



March 10 2024

## ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

### Address

15 Skyview Drive  
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Tel (401) 722-1345

### Parish Website

[www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com](http://www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com)

### Facebook

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

### YouTube

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

### Email

[office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com](mailto: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



### Sunday of our Father John Climacus -

Commemoration of the Holy Martyrs Codratus of Corinth and His Companions

**ANTIPHON PRAYER of the 4th Sunday of Lent:** O Lord, Lover of mankind, You saved the people of Ninevah as they repented, fasting and weeping. Have mercy on us, for we fall short of any defense. And since You are compassionate, strengthen in our hearts our faith in your name and steady our footsteps in the way of your Commandments.

For You are good and forbearing, O our God, and to You we render glory, honor and worship, to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

### Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 8)

You descended from on high O compassionate One; and consented to burial for three days that You might free us from suffering. O Lord, our life and our resurrection, glory to You!

### Troparion of St. John Climacus (Tone 8)

Your abundant tears made the wilderness to sprout and bloom, and your deep sighing made your labors fruitful a hundredfold; you became a shining star shining over the world with miracles. Holy Father John, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

### 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

### صلاة الأنديفونة

أيها الربُّ المحبُّ البشر، لقد خلّصت أهل نينوى لَمَّا تابوا بالصَّوم والدموع. فأرأف بنا نحن العاجزين عن كلِّ جواب. فبما أنك حنون، وطلد في قلوبنا الإيمان باسمك، وثبّت خطواتنا في سبيل وصاياك لأنك إله صالح وطويل الأناة، وإليك نرفعُ المجد أيها الأب والابن والروح القدس، الآن وكلَّ أوانٍ وإلى دهر الدهرين.

### نشيد القيامة باللحن الثامن

انحدرت من العلاء أيها التحنن، وقبّلت الدفن ثلاثة أيام، لكي نعتقنا من الآلام، فبما حياتنا وقيامتنا، يا رب المجد لك.

### نشيد للبار يوحنا السلميّ مؤلف كتاب "سُلم الفضائل" (على اللحن الثامن)

بسيول دموعك أخصب القفر العقيم. وبزفراتك العميقة أثمرت أتعايبك مئة ضعف. فصرت للمسكونة كوكباً متألئناً بالعجايب يا أبانا البار يوحنا. فاشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

### طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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

### فنداق الختام باللحن الثامن

نُحْن عبيدك يا وَاِلدَةَ الإله، نَكْتُبُ لَكَ آيَاتِ الْعَلْبَةِ يَا قَائِدَةَ قَاهِرَةَ. وَنُقَدِّمُ الشُّكْرَ لَكَ وَقَدْ أَنْقَدْنَا مِنَ السَّدَائِدِ.





### 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](http://www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com/myo.html)

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



invincible power, continue to deliver us from danger, so that we may cry out to you: Hail, O Virgin and bride ever pure.

**EPISTLE: Sunday of our Father John Climacus, Heb. 6:13-20**

**PROKIMENON: Ps. 28: 11,1 (Tone 7)**

The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Stichon: Give to the Lord, you sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

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

Brethren, when God made His promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater to swear by, He swore by Himself, saying, "I will surely bless you, and will surely multiply you Gn.22: 14)." And so, after patient waiting, Abraham obtained the promise. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and an oath given as a guarantee is the final settlement of all their disagreements. Hence God, meaning to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the firmness of His will interposed an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to deceive, we may have the strongest comfort — we who have sought refuge in holding fast the hope set before us. This hope we have as a sure and firm anchor of the soul, reaching even behind the veil where our forerunner Jesus has entered for us, as He became a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

**ALLELUIA: Ps 91:1,2 (Tone 7)**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High!

Stichon: To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

**GOSPEL: Mk. 9:17-31, Sunday of our Father John Climacus**

At that time one of the crowd came to Jesus and bowed to Him saying: "Master, I have brought to You my son, who has a dumb spirit; and whenever it seizes him it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth; and he is wasting away. And I told Your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." And He, answering him, said, "O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought him to Him; and the spirit, when it saw Jesus, immediately threw the boy in convulsions, and he fell down on the ground and rolled about foaming at the mouth. So, He asked his father, "How long is it since this has come upon him?" And he said, "From his infancy. Oftentimes, it has thrown him into the fire and into the waters to destroy him. But if You can do anything have compassion on us and help us." But Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to the man of faith." At once the father of the boy cried out and said with tears, "I do believe; help my unbelief." Now when Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, go out of him and enter him no more." And crying out and violently convulsing him, it went out of him, and he became like one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him and he stood up. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And He said to them, "This kind can be cast out in no way except by prayer and fasting." And leaving that place, they were passing through Galilee, and He did not wish anyone to know it. For He was teaching His disciples, and saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and having been killed, He will rise again on the third day."

لَكُنْ بِمَا أَنْ لَكَ الْعِزَّةَ الَّتِي لَا تُحَارَبُ، أَغْنِيْنَا مِنْ أَضْغَاثِ الْمَخَاطِرِ لِيْكَ نَضْرُحُ إِلَيْكَ: أفرأحي يَا عَزُوسَةٌ لَا عَزُوسَ لَهَا.

**مقدمة رسالة الالحاد الرابع من الصوم**

الرَّبُّ يُوْتِي شَعْبَهُ قُوَّةً، الرَّبُّ يَبَارِكُ شَعْبَهُ بِالسَّلَامِ قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ، قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ أَبْنَاءَ الْكِبَاشِ

**الرسالة (عبرانيين 6: 13 – 20)**

يا إخوة، ان الله عند وعده لإبراهيم، أد لم يكن له أن يُقسِمَ بما هو أعظم منه، أقسم بنفسه قائلاً: لأباركك بركة وأكثرتك كثيراً. وهكذا إذ تأتي نال الموعد. وإنما الناس يُقسِمون بما هو أعظم منهم، وتنقضي كلُّ مُشَاجِرَةٍ بَيْنَهُم بِالْقَسَمِ لِلتَّثْبِيتِ. لذلك لما شاء الله ان يَزِيدَ وَرَثَةَ الْمَوْعِدِ بَيَاناً لَعَدَمِ تَحْوِيلِ عِزْمِهِ، تَوَسَّطَ بِقَسَمِهِ، حتى نحصل بأمرين لا يتحولان ولا يُمكن أن يحلف الله فيهما، على تعزية قوية، نحن الذين التجأنا إلى التمسك بالرجاء الموضوع أماناً. الذي هو لنا كمرساة للنفس أمانة وراسخة. وهو يُدخِلُ إلى داخل الحجاب، حيث دخل يسوع كسابق لأجلنا، صائراً رئيس كهنه إلى الابد على رتبة ملكيصادق.

هللوا

صالح الاعتراف للرب، والترنيم لاسمك أيها العلي ليختر برحمتك في الغداة، ويحفظك كل ليته.

**الانجيل - الالحاد الرابع من الصوم (مرقس 9: 17 – 31)**

في ذلك الزمان، دنا إلى يسوع انسان وسجد له قائلاً: يا معلم، قد أتيتك بابني به روح أبكم. وحيثما اعتراه يصرعه فيزيد ويصرف بأسنانه ويبيسن. وقد قلت لتلاميذك أن يخرجوه فلم يقدروا. فأجاب قائلاً: أيها الجيل الغير المؤمن، إلى متى أكون عندكم وحتى متى أحتلمكم؟ هلتم به الئ. فأتوا به. فلما رآه للوقت صرعه الروح، فسقط على الارض يتمرغ ويزيد. فسأل أباه: منذ كم من الزمان أصابه هذا؟ فقال منذ صباه. وكثيراً ما ألقاه في النار وفي المياه ليهلكه، لكن إن استطعت شيئاً فحتن علينا وأغثنا. فقال له يسوع: إن استطعت أن تؤمن فكل شيء ممكن للمؤمن. فصاح أبو الصبي لساعته بدموع وقال: إني أومن يا رب، فأعن قلّة إيماني. فلما رأى يسوع أن الجمع يتبادرون إليه، انتهز الروح النجس قائلاً له: أيها الروح الأصبم الابكم، أنا أمرك ان اخرج منه ولا تغد إليه من بعد. فصرخ وخطبه كثيراً وخرج منه، فصار كالميت حتى قال كثيرون إنه قد مات. فأخذ يسوع بيده وأنهضه فقام. ولما دخل البيت سأله تلاميذه على انفراد: لماذا لم نستطيع نحن أن نخرجه؟ فقال لهم: إن هذا الجنس لا يمكن ان يخرج بنبي إلا بالصلاة والصوم. ولما خرجوا من هناك، اجتازوا في الجليل، ولم يكن يريد أن يدري أحد. وكان يعلم تلاميذه ويقول لهم: إن ابن الانسان سيسلم إلى أيدي الناس فيقتلونه، وبعد أن يقتل يقوم في اليوم الثالث.



## Prayer for the dead

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

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



# Divine Liturgy Intentions

**THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT. SUNDAY OF OUR FATHER JOHN CLIMACUS.**

### **9:00 a.m:**

- + **EMILY NOURY (22<sup>nd</sup> Anniv.)** by her nieces and nephews.
- + **ELIAS AZRAK** by M/M Jeffrey Boudjouk & Family.
- + **JAMES L. & LILLIAN KOURY SALOME** by the Family.

### **11:15 a.m:**

- + **NAJAT CHARCHAFLIAH (40 Day)** by her husband Joseph and daughter Nina Unsworth & Family.
- + **KEVORK DONATO & EMELDA AJKIEH** by Silvana and Nabil Haddad.
- + **YOUSEF GEORGI DEEB** by Wayne & Judy Rawan.
- + **SAMIRA JAJEH** by Deacon Gilbert & Mimi Altongy.
- + **MAGEE MARTINEZ** by Edmond Shabo.
- + **NICOLA HANNA ZABOURA** by Paul & Chirin Ashkar.
- + **JOHN R. ROWEY** by Paul & Chirin Ashkar.
- + **BAHJAT & FLORA KHOURY** by Riad & Souhair Batal Khoury.
- + **JOSEPH MADOUR** by Riad & Souhair Batal Khoury.



**SACRIFICIAL GIVING:** March 3, 2024: Budgets: \$2,404.00 (Envelopes: \$2,300.00; Loose: \$104.00); Candles: \$82.00; Stole Offerings: \$375.00; Building Fund: \$1,050.00; Fuel: \$413.00.

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](mailto: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.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Anyone who is planning an **ENGAGEMENT/BAPTISM/MARRIAGE RECEPTION PLANS** is kindly requested to notify a member of the clergy **BEFORE** 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!

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE** 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."

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

**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!)*

**SUN SAVING STARTS THIS SUNDAY:** America will push back the hour of darkness starting this Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Daylight savings time is returning, bringing that extra hour of evening light to spend on outdoor projects, sports, and barbecues or just fritter away. The actual moment of change from standard to daylight time occurs at 2:00 a.m. for most of the nation. That's when clocks should be shifted forward an hour. This year, the law calls for the change to be the second Sunday in March. Standard time returns November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the first Sunday in November. The change doesn't really save any daylight -or- time. It simply moves an hour of light from morning to evening by delaying both sunrise and sunset an hour.

**REFLECTION:** "He who has a why to live can bear almost any how." - Friedrich Nietzsche

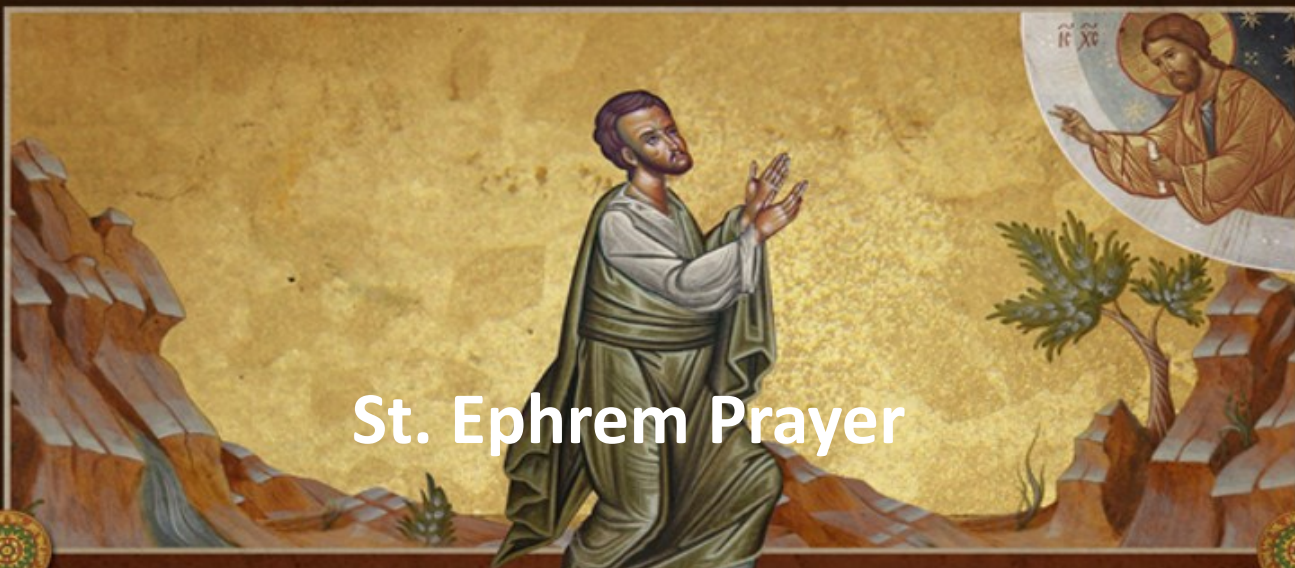
**EASTER FLOWERS:** Many parishioners have followed the long-time tradition of donating lilies to the Church for the Easter Season. If you would like to participate in this tradition, please sign your name on the bulletin board located outside the kitchen area. Since we have a larger sanctuary area to 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.





## St. Ephrem Prayer

O LORD and MASTER of my life,  
take from me the spirit of sloth,  
despair, lust of power,  
and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of  
chastity, humility, patience, and  
love to Thy servant.

Yea, O LORD and King, grant me  
to see my own transgressions,  
and not to judge my brother, for  
blessed art Thou, unto  
ages of ages. Amen.

To emphasize the theme of this prayer--changing our lives--we accompany it with **Great Prostration**, kneeling and touching the forehead to the floor, then standing and making the sign of the cross. When we pray "O God, be gracious to me a sinner, and have mercy on me" 12 times, we make **Small Prostration**, bowing very low, touching the floor with the fingertips of the right hand, then standing and making the sign of the cross. The bows represent the twelve hours of the day, and our awareness of the sins and shortcomings we suffer throughout each day of our life. The Prayer of St Ephrem is one of the main components of Lenten services in the Byzantine Church. It signifies our awareness of our sins and of temptations, it proclaims our faith in the all-merciful God, and it asks for the gifts and graces we need to lead a holy life. During Lent, it is a good practice to recite the prayer of St Ephrem when you get up in the morning and before you go to bed at night.

Both privately and publicly, the Prayer of St Ephrem the Syrian is the characteristic prayer of Great Lent. It reminds us that God is the Master of our lives, and asks God to free us from the sins of everyday life, like pride and gossip and laziness and greed. In it we ask God to give us humility and love of our neighbor, awareness of our own sins, and disinterest in the sins of others. We then pray "O God, be gracious to me a sinner, and have mercy on me" twelve times.

# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA GREAT LENT



## ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH WEEKLY PRAYER SERVICES FOR THE GREAT AND HOLY LENT

Tuesday	6:30 pm	Great Compline
Friday	6:30 pm	Akathist (Hymn to the <i>Theotokos</i> )
Sunday	9:00 am	Divine Liturgy
	11:15 am	Divine Liturgy

### خدمة الصلوات الأسبوعية خلال الصوم الكبير المقدس

صلاة النوم الكبرى—يا رب القوات	الساعة 6:30 مساء	الثلاثاء
صلاة المدائح لوالدة الإله الفاتقة القداسة	الساعة 6:30 مساء	الجمعة
الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهي	الساعة 9 صباحا	الأحد
الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهي	الساعة 11:15	

# Following Jesus Kids bulletin



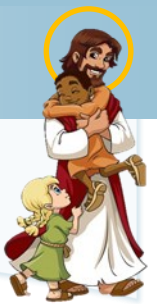
## ByziKids 2024 Countdown to Pascha

Western Calendar Edition

<b>March 17</b> Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt Learn her story and be inspired!	<b>March</b> As we get closer to Pascha, let's practice singing the Troparion... secretly, of course. It's still lent.	<b>March 19</b> Learn about St. Longinus today and how his eyesight was restored by Jesus. How merciful is HE?!	<b>March 20</b> After you receive Jesus in the Eucharist tonight, close your eyes and snuggle with Him a while.	<b>March 21</b> Practice the prayer to the Theotokos today!	<b>March 22</b> Today is the last day of the Great Fast. Passion week is coming soon.	<b>March 23</b> Lazarus Saturday Listen to the gospel story & think about what you would do if you saw that!	<b>March 24</b> Palm/Flowerly Sunday Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!	<b>March 25</b> Great and Holy Monday The Annunciation Mt 21:18-20 Talk with your family about ways you can be a fruitful branch.	<b>March 26</b> Great and Holy Tuesday Mt 24:26-28:20 Keep the light burning for Jesus in your soul!	<b>March 27</b> Great and Holy Wednesday Mt 26:6-16 Tonight YOU can receive HOLY UNCTION	<b>March 28</b> Great and Holy Thursday 1 Cor 11:23-32 Spend some extra time with Jesus in prayer tonight.	<b>March 29</b> Great and Holy Friday Be especially quiet and solemn today in honor of Jesus suffering and death.	<b>March 30</b> Great and Holy Saturday Help your family prepare for the celebration to PASCCHA!	<b>March 10</b> Sunday of St. John the Ladder Step by step, We're getting close	<b>March 11</b> Make "Crown of Thorn Pretzel Rolls" Get the recipe at ByziMom.com	<b>March 12</b> Be a helper like Simon of Cyrene. Help someone with a difficult task today	<b>March 13</b> Set aside a special time to sit before your icon corner and rest with Jesus a while	<b>March 14</b> Help someone whom you are tempted NOT to love today	<b>March 15</b> Tonight, listen for the entrance hymn & pray with the angels when Jesus enters!	<b>March 16</b> Practice the prayer to the Theotokos today	<b>March 3</b> Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross	<b>March 4</b> Review the litany said at Divine Liturgy and think of someone you know for each petition	<b>March 5</b> Do a secret good deed for someone who is in need.	<b>March 6</b> Watch for another opportunity to be a helper today!	<b>March 7</b> Review and discuss the guidelines for proper behavior at Liturgy with your family	<b>March 8</b> Think about the angels today and how your own angel helps you keep the fast	<b>March 9</b> Clean your closets today and consider donating things you've outgrown	<b>February 25</b> Sunday of the Paralyzed Man Practice prayer today!	<b>February 24</b> Remember to practice obedience, as Jesus was obedient to his parents too!	<b>February 23</b> Take time to look outside notice the wonderful things God has made.	<b>February 22</b> Learn about your patron saint	<b>February 21</b> O Joyful Light	<b>February 20</b> Plant some basil seeds in pots today for Pascha Make beeswax candles for your icon corner	<b>February 19</b> Visit someone who is sick or lonely, or maybe send them a card	<b>February 18</b> Sunday of Orthodoxy Gather your icons and have a procession!	<b>February 17</b> Saturday of Theodore the Recruit Read this really cool story at ByziMom.com	<b>February 16</b> Clean Friday Make Kutjja (Kolliva) in honor of St. Theodore's miracle	<b>February 15</b> Clean Thursday Learn the Prayer of St. Ephrem	<b>February 14</b> Clean Wednesday Practice your prostrations	<b>February 13</b> Clean Tuesday It's a great day to clean your room!	<b>February 12</b> Clean Monday The Great Fast Begins! Here we go!	<b>February 11</b> Cheeseare! Forgiveness Sunday: Ask forgiveness of all in your household
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# Following Jesus Kids bulletin

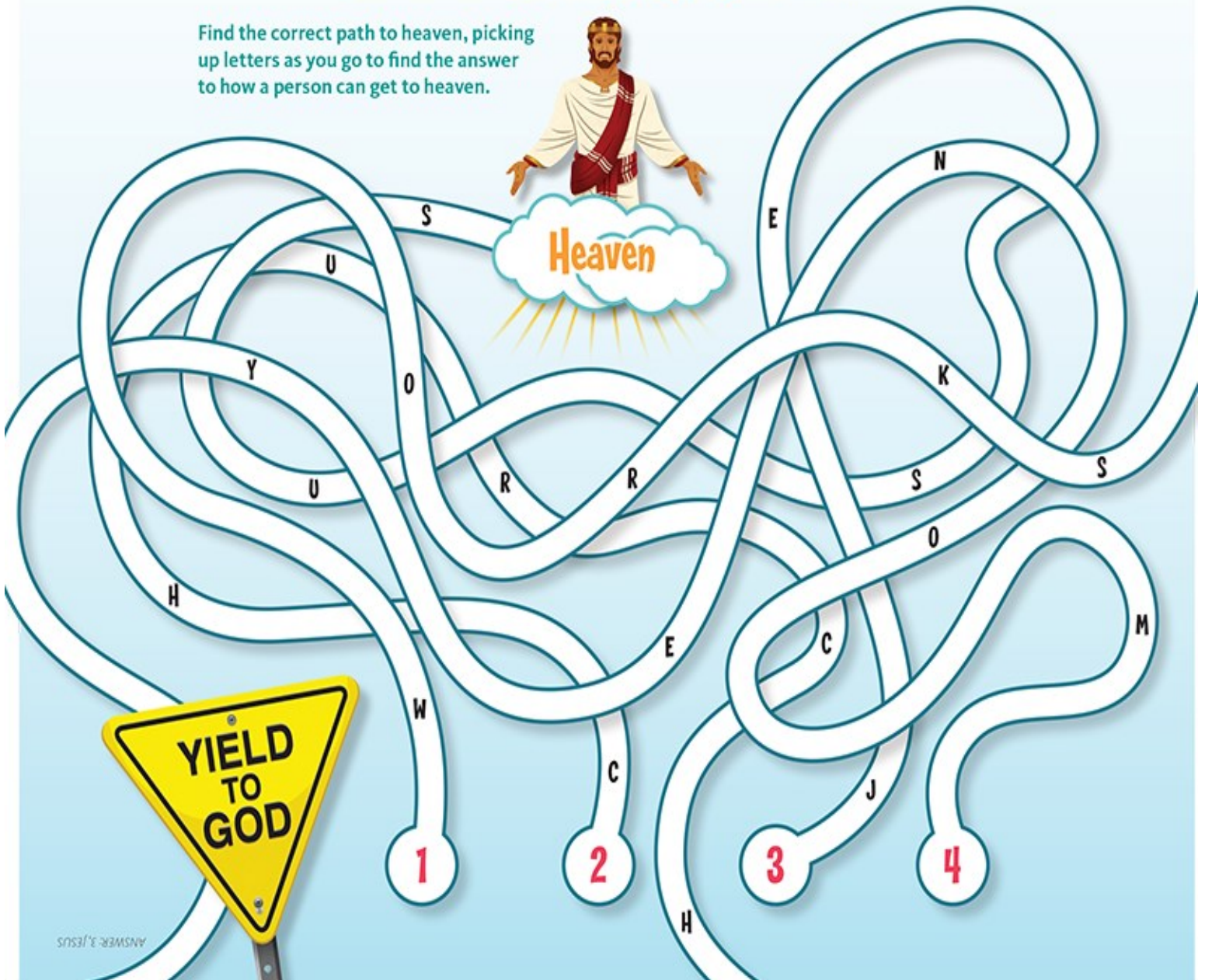


\_\_\_\_\_ is the only way to get to heaven!

Find the correct path to heaven, picking up letters as you go to find the answer to how a person can get to heaven.



Heaven






# 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 21 <sup>ST</sup>	 <i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> <b>Publican and the Pharisee</b> Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week JANUARY 28 <sup>TH</sup>	 <b>The Prodigal Son Returns!</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare FEBRUARY 4 <sup>TH</sup> FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY	 <b>The Last Judgement</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare FEBRUARY 11 <sup>TH</sup> FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	 <b>Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!</b> <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1 <sup>ST</sup> Sunday of Lent FEBRUARY 18 <sup>TH</sup>	 <i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> <b>SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY</b> Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2 <sup>ND</sup> Sunday of Lent FEBRUARY 25 <sup>TH</sup>	 <b>ST GREGORY PALAMAS</b> Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3 <sup>RD</sup> Sunday of Lent MARCH 3 <sup>RD</sup>	 <b>VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</b> <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4 <sup>TH</sup> Sunday of Lent MARCH 10 <sup>TH</sup>	 <b>ST JOHN of the LADDER</b> Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5 <sup>TH</sup> Sunday of Lent MARCH 17 <sup>TH</sup>	 <b>ST MARY of EGYPT</b> 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 24 <sup>TH</sup> GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 <i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> <b>ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM</b> Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY MARCH 29 <sup>TH</sup>	 <b>GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY</b> <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! MARCH 31 <sup>ST</sup> NO FASTING!	 <i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> <b>HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)</b> Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

كان القديس المُكْرَم اليوم عالمًا عظيمًا وعالم تشریح للروح البشرية. رجل صلاة، واعتدال، ومحبة دائمة لله ، ورجل يحب إلهي شديد، ومتألق دائمًا بنار الحب الإلهي، كما يخبرنا (السنكسار) والذي يورد سير القديسين. لقد كان رجلاً قاد روحه إلى شوارع المسيح، الذي قاده من الجحيم إلى الجنة، من الشيطان إلى الله. ليس من قبيل المصادفة أن كنيسة المقدسة قد عينت هذا اليوم لتكريم القديس يوحنا. ففي مسيرتنا الروحية التي نعبرها خلال الصوم الكبير، يعتبر القديس يوحنا السينائي نموذجًا للتوبة والفضيلة لكل منا.

يعود سبب تسمية القديس بهذا الاسم إلى تأليفه كتابًا مهمًا يعتبر من روائع تراثنا الكنسي، "السلم" المعروف ، وهو كتاب روحي ونسكي. يتكون من ثلاثين سببًا للفضيلة ، يتضمن كل منها فضيلة كتبها بنفسه.

يصف القديس يوحنا السلم، أي السلم الذي هو الطريق إلى التأله بأنه صعود مثل الصعود إلى سلم يؤدي إلى الفردوس. كل خطوة فيها فضيلة يجب على المؤمن المجاهد أن ينتصر عليها لتحقيق هدفه. يبدأ هذا الكتاب بالفضائل الأكثر عملية، وهي الفضائل التي يمكن اكتسابها بسهولة والتي لها طابع عملي بشكل أساسي، مثل فضيلة التوبة والطاعة، وينتهي بالفضائل العالية نظريًا مثل التواضع والتمييز. يتم تصنيف كل فضيلة من أجل الافتراض المسبق للفضيلة السابقة وهذا شرط للفضيلة التالية.

تشير الأسباب الثلاثة الأولى، التي تشكل مقدمة هذا الكتاب، إلى إنكار الذات لدى الإنسان الذي يعيش في الدنيا وتهتم الرهبان. الأسباب الأربعة التالية والتي تسلط الضوء على عدد متساوٍ من الفضائل الأساسية، هي الطاعة، والتوبة، وذكر الموت، والحداد المفرح، التي تُقدّم على أنها جذور الشجرة، والتي تقدم للمؤمنين المجاهدين ثمارها. من الخطاب الثامن إلى الخامس والعشرين، تم وصف المشاعر الصعبة التي يجب على كل مسيحي محاربتها والفضائل المقابلة التي يجب أن يستردها. يذكر الخطاب السادس والعشرون عمومًا اهتماماتهم وفضائلهم وأفكارهم وتمييزهم البسيط. الأسباب الأخيرة هي ثمار الكد، وهي الصعود الرمزي إلى قمة سلم الفضائل.

يقول مؤلف الكتاب، لكي تبدأ الحياة في المسيح، يجب على المرء أن يتخلى عن باطل العالم الحاضر. وكلمة "عالم" في الكتاب المقدس ليس لها المعنى الذي ندركه للعالم اليوم. إنه يعني العقل الدنيوي والحياة الدنيوية وليس إخواننا من البشر الذين هم من حولنا. لا يمكن للمرء أن يقترب من الله دون أن يقول لا للخطية وخاصة رغباته الأنانية. لأن هذه الوصايا تجعلنا أسرى في العالم الخاطيء.

فإن الابتعاد عن العالم يعني تغيير عقل المرء الدنيوي، والطريقة الدنيوية في التفكير في الحياة، واكتساب عقل المسيح، أي الطريقة الروحية التي يرى بها المرء الأشياء من حوله.



في الأحد الزّابع من الصّوم الأربعيّ المقدّس، وهو معروف أيضاً بأحد القديس يوحنا السلميّ (نسبة إلى كتاب شهير كتبه بعنوان (سلم الفضائل)). يأتي هذا الإحتفال بتذكّار هذا القديس العظيم وهو مأخوذ من الترتيب والعادة السائدتين في الأديرة المقدّسة، إذ كان يُقرأ فيها كتاب القديس يوحنا السلميّ كقراءة مُحدّدة للرهبان في فترة الصّوم الأربعيّ.

يصف القديس يوحنا في كتابه (سلم الفضائل)، وعبر ثلاثين درجة (أو تعلية)، كيفية ارتقاء الروح نحو الله كصعود سلم الفضائل الإلهية، وهو يُعلم أولئك الذين يسعون إلى الخلاص في كيفية إرساء أساس متين للجهد الروحي. وكيفية تحديد الأهواء ومحاربتها، وسبل تجنّب الفخاخ الشيطانية، وكيفية النهوض من الفضائل الأولى إلى كمال المحبة والتواضع الإلهيين.

تظل كنيسةنا اليوم على وجه القديس يوحنا السينائي المسمى السلمي. ولد في القرن السادس في سوريا. في سن السادسة عشرة أصبح راهبًا تحت الاختيار في دير سيناء المقدس. مارس الطاعة والتواضع بالقرب من أبا الشهيد، بعد أن اكتسب سابقًا الحكمة العلمانية.

في سن العشرين، وبعد أربع سنوات من الجهاد المستمر، أصبح راهبًا وأطلق عليه اسم يوحنا. ثم نال الدرجتين الأولىين من الكهنوت، شماسًا وكاهنًا، لخدمة احتياجات الدير حيث مكث في دير سيناء تسعة عشر عامًا متتالية. ثم في سن الخامسة والثلاثين، تقاعد في مكان مهجور في سيناء حيث مارس بهدوء ودرس كتابات الأب. في سن الخامسة والسبعين تولى رئاسة دير سيناء حيث مكث في هذا المنصب لمدة أربع سنوات. ثم اعتزل في الصحراء ورفد في الثمانين من عمره في 30 آذار.

# The Ladder of Divine Ascent



off the ladder, which is the reality that we constantly face. In fact, the classic icon of St. John and his ladder clearly depicts the successful ascent of those truly holy and spiritually advanced monks, versus those who have succumb to various passions, causing them to fall into the pit of hell.

The following Sunday, the fifth Sunday of the Fast, we commemorate our Venerable Mother, Mary the Egyptian. This former prostitute who sought tearful reconciliation with Christ and became a desert wanderer in order to live out her repentance, is the example par excellence, of the repentant sinner. Her story is quite moving, and very motivating to anyone who is unrepentant and continues to carry the burden of sin.

The Church, in Her Spirit-filled great wisdom, places the memory of St. Mary of Egypt on the last Sunday of Great Lent, as a spiritual “wake-up” call to us to finish the race and accomplish the goal of sincere repentance. If we have truly made some serious efforts during Great Lent, then we hopefully have reached the point of repentance which will lead us to the holy mystery of confession, prior to the celebration of the Lord’s passion and resurrection. We must remember that repentance and confession are key components of the spiritual life, because without them there is no true spiritual life, but only a meager attempt, at best.

So thus, Great Lent comes to a close during the week after the Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt. Specifically, Lent ends on the following Friday at the reading of the 9th hour, immediately preceding the vespers of St. Lazarus, included in the service of the Presanctified Gifts. Many of our faithful do not realize that the forty day fast ends on this particular Friday, and that Holy Week is separate from Great Lent, standing on its own as a solemn week of strict fasting in commemoration of the last days of our Lord on earth. This is important to know, because the focus of Great Lent and Holy Week are different.

Great Lent is a time for deep, personal reflection. The entire spirit of the forty day fast, is that of an intense spiritual journey that brings us back to God through our spiritual efforts, in order to be properly prepared for Holy Pascha, the greatest of all feasts. In contrast, Holy and Great Week is totally focused on the Lord and His passion and burial, hence the strict fast. In Holy Week, we follow the Lord during His last days, and hear his final teachings and warnings about the Kingdom of Heaven and His second glorious coming to earth for the final judgment. As we all know and have experienced each year, the darkness of Holy Week gradually gives way to the brightness and joy of the Resurrection. This is most profoundly exemplified in the Orthros of Holy Saturday, popularly known as the Epitaphios Lamentation, celebrated on Holy Friday evening.

Beloved in Christ, our Orthodox Church is at its absolute best, so to speak, during Great Lent and especially Holy Week. This is not to say that there is anything inferior about the remainder of the liturgical year, which in reality, is actually a reflection of Holy Pascha, which gives light and life to everything we do in the Church. It is precisely because of the magnitude of the feast of Pascha, that such liturgical beauty experienced through hymnography and ritual is presented to the faithful for their spiritual edification.

May we all take advantage of what remains of Great Lent, and thus, be prepared to enter Holy and Great Week with eager anticipation and love for the Bridegroom Christ. This should be the highlight of the year for each and every Orthodox Christian who truly loves the Church.

An important part of understanding our spiritual lives as an ascent, is the possibility of falling down a few rungs, or even completely off the ladder, which is the reality that we constantly face. In fact, the classic icon of St. John and his ladder clearly depicts the successful ascent of those truly holy and spiritually advanced monks, versus those who have succumb to various passions, causing them to fall into the pit of hell.

As we continue on our Lenten journey, I would like to share a few thoughts and reflections on this holiest period of the liturgical year, as well as Holy and Great Week.

During the remaining period of Great Lent, there are two particular Sundays on which I would like to focus. The first of these Sundays, which is the fourth Sunday of the Fast, is dedicated to the memory of St. John Climacus, or St. John of the Ladder.

St. John is commemorated during Lent because of his great spiritual work called The Ladder of Divine Ascent. Although this work was written specifically for the monastic world, the author being a monk himself, St. John’s “Ladder” is a classic work of Orthodox spirituality that speaks to all members of the Church, in all places and in all times. His book presents us with a spiritual ladder ascending to heaven, with each rung representing a particular vice or passion to be conquered in order to proceed upward. The approach is very straightforward and logical, being that going that next step in our spiritual growth necessitates overcoming the sinful obstacles, which have kept us in the state where we presently find ourselves.

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# 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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### **Register:**

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781-899-5500 ext. 134,  
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### Little Sisters of the Poor St. Patrick's Day Dinner

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*Monday, March 18*



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#### PAYMENT METHOD

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

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Other \_\_\_\_\_

# 53rd NATIONAL MELKITE CATHOLIC CONVENTION

## JULY 4-7 2024

*hosted by*

**OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION MELKITE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL**

*at the*

**MARRIOTT BOSTON QUINCY**



*Becoming Disciples.*

*The Emmaus Experience*  
(Luke 24:13-53)

*Making Disciples.*

## 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		
		<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	

### 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		
		<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	

*Make Checks Payable to:*

**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**

**GRAND TOTAL \$**

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

As of 09/15/2023



## St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

15 Skyview Drive Lincoln, RI 02865

Sharing our Faith  
SECURING OUR FUTURE



### Campaign Facts:



**Campaign Goal:** \$1,000,000



**Outstanding Goal:** \$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, [click here](#), or scan this code with your Smartphone Camera!

Jeff Boudjouk: 401-441-2737

Ann Sabbagh: 508-243-1190

Kyle Mardo: 401-578-5369

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