



May 9th, 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.



Sunday of the Man Born Blind أحد الاعمى

Antiphon Prayer

O Christ God, Sun of Justice, You touched the man who was blind since his birth and restored to him his sight. Enlighten our minds. Make us children of Light, so that we may cry out to You full of faith: your mercy is beyond description. For You are our Light and our Sanctification, O Christ God, and to You we render glory, thanksgiving and worship, and to your Eternal Father and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

Troparion of the Resurrection, (Tone 5)

Let us O Faithful praise and worship the Word coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He has willed to be lifted in the flesh upon the Cross, and to endure death, and to raise the dead by his glorious Resurrection.

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 Immortal one...

Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 16: 16-34

You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation. Stichon: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any holy man, for truthfulness has vanished from among the children of men.

READING from the Acts of the Apostles

In those days it came to pass that as we the disciples were going to pray; we were met by a girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her masters much profit by her soothsaying. Now, she was following Paul and us, and kept crying out loudly, "These men are servants of the most high God, and they announce to you a way of salvation!" This she did for many days. But Paul could not stand it, so he turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ: get out of her!" And it went out of her that very moment. But seeing that their hope of profit was gone, her masters seized Paul and Silas and dragged them to the market-place before the authorities; and bringing them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city. They are Jews, and they advocate practices it is not permitted for us to adopt or observe, since we are Romans."

And the crowd opposed them too, and the magistrates tore off their cloaks and ordered them to be beaten with rods. And after inflicting many blows on them, they threw them in jail, ordering

صلاة الأنديفونة

أيها المسيح الإله، يا شمس العدل، يا من لمسنا الفاقة البؤس منذ ولادته، فأعاد إليه البصر، أنز أيضاً أبصار نفوسنا، وأظهرنا أبناء النهار، فنهنف إليك يايمان: إن تحننك علينا لا يوصف، لأنك أنت نورنا وتقديسنا أيها المسيح الإله، واليك نرفع المجد، وإلى أبليك الأزل وروحك القدوس، الآن وكل أوان ولى دهر الداهرين

نشيد القيامة باللحن الخامس

لنشيد نحن المؤمنين ونسجد للكلمة، الأزل مع الآب والروح، المولود من العذراء لخلاصنا. لأنه ارتضى. أن يبعث بالجدس على الصليب، ويحمل الموت، وينهض الموتى بقيامته المجيدة.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

لقد ذاع منطقتك في كل الأرض. فانها قد قبلت كلامك، الذي به بينت العقائد بياناً إلهياً، وأوضحت طبيعة الكائنات، ونظمت أخلاق البشر. فيا أيها الآب البار ذو الكهنوت الملوكي، إبتهل إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا. فندناك الختام وإن نزلت إلى القبر...

مقدمة الرسالة

أنت يا رب تحفظنا وتحمينا من هذا الجيل وإلى الدهر خلصني يا رب فإن البار قد في لأ الحقيفة قد ضغقت عند بني البشر

أعمال الرسل (16: 16 - 34)

في تلك الأيام، فيما نحن الرسل ذاهبون إلى الصلاة، استقبلتنا جارة بها زوج عرافة، وكانت تكسب مواليتها كسباً جزيلاً بعرافتها. فطفقت تمشي في إثر بولس وأثرنا وتصيح قائلة: هؤلاء الرجال هم عبيد الله العلي، وهم يبشرونكم بطريق الخلاص. وفعلت ذلك أياماً كثيرة. وإذ صجر بولس، التفقت وقال للروح: إني أمرك باسم يسوع المسيح أن تخرج منها. فخرج في تلك الساعة. فلما رأى مواليتها أنه قد ذهب رجاء مكسبهم، قبضوا على بولس وسيلاس، وجزوهما إلى السوق. عند الحكام، وقدموهما للولاة قائلين: إن هذين الرجلين يبلبلان مدينتنا. وهما يهوديان، ويناديان بعبادات لا يجوز لنا قبولها ولا العقل بها إذ نحن رومانيون. فقام عليهما الجمع. ومزق الولاء ثيابهما وأمزوا أن يضربا بالعصى. ولما أثنوهما بالجراح، ألقوهما في السجن، وأوضوا السجان بأن يحرسهما بضبط. وإذ أوصى السجان بمثل تلك الوصية، ألقاهما في السجن الداخلي، وضبط أرجلهما في المقطرة،



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.

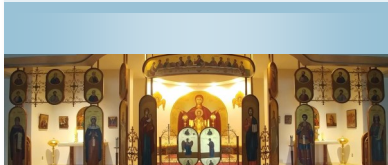
<https://melkite.org/maya>

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>



the jailer to keep them under safe guard. And he, receiving this command, consigned them to the inner jail and fastened their feet in the stocks.

But at midnight, while Paul and Silas were singing hymns to God, the prisoners listened to them. And suddenly, there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the jail were shaken, and at once all the doors flew open and everyone's chains came loose. But when the jailer woke up and saw all the doors of the jail open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, thinking the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Do not hurt yourself, for we are all here!" Then calling for a light, he ran in, and trembling with fear, fell at the feet of Paul and Silas. And he let them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" And they replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you shall be saved together with your household."

And he spoke to him the word of the Lord, and also to all his household. And he took them at that same hour of the night, and washed their wounds; and he himself was baptized, and all those of his household immediately after. And taking them into his house, he set a table before them, and rejoiced with all his household over his faith in God.

ALLELUIA (Tone 5)

Your favor, O Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation, my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness. Stichon: For you have said, "My kindness is established forever." In heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

At that time as Jesus was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who has sinned, this man or his parents, that he should be born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither has this man sinned nor have his parents, but the works of God were to be made manifest in him. I must do the works of the one who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world." When he had said these things, he spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle, and spread the clay over the man's eyes, and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam (which is interpreted 'sent')." So, he went away, and washed, and returned seeing. The neighbors therefore and those who had seen earlier that he was blind began saying, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is." But others said, "He only looks like him." Yet, the man declared, "I am the one." They therefore asked him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered and said, "The man who is called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' And I went and washed, and I see." And they asked him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They took the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. Now, it was a Sabbath on which Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Again, therefore, the Pharisees asked him: how he received his sight. But he said to them, "He put clay upon my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner work these signs?" And there was a division among them. Again therefore they said to the blind man, "What do you say of the one who opened your eyes?" But he said, "He is a prophet." he Jews therefore did not believe of him that he had been blind and had got his sight, until they called the parents of the one who had gained his sight, and questioned them, saying, "Is this your son, of whom you say he was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered them and said, "We know this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we ourselves do not know. Ask him; he is of age, let him speak for himself." These things his parents said because they feared the Jews. For already the Jews had agreed that if anyone were to confess him to be the Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. This is why his parents said, "He is of age; question him." They therefore called a second time the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give glory to God! We ourselves know this man is a sinner." He therefore said, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know, that whereas I was blind, now I see." They therefore asked him again, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, but you did not listen. Why would you hear a second time? Would you also become his disciples?" They heaped abuse on him therefore and said, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know God spoke to Moses; but as for this man, we do not know where he is from." In answer the man said to them, "Why herein is the marvel, that you do not know where he is from, and yet he opened my eyes. Now we know God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshipper of God, and does his will, him he hears. Not from the beginning of the world has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered and said to him, "You were altogether born in sins, and do you teach us?" And they turned him out. Jesus heard they had turned him out, and when he had found him, said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered and said, "Who is he, Lord, that I may believe in him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen him, and he it is who speaks with you." And he said, "I believe, Lord." And falling down, he worshipped him.

وعند نصف الليل، كان بولس وسيلابُضَلَيَانِ وَيُسْتَحَانِ الله، والمُخْبُوسُونَ بِسَمْعُونَهُمَا. فَخَدَّتْ تَغْتَهُ زَلْزَلَةٌ شَدِيدَةٌ حَتَّى تَزَعِجَتْ أَسُسُ السِّجْنِ، فَانْفَتَحَتْ فِي الْحَالِ الْبُوابُ كُلُّهَا، وَأَنْفَكَتْ فَيُودُ الْجَمِيعِ. فَلَمَّا اسْتَقْبَضَ السَّجَّانُ وَرَأَى أَبْوَابَ السِّجْنِ مَفْتُوحَةً، اسْتَلَّ السَّيْفَ وَهَمَّ أَنْ يَقْتُلَ نَفْسَهُ، لَظَنَهُ أَنَّ الْمَخْبُوسِينَ قَدْ هَرَبُوا. فَناداهُ بُولُسُ بِصَوْتٍ عَالٍ قَائِلًا: لَا تَفْعَلْ بِنَفْسِكَ سُوءًا، فَإِنَّا جَمِيعًا هَهُنَا. فَاسْتَدْعَى بِمَصْبَاحٍ وَوَثَبَ إِلَى دَاخِلِ، وَخَرَّ لِبُولُسَ وَسِيلَا وَهُوَ مُرْتَبِعٌ. ثُمَّ خَرَجَ بِهِمَا وَقَالَ: يَا سَيِّدَيَّ، مَاذَا تَبْتَغِي لِي أَنْ أَصْنَعَ لَأَخْلَصَ؟ فَقَالَا: آمِنْ بِالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، فَتَخْلَصْ. أَنْتَ وَأَهْلُ بَيْتِكَ. وَكَلَّمَاهُ وَجَمِيعَ مَنْ فِي بَيْتِهِ بِكَلِمَةِ الرَّبِّ. فَاتَّخَذَهُمَا مِنْ تِلْكَ السَّاعَةِ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ، وَغَسَّلَ جِرَاحَهُمَا، وَاعْتَمَدَ مِنْ وَقْتِهِ، هُوَ وَذَوُوهُ أَجْمَعُونَ. ثُمَّ أَصْعَدَهُمَا إِلَى بَيْتِهِ، وَقَدَّمَ لَهُمَا مَائِدَةً، وَابْتَهَجَ مَعَ جَمِيعِ أَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ، إِذْ كَانَ قَدْ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ.

هَلْلُويا
بِمَزَامِجِك يَا رَبُّ ارْتِمِ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، إِلَى جِيلٍ فَجِيلٍ أَعْلُنْ حَقِّكَ
بِقِي
لَأَنَّكَ قُلْتَ: إِنَّ الرَّحْمَةَ ثَبَّتِي إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، وَفِي السَّمَاوَاتِ يُثَبِّتُ حَقِّكَ.

الإنجيل أحد الاعمي (الاحد السادس بعد الفصح)

في ذلك الزمان، فيما يسوع مجتاراً رأى إنساناً أعمي منذ مولده. فسأله تلاميذه قائلين: يا معلم من أخطأ. أهذا أم أبواه حتى يولد أعمي؟ أجاب يسوع: لا هذا أخطأ ولا أبواه، لكن لتظهر أعمال الله فيه. ينبغي لي أن أعمل أعمال من أرسلني ما دام النهار. سيأتي الليل الذي لا يستطيع أحد فيه عملاً. ما دمتم في العالم فانا نور العالم. قال هذا وتقل على الأرض وصنع من تفلته طيناً ووطى بالطين عيني الأعمي. وقال له: اذهب واغتسل في بركة سلوام – ومعنى الكلمة: المرسل – فمضى واغتسل وعاد بصيراً. فالجيران والذين كانوا يرونه قبلاً أعمي قالوا: أليس هذا هو الذي كان يجلس ويتوسل؟ فقال بعضهم: أنه هو. وقال آخرون إنه يشبهه. وأما هو فكان يقول: أنا هو. فقالوا له: كيف انفتحت عيناك؟ أجاب ذلك وقال: هذا الرجل الذي يقال له يسوع، صنع طيناً ووطى عيني. وقال لي اذهب إلى بركة سلوام واغتسل. فمضيت واغتسلت فأبصرته. فقالوا له: أين ذاك؟ فقال: لا أعلم. فأتوا بالذي كان قبلاً أعمي إلى الفريسيين. وكان حين صنع يسوع الطين وفتح عينية يوم سبت. فسأله الفريسيون أيضاً كيف أبصر. فقال لهم: جعل علي عيني طيناً واغتسلت فأبصرته. فقال قوم من الفريسيين: هذا الرجل ليس من الله. لأنه لا يحفظ السبت. وآخرون قالوا: كيف يقدر رجل خاطئ أن يعمل مثل هذه الآيات؟ فوقف بينهم شقاق. فقالوا أيضاً للأعمي: أنت ماذا تقول عنه بما أنه فتح عينيك؟ فقال إنه نبي. ولم يصدق اليهود عنه أنه كان أعمي فأبصر حتى دعوا أبوي الذي أبصر، وسألوها قائلين: أهذا هو ابنكما الذي تقولان إنه ولد أعمي؟ فكيف أبصر الآن؟ فأجابهم أبواه وقالوا: نحن نعلم أن هذا ولدنا، وأنه ولد أعمي. وأما كيف أبصر. الآن فلا نعلم. أو من فتح عينيه فلا نعرف، وهو كامل السن فأسألوه، فهو يتكلم عن نفسه. قال أبواه هذا لأنهما كانا يخافان من اليهود. لأن اليهود كانوا قد تعاهدوا على أنه إن اعترف أحد بأنه المسيح يخرج من المجمع. فلذلك قال أبواه إنه كامل السن فأسألوه. فدعوا الرجل الذي كان أعمي مرة ثانية وقالوا له: أعط مجداً لله، فإننا نعلم أن هذا الرجل خاطئ. فأجاب ذلك وقال: إن كان خاطئاً فلا أعلم إنما أعلم شيئاً واحداً هو أنني كنت أعمي والآن أبصر. فقالوا له من جديد: ماذا صنع بك، كيف فتح عينيك؟ أجابهم قد أخبرتكم قبلاً فلم تسمعوا فماداً تريدون أن تسمعوا أيضاً، ألعلمكم تريدون أنتم أيضاً أن تصيروا له تلاميذ؟ فستموه وقالوا: أنت تلميذ ذلك. فأما نحن فإننا تلاميذ موسى. ونحن نعلم أن الله كلم موسى. فإما هذا فلم نعلم من أين هو. أجاب الرجل وقال لهم: إن في هذا لعجبا، أنكم لا تعرفون من أين هو وقد فتح عيني. ونحن نعلم أن الله لا يسمع للخطاة، ولكن إذا أحد أتى الله وعمل مشيئته فله يستجيب. ولم يسمع منذ الدهر أن أحداً فتح عيني من ولد أعمي. فلو لم يكن هذا من الله لما أستطاع أن يفعل شيئاً. أجابوا وقالوا له: إنك بجملتك قد ولدت في الخطايا وأنت تعلمنا فطرده خارجاً. وسمع يسوع أنهم طردوه خارجاً، فوجده وقال له: أتؤمن أنت بآب الله؟ فأجاب ذلك وقال: ومن هو يا سيد لأؤمن به؟ قد قال يسوع: قد رأيته وهو الذي يكلمك فقال له أنا أؤمن يا رب، وسجد له.



SACRIFICIAL GIVING: April 25, 2021: Budgets: \$2,329.00; Envelopes: \$2,304.00; Loose: \$25.00; Stipends: \$350.00; Candles: \$125.00; Addit'l Melkite Support: \$30.00.; Addit'l Easter: \$50.00; Cemetery: \$258.00; Building Fund: \$40.

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.

FATHER DANIEL NASSANEY UPDATE: Blessings to all! Thanks for all your help and support. It has been a week now that I was operated on. It seems that the operation was a success. The surgeon had to remove my medial gastrocnemius muscle. He was able to remove the total tumor and has good hope that nothing has spread. I have had no pain. I came back to our house in Tewksbury Monday night. I shall be having physical therapy and the healing process will be extended. What is next is in God's hand. I thank you all for your prayers, warm wishes, rides, cards and notes. Easter is indeed the time of healing.

REFLECTION: *Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.*

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.





Divine Liturgy Intentions



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.



TODAY, SATURDAY, MAY 8, AND SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2021: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER. SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN.

MOTHER'S DAY.

4:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

For the special intentions of all the MOTHERS of the Parish (both living and deceased) on the occasion of MOTHER'S DAY.

11:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

For the special intentions of all the MOTHERS of the Parish (both living and deceased) on the occasion of MOTHER'S DAY.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL OUR MOTHERS NEAR AND FAR, LIVING ON EARTH OR ALIVE WITH GOD AND THE SAINTS. MAY THEY ALWAYS BE PROUD OF US AND MAY WE ALWAYS BE FULLY WORTHY OF THEIR LOVE!!!!



LITURGY OR MASS INTENTIONS



Mass intentions can be scheduled for those who have died, and on the occasion of a birthday, wedding anniversary, for healing for the conversion of sinners, for the grace to face the challenges in life, for the success in a new job, for those serving in the church and country in different levels, for good weather, bountiful harvest, for world peace, in thanksgiving for the blessings received, etc. You can find so many reasons to think about a Mass offering. We offer the Mass for a specific intention because we believe in the immense spiritual value of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The custom of giving offering to have Liturgies said for specific intentions is a laudable one and should be maintained as much as possible. Church teaching and Canon Law (nos. 942-958) provide important guidelines on how to preserve the dignity and appreciation of this practice. Overall, it should be well noted that Liturgy offerings are never to be viewed as a means of parish fundraising.

COMMEMORATIONS OF THE DEAD: The Apostolic Constitutions refer to the repetition of the Mass on the third, ninth and fortieth days: "Let the third day be observed in remembrance of the dead with psalms, lessons, and prayers, because Christ rose from the dead on the third day. Let the ninth day be observed in remembrance both of the living and the dead, and also the fortieth day, in accordance with mourning customs of the Israelites at the time of Moses' death. Finally, let the anniversary day be observed in memory of the dead."

In contemporary Byzantine practice, the dead are commemorated on the ninth and fortieth days and on the anniversary of their departure from this world.

Formerly under the jurisdiction of the local Latin Ordinaries before the Exarchate was established under the leadership of the late Bishop Justin Najmy of this Parish, all Melkites have been subject to the latter since its erection in 1966. The Constitution of the Melkite Eparchy which is now a sole Diocese since 1976 still acknowledges this definitive protocol. Our parishes follow local discipline in the various customs e.g., clergy attire, stipends (Mass Offerings), etc. except in Liturgy and Ritual. Our relationship with the local Latin Dioceses and Latin pastors must be permeated with a spirit of love and friendship and cooperation.

Effective January 1, 2008, which by-passed us, the schedule of offerings for Masses in parishes is now \$25.00; Funerals: \$300.00; Weddings: \$300.00.

Canon Law prohibits accepting stipends or offerings for Masses more than one year in advance (rolling calendar) Canon 953. The time within which Masses must be celebrated (1 year) begins the day the intention is received (Canon 955 #2.)

May the memories of our beloved deceased be eternal and many thanks for your understanding and undivided attention in regard to these guidelines and restrictions.

What Can We Learn from the Healing of the Man Born Blind?

A literal reading of this event tells us that a man who was physically blind from birth was healed by Jesus on the Sabbath. The authorities focus on the fact that Jesus performed this healing on the Sabbath and accuse Him of not “keeping the Sabbath”—therefore accusing Him of sin and asserting that He cannot be sent from God. In their misunderstanding of the law and in their pride that made them fearful of losing their influence over the people, they remained closed to the work and presence of God in their midst. In this way, they too were blind—spiritually blind.



What We Can Learn
The true light has come into the world and He is Jesus. We receive this light that enlightens mankind when we are baptized. At baptism, we promise to live in the light and give testimony to Him. But, we must not be prideful in this fact; we must honor and be faithful to our baptismal promises. Nor must we be afraid of doing so. It is at our baptism (and even prior) that our conversion

But if we read carefully, we will see that it was not only the authorities who were blinded by pride and ignorance. Others were blind as a result of their own circumstances and beliefs, even good people such as the apostles. This should serve as a warning to us today to be on guard against pride, ignorance and sin in our own lives and to be prepared, by the grace of God, to recognize it, root it out and leave it behind. We can see at least four groups of people who are blind, in some fashion, in this story:

1. The Apostles

As the recounting of the event begins, we read that the disciples asked Jesus, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Although the Apostles had been with Jesus for an extended time, they clung to the common belief of the day that some particular personal sin was the cause of this man’s physical blindness. Some Jews would have thought that the man was guilty of some personal sin committed before birth, while others might have believed his blindness was due to the personal sin of his parents or other ancestors. The question raised by the apostles suggests they believed the same or possibly that the blindness was in anticipation of some sin of the man committed after he was born. Jesus does not answer their question in general, but does answer in regards to this particular man, “Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.”

While it is true that death and suffering in the world are the result of sin, both Original and personal, we must remember that even the righteous suffer. This is clearly taught in the Old Testament story of Job.

2. The Man Born Blind

Here was a man born blind for the glory of God. That his physical suffering prepared him to be open to receive the Light of Christ is apparent. We will see his stages of conversion in just a moment and see how his response can guide each of us in our day.

3. The Parents

At first, the authorities doubted that the man was actually blind prior to his “healing.” So they called in the man’s parents to receive their testimony. His parents were afraid of being expelled from the temple, so in their fear would only attest to his blindness from birth; they would not acknowledge his healing as God’s work, but instead told the authorities to ask their son themselves.

4. The Pharisees

As said above, these men were puffed up in pride and were also afraid of losing their position and influence, so they refused to see the obvious—as such, they were the truly blind.

began. If we were baptized as infants, there came a time when we had acquired the use of reason when we needed to take on personally this act of conversion and surrender to the Lord. But as we should know, just as there are stages of conversion leading to that acceptance of Christ, the conversion continues until the time of our death.

There will be times when we want to cling to the ways of the world and the pressure of our peers. We will be tempted in pride to assert that we know better than God and to do it “our way.” There will be times when we are afraid—afraid of losing acclaim, acceptance, wealth, prestige, and even what we mistake for love—and we will be tempted to reject the Light of the World. The message of the world is loud and persistent, and if we let it, the message can be persuasive. We will be tempted to deny the obvious—the one thing we do know with certainty—and to accept the lies of the evil one. Let’s look at the example of the man born blind for guidance.

Because this man was open to the truth, the darkness gave way to the Light and his spiritual blindness was healed also. Throughout our own days, we too are called to this ever deepening relationship with the Lord, even beyond the point of calling Him Lord and worshiping Him. This conversion must continue to deepen so that our communion with Him will deepen and we will attain our supernatural end. The irony of the confrontation between the man and the Pharisees is shared by us in our daily confrontation with the world and our own temptations.

This man who was supposedly an inferior of the Pharisees was the more enlightened of the two. And we Christians who are not of the world, but are nonetheless in the world, are to be the more enlightened of the two also.

The Pharisees absurdly demanded that this man deny the one thing of which he was certain—that he had been born blind that the Lord had restored to him his sight; they demanded that he accept their spiritual blindness as truth and embrace darkness as light. We can look to our own encounters with the world and see the times when we are asked to deny the one thing that we know with certainty—the love and grace of Christ our Savior—and instead we are asked to embrace the sin that this world demands that we mistakenly see as enlightenment. Absurd! Really! Could anything be more absurd than to give up eternal happiness and blessedness for a destructive pleasure and a lie?

May we ever cling to the Light that banishes the darkness which is all around us. When the world, in its own language, twists the meaning of the words of the man whose sight was restored and asks us, “Do you want to become his disciple, too?”... let us shout, unafraid and in loving faithfulness, “We do and we are!”

أما القديسة العذراء.. فضائلها وإيمانها..



أبويها وإزداد نموًا بوجودها في الهيكل وصلواتها وتضرعاتها المستمرة وحفظها لكلام الرب الذي كانت تخبئه داخل قلبها.

و لكي ندرك مقدار وعظمة إيمان العذراء لنقارنه بإيمان زكريا الكاهن

إن الكاهن الشيخ لم يصدق كلام الله الذي يتم في حينه (لو 20:1) فلم تكن معجزة ولادة يوحنا من أم عاقر وأب شيخ، هي المعجزة الأولى في التاريخ إذ سبقتها معجزات، فهذا إسحق قد وُلد من إبراهيم ذو المائة عام وسارة العاقر (تك 18)، وآخرون كثيرون : صموئيل من حنة (1صم1)، وشمشون من منوح وزوجته (قض13)، ويعقوب وعيسو من رفقة (تك 25)، ويوسف من راحيل (تك 31:29). ولكن المعجزة التي لم يسبق أن حدث مثلها في التاريخ من قبل هي معجزة ولادة المسيح من عذراء بدون زرع بشر، ولكن مع ذلك فإن الأمر السهل لم يصدق زكريا، والأمر الأصعب قبلته العذراء إذ كان لديها رصيد جبار من الإيمان.

كان إيمان العذراء يتصف بثلاث صفات: أ- إيمان بلا شك:

عندما بشر جبرائيل الملاك العذراء بميلاد المسيح قالت له مريم: "...ليكن لي كقولك..." (لو 38:1)

لقد فاقت العذراء الكثير من القديسين والقديسات فهذا سارة عندما سمعت بشارة الملائكة بميلاد إسحق ضحككت وقالت: "...أبعد فئاني يكون لي نعمة وسيدي قد شاخ..." (تك 18:12). ليس سارة فقط لكن هذا توما الرسول يشك في قيامة السيد المسيح من بين الأموات، وبطرس الرسول الذي إشتهر بكلمة: "إن شك فيك الجميع فأنا لا أشك" قال له السيد المسيح: "...يا قليل الإيمان لماذا شككت..." مع ان العذراء مريم سألت الملاك: "...كيف يكون هذا..." إلا إنها حينما رد عليها الملاك: "...الروح القدس يحل عليك..." لم تتساءل للمرة الثانية بل آمنت وقالت: "...ليكن لي كقولك..."

ب- إيمان بلا جدال:

هناك الكثير من النعم التي نفقدها إذا جادلنا وناقشنا وسألنا بعقلنا الجسدي وحكمتنا البشرية. لم يكن غريبًا أن عاقراً تلد ولكن الغريب أن تلد عذراء لهذا قال الرب على لسان أشعياء النبي العظيم: "...يعطيكم السيد نفسه آية، ها العذراء تحبل وتلد ابناً..." (أش 7:14) ومعروفة قصة سمعان الشيخ وتفكيره في هذه الآية.

هناك الكثير من أنبياء العهد القديم قد طلبوا من الرب علامات:

- * موسى النبي حين أرسله الله وأعطاه علامات تحويل العصا إلى حية وتحويل يده السليمة إلى برصاء (خر4).
 - * جددون وعلامة جزة الصوف (قض6).
 - * حزقيا الملك ورجوع ظل الشمس 10 درجات (2مل 20: 9)
 - * زكريا الكاهن وعقوبته بالصمت .
- أما العذراء مريم فلم تطلب لا من الرب ولا من ملاك الرب أي علامة .

ج- إيمان بلا خوف:

كثيرون من الذين رأوا الرب أو تكلموا معه أصابهم الخوف مثال أشعياء النبي (أش 6:5)، ومنوح وزوجته (قض 13:23). لقد وضع الملاك غريال القديسة مريم في موقف مشابه للموقف الذي كان فيه إبراهيم وسارة حينما سمعا كلمة الله من فم الملاك

* أخبر الملاك العذراء مريم عن حبل أليصابات التي كانت عاقراً فآمنت. والثلاث رجال أخبروا إبراهيم عن حبل سارة أمركته التي كانت عاقراً فآمن.

* الملاك يقول لمريم: "ليس شيء غير ممكن عند الله..." (لو 1:37). وقال الرب لإبراهيم: "...هل يستحيل على الرب شيء..." (تك 18:14) على العكس تماماً سارة لم تؤمن بكلام الملاك وكذلك زكريا الكاهن حتى إن نفس الكلام الذي قالته سارة في (تك 18: 12) كرره زكريا في (لو 1: 18). * كل بركات العهد القديم من إبراهيم حتى العذراء مريم كان بدايتها إيمان إبراهيم، وكل بركات العهد الجديد كان بدايتها إيمان العذراء مريم.

لا توجد امرأة تنبأ عنها الأنبياء وأهتم بها الكتاب مثل مريم ... رموز عديدة عنها في العهد القديم وكذلك سيرتها وتسبحتها والمعجزات في العهد الجديد.

وما أكثر التمجيدات والتأملات التي وردت عن العذراء في كتب الآباء التي تلقبها بها الكنيسة مستوحاة من روح الكتاب. أنها أمتنا كلنا وسيدتنا كلنا الملكة القائمة عن يمين الملك العذراء

دائمة البتولية المملوءة نعمة القديسة مريم الأم القادرة المعينة الرحيمة أم النور أم الرحمة والخلص الكرمة الحقيقية. هذه هي التي ترفعها الكنيسة فوق مرتبة رؤساء الملائكة فنقول عنها في تسابيحها وألحانها: علوت يا مريم فوق الشاروبيم وسموت يا مريم فوق السيرافيم. لم يرد بالكتاب المقدس تاريخ القديسة حنة والقديس يواقيم _ أبوي العذراء مريم _ بل حتى تاريخ السيدة العذراء قبل خطبتها ذلك لأن الكتاب المقدس يركز على اهتمامه على شخصية السيد المسيح وترك باقي الأشياء للتقليد ليدونها ويذكروها للكنيسة المقدسة .

بشارة الملاك جبرائيل للعذراء:

ظهر جبرائيل الملاك للعذراء مريم وبشرها بميلاد الطفل يسوع (لو 1: 26-38) وذلك بعد ستة أشهر من ظهوره لزكريا الكاهن وبشارته بميلاد يوحنا المعمدان.

فضائل العذراء:

إذا كانت العذراء قد استطاعت ان تحوى بداخلها الغير المحوى فلقد تجملت بالفضائل الكثيرة التي أهلتها لذلك ، ولو كان يوجد من يفوقها من بعدها نقاءً وقداسةً لكان الله قد ابطأ قدمه حتى جاء منها لذلك نحن نقول عن العذراء انها قديسة الأجيال وقديسة القديسين.

1- الاتضاع والوداعة

لعل الفضيلة الأساسية والعظمى التي جعلت الرب ينظر إليها انها كانت وديعة إذ قالت "لأنه نظر إلى إتضاع أمته" (لو 48:1).

وقد ظهرت وداعة العذراء مريم في عدة أمور:

أ. احتمال الكرامة:

قد يظن البعض إن احتمال الآلام صعب ولكن يجب أن نعرف إن احتمال الكرامة يحتاج إلى مجهود أكثر من احتمال الآلام والإهانات وقد قال أحد القديسين: "هناك الكثيرون يحتملون الإهانات ولكن القليلين يحتملون الكرامات"

حينما صارت العذراء أماً لله لم تتكبر بل قالت " هوذا أنا أمة الرب" , واحتملت كرامة ومجد التجسد الإلهي منها.. مجد حلول الروح القدس فيها.. مجد ميلاد الرب منها.. ومجد جميع الأجيال التي تطوبها. احتملت كل ظهورات الملائكة لها وسجود المجوس أمام ابنها والمعجزات الكثيرة التي حدثت من ابنها في ارض مصر بل ونور هذا الابن في حضنها.

ب- إنكار الذات

حينما كان الرب في الهيكل وهو طفل صغير وبحث عنه العذراء ولم تجده مع الأقرباء والمعارف وكان معها يوسف النجار، وأخيراً وجدته في الهيكل جالسة وسط المعلمين (لو 44-49) قالت له العذراء "... هوذا أبوك وأنا كنا نطلبك معذبين"

العذراء كانت تعرف ان ابنها ليس ابناً ليوسف ومع ذلك كانت تدعوه أباً له، والأفضل من ذلك أنها كانت تقدمه على نفسها فتقول " ... هوذا أبوك وأنا..." معطية له كرامة أكثر.

ج- خدمة الآخرين:

خدمة الآخرين تكون مبنية على المحبة والتواضع. القديسة مريم ذهبت إلى أليصابات لتخدمها عندما علمت أنها حبلت مع إنها أم المسيح، إلا إنها لم تتمتعها كرامتها من تذهب إلى أليصابات في رحلة مضنية شاقة ومضنية عبر الجبال وتمكث عندها 3 شهور تخدمها حتى ولدت يوحنا (لو 1: 39-56)، فعلت ذلك وهي حبلت برب المجد.

2- الإيمان:

قالت أليصابات للعذراء "... طوبى للتي آمنت أن يتم لها ما قيل من قبل الرب..." (لو 1:45).

في بشارة الملاك للعذراء كشف لنا جوهر الإيمان العميق في حياتها، هذا الإيمان الذي تسلمته من

ولإلهنا المجد الدائم أبدياً آمين.



Happy Mother's day!



Mary, Mother of Jesus, we ask you on this Mother's day
to pray for our own dear mothers.

May your Son, Jesus, reward them for all the care they have
so lovingly given us over the years

May He give them peace of heart
for all the time they have soothed us
in times of trouble or failure

May Jesus give them joy of spirit
for all the times they have healed our wounds
and wiped away our tears

We ask you, Mary, on this day
when we honor and praise our mothers
for their unconditional love and care
that Jesus might bestow upon them
His peace and blessings
and His deepest love.

AMEN

Following Jesus Kids bulletin



Love One Another

Jesus wants us to love each other just like God the Father loves us. Can you think of some ways to show you love the people around you?



1. What can you do to show you love your parents?
2. How can you be loving to your brothers and sisters?

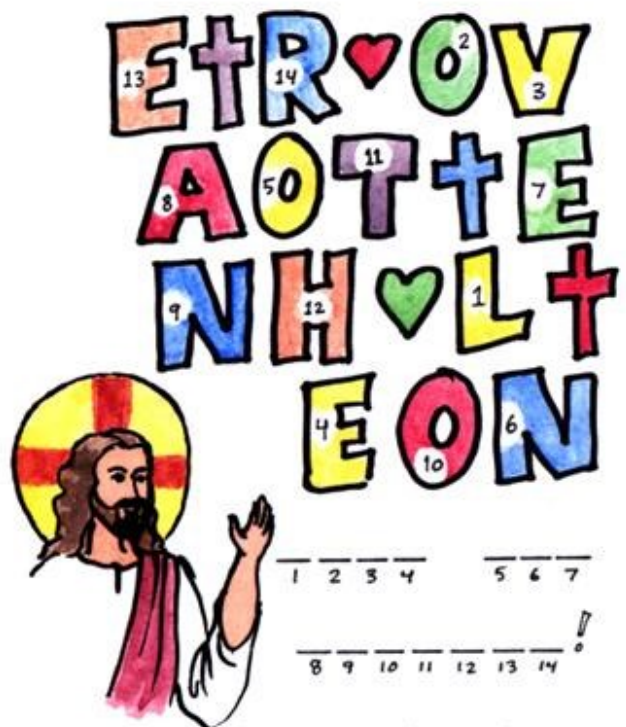


3. What can you do for your grandparents to show you love them?
4. How do you show your friends you love them?
5. What can you do to love someone that doesn't like you?

When someone is loving toward you, think of how that person is being like God the Father and try to be like them!



www.thekidsbulletin.com



What does Jesus ask us to do in today's Gospel reading?
Put the letters in the spaces that match to find out!





LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MAY



أيار - مايو
2021

April 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	

June 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			

Liturgical Symbols:

- Abstain from meat
- Church Major Feasts
- Fast from midnight until noon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 All Saints Sunday أحد جميع القديسين Hebrews 11:33-12:1 Matthew 10:32-38, 19:27-30	31 St Hermias Romans 2:28-3:18 Matthew 6:31-34, 7:9-11					1 Holy Prophet Jeremiah Acts 12:1-11 John 8:31-42
2 Sunday of Samaritan Woman أحد السامريّة Acts 11:19-30 John 4:5-42	3 Sts Timothy and Maura Acts 12:12-17 John 8:42-51	4 St Pelagia Acts 12:25-13:12 John 8:51-59	5 Leave-taking Mid-Paschaltide وداع منتصف الخمسين Acts 13:13-24 John 6:5-14	6 Holy Prophet Job Acts 14:20-28, 15:1-4 John 9:39-10:9	7 Holy Cross over Jerusalem Acts 15:5-12 John 10:17-28	8 St John the Apostle 1 John 1:1-7 John 19:25-27, 21:24-25
9 Sunday of Man born Blind أحد الأعمى Acts 16:16-34 John 9:1-38	10 St Simon the Apostle Acts 17:1-9 John 11:47-54	11 Foundation of Constantinople Sts Cyril and Methodios Acts 17:19-28 John 12:19-36	12 Leave-taking of Easter وداع الفصح Acts 18:22-28 John 12:36-47	13 Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ صعود ربنا يسوع المسيح Acts 1:1-12 Luke 24:36-53	14 St Isidore Acts 19:1-8 John 14:1-11	15 St Achillios of Larissa Acts 20:7-12 John 14:10-21
16 Fathers of 1st Council of Nicaea أحد الآباء المجتمعين في نيقية Acts 20:16-18, 27-36 John 17:1-13	17 St Andronicos Acts 21:8-14 John 14:27-15:7	18 Sts Peter, Denis and companions Acts 21:26-32 John 16:2-13	19 St Patrick of Prussa Acts 23:1-11 John 16:15-23	20 St Thalleleos Acts 25:13-19 John 16:23-33	21 Sts Constantine and Helena Leave-taking of Ascension وداع الصعود Acts 26:1, 12-20 John 10:1-9	22 St Rita القديسة ريتا 2nd Saturday of Dead السبت الثاني للراقدين Acts 28:1-31 John 21:14-25
23 Pentecost أحد العنصرة العظيم المقدس Acts 2:1-11 John 7:37-52, 8:12	24 Monday of the Holy Spirit أثنين العنصرة Ephesians 5:8-19 Matthew 18:10-20	25 Third Finding of the Head of St John the forerunner 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 Matthew 11:2-15	26 St Carpus Romans 1:18-27 Matthew 5:20-26	27 St Helladios Romans 1:28-2:10 Matthew 5:27-32	28 St Eutyches Romans 2:14-28 Matthew 5:33-41	29 Leave-taking of Pentecost وداع العنصرة Romans 1:7-12 Matthew 5:42-48

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.



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

“I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live” *John 11:25*

Remember me in your Kingdom

You are invited to the Divine Liturgy for the departed
in the Lord in the Hope of Resurrection
On the last Wednesday of the Month at 6:30 pm

أَنَا هُوَ الْقِيَامَةُ وَالْحَيَاةُ. مَنْ آمَنَ بِي وَلَوْ مَاتَ فَسَيَحْيَا. (يو 11: 25)

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في الأربعاء الأخير من كل شهر الساعة 6:30 مساءً

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



"GOD LOVES THE CHEERFUL GIVER"

2 COR 9:7

Donations are greatly appreciated especially during this pandemic crisis. Please click on the link below to donate.
Thank you and God bless you and yours.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Apply for the Arabic Educational Foundation of RI

**Arabic Educational Foundation of RI
is now accepting college scholarship applications**

**Scholarship Applicants must meet the following
requirements:**

**High school seniors and current undergraduates of Arabic descent
who are or will be enrolled as full-time students at an accredited
college for the 2021-2022 academic year**

Eligibility information and applications can be found on the AEF website or
Facebook. For more information, Please contact
AEF board member: Theresa McMichael at tmc michael@cox.net

DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2021

VISIT www.aef-ri.org

FACEBOOK <https://bit.ly/37wNCBj>

According to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), presently, more than 20% of the U.S. population is fully vaccinated against the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2; the virus that causes the coronavirus disease [COVID-19]). This means that more than 68 million Americans – or about 1 in 5 – have received either one dose of Johnson & Johnson's vaccine or two doses of the vaccines from Moderna or Pfizer/BioNTech. More than 1 in 3 Americans have received at least one dose of vaccine (not yet fully vaccinated). As of this time, people aged 40 and over are eligible to schedule a vaccine appointment in Rhode Island. Information about how to schedule an appointment at a pharmacy or a vaccine can be found at [C19vaccineRI.org](https://c19vaccineRI.org).

In Rhode Island, over 298,000 people (more than 28% of the total population) have already been fully vaccinated, according to RI Health Department data. The vaccines afford people protection from COVID-19. Public health experts have advised that if 80% of a community group is vaccinated “then the need for social distancing and the need for surveillance testing, dramatically decreases and in some cases goes away.” If people don’t want to or can’t accept a vaccine they should remain remote for certain situations.

What is recommended?

Getting vaccinated is especially important as multiple versions of the COVID-19 virus develop (these are called variants), driving up the number of confirmed cases in 19 of the state’s 39 high risk states. It remains strongly encouraged to get vaccinated, regardless of one-shot Johnson & Johnson or 2 doses of Moderna or Pfizer/BioNTech. Any available shot is the best shot.

Additionally, all Rhode Islanders are encouraged to continue protecting their families, households, staff and customers at all times by: (1) Wearing a mask at all times possible; (2) Maintaining a physical distance of at least 6 feet from those not in their household; (3) Cleaning frequently touched or shared objects and washing hands frequently; (4) Limiting interactions with individuals outside of their household; (5) Getting tested often; (6) Getting vaccinated once eligible; (7) Working from home when possible; (8) Limiting non-essential travel out of state especially to hot spot states (states that have > 5% positivity rate).

The State of Rhode Island Updated COVID-19 Guidance and Requirements outlines frequently asked questions relating to restrictions for Businesses, including Houses of Worship (April 9, 2021). Churches may hold services – in indoor and outdoor settings – up to 75% capacity, with at least six feet physical distancing between households. It is also strongly encouraged to provide virtual services as an alternative to in-person services.

As more people are vaccinated, our state is continuing to make progress on easing restrictions while balancing public health and economic needs. Further information related to quarantine, isolation, and travel can be found at the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) website at www.covid.ri.gov.

References:

Rhode Island Guidance on Reopening:

<https://reopeningri.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Protect-Your-Household-Guidance.pdf>

Rhode Island Department of Health provides comprehensive information on all aspects of COVID-19:

<https://covid.ri.gov/?gclid=Cj0KCQjw38->

Reopening: Stay the course on safety

What you can safely do if you're vaccinated – if you're partially vaccinated or not vaccinated, you're more likely to get and spread COVID-19 doing these activities.

Fully vaccinated means you have all recommended doses of a COVID-19 vaccine and more than 14 days have passed since your final dose

CATEGORY	BEGINNING May 7 th	BEGINNING May 28 th
MASK WEARING	Required indoors and if less than 3ft spacing outdoors	Required indoors and if less than 3ft spacing outdoors
INDOOR DINING	80% indoors, 100% outdoors, 3 ft spacing	100% capacity, 3 ft spacing indoors
BAR AREAS	For indoors: seated-only and plexiglass required	Indoor standing service, no plexiglass required
CATERED EVENTS	80% up to 200 indoors, 500 outdoors, recommended/required testing*, outdoor only; standing bar service and cocktail hours	100% capacity with no cap, indoor standing bar service and cocktail hours, open dance floors
HOUSES OF WORSHIP	80% capacity, 3 ft spacing	100% capacity, 3 ft spacing indoors
RETAIL	80% capacity, 3 ft spacing	100% capacity, 3 ft spacing indoors
GYMS, SPORTS & REC	80% capacity, 3 ft spacing	100% capacity, 3 ft spacing indoors
PERSONAL SERVICES	80% capacity, 3 ft spacing	100% capacity, 3 ft spacing indoors
VENUES OF ASSEMBLY	80% up to 500 indoors, no cap outdoors, 3 ft spacing DBR/municipal approval for 2,500+ events	100% capacity with no cap, 3 ft spacing indoors DBR/municipal approval for 2,500+ indoor events
FUNERAL HOMES	80% capacity, 3 ft spacing	100% capacity, 3 ft spacing indoors
OFFICES	80% capacity, 3 ft spacing	100% capacity, 3 ft spacing indoors
SOCIAL GATHERINGS	Up to 25 people indoors, 75 people outdoors	No limit
SPORTS	Apr. 26: Expanded Youth Sports attendance; high-risk indoor sports permitted to have competitions	Out-of-state teams can attend in-state tournaments

*Required for student catered events; strongly recommended for other catered events

1

RHODE ISLAND

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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**JOSEPH RAHEB
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

650 WASHINGTON HIGHWAY
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Certified Public Accountants
Mardo, Lachapelle & Palumbo, LLP
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401-723-1122

Fax : 401-726-6140

Email : jbriden@blaislaw.com

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