



February 12, 2023

## 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 Liturgies

Sunday Divine Liturgy  
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 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



## The Last Judgement—Meat Fare Sunday

أحد مرفع اللحم

### Antiphon Prayer (PLC p. 432)

O Christ, Our God, You were sent by the Father, not to judge the world, but to save it. We ask You in your boundless Compassion: Assist our weakness. Overcome our selfishness. Teach us to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and to serve all people faithfully for your sake. Then we shall deserve to hear your Divine Voice saying: "Come you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." For You are our Life and our Hope, O Christ God, and to You we render glory, 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 (3rd tone)

Let all in heaven rejoice and all on earth be glad, for the Lord has exerted power with His arm: By death He has trampled upon Death and has become the firstborn from the dead. He has delivered us from the bosom of Hades and has granted to the world great mercy.

### Troparion of St Basil The Great

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 Meat Fare

When You shall come down, O God, upon earth in Your glory, every creature shall tremble before You. A river of fire shall flow before Your judgments eat, the books shall be opened and all secrets revealed. On that day, O righteous Judge, deliver me from the unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at Your right.

### صلاة الأنديفونة

أيها المسيح إلهنا، يا من أرسله الله الآب لا ليدين العالم بل ليخلص به العالم، نسألك حنوناً الذي لا قياس له أن تُساعدنا ضعفنا، وتُحدّ من أنانيتنا، فتعلم كيف نُطعم الجوع ونكسو العراة ونُحنو على المتألمين، ونخدم الجميع بإخلاص حباً لك، فنستحق أن نسمع من فمك الإلهي: تعالوا يا مباركي أبي، رثوا الملك المُعد لكم منذ إنشاء العالم. لأنك أنت حياتنا ورجاؤنا، أيها المسيح الإله، واليك نرفع المجد والشكر والسجود، وإلى ابيك الأزلي وروحك القدس الصّالح والمحيي، الآن وكلّ أوان ...

### طروبارية القيامة باللحن الثالث

لتفرح السماويات، وتبتهج الارضيات. لأن الرب صنع عزراً بساعده، ووطئ الموت بالموت، وصار بكر الاموات، وأنقذنا من جوف الجحيم، ومنح العالم عظيم الرحمة.

### طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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

### فنداق الختام - لمرفع اللحم - باللحن الاول

متى آتيت يا الله على الارض بمجد، وارتعد كل شيء، وجرى نهج النار أمام المنبر، وفُتحت الكتب، وأعلنت الخفايا، حينئذ أنقذني من النار التي لا تطفأ، وأهلني للوقوف عن يمينك، أيها القاضي العادل.





### 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>



### Epistle 1Cor 8:8-13 & 9:1-2

Prokimenon (Tone 2) Psalm 117:14,18

My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my Savior.  
Stichon: The Lord has chastised me through his teaching, yet he has not delivered me to death.

### Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brethren, food does not commend us to God. For neither shall we gain any advantage if we eat, nor suffer any loss if we do not. And yet, beware lest perhaps this right of yours become a stumbling-block to the weak. For if a man sees you who "have knowledge" sitting at table in a place dedicated to idols, will not his conscience, weak as it is, be emboldened to eat idol offerings? And through your "knowledge" the weak one will perish, the brother for whom Christ died. Now, when you sin in this way against the brethren and wound their weak conscience, you are sinning against Christ. Therefore, if food scandalizes my brother, I will never again eat any more meat so as not to scandalize my brother.

Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? And if to others I am not an apostle, yet to you I am. For you are the seal set upon my apostleship in the Lord.

Alleluia (Tone 2) Psalm 19:1; 27:9

The lord shall hear you on the day of distress; the name of the God of Jacob shall defend you.

Stichon: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

### Gospel: Matthew 25, 31-46 (Last Judgement)

The Lord said, "At that time when the Son of Man shall come in his majesty, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory; and before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; and he will set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the king will say to those on his right hand, Come, blessed of my Father, take possession of the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me to drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; naked and you covered me; sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the just will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry, and feed you; or thirsty, and give you to drink? And when did we see you a stranger, and take you in; or naked, and clothe you? Or when did we see you sick, or in prison, and come to you?' And answering, the King will say to them, 'Amen I say to you, every time you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for me.' Then he will say to those on his left hand, 'Go away from me, accursed ones, into the everlasting fire which was prepared for the devil and his ministers. For I was hungry, and you did not give me to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take me in; naked and you did not clothe me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, saying, 'Amen I say to you as long as you did not do it for one of these least ones, you did not do it for me.' And these will go into everlasting punishment, but the just into everlasting life."

### مقدمة الرسالة

الربُّ قوتي وتسيبي، لقد كان لي خلاصاً  
أدبني الربُّ تأديباً، وإلى الموت لم يُسلمني

### الرسالة (1 كورنثس 8: 8 الى 9: 2)

يا إخوة، إنَّ الطَّعامَ لا يُقَرِّبُنَا إلى الله، لأنَّنا إنَّ أكلنا لم نَرُدِّدْ وإنَّ لم نَأْكُلْ لم نَنقُصْ. ولكن احذروا ان يكون سلطانكم هذا معترّة للضعفاء. فإنه إن رآك أحد، أنت الذي لك العلم، مُتَكَنِّفاً في بيتِ الاوثان، أفلا يتقوَّى ضميره، إذ هو ضعيف، على أكل ذبائح الاوثان؟ فيهلك، بسبب علمك، الأخ الضعيف الذي مات المسيح لأجله. وهكذا إذ تخطئون إلى الاخوة، وتجرحون ضميرهم الضعيف، انما تخطئون إلى المسيح. فلذلك إن كان الطَّعامُ يشكُّكُ أي، فلا أكل اللحم إلى الابد، لنأكلُ أشكُّكُ أي. ألسنتُ رسولاً؟ ألسنتُ حراً؟ أما رأيتُ يسوع المسيح زينا؟ ألسنتُ أنتم عملي في الرب؟ إن لم أكن رسولاً إلى آخرين، فإني رسولٌ ليكم، لأنِّي خاتم رسالتي هو أنتم في الرب.  
هللويَا

ليستجلب لك الربُّ في يوم الضيق، ليعضدك اسمُ إليه يعقوب

خليصٌ يا ربُّ شعبك، وباركُ ميراثك

### أحد مرفع اللحم

### الانجيل (متى 25: 31-46)

قال الرب: متى جاء ابنُ الانسان في مجده، وجميع الملائكة القديسين معه، حينئذٍ يجلسُ على عرش مجده. وتُجمَعُ لديه كل الامم فيمبَرَّ بعضُهم من بعض، كما يُمبَرُّ الراعي الخراف من الجداء. وبقية الخراف عن يمينه والجداء عن يساره. حينئذٍ يقول الملك للذين عن يمينه: تعالوا يا مباركي أبي، رثوا الملك المعد لكم منذ انشاء العالم. لأنِّي جعت فأطعمتموني، وعطشتُ فسقمتوني، كنتُ غريباً فأويتموني، وعرياناً فكسوتوني، ومريضاً فعدتُموني، وكنتُ محبوساً أتيتم إلي. حينئذٍ يجيبه الصديقون قائلين: يا رب، متى رأيناك جائعاً فأطعمناك، أو عطشان فسقيناك، ومتى رأيناك غريباً فأويانا، أو عرياناً فكسوناك. ومتى رأيناك مريضاً أو محبوساً فأتينا إليك؟ فيجيب الملك ويقول لهم: الحق أقول لكم، إنكم كلما فعلتم ذلك بأحد إخوتي هؤلاء الصغار في فعلتموه. حينئذٍ يقول أيضاً للذين عن يساره: اذهبوا عني يا ملاعين إلى النار الابدية المعدة لأبليس وملائكته. لأنِّي جعتُ فلم تطعموني، وعطشتُ فلم تسقوني، وكنتُ غريباً فلم تؤوئني، وعرياناً فلم تكسوني، ومريضاً ومحبوساً فلم تزوروني. حينئذٍ يجيبونه هم أيضاً ويقولون: يا رب متى رأيناك جائعاً أو عطشاناً أو غريباً أو عرياناً أو مريضاً أو محبوساً ولم نخدمك؟ حينئذٍ يجيب ويقول لهم: الحق أقول لكم، كلما لم تفعلوا ذلك بأحد هؤلاء الصغار في لم تفعلوه. فيذهب هؤلاء إلى عقابٍ أبدي، والصديقون إلى الحياة الابدية.







# Divine Liturgy Intentions

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2023: EIGHTH SUNDAY BEFORE PASCHA. SUNDAY OF MEAT-FARE.**

**9:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:**

- + **SIMON SABBAGH (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.) (Sudan)** by Eugenie Mashata & Family.
- + **LAYLA ANGELA CHARETTE (6<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)** by her loving grandparents, Nick & Joyce Kayata.
- + **MRS. GLORIA RAWAN RAZOOK** by Wayne & Judy Rawan & Family.
- + **ANNIE KOUSSA (20<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)** by Linda A. Koussa.
- + **REV. DEACON GEORGE YANY & daughter, ANGELA MAZZONE** by the late Louis E. Azar Family.

**11:15 DIVINE LITURGY:**

- + **BASHIR & NADEEMA DECKEY** by Gloria Deckey & Family.
- + **GEORGE DECKEY** by Gloria Deckey & Family.
- + **GEORGEANNA DECKEY** by Gloria Deckey & Family.
- + **EDMOND & VIVIANE SAYEGH** by Gloria Deckey & Family.
- + **GEORGE & JALEELEH DEEB** by Barbara & Elias Deeb & Family.
- + **ELLA & JOSEPH AZAR** by Barbara & Elias Deeb & Family.
- + **LOUIS & MARIE AZAR** by Barbara & Elias Deeb & Family.
- + **JOSEPH AZAR, JR.** by Barbara & Elias Deeb & Family.
- + **VIOLETTE (HAGGAR) SAGGAL (Australia)** by George & Kristen Baalbaki.
- + **JEANNETTE AYOUB DAIKH (Aleppo, Syria)** by Dr. Hassan & Mrs Zaina Zayoud & Family.
- + **MARIE SAURIOL** by Dr. George & Mrs. Carol Daikh & Family
- + **MICHAEL GEORGE BOUDJOUK (NJ)** by Nelly Kishfy.
- + **GEORGETTE S. SAGGAL** by Joseph & Yolanda Saggal.

**+ GREAT ENTRANCE REMEMBRANCE AT BOTH LITURGIES**

*We pray for the people of Turkey and Syria, whose lives have been devastated by the Earthquake. Be present O Lord, our Good Shepherd, to bring comfort, relief, shelter and human kindness. Shield the people who suffer, console those who are bereaved, prosper the provision of relief, strengthen the work of emergency teams, and shine your light and hope in the midst of despair. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, now and always and forever and ever.*

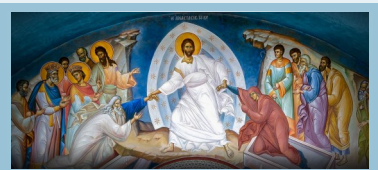


## Prayer for the dead



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.





### **+ GREAT ENTRANCE REMEMBRANCE AT BOTH LITURGIES**

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**SACRIFICIAL GIVING:** February 5, 2023: Budgets: \$6,379.00: Envelopes: \$6,290.00, Loose: \$89.00; Candles: \$62.00; Building Fund: \$40.00; Stole Offerings: \$230.00; Addit'l Melkite Diocesan Support: \$20.00 ;Addit'l Fuel: \$15.00; Addit'l Religious Ed: \$10.00.

**TODAY, FEB. 12,** there will be a special collection taken up for your **FUEL OFFERINGS**. Please help defray the cost of heating the church and rectory, as prices are escalating rapidly. Also, we must not forget that utilities are more than doubled in our new complex. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Before making any **ENGAGEMENT/BAPTISM/MARRIAGE RECEPTION PLANS**, please contact the Church in advance. We would rather not have you disappointed if you've already made commitments without checking our schedule first.

**GENERAL HOME VISITATIONS, SICK CALLS, HOSPITAL VISITS:** Father Ephrem has been fully vaccinated and is now available for these 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.

**2023 ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDARS** are available – free for the taking – at both entrances of the church. By 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.

**ENVELOPE USERS:** It would be helpful to us if you could please check off the amount on the outside of the budget envelope. This will allow for more efficiency and accuracy in the recording of your budgets. Thank you kindly! Also, it has been observed that some people have forgotten to fill their budget envelopes with their offering (some sealed, others unsealed), and it is awkward to put us in this kind of position. We humbly ask you to be more careful in this regard.

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.





**IN PRAYERFUL REMEMBRANCE:** Please continue to remember in your prayers all the needs of the parish family, the sick and suffering, those who have asked for our prayers, the priests and bishops of the Catholic Church, those people who have been denied their basic human rights and dignity, the oppressed, the lonely, the homeless and those who suffer, and those who have no peace of mind or heart.

**CLEANLINESS & 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!

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** All the faithful who have recently changed their address or who are planning to do so, remember to inform the church office at (401) 722-1345. Please also be sure to update new telephone numbers because there is a cost that the Church has to absorb which adds up slowly but surely.

**REFLECTION:** "I love you my brother, whoever you are – whether you worship in your church, kneel in your temple, or pray in your mosque, You and I are all children of one faith, for the divers paths of religion are fingers of the loving hand of one Supreme Being, a hand extended to all, offering completeness of spirit to all, eager to receive all. (Khalil Gibran)

O Jesus, Who has said,  
"Ask and you shall  
receive, seek and you  
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Most Holy Mother, I feel  
confident that my prayer  
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## Corporal Works of Mercy



Feed  
the  
Hungry



Shelter  
the  
Homeless



Give  
Drink to  
the Thirsty



Care  
for the  
Sick



Clothe  
the  
Naked



Visit the  
Imprisoned



Bury  
the  
Dead





**30**  
**FEAST!**  
Begin to eat up the treats you have stored in your pantry and refrigerator so they won't tempt you.

**31**  
**FEAST!**  
Discuss with your family which foods are allowed and which are not during the fast, and why.

**February 1**  
**FEAST!**  
Which activities will you fast from and which will you begin to do during the fast?

**2**  
**FEAST!**  
of the Encounter! With Simeon Humility is also simplicity. Will you simplify your environment by taking down decorations in your house, or your room, for the fast?

**3**  
**FEAST!**  
The Pharisee boasted while the Publican humbled himself. Practice the Jesus Prayer today.

**4**  
**FEAST!**  
We all need to cultivate the virtue of humility, which means seeing ourselves as God does. Pray for this grace today.



**February 5:**  
**Sunday of the Prodigal Son:**  
Work on mercy and forgive your neighbor. Remember, the son returned and fell prostrate before his father to beg forgiveness. We do this before our Heavenly Father too, when we make prostrations in prayer.

**6**  
Do you know how to make prostrations like the Prodigal Son? You may want to practice them!

**7**  
Is there someone who has made you angry? Show them forgiveness today to prepare for the fast.

**8**  
The Prodigal son took his father for granted. Go to your parents today and tell them how much they mean to you.

**9**  
The Prodigal Son was so hungry he longed to eat animal food. Make a plan

# Our Countdown to Great Lent Calendar 2023

Compiled to coordinate with *The Zacchaeus Tree* by *Lynne Warbach*, available from the gift shop page at [ByzIkonom.com](http://ByzIkonom.com)

## Pre-Lenten Weeks of Preparation

New Calendar Edition



**17**  
Make a card or say a prayer for those you know who are ill. Sometimes just knowing someone cares can help them heal and feel better.

**18**  
Whatever you do for the least of your friends, you do for Jesus! Do a good deed for someone today.

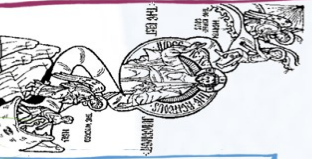
**19:**  
**Cheesefare/Forgiveness Sunday: The Great Fast begins tomorrow!**  
Ask forgiveness of everyone in your household so that you may begin the fast tomorrow with a clean and humble heart!

**16**  
Bad habits imprison those who cultivate them. Do you have any bad habits that you want to be free from? Make a plan to work on those during the fast.

**15**  
People who are ashamed often can't forgive themselves.  
**Be quick to forget the shame of others and never bring it to anyone's attention.**

**13**  
People hunger and thirst for all sorts of things like love, patience, or

**14**  
Are there any strangers in your church, school group, or neighborhood whom



**February 12:**  
**Sunday of Meattare/Last Judgment:**  
What can you do for the least of your brethren?  
Listen carefully to this Gospel reading because it contains the answers to the very final, Final Exam of life! This is how we will be judged before God and it's important that we get it right. Make Lamb Cupcakes! See the recipe and instructions at [ByzIkonom.com](http://ByzIkonom.com)

**11**  
Today is the first All Souls Saturday. Pray for the Departed! Make a list of those departed of your family for

**10**  
The Father rushed to greet his son when he repented. Be eager

**9**  
The Prodigal Son was so hungry he longed to eat animal food. Make a plan

**January 29: Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee:**  
Work on humility and feast! Did you know that we are expected NOT to fast at all this week?  
Even on Friday! It's true! We need to practice humility by doing so, and also get rid of all the goodies in our pantries this week. Make Publican and Pharisee Cookies! See the recipe and instructions at [ByzIkonom.com](http://ByzIkonom.com)!

**28**  
Remember to make a plan to give alms to those who are less fortunate! How will your family do that this Lent?

**27**  
It's not just about food! Prepare your prayer plan tool! Will you attend Presanctified Liturgy? Say the Jesus Prayer? etc?

**26**  
Don't fall out of your tree! Make sure your plan is practical and safe. Discuss it with your parents and/or your Spiritual Father first.

**25**  
When you climb YOUR tree this Lent, will others try to pull you down? Surround yourself with supportive friends.

**24**  
Make a plan for fasting and discuss it with your family. Try to do one more thing than you did last year!

**23**  
Zacchaeus worked hard to see Jesus. Pray for the grace to make a good effort this Lent!

**January 22**  
**Zacchaeus Sunday:**  
Establish your plan and get ready to climb! Review your eparchy's rules for fasting and discuss what this will look like in your home. Ask your parents what they expect from you.



Start here!



# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2023

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 29 <sup>TH</sup>	 <i>TRIDION 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 FEBRUARY 5 <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 12 <sup>TH</sup> AREWELL 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 19 <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 26 <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 MARCH 5 <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 12 <sup>TH</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 19 <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 26 <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 APRIL 2 <sup>ND</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 APRIL 7 <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! APRIL 9 <sup>TH</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!



# The Sheep and the Goats



This Sunday the Church offers for us to contemplate on the Last Judgment, which is to come. In the Creed we say, "...He [Christ] shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead..." We are still awaiting the Second Coming, and Jesus promised that He will return (see Mark 13).

In the reading for this Sunday the Lord gives us, a rather brief, description of what will happen when He comes again, and calls all (living and the dead) to the judgement, the Final Judgement.

If you read through the Gospel above and find yourself a bit scared, then good! Christ's words should instill some fear in us. And fear is good. In both the Psalms and Proverbs we find this verse, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Psalm 111:10 & Proverbs 9:10). Yes, the Lord is both compassionate and loving, but He is also the Judge, and His judgment is just. Meaning, if we choose to follow Him today, right now, then He will judge according to that. If we choose to abandon Him, however, His judgment will also reflect that. God desires nothing less than our salvation, but He will not change Who He is and His judgment based on our desires.

I would like for us to focus on three aspects from the reading:

1. Why sheep vs goats?
2. Grace & works
3. Who are the least of Christ's brothers and sisters?

Why sheep vs goats?

What did goats ever do to be compared to the condemned sinners? What is so special about sheep that they are the symbol of the righteous?

Keep in mind that Christ calls Himself the Good Shepherd and we are His herd, His sheep.

Both sheep and goats were considered clean according to the Jewish Law, but there are some differences between them. Sheep were considered more valuable than goats, and were usually raised in greater numbers, and were much more obedient. The last part is very important here - the sheep are obedient.

The shepherd walks in front of his sheep because they follow him. While the goats tend to go on their own and do their own thing. That's why sheep illustrate the righteous people - they follow the Shepherd's voice and are gently and productive. The goats, on the other hand, indicate the unrighteous people (the cursed ones) because they go on their own way, without paying attention to the Shepherd.

Grace & works.

For centuries now there have been debates among Christians about the grace of God and our works. Are we saved by the grace of God alone? Or is our salvation dependent on our good works? Is it both or neither?

The Orthodox Church has always taught, based on the words of Christ, that we are saved by the grace of God. But this does not mean that our behavior is irrelevant, as this Sunday's reading clearly illustrates.

The righteous people will be saved, inherit the Kingdom of God prepared for them, because they do something right. They feed the hungry, welcome the strangers, clothe the naked, and visit the sick and imprisoned. But that's not really the point. The point is that they do it without even thinking about it twice.

That's what separates the sheep from goats, the righteous from the cursed, those who are saved from those who are condemned. Right now, right at this moment, all of us are saved. Christ has died on the Cross, and resurrected, trampling down death by death, and bringing salvation to the humanity. Our behavior is the reflection of this fact. If we truly believe that we are saved, then we will act accordingly, that is feed the hungry, welcome the strangers, clothe the naked, and visit the sick and imprisoned, etc.

In other words, we are not saved because of our supposed good works, rather we do good works because we are saved, because God has bestowed His grace on us. Our behavior is the reflection of our salvation.

Does your behavior reflect your salvation? If not, and you are still breathing, then you still have time to change that!

Who are the least of Christ's brothers and sisters?

The least among Christ's brothers and sisters can be anyone from the poor to His followers, but most importantly someone who is in need. Some of the Holy Fathers say that the poor are saved because they let others exercise their Christian love.

Why are they called the least? Because Christ's followers are humble, they do not seek self-exultation, they are the poor in spirit (for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven) (Matthew 5:3). They are also the least because they are literally poor. And all the poor are Christ's brothers and sisters.

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Be an obedient sheep, rather than a free-spirited goat :)

because you are saved.



# الخرفان والجداء



إذا أتيت يا الله على الأرض بمجد، فترتعد منك البرايا بأسرها، ونهز النار يجري أمام عرشك، والصُحف تُفْتَحُ، والخفايا تُشْهَرُ. فنَجِّنِي حينئذٍ من النار التي لا تُطفأ، وأهْلِنِي للوقوف عن يمينك أيها التَّيَّان العادل". فنداق أحد الدينونة.

يتميز بالعوانية والشراسة. إن الدينونة سوف تكون على أساس معيار المحبة وأعمال الرحمة، كيف نسلك مع قريبتنا وكيف نُظهِر له محبتنا؟ لقد وضع الرب يسوع المحبة والرحمة معياراً للدينونة وللفضل بين اليمين واليسار أي المخلصين والهالكين. " كنت جائعاً وعطشاناً، غريباً ومرمياً أو مسجوناً " فماذا فعلتم بي؟

هذا الأحد يُسمى أحد الدينونة أو أحد مرفع اللحم وهو الأحد الثالث من الأحد الأربعة التي تسبق الصيام الكبير (الصيام الأربعيني المقدس) والتي تُعرف بأحد التهيئة للصوم الأربعيني.

لقد وُحِدَ الرب يسوع نفسه مع المُعَذِّبِينَ والمُتَأَلِّمِينَ والمنبوذِينَ، وهو يدعوهم " إخوتي الصغار " وكل ما نعمله لأحد أخوة يسوع الصغار فهو يذهب إلى شخص السيد له المجد. إن خدمة المحتاج والغريب هي خدمة للمسيح نفسه. لقد وُحِدَ الكنيسة المقدسة أن الطريق إلى الله تمر عبر القريب.

من بعد أن رأينا في الأحد السابقة، أي في أحد الفريسي والعشار وأحد الإبن الضال عن أهمية الإستعداد للصوم الكبير من خلال فضيلة التواضع والصلاة المنسحقة مع العشار وأهمية التوبة أو الرجوع إلى الله، مع الإبن الضال، يبرز موضع الدينونة والأعمال الصالحة في هذا الأحد.

يقول يوحنا الإنجيلي: " يا أولادي لا تُحِبُّ بالكلام ولا باللسان بل بالعمل والحق " (1 يوحنا 3: 18) ويُضيف التلميذ الحبيب: " إذا قال أحدٌ إنني أحبُّ الله وأبغضُ أخاه فهو كاذب لأن من لا يُحِبُّ أخاه الذي أبصره كيف يقدر أن يُحِبُّ الله الذي لم يُبصره ، من يُحِبُّ الله يحبُّ أخاه أيضاً " ( 1 يوحنا 4: 20-21).

أحد مرفع اللحم، هو اليوم الأخير المسموح فيه بأكل اللحم قبل الصوم الكبير وبدأ من يوم الإثنين نرفع اللحم عن الموائد المسيحية. أما الأحد القادم فهو مرفع الجبن وهو الأسبوع الأخير الذي يُسمح فيه بأكل البياض ومن يوم الإثنين يُرفع الجبن عن الموائد ونبدأ بالصيام الكامل عن الزُفْرَيْن ( اللحم والبياض).

القديس يعقوب يسأل ما هي منفعة الإيمان بدون أعمال؟

" إن كان أخ وأخت عريانين ومعتازين للقوت اليومي فقال لهما أحدكم امضيا بسلام استدفئا واشبعا ولكن لم تعطوهما حاجات الجسد فما المنفعة؟ هكذا الإيمان أيضاً إن لم يكن له أعمال ميتٌ في ذاته (يعقوب 2: 14-17).

القراءة الإنجيلية من إنجيل متى الإصحاح (25: 31-46) وهو يأتي من بعد الإصحاح التي تتضمن كلام الرب يسوع عن " علامات المجيء وانقضاء الدهر" والأمثال التي تليها عن السهر والإنظار: مثل الخادم الأمين والعبد الرديء، مثل العذارى العشر ومثل الوزنات.

لقد أدركت الكنيسة الأولى أهمية خدمة الآخر المتألم عن طريقة المحبة والرحمة، القديس يوحنا الرحيم بطريرك الأسكندرية ( 619 + ) يعتبر نموذجاً مهماً. القديس باسيليوس الكبير ( 379 + ) تجسيدا لفعل الإيمان بالأعمال، بنى خارج مدينة قيصرية كبادوكية (تركيا حالياً) التي كان أسقفاً عليها، مدينة أخرى سماها مدينة المحبة أو (Basiliad)، كان مُجمَعاً خدمتياً وراعياً متنوعاً يتضمن بالإضافة إلى الكنيسة، بيوت للفقراء، مستشفى ومضافة للغرباء وميتم ومدارس مهنية لتأمين العمل ولقمة العيش للمحتاجين، التي أكسبتها شهرة عالمية كبيرة كونها كانت الأول من نوعها في العالم والذي يُجسِّد العمل الخيري المسيحي ( Christian Philanthropy )

في هذا الأحد تُشَدَّدُ الكنيسة على أن الصوم عن الطعام وحده لا يكفي إن لم يكن مُقْتَرَناً بالأعمال الصالحة. رسالة الأحد تشرح هذه الفكرة بقول الرسول بولس: " يا أخوة، إن الطعام لا يُقربنا من الله، لأن إن أكلنا لا نزيد وإن لم نأكل لا ننقص " ( 1 كور 8: 8). يأتي الجواب على كيف ينبغي أن نسلك في الصوم في تعليم الرب يسوع عن الدينونة.

تعليم المسيح عن يوم الدينونة هو ليس بمثل بل هو وُصِفَ لما سيحدث في الأيام الأخير عند المجيء الثاني. هذا يؤكد حقيقة حدث الدينونة. نقول في دستور الإيمان عن المسيح أنه: " وأيضاً سيأتي بمجدٍ لِيُدين الأحياء والأموات ". هذا يؤكد أن حدث الدينونة سوف يتم عند المجيء الثاني. سوف يدين الرب يسوع الجميع دون استثناء " سوف تُجمع إليه كل الأمم". نحن نصلي إلى الله الرحيم والشفوق والمُتَحَنِّن لكننا لا يمكن أن نعزل الله عن صفاته الأخرى وهي أنه التَّيَّان العادل أيضاً والذي سيجازي كل إنسان حسب أعماله.

يقول القديس مكسيموس المُعْتَرِف: " كما أن التفكير بالنار لا يُدْفَأُ الجسد كذلك الإيمان من دون محبة لا يُفْعَلُ نور المعرفة الروحية في النفس ".

إن الدينونة كأمر حقيقي يتطلب منا السهر والتأني، يتطلب منا فعل المحبة والإحسان نحو القريب إذ أننا سُنْحَاسِبُ على قدر الحب الذي كان باستطاعتنا إعطاؤه ولم نفعل، إن أبطأ الرب فهذا لا ينبغي أن يجعلنا نسقط في الكسل والنهوان بل فلنُشْعَلُ قناديلنا بزيت المحبة والعمل ولننتظر بصبر إذ " هوذا الديان واقف قدام الباب، فتأنوا

يقول الرب أنه سوف يَفْرزُ البشر إلى مجموعتين، إلى خراف وجداء، لقد استعمل الرب هذا التمييز على أساس أن كلا من الخراف والجداء هما من الحيوانات العاشبة ولكن الفرق كبير من حيث السلوك بين الخراف والجداء. فالخراف معروفة كونها ودعية ومسالمة وهي تعيش ضمن جماعة واحدة وتعرف صوت الراعي وتتبعه (يوحنا 10: 14-16). أما الجداء فهي رمز للشراة والشهوة. الجدي يُفضل العيش منفرداً كما أنه





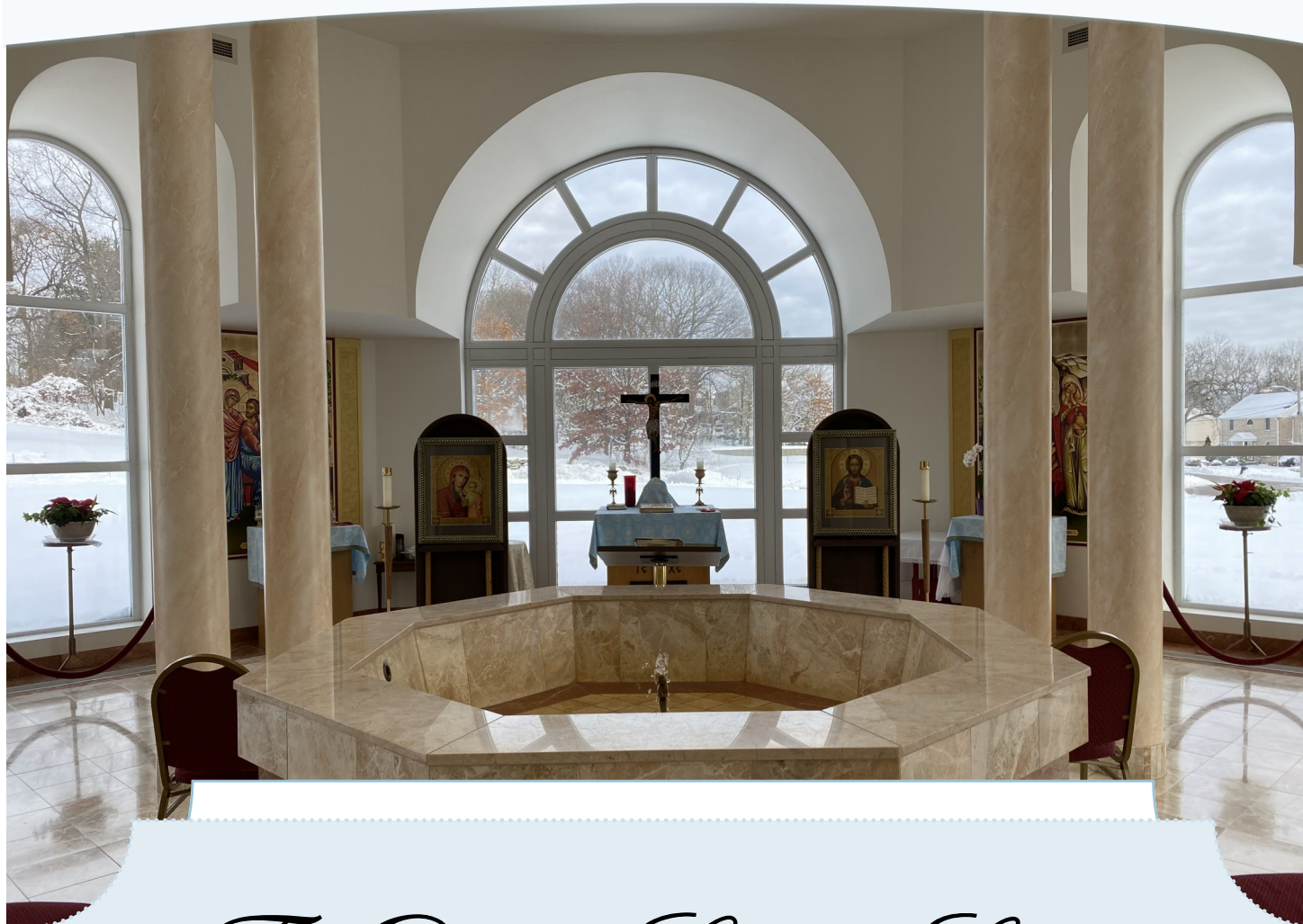
# LITURGICAL CALENDAR



FEBRUARY	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>شباط - فبراير 2023</p> <p>JANUARY 2023</p> <p>S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p> <p>MARCH 2023</p> <p>S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>				<b>1</b> Preparation of Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Temple 2 Peter 3:1-18 Mark 13:24-31	<b>2</b> ✠ <b>Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Temple</b> دخول السيد إلى الهيكل Hebrews 7:7-17 Luke 2:22-41	<b>3</b> Sts Simeon & Anna 1 John 2:7-17 Mark 14:3-9	<b>4</b> St Isidore of Pelusium 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Luke 20:45-21:4
	<b>5</b> <b>Sunday of the Prodigal Son</b> أحد الابن الضالط 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Luke 15:11-32	<b>6</b> St Eilan 1 John 2:18-3:8 Mark 11:1-11	<b>7</b> St Luke the Greek 1 John 3:9-22 Mark 14:10-42	<b>8</b> 🐟 Holy Prophet Zechariah 1 John 3:21-4:11 Mark 14:43-15:1	<b>9</b> Leave-taking of the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord 1 John 4:20-5:21 Mark 15:1-15	<b>10</b> 🐟 St Charalampos 2 John 1-13 Mark 15:22-25, 33-41	<b>11</b> <b>First Saturday of the dead</b> السبت الاول للراقيين 1 Corinthians 10:23-29 Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36
	<b>12</b> <b>Meat-fare Sunday</b> أحد مرفع اللحم 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Matthew 25:31-46	<b>13</b> 🐟 St Martinian 3 John 1:1-15 Luke 19:29-40, 22:7-39	<b>14</b> 🐟 St Maron the Hermit Jude 1: 1-10 Luke 22:39-42, 45-23:1	<b>15</b> 🐟 St Onesimos Romans 14:6-9 Mt 26:57-75	<b>16</b> 🐟 St Pamphilos and his companions Jude 1:11-25 Luke 23:2-34, 44-56	<b>17</b> 🐟 St Theodore Ephesus 5:8-19 John 19:25-37	<b>18</b> 🐟 St Leo Pope of Rome Saturday of Ascetics السبت جميع الآباء النساك Romans 14:19-23, 16:25-27 Matthew 6:1-13
	<b>19</b> 🐟 <b>Cheese-fare Sunday</b> أحد مرفع الجبن Romans 13:11-14:4 Matthew 6:14-21	<b>20</b> 🐟 <b>Beginning of Holy and Great Fast</b> بدء الصوم المقدس الكبير 1 Corinthians 3:18-23 Luke 21:8-36	<b>21</b> 🐟 Holy Father Timothy Romans 8:14-21 Matthew 6:1-13	<b>22</b> 🐟 Relics of Martyrs at Eugenios 2 Corinthians 4:13-18 Mark 11:22-26 & Matthew 7:7-8	<b>23</b> 🐟 St Polycarp of Smyrna Romans 15:30-33 Matthew 7:7-11	<b>24</b> 🐟 <b>1<sup>st</sup> Akathist</b> المدائح الأولى 1 Timothy 2:1-7 John 15:1-7	<b>25</b> 🐟 St Tarasios اعجوبة الفصح المسلوق Hebrews 1:1-12 Mark 2:23-3:5
	<b>26</b> 🐟 <b>Sunday of Orthodoxy</b> أحد الأرثوذكسية Hebrews 11:24-40 John 1:43-51	<b>27</b> 🐟 St Procopios Romans 15:1-7 Matthew 18:10-20	<b>28</b> 🐟 St Basil the Confessor Galatians 6:2-10 Matthew 4:23-5:13				



# Weekly Divine Liturgy Schedule



## *The Divine Liturgy Schedule*

Sunday Divine Liturgy

- **9:00 am**
- **11:15 am**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available  
Tuesday to Friday before or after the Divine Liturgy.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Welcome to*

## **St. Basil The Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church**

**Check our website  
for Church news and updates at**  
[www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com](http://www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com)

**On Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/StBasilMelkiteChurchRI/>

**YouTube**  
<https://bit.ly/2VJgvnS>

**Contact us for information and ideas**  
[office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com](mailto: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

As of 12/30/2022



## 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:** \$340,000



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

### Parish Community Facts:



**Total Registered Families:** 415



**Active Families:** 250



**% of Active Families Participation:** 51%

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

### Current & Future Projects:



**Church Roof Repair:** Project completed, estimated cost of \$400,000...final cost \$321,000.



**Rectory Roof Repair:** Proposals received, estimated cost \$18,000, pending review.



**Church Window Repairs:** Proposals received, estimated cost \$9,000, pending review.



**HVAC & Boiler Replacement:** Proposals received, estimated cost \$196,000.



**Flooring Upgrades:** Proposal received, estimated cost \$50,000 (carpeting for Church, Cultural Center, office & hallway), pending review.



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



**Interior Repairs, Expand Storage & Vent Cleaning:** Partial proposals received. Vent cleaning estimated cost \$9,000.



**Exterior/Masonry /Walkway Repairs:** Awaiting proposals.



**Security Cameras/Door Upgrades:** Camera system complete, final cost \$10,500. Door proposal received, pending review.

### 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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