خدعنا وجرحنا واراد الشر . فهل كان الرب يسوع يعلم بصعوبة هذا الامر؟ نعم بالتأكيد كان يعلم بذلك ، لذلك يعتبر الغفران عنصر اساسي في الايمان المسيحي.

لقد علمنا يسوع منذ بداية رسالته على الارض على ضرورة الغفران وذلك من خلال الصلاة الابانا علمها لتلاميذه ولنا نحن من بعدهم ، اذا من الواجب والضروري ان نغفر ذنوب الاخرين لكن نحن ننال الغفران ، الغفران يتطلب محبة كبيرة وايمان كبير وشجاعة لكي نستطيع ان نغفر وفي نفس الوقت ننال الغفران .

فلقد ارانا يسوع بجسده البشري الضعيف قوة ايمانه بالله الآب وكيف تحمل الآم الصليب وطلب ان تغفر ذنوب جلاديه وصالبيه ، فالبعض منا يقول بانهم ليسوا يسوع لكي يستطيعوا ان يغفروا ذنوب الاخرين . هذا الكلام غير صحيح وغير مثمر ، بل يعني اننا لم نفهم رسالة يسوع ودعوة يسوع الحقيقية لنا ،

فنحن يجب ان نكون اقوياء ، ثابتين في الايمان لكي نستطيع غفران ذنوب الاخرين . هذه القوة التي نالها تلاميذ المسيح حين حل الروح القدس عليهم ، ونحن من بعدهم حين نقبل الروح القدس ونتركه يعمل فينا . (لنا امثلة كثيرة من الرسل والقديسين سلوكوا في نفس طريق معلمهم يسوع لكي يكونوا لنا ايضا مثالا صالحا في الغفران ، مثل القديس استفانوس.

الشیطان يحاول دائما العمل في نقاط ضعفنا ، في الكبرياء وعزة النفس ، نعم الشيطان يجربنا كما حاول من قبل ان يجرب الرب يسوع ، لكن الرب يسوع استطاع ان يتغلب على الشيطان بطبيعته البشرية ، اذا نحن ايضا لنا القدرة على ان نتغلب على الشيطان بايماننا بان الرب يسوع صلب ومات وقام من بين الاموات ، كل هذا من اجل مغفرة خطايانا .

ايها الاحباء : الله يقول لنا في هذا النص الذي قرأناه الآن : مهما كانت قسوة وعناد الانسان فامام المحبة والغفران يستسلم ويضعف وتخور قوته ، اي ان المحبة تقوى على كل جبروت . لن نستطيعوا ان تغفروا او تسامحوا من القلب الا اذا طلبتم المساعدة من الله لانكم في الحقيقة امام عدو شر وخبث يوحى لكم بان الاهانة كبيرة ، اين الكرامة .. انت مجني عليك . فاهزموا عدوكم الحقيقي اولا بطلب القوة من الله لتغفروا .

عندما تغفروا من قلبكم بقوة من الله فستتمتعون بشعور جديد لم تحسوه من قبل ، هو شعور بانكم فعلا تحبون هذا الشخص وعلى استعدادكم لمساعدته ، تشعرون باحساس الفرح وبانكم تطيرون فوق الارض بحرية .

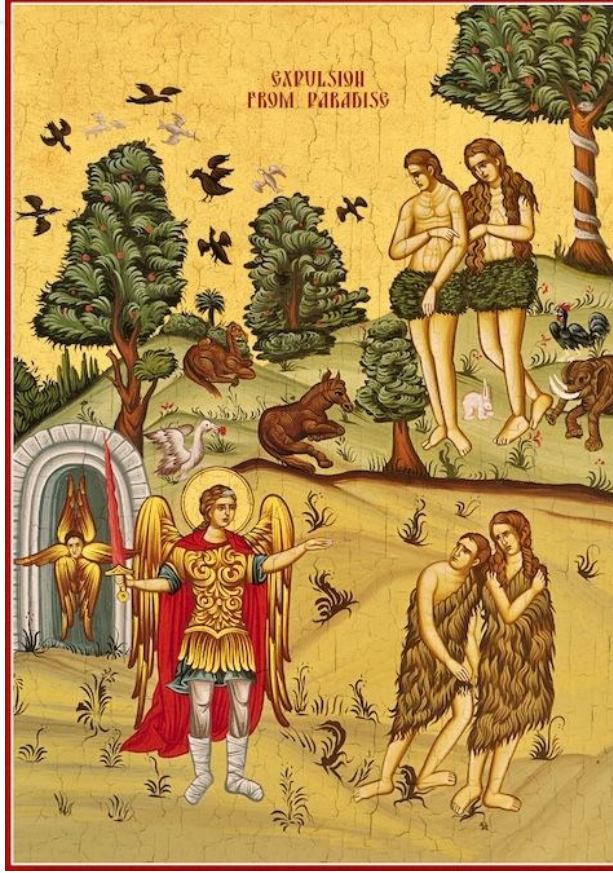
لذلك يا احبائي : فان الصوم ليس فترة تعذيب للذات ، انما هو فترة تسودها المحبة والشعور بمحبة وفيضان النور علينا ، الصوم هو فترة يملؤها النعم والبركات السماوية التي يسكبها الله في قلوبنا وفي حياتنا .

الصوم هو فترة نتعلم فيها المحبة ، والمحبة هي كل شيء في المسيحية ومتى وجد الانسان المحبة وجد الله المحبة ، وهذا ما يعنيه قول الانجيل : ان غفرتكم للناس زلاتهم يغفر اباكم السماوي زلاتكم ، والمحبة لا يقابلها الا المحبة .

ولكم اخبر يا احبتي جميعا : ان تكونوا من داخلين الى الملكوت وليكون صومكم مباركا ومفعما بالنعم السماوية وصياما سهلا موصلا لجمعنا الى الملكوت السماوي .

وان تحيوا حياتكم كلها حياة الغفران دائما .

فالآن وقت التوبة ابدوا صيامكم بكلمة : اغفر لي يا اخي لاجل المسيح ودخلوا الصيام وصافحوا بعضكم بعضا بقبلة السلام لكي تقولون مع الملائكة المسيح قام .



ان غفرتكم للناس زلاتهم يغفر لكم اباكم السماوي ايضا فان جاع عدوك فاطعمه وان عطش فاسقه ، لانك ان فعلت هذا تجمع جمر نار على راسه (رو20- 21)

ايها الاحباء : ها نحن في الاعداد السابع قبل الفصح وايضا نحن في الاعداد الرابع من اعداد التهيئة للصيام الكبير والآخر فيها .

ان هذا اليوم معروف بمرفع الجبن ويسمى كذلك باحد الغفران ، حيث غدا ندخل باذن الله الصيام الكبير المقدس . الذي هو ليس بنظام اكل خاص فقط وانما هو اعظم من ذلك بكثير ها نحن داخلون فترة حرب وجهاد روحي مع قوى الشر الكامنة فينا .

فليس الهدف ان نصوم عن طعام فقط وانما نحن نحارب شهواتنا ومغريات هذا العالم

يقول القديس بولس الرسول في رسالته اليوم ، علينا ألا نهتم بجسادنا لقضاء حاجاتها كالاكل او الملابس انتم تعرفون المثل الانجيلي الذي يقول : انظروا الى طيور السماء انها لا تزرع ولا تحصد وابوكم السماوي يقيتها . لذلك لا تنهم للمأكول او الملابس ، علينا ان نكثر في فترة الصوم لنا كنوزا في السماء تقربنا من الله ، وتساعدنا ان نرت الملكوت السماوي .

ايها الاحباء في صلواتنا السحرية لهذا اليوم كما في انجيل اليوم هناك محوران تدور حولهما كل صلواتنا وطقوسنا لهذا اليوم .

المحور الاول : هو اقامة تذكارات لطراد آدم من الفردوس ، الذي جلس هناك يبكي ، ألا يشبه طرد آدم وحواء من الفردوس حالة الانسان بعد السقوط ، حالة البكاء والشقاء التي تستحق التوبة والنحيب ، كما تقول التراتيل عندنا.

السبب لطراد آدم وحواء من الفردوس هو غياب الصوم ، فالصوم هو الاداة التي تعيد المصالحة بين الادميين والله .

يقول القديس باسيليوس الكبير : بدأ الصوم في الفردوس ، لا تأكل من شجرة الخير والشر . طرد ابوين الاولين من الفردوس بسبب عدم الصوم . بالصوم نحن ندخل الى الملكوت .

المحور الثاني : هو الغفران ، اي طلب الغفران من الله ووهب الغفران للقريب ، هذا ما يتكلم عنه انجيل اليوم . اذ يتكلم عن غفران الله وغفراننا للاخرين مباشرة قبل كلامه عن الصوم ، لاجل هذا الكنيسة تنهي استعدادها للصوم بالغفران لكي ندخل الصوم بالفرح والسلام وبالقوة .

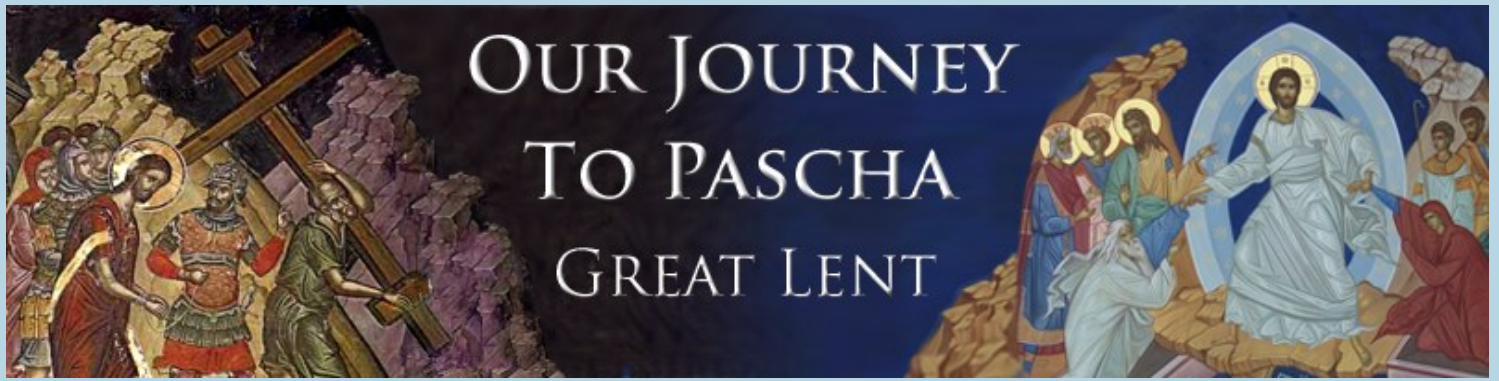
هذا يعني اننا سنتصالح مع الله بالصوم الذي نبدأه بالغفران للقريب والمصالحة معه ، قد يكون من السهل ان تساعد الفقير ونحسن الى انسان غريب او قريب ، لكن الاصعب هو ان نسامح الانسان القريب .

لهذا وضعت الكنيسة في طقوسها ، والطقس يعني اسلوب المنظور والعمل لممارسة الايمان ، ان يلتقي المسيحيون اليوم مساء احد الغفران في صلاة الغروب . حيث يتبادلون في نهاية الصلاة القبلية الاخوية ويصافح كل منهم الاخر ويقول له سامحيني يا اخي لاجل المسيح . علامة للمصالحة والمحبة التامة .

لان الغفران والصفح والمسامحة هو الحب الذي يشفي المرض ويزيل الالم ، مغفورة خطاياك قم وامش .

هناك سؤال دائما يطرحكم من مرة اغفر ذنوب اخي ، هل سبع مرات؟ سؤال طرحه بطرس الرسول للرب يسوع ، ونحن من الممكن ان نسأله ايضا للرب يسوع ونسأله لانفسنا بالرغم من اننا نعرف الجواب الوافي وذلك من خلال الرب يسوع لبطرس ، بالغفران سبعين مرة سبع مرات ، اي ما يعني ان نغفر ذنوب الاخرين على الدوام وبدون تعداد .

ان نغفر ذنوب الاخرين دائما يعتبر امر في غاية الصعوبة ، فنحن بشر . لنا طبيعة ضعيفة ، فكرامتنا وعزة النفس التي نملكها تمنعنا من ان نغفر او نجعلنا متمزتين براينا ولا نقبل



SUNDAY of FORGIVENESS	SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY	SUNDAY of ST GREGORY PALAMAS	SUNDAY of the HOLY CROSS	SUNDAY of ST JOHN CLIMACUS and the LADDER	SUNDAY of ST MARY of EGYPT	SATURDAY of LAZARUS
February 14	February 21	February 28	March 7	March 14	March 21	March 27
GOSPEL Matthew 6:14-21	GOSPEL John 1:43-51	GOSPEL Mark 2:1-12	GOSPEL Mark 8:34-38, 9:1	GOSPEL Mark 9:17-31	GOSPEL Mark 10:32-45	GOSPEL John 11:1-45
MESSAGE: Adam & Eve cast out of Paradise because of food. Moses fasted for 40 days from food to see God. We too begin fast from food to get back into Paradise and encounter God.	MESSAGE: Icons restored by St Theodora and son Emperor Michael in 843 AD. We rejoice in One Lord, One God, One Baptism, and One Faith shown in icons. God sees us, as Nathaniel in Gospel	MESSAGE FROM GOSPEL: Christ heals the paralytic brought by 4 friends thru the roof and all confess - Who can forgive sins but God alone? Discuss His authority given to our clergy for Confession	MESSAGE: The symbol of our faith as Christians which gives us strength to continue to struggle in the fast until we reach the Resurrection.	MESSAGE FROM GOSPEL: Jesus says, "All things are possible to him who believes." and heals epileptic child. Dad cried out "I believe; help my unbelief!"	MESSAGE: From age 12, St Mary lived a very sinful life but at age 30 wanted to become Christian and repented in the desert for forgiveness. She walked on water and a lion buried her! What is repentance?	MESSAGE: One week before Christ resurrects, He shows us His power over death as fully God by raising Lazarus from the dead, while also weeping as fully man for His dear friend Lazarus.
JESUS PRAYER SONG: "Lord Jesus Christ Son of God Have Mercy on Me the Sinner"	CRAFT: Make a family icon tree using each persons' Patron Saint. Christ is the trunk.	COLORING: Icon of Christ healing paralytic	CRAFT: Making Cross necklaces with string & beads	SENTENCE SCRAMBLE COLORING: Icon of Christ healing epileptic child	COLORING: Icon of Christ preaching repentance	ACTIVITY: Mummy Wraps with toilet paper

Following Jesus Kids bulletin



Following Jesus Kids bulletin



Lenten Calendar for Children

This calendar has a little activity for every day of lent.

First Week

Sunday Jesus was tempted by the devil in the desert but He resisted. • Write down something that you are often tempted to do and pray to your guardian angel to resist it.	Sunday Jesus was transfigured in glory in front of Peter, James, and John. • Nice things in this life don't last forever. Thank God for something nice you have now.
Monday After the Last Supper Jesus went out to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. • After supper take some time to thank God. 5	Tuesday Jesus took His friends Peter, James and John with him. • Say a prayer with your brother, sister or friend. 6
Wednesday Jesus knew what He would have to suffer. • Look at a crucifix and tell Jesus that you accept whatever suffering He sends you. 7	Thursday Jesus accepted His Father's will, saying "Thy will be done!" • Ask Mom or Dad what they want you to do and do it without complaining. 8
Friday Judas, one of the apostles, betrayed Jesus to His enemies with a kiss. • Give Mom or Dad a hug and show you love them by your actions. 9	Saturday Pray to Our Lady: Hail holy Queen, Mother of mercy! Our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor, banished children of Eve! To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. 10

Second Week

Monday Jesus submitted to His arrest even though He was innocent. • Pray for people who are in jail- those who are guilty as well as the innocent. 11	Tuesday The mob hit Jesus and spit on Him. • If you have money, give some to the poor. Otherwise say a prayer for them. 12
Wednesday Peter denied knowing Jesus three times before the cock crowed. • Pray: O my Jesus, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love Thee, I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love Thee. 13	Thursday Jesus spent the night in prison after he was arrested. • Say an 'Our Father' right before you go to sleep. 14
Friday Early the next morning He was brought to trial. • When you wake up pray: Everything today I offer to You, O Lord! 15	Saturday Pray to Our Lady: Turn, then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the Fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O pious, O sweet Virgin Mary! Pray for us, O holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ! 16

Third Week

Monday Pilate condemned Jesus to be scourged at the pillar. • Pray: O My Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of Hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are in most need of Thy mercy. 17	Sunday Jesus told the woman at the well that He would give us living water. • When you are at Mass thank Jesus for giving Himself as food and drink. 18
Tuesday The soldiers took off Jesus' clothes and tied Him to a pillar. • Sit on a hard chair for one minute and think of Jesus being scourged. 18	Wednesday The soldiers whipped Jesus many times. • Kneel and say a 'Glory Be.' 19
Thursday Jesus bled so much that He became weak. • Drink water instead of juice or pop today. 20	Friday The soldiers roughly put the clothes back on Jesus. • Be gentle to your friends or brothers and sisters, especially if they are sad. 21
Saturday Pray to Our Lady: The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary, and she conceived by the Holy Spirit. (say a Hail Mary) "Behold the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done unto me according to thy word." (say a Hail Mary) And the Word became Flesh and dwelt among us. (say a Hail Mary.) 22	

Fourth Week

Sunday The Scribes and Pharisees were angry at Jesus because he cured a blind man on the Sabbath. • Take some time to read a book about God or a saint.	Sunday The people of Jerusalem welcomed King Jesus to their city with palm branches. • Put the blessed palm you get at Mass today in a place of honour in your house.
Monday The soldiers made a crown of sharp thorns and put it on Jesus. • Have you ever thought unkindly of others? Imagine having a crown of thorns as punishment! 23	Tuesday The Soldiers mocked Jesus, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" • Look at a crucifix and tell Jesus that He is your king. 24
Wednesday Jesus was beaten with rods and spit upon. • Say something kind about a person who is made fun of. 25	Thursday Pilate set Jesus before the people, saying "Behold the Man!" • Find a picture of Jesus crowned with thorns and look at it for a minute, or else draw one. 26
Friday They shouted, "Crucify Him!" • Say an Act of Contrition: O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee. I detest all of my sins because of Thy just punishment, but most of all because they offend Thee my God, Who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen. 27	Saturday Pray to Our Lady: My Queen and my Mother, I give myself entirely to you, and, in proof of my affection I give you my eyes, my ears, my tongue, my heart, my whole being without reserve. Since I am your own, keep me and guard me as your property and possession. Amen. 28

Fifth Week

Sunday Jesus raised his friend Lazarus from the dead. Pray for the souls of the faithful departed, especially those who have no one to pray for them. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.	Sunday Jesus raised his friend Lazarus from the dead. Pray for the souls of the faithful departed, especially those who have no one to pray for them. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.
Monday Jesus willingly took up the cross. • Ask Mom or Dad for a hard job and do it! 29	Tuesday Jesus fell three times while carrying His cross. • Pray for someone who is sick. Visit them if you can. 30
Wednesday Simon of Cyrene was made to help Jesus carry the cross because Jesus was too weak. • Help one of your parents or siblings with their work today. 31	Thursday The crowds of people watched Jesus carrying the cross. • Talk with a friend or brother or sister about Jesus carrying the cross. 32
Friday The women of Jerusalem wept for Jesus. Who consoled them. • Pray for mothers who are expecting babies. 33	Saturday Jesus and His Mother met on His way to Calvary. • Find a picture of Our Lady of Sorrows and look at it for a minute or else draw one. 34

Holy Week

Monday When they got to the top of the hill the soldiers roughly tore off Jesus' clothes. • Thank God for your clothes and put them away neatly when you go to bed. 35	Tuesday They laid Jesus on the cross and nailed his hands and feet to it. • Look at your hands and imagine nails in them. Thank Jesus for all He suffered. 36
Wednesday The soldiers lifted the cross so that Jesus was hanging from the nails in his hands and feet. • Kneel in front of a crucifix and pray an 'Our Father.' 37	Holy Thursday Jesus told the disciples at the Last Supper, "Love one another as I have loved you." • Think of someone who hurt or offended you. Forgive that person. 38
Good Friday Jesus died on the cross. • Look at a crucifix for two minutes and think of how much Jesus loves you. 39	Holy Saturday Our Lady's day • Sit quietly for one minute and think how Mary felt after Jesus died. 40



FEBRUARY LITURGICAL CALENDAR

FEBRUARY



شباط - فبراير
2021

January 2021

S M T W T F S

1 2
3 4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12 13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20 21 22 23
24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31

March 2021

S M T W T F S

1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30 31

Liturgical Symbols:

Church Major Feasts

Abstain from meat

Fast from midnight until noon

Lenten Season

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Preparation of the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Temple 1 John 2:18-3:8 Mark 11:1-11	2 Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Temple دخول السيد إلى الهيكل Hebrews 7:7-17 Luke 2:22-41	3 Sts Simeon and Anna 1 John 3:21-4:11 Mark 14:43-15:1	4 St Isidore of Pelusium 1 John 4:20-5:21 Mark 15:1-15	5 St Agatha 2 John 1:1-13 Mark 15:22-25, 33-41	6 First Saturday of the dead الصبيات الاول للراقدين 1 Corinthians 10:23-29 Luke 21:8, 9, 25-27, 33-36
7 Meat-fare Sunday أحد مرفع اللحم 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Matthew 25:31-46	8 Prophet Zechariah 3 John 1:1-15 Luke 19:29-40, 22:7-39	9 Leave-taking of the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord Jude 1:1-10 Luke 22:39-42, 45-23:1	10 St Charalampos Romans 14:6-9 Matthew 26:57-75	11 St Blaise Jude 1:11-25 Luke 23:2-34, 44-56	12 St Meletios Ephesians 5:8-19 John 19:25-37	13 Saturday of Ascetics سبت جميع اليااء النساك Romans 14:19-23, 16:25-27 Matthew 6:1-13
14 St Maron the Hermit Cheese-fare Sunday أحد مرفع الجبن Romans 13:11-14, 14:1-4 Matthew 6:14-21	15 Beginning of Holy and Great Fast بدء الصوم المقدس الكبير Genesis 1:1-13 Proverbs 1:1-20	16 St Pamphilos and companions Genesis 1:14-23 Proverbs 1:20-33	17 St Theodore Genesis 1:24-2:3 Proverbs 2:1-22	18 St Leo, Pope of Rome Genesis 2:4-19 Proverbs 3:1-18	19 1st Akathist المدائح الاولى Genesis 2:20-3:20 Proverbs 3:19-34	20 St Theodore the martyr Hebrews 1:1-12 Mark 2:23-3:5
21 Sunday of Orthodoxy أحد الأرثوذكسية Hebrews 11:24-40 John 1:43-51	22 Relics of Martyrs at Eugenios Genesis 3:21-4:7 Proverbs 3:34-4:22	23 St Polycarp of Smyrna Genesis 4:8-15 Proverbs 5:1-15	24 Discoveries of the Head of John the Forerunner Genesis 4:16-26 Proverbs 5:15-6:4	25 St Tarasios Genesis 5:1-24 Proverbs 6:3-20	26 2nd Akathist المدائح الثانية Genesis 5:32-6:8 Proverbs 6:20-7	27 St Procopios Hebrews 3:12-16 Mark 1:35-44
28 St Gregory Palamas Sunday of Holy Relics أحد الفخائر المقدسة Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Mark 2:1-12						

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.

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 أجل الراقيدين على رجاء القيامة

في الأربعاء الأخير من كل شهر الساعة 6:30 مساءً



St Basil the Great Church is sponsoring a \$15,000 Raffle!

Due to the COVID-19 virus, Saint Basil's Church is unable to hold any of its annual fund raisers and has had to get creative.

We are sponsoring a raffle giving away \$15,000 in prizes:

- 1st: drawing for \$5,000
- 2nd: drawing for \$2,500
- 3rd: drawing for \$1,000
- Seven \$500 drawings
- Eight \$250 drawings
- Ten \$100 drawings



Drawing will be held the Easter weekend on April 3, 2021 with only three hundred (300) tickets to be sold at \$100 each.

For tickets or more information please contact:

- Sandra (Elias) Longtin, 401-617-8433
- Christine (Tahan) Durnin 401-474-5805.

Thank you for your continued prayer and generosity.

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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