

Address

15 Skyview Drive Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Tel (401) 722-1345

Parish Website

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Facebook

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

YouTube

https://bit.ly/3gkl2Uk

Email

office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Office hours

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

Divine Liturgy

Sunday: 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 and after 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



ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH



Sunday of Mary of Egypt

Commemoration of our Holy Father Alexis, the Man of God

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 1)

After the stone was sealed by the Jews and the while the soldiers were watching your spotless body, You rose, O Savior, on the third day, bestowing life to the world. Wherefore, the heavenly powers cried out to You, O Giver of life: "Glory to your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to your kingdom! Glory to your economy, O You who alone are the lover of mankind!"

Troparion of our Mother Mary of Egypt (Tone 8)

In you, O Mother Mary, was restored the likeness of God, for you carried your cross and followed Christ. You taught by your deeds how to spurn the body, for it passes away, and how to value the soul, for it is immortal. Wherefore your soul is forever in happiness with the angels.

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.

Kontakion of the Annunciation (Tone 8)

Triumphant Leader to you belongs our prize of victory! And since you saved us from adversity, we offer you our thanks. We are your people O Mother of God! So, as you have that invincible power, continue to deliver us from danger, so that we may cry out to you: Hail, O Virgin and bride ever pure.

نشيد القيامة باللحن الأول

إن الحجر ختمه اليهود، وجسدكَ الطاهرَ حرسه الجنود. لكنكَ قمتَ في اليوم الثالث، أيها الخلص، واهباً للعالم الحياة. لذلك قواتُ السماواتِ هتفت اليكَ، يا مُعطيَ الحياة: المجدُ لقيامتكَ أيها المسيح. المجدُ لملكِك. المجدُ لتدبيركَ، يا محبَ البشر وحدك.

نشيد للبارة مريم المصرية باللحن الثامن

فيكِ حُفِظتْ صورةُ اللهِ بتدقيقٍ أَيتها اللهُ مريم. فقد أخذتِ الصليب وتبعتِ المسيح، وعلَّمتِ بالعملِ إهمالَ الجسد لأنه زائل، والاهتمامَ بالنفسِ لأنها خالدة. فلذلكَ تبتهجُ روحُك أَيتها البارَّة مع الملائكة.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

لقُدُّ ذَاعٌ منطقُكَّ فَي كل الأَرْضَ. فانها قد قَبِلَتْ كلامك، القُدِّ ذَاعٌ منطقُكَ فَي كل الأَرْضَ. فانها قد قَبِلَتْ كلامك، الذي به بيَّنت العقائدَ بياناً إلهيّاً، وأوضحت طبيعة الكائنات، ونظَّمتَ أخلاقَ البشر. فيا أيها الآبُ البازُ ذو الكهنوت الملوكي، إبتهل إلى المسيحِ الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

قنداق الختام باللحن الثامن

نَحْنُ عَبِيدَكِ يَا وَالِدَةَ الإِلَهُ، نَكْتُبُ لَكِ آتَاتِ الْفَلَتَةَ يَا قَائِدَ. قَافِرَهُ. وَفُقَدَّمُ الشُكُّرَ لَكِ وَقَدْ أَنْقِذْنَا مِنَ الْشَدَائِدْ. لَكِنْ بِمَا أَنْ لَكِ الْغِزَّةَ الَّتِي لا تُحَارَبْ، أَعْنِقِينَا مِنْ أَصْنَافِ لَكِنْ بِمَا أَنْ لَكِيْ نَصْرُخَ إِلَيْكِ: أفراحي يَا عَرُوسَةً لا عَرُوسَ لَهَا. لَهَا.



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

EPISTLE: Sunday of Mary of Egypt, Heb. 9:11-14

PROKIMENON: Ps.75: 12, 2 (Tone 8)

Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the awesome God. Stichon: God is renowned in Judah; in Israel great is his Name.

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews

Brethren, when Christ appeared as the high priest of the good things to come (Cf.Lv.16: 14; 19: 4), He entered once for all through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made by hands (that is, not as a part of the present creation), nor again by virtue of blood of goats and calves, but by virtue of his own blood, into the sanctuary, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkled ashes of a heifer sanctify the unclean for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ (Cf. Rv. I: 5), who through the Holy Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God!

ALLELUIA: (Tone 8)

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.

Stichon: Let us greet Him with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to Him.

GOSPEL: Mk. 10:32-45, Sunday of Mary of Egypt

At that time Jesus took the Twelve, and began to tell them what would happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the Scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, and will deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and spit upon Him and scourge Him, and put Him to death; and on the third day He will rise again." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Master, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." But He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said, "Grant to us that we may sit, one at your right hand and the other at your left hand, in your said glory." But lesus to "You do not know what you are asking for. Can you drink of the cup of which I drink, or be baptized with the baptism with which I am to be baptized?" And they said to Him, "We can." And Jesus said to them "Of the cup that I drink, you shall drink; and with the baptism with which I am to be baptized, you shall be baptized; but as for sitting at my right hand or at my left, that is not mine to give, but it belongs to those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard this, they were at first indignant at James and John. But Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers among the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it is not so among you. On the contrary, whoever wishes to become great shall be your servant; and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be the slave of all; for the Son of Man also has not come to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

مقدمة الرسالة

أَنْذُرُوا وأَوفُّوا الربِّ إِلهنا، كلُّ الذينَ حولهُ يَأْتُونَ بهدايا اللهُ معروفٌ في يَهُوذا، واسمُهُ عظيمٌ في إسرائيل

الرسالة (عبرانيين 9: 11- 14)

يا إِخوة، إِنَّ المسيحَ الذي جاء حَبرا، لِلخيراتِ الآتِية، واجتازَ بالمسكنِ الأعظمِ والأَكمَلِ الغير المصنوع ببيدٍ، أي الذي لَيسَ مِن هذهِ الخَلِيقَة، دَخلَ الأَقداسَ مَرَّةً وَإحدَةً، لَيسَ بديم تُيُوسٍ وعُجولٍ، بَل بِدَمِه الخاصَ، فوَجَدَ فداءَ أَبدِياً. لأَنَّهُ إِن كانَ دَمُ ثِيرانٍ ويُيُوسٍ ورَمادُ عِجلَه يُرَشُ على المُتَجَّسِين، فيُقَدِّسُهُم ليَّوسُ ورَمادُ عِجلَه يُرَشُ على المُتَجَّسِين، فيُقَدِّسُهُم لتَطهيرِ الجَسَد، فكم بالأَحرى دَمُ المُ صيح، الذي قربَ بالرُّوحِ الأَزْلِيِّ نَفسَهُ للهِ بِلا عَيب، يُطَهّرُ ضَميرَكُم مِنَ الأَعمالِ الميَّتَةِ لتَعبُدُوا اللهَ الحَيّ.

هللويا

هَلُمُُوا نَبتَهِجْ بالرَّبِّ، ونُهِلَلْ للهِ مخِلَصِنا لنُبادِرْ الى وَجهِهِ بِالاعترافِ، وبالمزاميرِ نُهلَّلْ لهُ.

الانجيل للأحد الخامس من الصوم العظيم الانجيل (مرقس 10ك 32ب – 45)

في ذلك الزمان، أُخذ يسوع تلاميذه الاثنى عشر، وطفق يقول لهم ما سيعرض له: ها نحن صاعدون إلى أُورشليم، وابن البشر سيُسلَم إلى رؤساء الكهنة والكتبة، فيحكمون علية بالموت ويُسلمونه إلى الامم، فيهزؤون به، ويجلدونه، ويبصقون عليه، ويقتلونه، وفي اليوم الثالث يقوم. فتقدَّم اليه يعقوب ويوحنا ابنا زيدى قائلين: يا معلّم، نريدُ أَن تصنع لناكل ما نسألك. فقال لهما: ماذا تريدان ان اصنع لكما؟ قالا له: هب لنا أن بجلس أحدنا عن يمينك والآخر عن يسارك في مجدك. فقال لهما يسوع: انكما لا تعلمان ما تطلبان. أتستطيعان أن تشريا الكأس التي أشريها أنا، وأن تصطبغان بالصبغة التي اصطبغُ بها أنا؟ فقالا له: نستطيع. فقال لهما يسوع أَما الكأس التي أشريها فتشريانها، والصبغة التي اصطبغُ بها فتصطبغان بها. وأما الجلوس عن يميني أو يساري فليس لى أن اعطيه بل هو للذين أعد لهم. فلمًّا سمع العشرة أخذوا يغضبون على يعقوب وبوحنا. فدعاهم يسوع وقال لهم: تعلمون ان الذين يُعَدُّون أركانه الامم يسودونهم، وعظماءَهم يتسلَّطون عليهم. وأما في ما بينكم فلا يكن هكذا. بل من أراد أن يكون فيكم كبيراً، يكون لكم خادماً. ومن أَراد أَن يصير فيكم الاوَّل، يكون للجميع عبداً. فإن ابن الانسان لم يأتى ليُخدَم بل ليخدم، وليَبْذُلَ نفسَهُ فداءً عن كثيرين.





Prayer for the dead



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

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





Divine Liturgy Intentions

THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT. SUNDAY OF ST. MARY OF EGYPT.

9:00 a.m:

- + CHARLES & EVA ROBAT by M/M Charles Robat & Family.
- + ELIAS AZRAK by M/M Samir Boudjouk.
- + JAMES L. & LILLIAN KOURY SALOME by the Family.

11:15 a.m:

- + FADILA TOUBIA (40 Day) by Dr. Nabil & Nancy Toubia & Family.
- + YOUSEF HASSEY HASSEY BY St. Basil's Community.
- + NAJAT CHARCHAFLIAH by Tony & Fadia Kabak.
- + YOUSEF GEORGI DEEB by Joe Azar & Valerie Dunn.
- + MAGEE MARTINEZ by Albert & Ghada Dekki.
- + NICOLA HANNA ZABOURA by Paul & Chirin Ashkar.
- + JOHN R. ROWEY by Michael & Afaf Ashkar.
- + JOSEPH & SOUAD YOUAKIM by Bassil Youakim & Family.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: March 10, 2024: Budgets: \$3,442.00 (Envelopes: \$3,350.00; Loose: \$92.00); Candles: \$85.00; Stole Offerings: \$1,660.00; Building Fund: \$130.00; Addit'l Fuel: \$110.00; Cemetery: \$320.00.

Father Ephrem has now been here three and a half years and has been fully available for 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 this New Year.

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> Anyone who is planning an <u>ENGAGEMENT/BAPTISM/MARRIAGE RECEPTION PLANS</u> is kindly requested to notify a member of the clergy <u>BEFORE</u> reception/party plans are made. The Clergy may be already scheduled for something else on the day that you have rented a hall/restaurant. Following this policy will help avoid any later misunderstandings.

2024 ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDARS are available-free for the taking-at both entrances of the Church. 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.

CLEANLINESS AND 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!

<u>PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE</u> of any change of address or telephone number information. This will cut down on returned mail and time waste. Unfortunately, this has been an ongoing request but to no avail. Kindly give this your undivided attention and as Our Lord says in His parables: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> Before making any **ENGAGEMENT/BAPTISM/MARRIAGE 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.

ON SUNDAYS DURING LENT, HOLY THURSDAY AND HOLY SATURDAY, the HIRMOS, or hymn to the Mother of God, we usually chant ("It is truly right....) is replaced with: "In you, O full of grace, all creation rejoices: the orders of angels and the human race as well. O sanctified Temple, spiritual Paradise and glory of Virgins from whom our God who exists before all eternity took flesh and became a little child. He has taken your womb as his throne making it more spacious than the heavens. Therefore, O full of grace, in you all creation rejoices. Glory to you!" (The Icon of the Mother of God behind the altar, reflects the words of this beautiful hymn. This Lent let us make a renewed effort at having the sights and sounds of Church and Liturgy bring us that much closer to our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, who comes to us in the Eucharist!)

REFLECTION: "Silence is often misinterpreted but never misquoted." - Unknown

EASTER FLOWERS: Many parishioners have followed the long-time tradition of donating lilies to the Church for the Easter Season. If you would like to participate in this tradition, please sign your name on the bulletin board located outside the kitchen area. Since we have a larger sanctuary area to cover, we would appreciate your generosity in this regard, to enhance the Church at this most blessed season. Please make your \$10 offering to Barbara O'Rourke or Christine Durnin.

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.



Holy Week Liturgical Services 2024





PALM SUNDAY

- 9:00 am † Divine Liturgy on Sunday: The Entrance of Our Lord. God and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem
- 11:15 am † Divine Liturgy on Sunday: The Entrance of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem

- و 9:00 يوم الأحد صباحاً † الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهي-عيد دخول السيد المسيح الى أورشليم (أحد الشعانين)
- 11:15 يوم الأحد صباحاً † الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهى-عيد دخول السيد المسيح الى أورشليم (أحد الشعانين)



GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY

• 6:30 pm † Blessing of the Oil of the Penitents and the Lord's Last Supper commemoration at Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great with the Solemn Washing of the Feet

الأربعاء المقدس

6:30 مساء † الإحتقال بالليتورجية الإلهية للقديس باسيليوس الكبير يليها رتبة تبريك الزيت و مشح المؤمنين بالزيت المقدس ثم خدمة غسل الأرجل



GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

- 8:00 am to 5:00 pm † Vigil at the Foot of the Cross
- 6:30 pm † Matins Service of the Crucifixion with the reading of the Passion Gospels

- 8:00 صباحاً حتى 5:00 مساءً † صلاة سجود وتأمل عند أقدام الصليب
- 6:30 مساءً † قراءة الأناجيل المقدسة مع خدمة الآلام الخلاصية ورتبة الصلب



GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY - Passion of Our Lord

• 6:30 pm † Burial Service of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ- Matins of Holy Saturday-Procession of Triumph

6:30 مساءً † صلاة السحر و رتبة جناز السيد المسيح تليها خدمة فيض النور ونثر الغار



GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY--The Descent Into Hades

• 7:00 pm † Resurrection Matins (Rush Service) and Divine Liturgy of Pascha followed by collation in the Culture Center

كعلامة إنتصار السيد المسيح على الموت

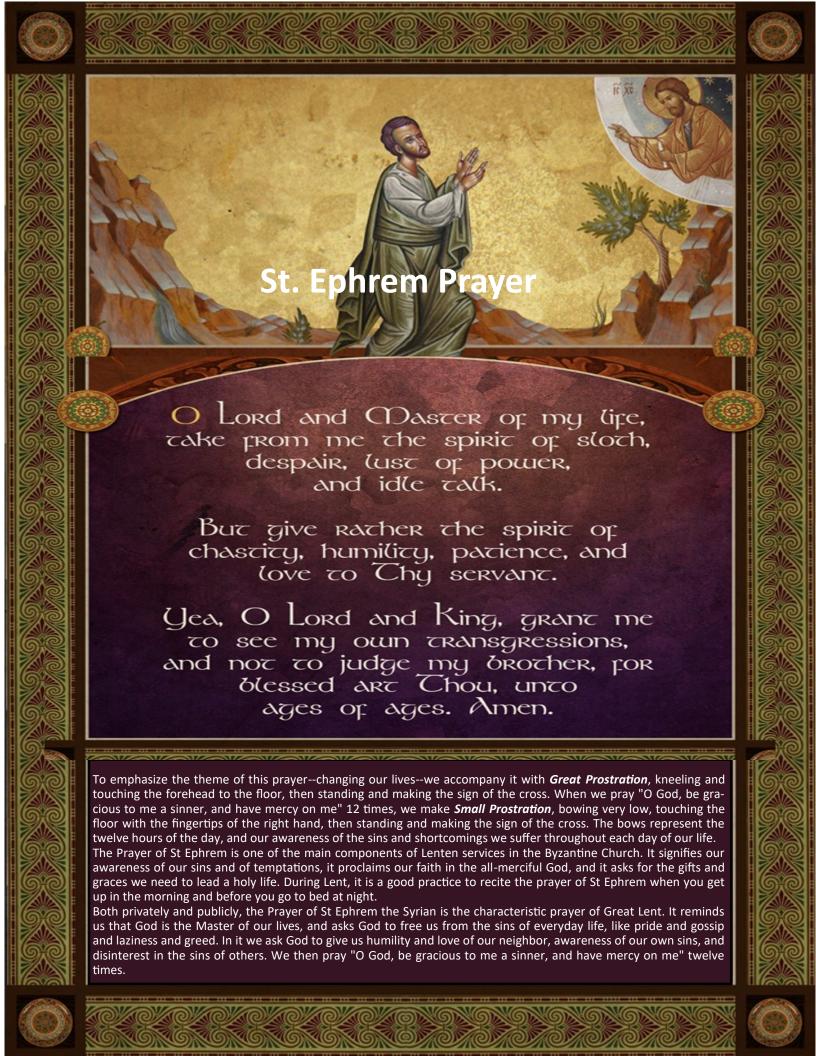
7:00 مساءً † رتبة الهجمة وخدمة القداس الإلهي إحتفالا بعيد الفصح المجيد يليها تجمع إحتفالي في قاعة الكنيسة



EASTER SUNDAY — Resurrection of Our Lord

· 10:00 am † Resurrection Matins (Rush Service) followed by the Divine Liturgy of Pascha

10:00 صباحاً † رتبة الهجمة وخدمة القداس الإلهي إحتفالا بعيد الفصح المجيد



St. Patrick's Day, March 17



Saint Patrick pray for us!

St Patrick Prayer!

As I arise today, may the strength of God pilot me, the power of God uphold me, the wisdom of God guide me. May the eye of God look before me, the ear of God hear me, the word of God speak for me.

May the hand of God protect me, the way of God lie before me, the shield of God defend me, the host of God save me. May Christ shield me today.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit, Christ when I stand, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

Amen



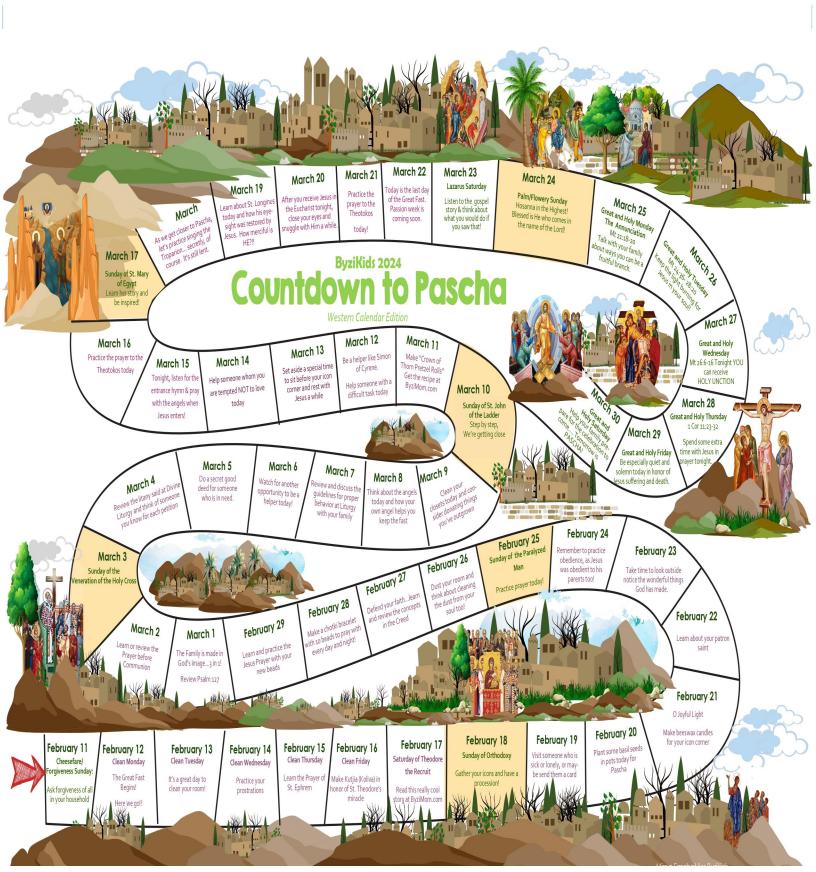
MARCH 19 THE FEAST DAY OF ST. JOSEPH

LET US MAKE ST. JOSEPH
OUR LENTEN SAINT
ON THE WAY TO EASTER.
MAY WE HAVE A SEMBLANCE
OF HIS HUMILITY, GREAT
FAITH & TRUST IN GOD.

ST. JOSEPH, PRAY FOR US!

Following Jesus Kids bulletin





Following Jesus - Kids bulletin



THE LIFE OF
ST.
MARY
OF
EGYPT



MARY WAS FROM EGYPT, AND SHE LIVED A LIFE OF SHAME. ONE DAY SHE GOT ON A BOAT TO GO TO JERUSALEM.

SHE WANTED TO GO
IN THE CHURCH
TO SEE THE
LIFE-GIVING CROSS..

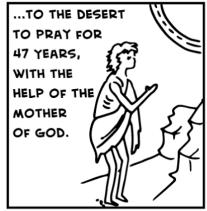




...BUT SHE COULDN'T GO IN! SHE SAW AN ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, AND WEPT FOR ALL HER SINS.

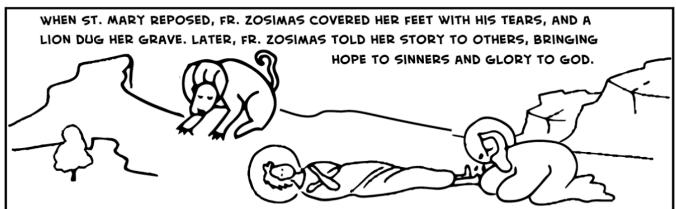
SHE HEARD A VOICE FROM THE HEAVENS...







SHE MET
FR. ZOSIMAS IN
THE DESERT.
WHEN HE
BROUGHT HER
HOLY COMMUNION
SHE WALKED
ACROSS THE
JORDAN AS ON
DRY LAND.



HOLY ST. MARY OF EGYPT, PRAY TO GOD FOR US!

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

Adapted by Fr Vitalii Stashkevych (BCC) for the Gregorian Calendar

SUNDAYS

THEMES / GOSPEL READING

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

Fast - Free Week **JANUARY 21ST**

Normal Fast Week

IANUARY 28TH

Meatfare

FEBRUARY 4TH

FAREWELL TO MEAT TODA



TRIODION WEEKS Publican and the Pharisee

2 Timothy 3:10-15 Epistle: Luke 18:10-14 Gospel:

The Prodigal Son Returns!

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

The Last Judgement

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.

Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.

Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.

> Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.

> > Bring an icon to church

for a procession.

Bring a prayer rope to be

blessed today!

Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer

each day this week.

Cheesefare FEBRUARY 11TH

1ST Sunday of Lent

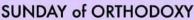
FEBRUARY 18TH



Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! FORGIVENESS SUNDAY

Romans 13:11-14:4 Epistle: Matthew 6:14-21

GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS



Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

John 1:43-51 Gospel:

2ND Sunday of Lent FEBRUARY 25TH

3RD Sunday of Lent

MARCH 3RD



ST GREGORY PALAMAS

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

HALF WAY TO PASCHA!

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Mark 8:34-9:1 Gospel:

ST JOHN of the LADDER 4TH Sunday of Lent

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31

Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!

Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!

MARCH 10TH 5TH Sunday of Lent

MARCH 17TH



ST MARY of EGYPT

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.

PALM SUNDAY MARCH 24TH

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

MARCH 29TH



GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!

Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.

FEAST OF FEASTS! MARCH 31ST

NO FASTING!



BRIGHT WEEK

HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

رتبت الكنيسة في الأحد الخامس من الصوم تذكار امرأة هي الأم البارة مريم المصرية التي بدأت من حياة الرذيلة وانتهت لحياة الجهاد. حياتها كانت نسكية لحد بعيد، تشبه عري أدم في الفردوس، فيها لا مبالاة بالحياة الطبيعية غير مهتمة بالحاجات البشرية والضرورية للحياة ومحاولة إعادة الجسد والنفس لعذريتهما الأولى قبل السقوط، فيها انغماس في نعمة الله الغير محدودة. غاية هذا الترتيب، أي أحد القديسة مريم المصرية، في أواخر الصوم الكبير هو بسبب تمردها العميق والكبير ضد الخطيئة، فكلنا يعرف أن مريم المصرية عاشت الخطيئة في أقصاها واكتشفت المعنى الحقيقي للتوبة فعاشت سبع وأربعين سنة في صحراء الأردن، وفيها عاشت محبة الله الغير المحدودة للخطاة والضعفاء، وكشفت لنا كيف أن الله يكشف طرقاً لا تُحصى ويضعها أمامنا في حياتنا اليومية تودي بنا للخلاص، وأوضحت لنا مقدار التواضع والوادعة والصبر التي نحتاجها للوصول للتوبة

الخطيئة هي الجرح والتوبة هي العلاج.

التوبة تفتح ابواب السماء تأخذ الانسان الى الفردوس تتجاوز الشيطان واعماله اخجل عندما تخطئ ولا تخجل عندما تتوب ،فان القديس يوحنا الذهبي الفم



عظيمة علينا ان لا ننسى رحمة الرب اعظم. ومحبتة لا تدرك ولكى نحصل عليها فلا سبيل الى ذلك الا بتوبة صادقة ودموع وتواضع وحمل الصليب واتباع يسوع.

مريم المصرية من اكثر القديسين الذين احبهم واثروا فيي بتوبتها الصادقة وبساطة ايمانها وقوته في ذات الوقت نسكت الصحراء وهي من اعتادت الرفاهية ولم تكتس بشيء وهي التي اعتادت ان تلبس الحرير والحلى ابتعدت عن حياة الزنى والشهوة عند اقتراب الفصح. لذا يجب علينا ونحن على مقربة من عيد الفصح وايضا لمن لم يستفيد من الصوم والصلاة ولم يغيير الصوم مسلكه وحياته نحو الفضيلة، عليه ان يتخذ موقفا مثل موقف مريم المصرية الحاسم والمصيري،اي ان ينتقل من ضفة الموت الى ضفة الحياة

ليس المطلوب منا ان نتنسك في الصحراء لكى نخلص ،ليس المطلوب ان تكون لنا امتيازات لكي نخلص ونجلس الى يمين السيد وعن يساره،كما طلب الرسل اليوم في الانجيل الذي سمعناه،ليست الكرامة وحب الرئاسات هي تجعلنا قربيين من الرب

يقول القديس افرام السرياني في صلاة التوبة:"... اعتقني من روح البطالة والفضول وحب الرئاسة..." نعم حب الرئاسة او السلطة .هي اصعب واخطر صعوبة تواجه الانسان المسيحي هي التخلي عن حب السلطة والتسلط والانانية والكبرياء.

نعتقد كلنا ان قربنا من الرب يسوع يعطينا الحق ويمنحنا حقوق وامتيازات. نعتقد اذا كنا معلمين ومرشدين يمكننا ان نطلب من المسيح ان يفعل لنا كل ما نطلبه وهذا غير صحيح

الشاطر، اللذان يذكروننا بان نتوب واليوم تذكرنا الكنيسة المقدسة بان التوبـة بـامكـانـنـا ان قال يسوع لتلاميذه الذين كانوا يسعون الى حب الـرئـاسـة والـظـهـور اذ قـال لـهم :" انـتـم تعلمون ان الذين يحسبون رؤساء الامم يسودونهم وان عظماءهم يتسلطون عليهم. فلا فمريم سلكت وانغمست في الخطيئة فعاشت حياتها في اقسى دركات الخطيئة، اخطأت يكون هكذا فيكم ،بل من اراد ان يصير فيكم عظيماً يكون لكم خادما، ومن آراد ان يصير فيكم اولا ،يكون للجميع عبدا، لان ابن الانسان ايضا لم يأت ليخدم بل ليخدم ويبذل نفسه فدية عن كثيرين"

هذا هو المطلوب من كل انسان مسيحي مؤمن حقيقي.

النص الانجيلي لهذا اليوم يعلمنا ويعلمنا ويجعلنا نفهم ويجعلنا ندرك ان قضية خلاصنا واكتساب الامتيازات ليس في السلطة والتسلط. ان الامر حقيقة هو بالخدمة ،اخلاء الذات والعودة الى الذات، هو الصليب هو التواضع ، من اراد ان يصير فيكم اولا يكون للجميع

هذه هي الامتيازات التي تؤهلنا ان نكون مرافقين ليسوع في ملكوته.

تحولوا سعيكم وحياتكم نحو السلطة الى سعي نحو الخدمة واخلاء الذات وعطاء بلاحدود السحر "يا مريم المصرية بما اننا حويناك نموذجا للتوبة توسلي الى المسيح ان يمنحنا ان تكونوا على الصليب على صورة المسيح. مثل ما فعلت قديستنا العظيمة مريم

عيده اثناء رحلتها الى اورشليم .

"اقتربوا إلى الله فيقترب إليكم" (يع 8:4). إذا قمنا بخطوة نحو الله فهو سيبادرنا بخطوات، الجحيم ليس للخطأة بل لغير التأنبين، هو لهؤلاء الذين لا يشعرون بقيمتهم أمام الله وللذين لا خلاص بدون توبة . التوبة تعني تحولا في الانسان تغييرا من حالة الى حالة ،فحياة لا يعرفون قيمة المسامحة وللذين يرفضون الفردوس ومحبة الله وللذين لا يحيون الرجاء

يمكن للكنيسة أن تقول لكل واحد: لا تخف من شيء ولا تحزن، حالما تتوب سيغفر لك الله كل شيء، ولا يمكن أن يحدث بأن لا يغفر الله للذين يتوبون حقيقة. ولا يوجد خطيئة مهما

ايها الاحباء: ها نحن نقترب من الصعود الى اور شليم حتى نعيَد الفصح اليوم المحطة الاخيرة في مسيرة الصوم الكبير قبل دخولنا في الاسبوع العظيم والفصح.

الكنيسة تضع لنا اليوم تذكارا لقديسة البارة مريم المصرية اختارت الكنيسة ان تجعل عيد مريم المصرية في هذا الاحد الخامس من الصوم الكبير . لتقدمها لنا نموذجا حيا للتوبة وللنسك بلا حدود . كما فعلت في بداية الصوم بمثل الفريسي والعشار ومثل الابن نعيشها وتصير حياة حية .

الى الحد الاقصى بحيث لم يكن ممكنا ان يخطئ كائن بشري اكثر منها لقد وصلت الى ذروة الخطيئة والى اعماقها ،لكن الرب انتشلها بواسع رحمته وايقظها من خلالها واعاد اليها رشدها فقبلت التوبة مدى عمرها الباقي.

وبمقدار اكبرمن المقدار الذي مارست فيه الخطيئة مارست التوبة. وبشوق ملتهب اكثر من الشوق الذي احيت فيه الخطيئة. فكانت مريم ايقونة التوبة، ايقونة اعادة للعودة الى الذات ،فانتقات مريم من ضفة الخطيئة الى ضفة المسيح ،من ضفة الخطأة الى ضفة القديسين القائمين على الفضيلة ، اي عبرت الى الطريق الصحيح الذي يؤدي الى التوبـة عبدا (مرقس 10- 44) . والاهتداء والخلاص.

لهذا تضع الكنيسة المقدسة اليوم مريم المصرية نموذجا يجب ان يتمثل به المؤمنون كي احبائي عليكم ان تعيدوا النظر بالاتجاه الصحيح وان تقلبوا الموازين والمفاهيم ،اي يبلغوا الى ما بلغت اليه القديسة مريم . هذا ما اكدته صلاتنا لها اليوم ،اذ قرأنا في صلاة اياها في اوان الصيام "

اذا مريم هي نموذج حي عن الانسان الخاطئ الذي اذا سعى الى التوبة يجد ذراعي الله اذا بدأت تحويل حياتها حياة الزنى الى حياة القداسة عندما سجدت امام الصليب في يوم مفتوحتين لاستقباله كما استقبل الأب ابنه الضال في المثل الشهير.

> مريم المصرية هي مثال ونموذجا لنا نحن الخطأة كي لا نيأس من امكانية التوبة فمهما بلغت ضخامة الخطيئة علينا ان نعرف تمام المعرفة ان الله ينتظرنا ليضمنا الى مختاريه.

> المسيحي حياة توبة دائمة بهذا المعنى انها سعي نحو الله لا ينقطع. سعي مستمر كل الايام اي رجوَّع متواصل الى الله. لا تعني التوبة انها فترة او مدة محددة من الحياة. التوبة نأخذها حياة، حياة مع الله اي حياتنا كلها توبة.

سيرة مريم المصرية مليئة بالعبر والدوروس فهي توجه لنا دعوة لكل واحد منا ،دعوة كبرت لا يمكن لله أن يغفرها بمحبته. لتوبة عن خطايانا مهما كانت وهي برهان لرحمة الله العظيمة ،فمهما كانت الخطيئة

Only When We Descend in Humility Can We Ascend to Heaven

Where shall I begin to weep for the actions of my wretched life? What first-fruit shall I offer, O Christ, in this my lamentation? But in Thy compassion grant me forgiveness of sins." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 1, vs. 2.)

During Great Lent we remember and venerate Saint Mary of Egypt both on April 1 and the Fifth Sunday of Lent. With the Canon of St. Andrew, read in many churches during the first and fifth weeks of Lent, we uphold her as an icon of repentance, an example for every Orthodox Christian to emulate. Yet for many years, she lived a life of bondage to sexual passions. If St. Mary of Egypt were alive today, would we welcome her into our assembly?

"I confess to Thee, O Savior, the sins I have committed, the wounds of my soul and body, which murderous thoughts, like thieves, have inflicted inwardly upon me." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 1, vs. 12.)

While we don't know about the very early years of her life, we do know that she lost her virginity at age twelve and ran away from home. For the next seventeen years she was a slave to her insatiable appetite for sexual perversions, including sexual encounters with "young men," even against their will. This sounds very much like a victim of pedophilia who recoils and continues in her victimization by taking on the role of a predator herself, victimizing others in the process. Many adults who fall into the bondage of pedophilia are victims of sexual abuse as children. In a futile attempt to reconcile the horror of their own victimization, they try to regain control of their lives through exploitation, continuing to inflict wounds on their own souls and bodies.

"Like David, I have fallen into lust and I am covered in filth; but wash me clean, O Savior, by my tears." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 2, vs. 54.) "O Lady, thou hast brought forth our Joy: Grant me the spirit of mourning that in the coming Day of Judgment I may be comforted by God." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 9, vs. 327.) "For all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

For seventeen years, Saint Mary of Egypt lived a lifestyle that isolated her from the community and God. Covered with filth amassed over the years, her heart yet longed for union with God. People in prison feel ostracized too, isolated from God and society, as they sit in shame in prison cells longing for the same tears of repentance that lead to joy and reconciliation.

"Christ became man, calling to repentance thieves and harlots. Repent, my soul: the door of the kingdom is already open, and Pharisees and publicans and adulterers pass through it before thee, changing their lives." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 9, Vs. 342)

The healing of the venerable Saint Mary of Egypt was not instantaneous but required a rigorous and lengthy spiritual journey. Being led by the Holy Spirit, she retreated to the wilderness where she lived the life of a hermit for seventeen years, seeking freedom from bondage of the passions. She spent a further thirty years in the wilderness having obtained the true gifts of repentance, healing and freedom from the enslavement of sin.



During Great Lent, each of us seeks repentance, turning from our own vices and passions and setting our minds and hearts on God. Through the intercessions of the most Holy Theotokos, God grants us the gift of compunction to turn from our wounds and sins to find healing and comfort in Him.

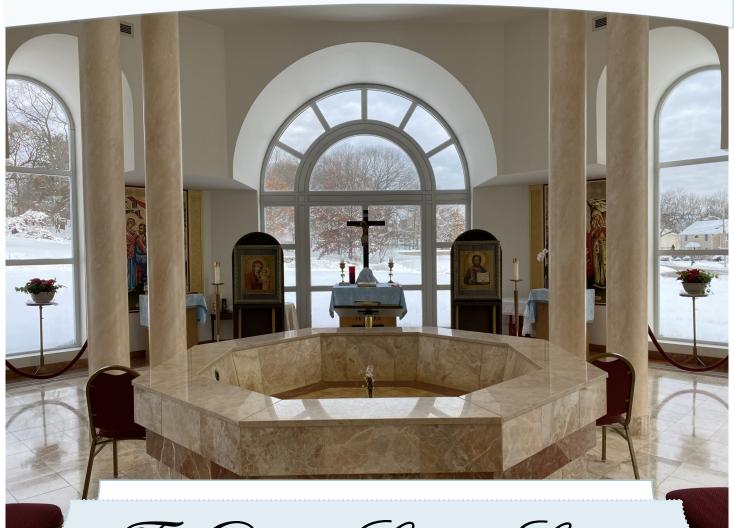
Only when we submit to God do we find true freedom. Only when descend in humility we ascend to the Heavens. It's only when we die to ourselves do we truly live. And we should not be afraid! Our spiritual life should not be wrought with anxiety, with fear and with doubt. After venerating the relic of the true cross, St. Mary of Egypt returned to the church to give thanks, and heard a voice telling her, "If you cross the Jordan, you will find glorious rest." And then, as St. Zosimas tells us, St. Mary spent 47 years in the desert alone, taking nothing with her but three loaves of bread, and once they were gone, she lived only on what she could find in the wilderness.

We marvel at this, as we, I think, almost write this story of, thinking, "Oh, this was a great saint in the olden days. This is all beyond our capability." But this is not true at all, and this is precisely why we hear the life of St. Mary of Egypt in church and on this week in Lent. Human nature has not changed in all the years from then until now. St. Mary was once an exceedingly sinful person and far from God. But she repented. She had a change of heart. She found humility, and in giving her whole life and her whole will entirely to God, she found the "glorious rest" to God promised her. Now we look to her – this former harlot and sex addict – as a great saint whom we must emulate, and to whom we pray so that she may intercede for us at the throne of God. And so, there is hope. There is hope for us, and we must not despair!

On this final Sunday of Great Lent, it would do well for us to take stock of where we are. Have we left our fallen city? Have we exited the gate? Have we travelled for miles, only to retrace our steps? Have we followed the way of the Pharisee, relying on our own efforts and perceived righteousness? Or have we learned to follow the way of the Publican and St. Mary of Egypt, crying out with a contrite heart and humility: "Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner!" Far too often we find ourselves at Holy Week, and even at the very night of Pascha, looking back to Lent wondering: "Where did Lent go? All this time... and I've wasted it!" All this time is given to us - is a gift to us - to use for our repentance, and don't we so often squander it in anxieties, trivialities, bickering, distractions, sins and passions. And when the trumpet sounds and we find ourselves at the Dread Judgment, will we look back and ask, "Where did the time go? How have I wasted my life?" Yet it does not have to be this way. Let us heed the words of the St. Paul who said: 'Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.' See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil... be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. (Ephesians 14-16, 19)

Let us rejoice, then, in the Lord in these remaining days of Lent as we look towards Christ's Holy Passion and glorious Resurrection, and let us never cease to have the words of St. Anthony the Great on our lips: "Today I will make a good beginning!" May God grant us strength and perseverance, not just to make a good beginning, but to finish the race set before us. Amen.

Weekly Divine Liturgy Schedule



The Divine Liturgy Schedule

Divine Liturgy

Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:15 am

The Holy Sacrament of Reconciliation is available before and after the Divine Liturgy or by appointment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Food Provided by Rhodes on the Pawtuxtet Call for Menu



\$200 Reserves A Table for 8 All Day!

ENTERTAINMENT 2:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Doors Open at 1:00 PM

John Connors & the Irish Express 2pm-5pm

Deirdre Goulding School of Irish Dance 5pm

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These Cure 6pm 10pm

Those Guys 6pm - 10pm

Sunday, March 17, 2024
Rhodes on the Pawtuxet
Cranston, Rhode Island
General Admission \$12
Children Under 12 Free
Tickets Available at the Door

For the Benefit of St. Michael's Social Ministries for the Poor St. Michael's Church - Providence, RI Call: 401-440-9747



Little Sisters of the Poor 16th Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Little Sisters of the Poor St. Patrick's Day Dinner The Old Grist Mill Tavern Monday, March 18





LAST CALL!

Ticket orders must be received by Friday, March 1.

PURCHASE TICKETS **ONLINE**

ATTENTION TICKET HOLDERS

Be sure to call The Old Grist Mill Tavern to make your reservation or to schedule your pick up time.

All proceeds benefit the Little Sisters of the Poor.

We look forward to seeing you and thank you for your support!

We appreciate your support of our mission. Click here to donate.

Little Sisters of the Poor Jeanne Jugan Residence 964 Main Street Pawtucket, RI 02860-4842 (401) 723-4314

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39th Annual Good Friday walk

March 29th, 2024

9:00am

Meet at:
St. John the Baptist
69 Quincy Avenue
Pawtucket

Begins with a blessing at 9:00am.

Ends with grilled cheese 'n chowder for all walkers.

JOIN US ON A FOUR MILE WALK

To Feed the Hungry and Shelter the Homeless

Proceeds to benefit:

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Esperanza
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and Pawtucket
Soup Kitchen

For more information, contact
Project Hope/Proyecto Esperanza at 401-728-0515





Featuring Lebanese Artist

George Maalouf & Band Tickets in advance only! deadline April 14th

Ticket includes: Deluxe Arabic/Middle Eastern Buffet by Kaza Maza Restaurant • Cash Bar

Joe Massud 508-802-7585 • Christine Barrett 401-265-0386 or any MYO Member Please support this event, for the Youth of today are the church of tomorrow.

> MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ST. BASIL CHURCH SEND TO: ST BASIL'S RECTORY 111 Cross Street CF RI 02863

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Adult Tickets \$60.00 ea. Quantity Needed Child / MYO 12 & under \$45.00 ea. Quantity Needed

I am unable to attend but would like to make a donation \$

Deadline is April 14th



FIRST FRIDAY VISIT

April 12, 2024 5:00 PM EST

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary

HOLY HOUR AND EVENING PRAYER

In-Person Visit: Includes Dinner with seminarians and tour of the Seminary

Virtual Visit: Live-stream Holy Hour followed by a Zoom visit (Zoom link provided at registration)

Register:

Contact Msgr. William Fay, 781-899-5500 ext. 134, firstfriday@psjs.edu



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Full Page Half Page Quarter Page Photos for full pages only	\$ 500 \$ 300 \$ 200	0		3.5″w x 11″h 4.25″w x 5.5″h 2.125″w x 2.75″h	□ Art/Graphics Received□ Photos Received# of Photos
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53rd NATIONAL MELKITE CATHOLIC CONVENTION

JULY 2024



OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION MELKITE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL





The Emmaus Experience

PACKAGE REGISTRATION FORM

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS if Purchased Separately from Package				
Individual Events	Price per ticket	Quantity	Total Cost	
Thursday, July 4 . Opening Night BBQ	\$80.00			
Friday, July 5 . Hafleh	\$95.00			
Saturday, July 6 . Grand Banquet	\$130.00			
Sunday, July 7 . Farewell Brunch	\$45.00			
		TOTAL DUE		

COMPLETE PACKAGES Thursday, Friday, Saturday Evenings only – SUNDAY BRUNCH NOT INCLUDED			
Evening Social Events	Price per package	Quantity	Total Cost
Purchased before 5/15/24	\$275.00		
Purchased after 5/15/24	\$305.00		
		TOTAL DUE	
Make Checks Payable to:		GRAND TOTAL	\$

ANNUNCIATION MELKITE CATHEDRAL

Memo: Convention Package

Mail Payment and Form to:

Annunciation Melkite Catholic Cathedral 7 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132 DO NOT SEND CASH

Registration material will be picked up at the convention registration desk

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

Please complete the entire registration form and mail it with your payment to the address on the left.

For further information, contact Our Lady of Annunciation Cathedral at (617) 323-5242

REGISTRATION

Name			Spouse's Name
Additional Names			Phone ()
Address			Email
City	State	Zip	Parish/City

ANNOUNCEMENTS



St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

15 Skyview Drive Lincoln, RI 02865



Campaign Facts:



Campaign Goal: \$1,000,000



Outstanding Goal: \$329,240



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

Parish Community Facts:



Total Registered Families: 410



Active Families: 200



% of Active Families Participation: 55%

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

Current & Future Projects:



Church Roof Replacement: Project completed, final cost \$321,000.



Rectory Roof Replacement: Project completed, final cost \$18,850.



Church Window Repairs: Project completed, final cost \$9,000. Additional window was found to need repair, awaiting additional estimate.



HVAC & Boiler Replacement: Proposals received, estimated cost \$196,000. Boiler does need immediate replacing, awaiting timeframe. HVAC system is okay for now



Flooring Upgrades: Proposal received, estimated cost \$50,000 (carpeting for Church, Cultural Center, office & hallway), awaiting samples and timeframe.



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



Interior Repairs, Expand Storage & HVAC Vent Cleaning: Partial proposals received. Vent cleaning completed, final cost \$9,020



Exterior/Masonry/Walkway Repairs: Awaiting proposals. Maintenance to mosaic of The Blessed Mother completed, cost \$8,000.



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



Central Air Conditioning and HVAC improvements to Rectory: Project completed, final cost \$56,665.

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, <u>click here</u>, 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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