



December 6th, 2020

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.

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS. SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT. COMMEMORATION OF OUR FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS NICHOLAS, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA, THE WONDERWORKER.

الأحد العاشر بعد رفع الصليب المقدس و المحيي

Troparion of the Resurrection (2nd Tone)

When You descended to death, O immortal Life, You destroyed Hades by the splendor of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from below the earth, all the heavenly powers cried out to you: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!"

Troparion of St. Nicholas (Tone 4)

O Father and Pontiff Nicholas, the holiness of your life was set before your flock as a rule of faith, an example of meekness and a teaching of temperance; wherefore you acquired greatness through humility and spiritual wealth through poverty. 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.

Kondakion of the Preparation of the Nativity of our Lord

Today the Virgin is on her way to the cave where she will give birth in a manner beyond understanding to the Word who is, in all eternity. Rejoice, therefore, universe, when you hear it heralded: with the angles and the shepherds, glorify Him who chose to be seen as a new-born Babe, while remaining God in all eternity.

Hirmos

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

EPISTLE: St. Nicholas - Heb. 13:17-21.

PROKIMENON: Ps. 115: 15,12 (Tone 1)

Precious in the Lord's eyes is the death of His holy ones.

نشيد القيامة باللحن الثاني

لما نزلت الى الموت، أيها الحياة الخالدة، أمت الجحيم بسنى لاهوتك. ولما أقمت الاموات من تحت الثرى، صرخت جميع قوات السماوين: أيها المسيح ألهنا، يا مُعطي الحياة، المجد لك.

طروبارية القديس نيقولاوس العجائبي اسقف ميراليكية

لقد أظهرتك حقيقة أعمالك لرعيك قانون إيمان ومثال وداعة، ومعلم قناعة. لذلك أحرزت بالإتضاع العلى، وبالفقر الغنى، أيها الأب ورئيس الكهنة نيقولاوس. فتشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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

نشيد الختام قنداق مقدمة ميلاد ربنا يسوع المسيح

اليوم العذراء تأتي الى المغارة، لتلد الكلمة الكائن قبل الدهور، ولادة يُعجزُ بيانها. فأطربي ايتها المسكونة إذا سمعت، ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة، مَنْ شاء ان يظهر طفلاً جديداً. وهو الاله الذي قبل الدهور.

النشيد لوالدة الإله

إنه واجب حقاً أن نُعْبِطُكِ، يا والدة الإله، الدائمة الغبطة، والمُزَيَّنَّة عن كل عيب، وأُمُّ إلهنا يا من هي أكرم من الشروبيم، وأمجَد بلا قياس من السرافيم، يا من ولدت الله الكلمة وَلَيْسَتْ بتولاً، إنكِ حقاً والدة الإله. أياكِ نُعْظَم.

بروكيماتات الرسائل

كريم لدى الرب موت ضفيته.

-بماذا نكافئ الرب عن كل ما أحسنَ به إلينا؟ (لحن





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.

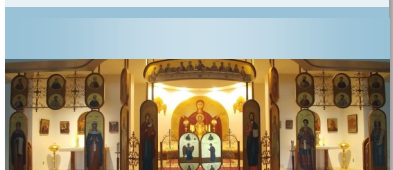
<https://melkite.org/maya>

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>



Stichon: How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done to me?

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

Brethren, obey your superiors and be subject to them, for they keep watch as having to render an account of your souls -- so that they may do this with joy, and not with grief, for that would not be fitting for you. Pray for us, for we are confident we have a good conscience, since we wish to live up-rightly in all things. But I more especially exhort you to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace, who brought forth from the dead the great Pastor of the sheep, our Lord Jesus, in virtue of the blood of an everlasting covenant, fit you with every good thing to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Je-sus Christ, to whom is glory, forever and ever. Amen.

ALLELUIA: Psalm 131: 9 & 13 (Tone 1)

Your priests, O Lord, shall be clothed with holiness, and Your saintly ones shall shout for joy.

Stichon: For the Lord has elected Sion, He has chosen it for His dwelling.

The Holy Gospel

Gospel: 10th of Holy Cross,

Luke 13: 10-17— (Healing of a Crippled Woman)

At that time Jesus was teaching in one of their synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who for eighteen years had had a sickness caused by a spirit; and she was bent over and utterly unable to look upwards. When Jesus saw her, he called her to him and said to her, "Woman, thou art delivered from thy infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and instantly she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant that Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, addressed the crowd, saying, "There are six days in which one ought to work; on these therefore come and be cured, and not on the Sabbath." But the Lord answered him and said, "Hypocrites! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loosen his ox or ass from the manger, and lead it forth to water? And this woman, daughter of Abraham as she is, whom Satan has bound, lo, for eighteen years, ought not she to be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" And as he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame; and the entire crowd rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

الرسالة إلى العبرانيين 13:17-21

يا إخوة، أطيعوا مُدَبِّرِيكُمْ وَأَخْضَعُوا لَهُمْ. فَإِنَّهُمْ يَسْهَرُونَ عَلَى نَفُوسِكُمْ سَهَرًا مِنْ سَيِّئِ ذِي حِسَابًا، حَتَّى يَفْعَلُوا ذَلِكَ بِسُرُورٍ لَا يَكْرِبُ، لِأَنَّ هَذَا غَيْرُ نَافِعٍ لَكُمْ. صَلُّوا مِنْ أَجْلِنا. فَإِنَّا وَاثِقُونَ بِأَنَّ لَنَا صَمِيرًا صَالِحًا، إِذْ نَرْغَبُ أَنْ نُحَسِّنَ النَّصْرَةَ فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ. أَطْلُبُ إِلَيْكُمْ بِأَشَدِّ الْإِحَاحِ أَنْ تَفْعَلُوا ذَلِكَ، حَتَّى أَرُدَّ إِلَيْكُمْ عَاجِلًا. وَإِلَهُ السَّلَامِ، الَّذِي بَعَثَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ رَاعِي الْخِرَافِ الْعَظِيمِ، بِدَمِ الْعَهْدِ الْأَبَدِيِّ، رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ، يَكْمَلُكُمْ فِي كُلِّ عَمَلٍ صَالِحٍ، حَتَّى تَعْمَلُوا بِمَشِيئَتِهِ، عَامِلًا فِيكُمْ مَا حَسَنٌ لَدَيْهِ يَسُوعُ الْمَسِيحُ، الَّذِي لَهُ الْمَجْدُ إِلَى دَهْرٍ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ

هَلْلُويَات الإنجيل

لِيَسْتَجِبْ لَكَ الرَّبُّ فِي يَوْمِ الضِّيقِ، وَلِيَعْضُدَكَ

أَسْمُ إِلَهٍ يَعْقُوبَ.

-يا رَبِّ خَلِّصِ الْعَمَلِكِ، وَاسْتَجِبْ لَنَا يَوْمَ نَدْعُوكَ.

(لحن 2)

إنجيل الليتurgia الإلهية

فصل من بشارة القديس لوقا الانجيلي البشير

(لوقا 13: 10-17)

في ذلك الزمان، كان يسوع يُعَلِّمُ في أحد المجامع يوم السبت، وإذا امرأة بها روح مرضي منذ ثماني عشرة سنة، وكانت مُنْحَنِيَةً لَا تَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ تَنْتَصِبَ الْبَتَّةَ. فَلَمَّا رَأَاهَا يَسُوعُ دَعَاهَا وَقَالَ لَهَا: يَا أَمْرَأَةُ أَنْتِ مُطْلَقَةٌ مِنْ مَرَضِكَ. وَوَضَعَ يَدَيْهِ عَلَيْهَا، وَفِي الْحَالِ انْتَصَبَتْ وَجَعَلَتْ تَمَجِّدُ اللَّهَ فَقَالَ رَئِيسُ الْمَجْمَعِ لِلْجَمِيعِ، وَهُوَ مُعْتَاطٌ لِإِبْرَاءِ يَسُوعَ فِي السَّبْتِ: لَكُمْ سِتَّةُ أَيَّامٍ يَنْبَغِي الْعَمَلُ فِيهَا، فَفِيهَا تَأْتُونَ وَتَسْتَشْفُونَ، لَا فِي يَوْمِ السَّبْتِ. فَأَجَابَهُ الرَّبُّ وَقَالَ: يَا مُرَاتِي، أَمَّا يَخُلُّ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْكُمْ ثَوْرُهُ أَوْ جِمَارُهُ فِي السَّبْتِ مِنَ الْمَذُودِ وَيَتَطْلُقُ بِهِ فَيَسْقِيهِ؟ وَهَذِهِ ابْنَةُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ الَّتِي رَبَطَهَا الشَّيْطَانُ مِنْذُ ثَمَانِي عَشْرَةَ سَنَةً، أَمَّا كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ تُطْلَقَ مِنْ هَذَا الرِّبَاطِ يَوْمَ السَّبْتِ؟ وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا، خَزِيَ جَمِيعُ مُقَاوِمِيهِ، وَفَرَحَ الْجَمْعُ كُلُّهُ بِجَمِيعِ الْأُمُورِ الْجَيِّدَةِ الَّتِي كَانَتْ تَجْرِي عَلَى يَدِهِ.





Divine Liturgy Intentions



TODAY, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020: TENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS. SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT. COMMEMORATION OF OUR FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS NICHOLAS, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA, THE WONDERWORKER.

4:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **VICTORIA THOMAS LAZIEH (27th Anniv.) and ANTHONY S. LAZIEH (43rd Anniv.)** by the Lazieh & Ghazal Families.
- + **GEORGE NASSANEY (31st Anniv.)** by the Lazieh & Nassaney Families.
- + **KEVIN DURNIN** by wife Christine.
- + **ABOUD & ANTOINETTE TAHAN** by Christine.
- + **MARY TAHAN** by sister Christine.
- + **WILLIAM T. ASERMELY** by Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Gaglione & Family.
- + **JOSEPH HARRAKA** by William & Diane Coyle.
- + **CAMELIA KOURY (2nd Anniv.)** by the Family.
- + **ANTHONY KUFFREY (3rd Anniv.)** by Caroline St. Germain & Family.
- + **BARBARA CIMINI** by Jeanne & George Harraka.
- + **ANITA & JOSEPH BRULE** by the Family.
- + **VICTORIA PROCHNIAK** by Sharon & Gregory Landry.
- + **STEVEN KILSEY** by his brother Jeffrey Kilsey.
- + **WAYNE LACY** by Zaky Nassaney.
- + **JAY PAUL** by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- + **ALBERT ALBA, SR.** by Alberta Mardo.

11:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **ALICE SARKAS NASSANEY (40 Day)** by her children Mary Liz & David & Family.
- + **ELIE & SOPHIE ASHKAR** by Michael & Afaf Ashkar.
- + **YOUSSEF AGHIA** by Najib & Saydeh Hana.
- + **FRANCIS A. SAGGAL** by Children & Teachers of Sunday School.
- + **GEORGETTE A. SAGGAL** by Samir & Hanaa Boudjouk.
- + **JEAN LOZE** of Venezuela by Craig & Natalia Kishfy & Family.
- + **ROBERT D. KING** by Joe & Najat Charchafliah.
- + **RUTH PERRY** by Kenneth, Ann, Allyson & Kimberly Sabbagh.
- + **JOSEPH P. AZAR, JR.** by Margaret Sabbagh.
- + **ROSE KHOURY** by Dr. Roland & Micheline Ghanem.
- + **GEORGE BOUDJOUK** by Ron & Tina Isbitsky.
- + **YOUSSEF MADOUR** by Deacon Edmond Raheb & Family.
- + **DR. YUSUF & BLANCHE MUSSALLI** by Anthony & Jayne Mardo.
- + **GEORGE DECKEY** by Hon. Thomas Lazieh & Sons.
- + **GEORGEANNA DECKEY** by Charchafliah Family (Janet, Tony, & Andree).
- + **ELIAS J. KISHFY** by William & Nancy Haddad.
- + **JULIA & FRED KISHFY** by the Family.
- + **ALBERT J. KISHFY** by Kawsar Boudjouk.
- + **JAY PAUL** by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- + **HOLY & FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY** by M/M Joseph Saggal.



Prayer for the dead

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

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



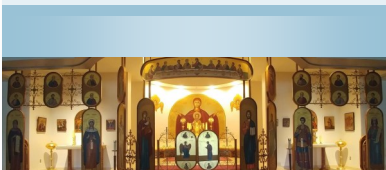


ST. BASIL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

O Jesus, Who has said,
"Ask and you shall
receive, seek and you
shall find, knock and it
shall be opened," through
the intercession of the
Theotokos, Your Most
Holy Mother, I knock, I
seek, I ask that my prayer
be granted.

O Jesus, Who has said,
"All that you ask of the
Father in My Name, He
will grant you," through
the intercession of the
Theotokos Your Most
Holy Mother, I humbly
and urgently ask your
Father in your name that
my prayer will be granted.

O Jesus, Who has said,
"Heaven and earth shall
pass away but My word
shall not pass away,"
through the intercession
of the Theotokos Your
Most Holy Mother, I feel
confident that my prayer
will be granted.



SACRIFICIAL GIVING: November 29, 2020: Budgets: \$1,137.00: Envelopes: \$1,102.00, Loose: \$35.00; Stipends: \$75.00; Candles: \$51.00; Addit'l Melkite Support: \$50.00; Building Fund: \$420.00.

Today, there will be a special collection for the Religious Education Program. Please be generous in your support.

Next weekend, there will be a special collection taken up for your FUEL OFFERINGS. Please help defray the cost of heating the church & rectory, as prices escalate rapidly. Also, we must remember that utilities are more than doubled in our new complex. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

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.

THE BISHOP'S APPEAL: Blessed St. Nicholas, whose feast we celebrate with joy today is the Patron Saint of Charity and the inspiration for all images of Father Christmas and Santa Claus throughout the world. Let us imitate his loving generosity by making a special gift to the Bishop's Appeal for the support of our Melkite Church in America and for our suffering Christians in Beirut from the recent explosion. **Please give an end-of-year, tax-deductible gift to the Melkite Church in America.** Please give generously so the vital works of our Church can continue and grow. Remember our goal this year is \$20,000.00. Let's not shy away from it, but to keep up with past years to receive a gift back from the Diocese because of meeting our quota. Again, may God bless you for your generosity.

The **CHRISTMAS FAST** for the Melkite Church begins **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020.** (The time of this Fast previously was begun on November 15th). Our Diocesan policy at present recommends that we fast from all food and drink from Midnight until Noon each day and abstain from meat and meat products on Wednesdays and Fridays and on Christmas Eve. Let the Holy Spirit lead you in personal preparation for this Holy Season.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: This Tuesday, December 8th, Deacon Dr. Edmond Raheb will celebrate his 91st Birthday. We offer him our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes on reaching this milestone in his life. We thank God for the generous and selfless ministry rendered to our community. Many more blessed years filled with peace, health, and joy.

REFLECTION: A proverb is a short sentence based on long experience. *American (on proverbs)*

MYSTERIES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION: The three Mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation and Holy Eucharist are always celebrated together in one ceremony. One month notice is required and one baptismal preparation meeting is required with the pastor.

MYSTERY OF HOLY CONFESSIONS: In one way or another, we have neglected God. None of us have lived a perfect life. No matter what we have done, we can always return home. Available weekly one hour before the Divine Liturgy or by appointment.

MYSTERY OF HOLY CROWNING: Six month notice, an initial meeting with the priest, marriage preparation sessions are required. You must be an active member of the parish.

MYSTERY OF HOLY ANOINTING: Available for anyone who is ill. Please contact Fr. Ephrem.

IN GOOD STANDING: For your Pastor to sign letters of recommendation, family and student school related papers, character reference or any civil document for a registered parishioner, one must be in good standing with the Church, spiritually and giving noticeable TIME, TALENT, & TREASURE on a regular and continuing basis to our parish.

PLEASE NOTE: There is no charge for the celebration of the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments). However, it is appropriate to offer a gift of thanksgiving. Following are the suggested offerings to the Church for parishioners who request pastoral services. Liturgy \$10.00; 40-Day Memorial \$35.00; Baptism \$75.00; Wedding \$300.00; Funeral \$300.00.

Light of the world!

Jesus the “Light of the world” gave sight to the blind! Spiritual blindness is an extremely prevalent reality. However, spiritually blind eyes can still have their sight restored.

This short article will bring to the light three major reasons for spiritual blindness and then three remedies to conquer this blindness! May Jesus the “light of the world” dispel the spiritual blindness in our souls.

1. Jealousy and Envy. One of the Capital sins is Envy. A definition for envy: “You feel bad because somebody else has something that you do not have and when something bad happens to this person you rejoice.” Cain killed Able due to envy. Saul tried to kill young David because of envy. Joseph was sold as a slave into Egypt due to the envy of his brothers. Finally, one of the principal reasons for the condemnation, crucifixion and death of Jesus was the envy of some of the Jews. Have you ever given into jealousy or envy in your life? Time to repent.

2. Bitter Anger. Anger does not fulfill the justice of God. When the passion of anger has gotten control of your life, it is probably best not to speak and react towards others; this could prove catastrophic. We have to learn to cope with our anger and learn techniques to extinguish the fire and calm down.

3. Impurity. Without a doubt one of the chief causes of modern spiritual blindness is a rapidly increasing viewing and addiction to pornography. One of the principal reasons is the ease of access to pornography. A half a decade ago, porn was available mostly through a magazine or two. However today no matter where one turns he is literally bombarded with impure images : T.V. programs and commercials, Cable, Movies, Magazines, Newspaper advertisements, and most especially the easy access to Internet—the sources never end! It is like an avalanche that has started and in full force. There is barely anything in the world that militates more fiercely against growth in the spiritual life than giving in to impurity. St. Thomas Aquinas, the Angelic Doctor, asserts that impurity causes spiritual blindness and leads even to hating God. Many will reject God, the Church, the reception of the Sacraments because they have become addicts—to one of the tentacles of the ugly octopus of impurity, especially internet porn! May God save us, heal us and restore our sight!

As Jesus healed the blind two thousand years ago, so He is just as powerful today to heal all spiritual maladies and that of course includes spiritual blindness. Our prayer should be: “Lord grant me light to contemplate the beauty of your face now and for all eternity!” Following are three ways that we can use our eyes well so as to glorify God, sanctify our souls and live out the beatitude: “Blessed are the pure of heart for they will see God.”(Mt. 5:8)



1. Meditate on the Word of God. If our mind has been contaminated by indecent and impure images they must be dislodged, purified and discarded. One of the most efficacious tools to rid one’s mind of bad images and to restore spiritual sight is the daily reading, meditating and even memorizing of the Word of God. The Psalmist describes

the Word of God as a light and lantern for our steps. Jesus is the Word of God and the Light of the World who came to dispel darkness and even blindness.

2. Contemplate the Eucharistic God. When Jesus lived 2000 years ago people could not always see Him. When He was in Galilee, He was not at the same time in Jerusalem. In other words, even though Jesus could have been in many places at the same time, He decided to limit His presence to one time and place. Right now we have an extraordinary grace: contact and exposure to the Real Presence of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the most Blessed Sacrament. In all of the Catholic Churches throughout the world Jesus is present in either the Tabernacle or exposed in the monstrance and sometimes both at the same time! He invites all to come to Him: “Come to me all of you who are weary and you will find rest for your souls because my yoke is easy and my burden is light. I am meek and humble of heart.”(Mt. 11:28-30) What a privilege we have right now: to visit Jesus, look at Him present in the Blessed Sacrament and to love Him with all of our hearts. The Psalmist once again invites us: “Look to the Lord and be radiant with joy.”

3. Contemplate the Face of Mary. While praying to Mary it is of great help to have before our eyes a beautiful image of Mary—statue, painting, icon, mural, mosaic, stain-glass window.... Prayer is the lifting up of the mind and heart to God. By contemplating a beautiful image of Mary, such as Our Lady of grace, Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, a transformation takes place in our eyes, mind, heart, soul and even in our body! The scales of our spiritual blindness fall from our interior eyes and we are able to see God and all that refers to God with greater clarity! Indeed among the many beautiful titles given to Mary, several refer to light: Mary, star of the sea, Mary, morning star, Mary, the star of evangelization. Blessed Pope John Paul II in his Apostolic letter on the Rosary, in which he introduced the Mysteries of light, stated that we should strive to contemplate the Face of Jesus through the eyes of Mary. Let us cure our spiritual blindness by contemplating the beauty of the face of Mary, the “Masterpiece of creation”

معجزة المرأة المنحنية



في انجيل اليوم يتحدث لوقا الانجيلي عن معجزة شفاء المرأة المنحنية وفي القسم الثاني يخبرنا عن الجدل يوم السبت .

في القسم الاول يصف لوقا المريضة بانها امرأة كان بها روح ضعف ثماني عشرة سنة وكانت منحنية ولم تقدر ان تنتصب البتة لان عضلات ظهرها ميتة وسلسلتها الفقرية مقوسة لم تستطع الوقوف لمدة 18 عام .

وحدث مع تلك المرأة ما لا يحبه الله للإنسان، فكلمة «إنسان» في اللغة اليونانية «أنثروبوس» تعني الإنسان المنتصب، الذي يرفع عينيه إلى أعلى.

وهذا هو هدف الله من خلق الإنسان، وهذا ما يجب أن يهدف له كل إنسان. ومن يتمتع بإنسانيته بالفعل، هو من ينظر إلى أعلى حيث المسيح جالس (كولوسي 3: 1).

قال الذهبي الفم خلق الله الانسان سويا رأسه الى العلاء ليتجه بعقله ونفسه الى السماء الى خالقه ولم يخلقه كالحيوان ناظرا الى الارض.

ان هذه المرأة جعلها المرض ان تصبغ انسانيته فصارَت كالحيوان تنظر إلى أسفل. لكن بالرغم من ذلك كانت روحها تتطلع إلى أعلى، إلى ما خلقها الله عليه، وما أراد لها. وقد قال الكتاب المقدس: «أَنَّ اللَّهَ صَنَعَ الْإِنْسَانَ مُسْتَقِيمًا» (جامعة 7: 29).

في هذا الجو التقى يسوع بهذه التعاسة وهي تتردد على المجمع ، لقد كانت امينة مع الله ، ففي كل فترة مرضها بقيت تذهب الى بيت الله بانتظام وتستمع لكلمته بالرغم من انحائها ولتشكره ولتصلي له.

فنظر اليها يسوع بحنان وشفقة ودعاها كلمها وضع يديه عليها وغير حياتها ، كما يقول الانجيل عندما لمسها ففي الحال استقامت ومجدت الله. هذه الصورة السريعة عما فعله يسوع ، اذا استولى الخلاص على هذه المرأة وانحلت من الشيطان ومن المرض فصارت حرة والان تمجد الله فرفعت عينها الى السماء .

ألم تلاحظون يا احباي : ان هذه المرأة لم تطلب الشفاء ولكن وجودها في المجمع واستمراريتها وانتظام تعبدها ولجوتها الى الله هو اعلان لرغبتها للشفاء هو طلبا خافتا للمسيح .

هذا يعلمنا ان المسيح يسمع الانين وتنهدات مهما كان خافتا في اعماق القلب ويرى الدموع حتى ان لم نصرخ ونجاهر بالطلب ، فهو يعلم ما نحتاج اليه من قبل ان نسأله .

نلاحظ ايضا ان يسوع عندما لمسها وضع كتا يديه عليها لا يد واحدة وهذا يظهر لنا اقباله وحنانه عليها . وايضا نلاحظ دفاعه عن شفائها عندما هاجمها رئيس المجمع لذا المسيح لم يتركها وحدها بل دافع عنها وقال لرئيس المجمع «أَلَا يَحِلُّ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْكُمْ فِي السَّبْتِ تَوَزُّرُهُ أَوْ جَمَارَهُ مِنَ الْمَذُودِ وَمُضِي بِهِ وَتَسْقِيهِ؟ وَهَذِهِ، وَهِيَ ابْنَةُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، قَدْ رَبَطَهَا الشَّيْطَانُ ثَمَانِي عَشْرَةَ سَنَةً، أَمَا كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ تُحَلَّ مِنْ هَذَا الرِّبَاطِ فِي يَوْمِ السَّبْتِ؟» (آيتا 15 ، 16). وبهذا أضاف المسيح دفاعه عنها إلى بركة الصحة لها.

وبعد ان شفيت استقامت ومجدت الله ونتيجة شكرها فرحت المؤمنين الموحدين.

ايها الاحباء : اراد لوقا الانجيلي من هذا النص الذي سمعناه ان يبرز قدرة يسوع على الشفاء وعلى صلاحه وحنانه وايضا يبرز سلطة وقوة يسوع على قدرة سلطة الشيطان ، هذه القوة هي المدخل التي ستعرف الناس على يسوع انه الرب ، الرب الذي يشفي الرب الذي يحل السبت كما يحل هذه المرأة.

في هذا النص ايضا يظهر لنا لوقا الفرح من خلال تمجيد الشعب كله وتمجيد المرأة الله .

لذلك انجيل لوقا هو انجيل الفرح اذ يخبرنا لوقا بافرح كثيرة في انجيليه مثلا: الفرح بمولد يوحنا المعمدان وبمولد يسوع

الفرح يملأ قلوب الذين يلتقوا المسيح بعد المعجزة

الفرح بعودة الرسل السبعين وهم فرحين

فرح اهالي اورشليم باستقبال السيد المسيح

فرح القيامة

فرح لعودة الابن الضال، فرح عودة الخاطئ.

اذا الفرح هو العلامة المميزة لحضور الله. الفرح هو صدى حياة الله فينا

الفرح هو نتاج علاقة النفس

الشخصية مع الرب يسوع ، الفرح هو الصلاة، الفرح هو القوة هو المحبة . الفرح هو ان ترى الله في كل شيء

هناك شخص سأل رجل مسيحي يوم ما اي مرهم تضع على وجهك لتجعله يلمع هكذا، فأجاب المسيحي مبتسما : " انا لا اضع شيئا على وجهي لكن في قلبي يوجد الرب يسوع .

وقبل عن سمعان اللاهوتي الجديد انه ذات مساء في اثناء صلوات الغروب وهو واقف يصلي بجانب ايقونة المسيح شاهد المسيح الحي في رؤية وحالما حدث ذلك ، غمره احساس عميق من الفرح والبهجة . وكتب من بعد فرحه نشيد من اجمل نشائد ومن اجمل التعابير التي تصف الله.

لذلك المسيح يفرح فينا عندما تنتصب اي عندما نتخلص من روح الشر والكبرياء التي تحنينا وتجعلنا متوطين الراس ، ولكن الذي يجعلنا مرفوعين الراس هو الفرح الذي يكون او الذي يتمثل بان نطبق وصية المسيح بان نطعم الجوعان ونسقي العطشان ونكسو العريان ونعطي الفقراء والمساكين حتى نرث وعد المسيح الملك المعد لنا منذ انشاء العالم.

هذا ما طبقه فعلا القديس الذي نعيده له اليوم وهو القديس نيقولاوس الصانع العجائب، كان محسنا كريما عطوفا على المساكين ومدافعا غيورا على المظلومين وعجائبه اشتهرت في كل مكان لذلك تكرم الكنيسة اكثر من غيره لان الكنيسة لم تعرف محسنا عطوفا مثل القديس نيقولاوس ، اشتهر بالغرب باسم سانت كلوز وعرف في الكنيسة المارونية باسم زخيا ، فهو شفيع البحارة والصيادين والصيرافة والعتالين والتلاميذ.



لذلك يا احباي كل منا يقدر ان يعمل الرحمة ويحسن الى الاخرين على قدر طاقته واذا تعذر عليه الاحسان بالمال او بالطعام فيمكنه ان يصنع الرحمة بالنصيحة والتعليم ، لذلك نحن نخطي اذا كنا لا نسعى للحصول على الملكوت السماوي باحساننا الى يسوع بواسطة احساننا الى اخوته الصغار الفقراء.

لذلك يا احباي فتشوا عن الفقراء وتعلموا الرحمة والاحسان من هذا القديس العظيم نيقولاوس الصانع العجائب الذي وزع كل امواله على الفقراء ، اطلبوا منه ان يملأ قلوبكم بالمحبة والعطف على اخوتكم الفقراء وان تخلصوا من اليوم الدينونة الابدية . آمين



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Holy Prophet Nahum 1 Timothy 5:11-21 Luke 19:45-48	2 Holy Prophet Habakkuk 1 Timothy 5:22-6:11 Luke 20:1-8	3 Holy Prophet Zephaniah 1 Timothy 6:17-21 Luke 20:9-18	4 St Barbara St John the Damascene Galatians 3:23-4:5 Mark 5:24-34	5 St Sabbas the Sanctified Galatians 5:22-6:2 Matthew 11:27-30
6 St Nicholas of Myra 10 th Sunday after Holy Cross الأحد العاشر بعد عيد الصليب Hebrews 13:17-21 Luke 13:10-17	7 St Ambrose of Milan 2 Timothy 2:20-26 Luke 20:27-44	8 Prep of Maternity of Anne, grandmother of our Lord 2 Timothy 3:16-4:4 Luke 21:12-19	9 Maternity of Anne Galatians 4:22-27 Luke 8:16-21	10 Beginning of the Nativity Fast بدء صوم الميلاد Titus 1:5-14 Luke 21:28-33	11 St Daniel the Stylite Titus 1:15-2:10 Luke 21:37-22:8	12 St Spyridon the Wonderworker Ephesians 5:8-19 John 10:9-16
13 Holy Ancestors of Christ أحد الأجداد القديسين Colossians 3:4-11 Luke 14:16-25	14 St Thyrces and his companions Hebrews 3:5-11, 17-19 Mark 8:11-21	15 St Eleutherios 2 Timothy 1:8-18 Mark 2:23-3:5	16 Holy Prophet Haggai Hebrews 5:11-6:8 Mark 8:30-34	17 Holy Prophet Daniel Hebrews 7:1-6 Mark 9:10-15	18 St Sebastian and his companions Hebrews 7:18-25 Mark 9:33-41	19 Saturday before the Nativity السبت الذي قبل الميلاد Galatians 3:8-12 Luke 13:19-29
20 Genealogy of Christ أحد نسب السيد المسيح Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40 Matthew 1:1-25	21 St Juliana of Nicomedia Hebrews 8:7-13 Mark 9:42-10:1	22 St Anastasia Hebrews 9:8-23 Mark 10:2-12	23 Ten Holy Martyrs of Crete Hebrews 10:1-18 Mark 10:11-16	24 Paramony of Christmas بارمون الميلاد Hebrews 1:1-12 Luke 2:1-20	25 Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ ميلاد سيدنا يسوع المسيح Galatians 4:4-7 Matthew 2:1-12	26 Synaxis of the Theotokos محفل مقدس إكراما لوالدة الإله 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Matthew 12:15-21
27 St Joseph the Betrothed St Stephen Sunday after the Nativity الأحد الذي بعد الميلاد Acts 6:8-7:5; 74-80 Matthew 2:13-23	28 Holy Martyrs of Nicomedia Hebrews 11:17-31 Mark 10:46-52	29 Holy Innocents in Bethlehem Hebrews 12:25-27, 13:22-25 Mark 11:11-23	30 St Anysia James 1:1-18 Mark 11:22-26	31 Leave-taking of the Nativity وداع الميلاد James 1:19-27 Mark 11:27-33	Liturgical Symbols:  Abstain from meat  Church Major Feasts  Fast from midnight until noon  Lenten Season	

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.

FOLLOWING JESUS—KIDS BULLETIN



What do the Symbols of Christmas Mean?



Star represents the bright star that shone the night Jesus was born. *"Where is the new born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and have come to worship him." Matthew 2:2*



Candy cane represents the shepherd's staff. Christ is also called the Good Shepherd. *And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. Luke 2:8*



Gifts represent the gold, frankincense and myrrh. *...And when they opened they had opened their treasures, they presented him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2:11*



Evergreen tree represents the eternal life. *For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16*



Christmas carollers represent the multitude of angels that sang on the night Jesus was born. *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest..." Luke 2:13-14*



Christmas candles and lights represent the light that Jesus has brought to the world. *To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1:79*



Holly Berries represent the blood that Christ shed for us. *For this is my blood of the new testament which is shed for many remission of sins. Matthew 26:28*



Nativity scene represents the scene in the manger where Jesus was born. *And she brought for her firstborn son, and wrapped him swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn. Luke 2:7*



Christmas wreath represents the crown of thorns that Jesus wore when he was crucified. *The soldiers made a crown of long, sharp thorns and put it on his head... John 19:2*



Christmas Bells represent the call of mankind to worship the Lord. *For the Son of man came to seek, and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10*



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Saturday 2:30 - 3:30 P.M. and Sunday 9:30 - 10:30 A.M.



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2 COR 9:7

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office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com

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

Remember me in your Kingdom

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

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

اذكرني في ملكوتك

أدعوكم إلى القداس الإلهي

من اجل الراقيدين على رجاء القيامة

في الأربعاء الأخير من كل شهر الساعة 6:30 مساءً

Alerts and Latest Guidance

- **Social Gatherings:** as of October 30, the indoor and outdoor social gathering limit is 10 people because social gatherings have been the source of many positive cases.
- **Early closures:** All restaurants, bars, gyms, recreational facilities, and personal services must close at 10 p.m. Sunday – Thursday and at 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Stay-at-home advisory** is in effect from 10 p.m. – 5 a.m. Sunday – Thursday and from 10:30 p.m. – 5 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Venues of assembly:** The capacity limit for indoor venues (performing arts venues, movie theaters, houses of worship) is 50% of normal capacity with a maximum of 125 people. The limit for outdoor venues is 66% of normal capacity with a maximum of 150 people. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Catered events:** The capacity limit for indoor catered events is 25 and for outdoor catered events is 75, with exceptions for previously scheduled weddings. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Large retailers:** The capacity limit for big box stores (more than 30,000 square feet of space) is one person per 150 square feet. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Business travel:** Businesses are asked to cancel any non-essential, work-related travel. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Masks** are required any time you're near people who don't live with you, including at the gym.

REOPENING RI

Wear a mask that protects you and others

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



RECOMMENDED

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



NOT RECOMMENDED

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

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

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

Last updated: 08/25/2020

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