

## ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH



### Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ

ميلاد ربنا ومخلصنا يسوع المسيح بحسب الجسد

#### Antiphon Prayer

O Christ, Eternal God, by Your birth from the Virgin, You appeared on earth as a man and enlightened the whole Creation. Steady our footsteps in the way of your Commandments. Infuse in our hearts the grace of knowing You and loving You, through the intercession of Your All-pure Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary and all your Saints.

For You are our Light and our Redemption, 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 Nativity, Tone 4, (Three times)

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shed the light of knowledge upon the world. Through it, those who had been star-worshippers learned through a star to worship You, O Sun of Justice, and to recognize in You the One Who rises and Who comes from on high. O Lord glory to You!

#### Kondakion of the Nativity of our Lord

Today the Virgin gives birth to the One who surpasses all essences, and the earth offers a cave to God, the Inaccessible One. Angels sing his glory together with the shepherd: for to us is born a Child, God in all eternity.

#### صلاة الأنديفوننة

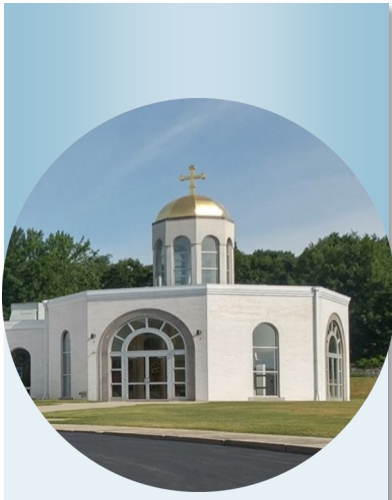
أيها المسيح الإله الأزلي، يا من بميلاده من البتول، ظهر على الأرض إنساناً، فأشار الخلق كله، وظل خطواتنا في سبيل وصاياك، وأهدنا إلى معرفتك ومحبتك، بشفاعته والديك الكاملة الطهارة الدائمة البتولية مريم، وجميع قديسيك، لأنك أنت نورنا وفداؤنا، أيها المسيح الإله، واليك نرفع المجد وإلى أبليك الأزلي وروحك القدوس، الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الداهرين.

#### نشيد الميلاد بالحن الرابع (3 مرات)

ميلادك أيها المسيح الهنا، قد أظهر نور المعرفة للعالم. لأن الساجدين للكواكب، فيه تعلموا من الكوكب السجود لك يا شمس العدل، وعرفوا أنك من المشرق الذي من الغلاء. يا رب المجد لك.

#### قنداق ميلاد ربنا يسوع المسيح

اليوم البتول تلد الفائق الجوهر، والأرض تقدم المغارة لمن لا يدنى منه. الملائكة، مع الرعاة يجدون، والمجوس مع الكوكب يسرون. لأنه من أجلنا ولد طفل جديد، وهو الإله الذي قبل الدهور.



#### 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.

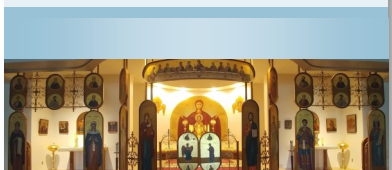
<https://melkite.org/maya>

**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>



#### Hirmos

Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin more glorious than the heavenly powers. Behold a strange and wonderful mystery: the cave is heaven, the Virgin a cherubic throne, the manger a noble place where reposes Christ the Uncontainable God. Let us praise and magnify him!

#### Epistle of the Feast, Gal. 4: 4-7

Let all on earth worship and sing praise to You, sing praise to Your name.

**Stichon:** Shout joyfully to God, all you on earth; sing praise to the glory of His name

#### Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians

Brethren, when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, that He might redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba, Father!" So that one is no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, an heir also of God through Jesus Christ Alleluia (Tone 1)

The heavens declare God's glory, and the firmament proclaims the work of His hands.

**Stichon:** Day pours out the word to day, and night to night imparts knowledge.

#### Gospel of the Feast,

Matthew 2: 1-12, (Visit of the Magi)

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, Magi came from the East to Jerusalem saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." But when King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and so was all Jerusalem with him. And gathering together all the chief priests and Scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. And they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for thus it is written by the prophet, 'And you, Bethlehem, of the land of Judah are by no means least among the princes of Judah; for from you shall come forth a leader who shall shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the Magi secretly, and carefully ascertained from them the time when the star had appeared to them. And sending them to Bethlehem he said, "Go and make careful inquiry concerning the Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may go and worship Him." Now they, having heard the king, went their way. And behold, the star they had seen in the East went before them, until it came and stood over the place where the Child was. And when they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly. And entering the house, they found the Child with Mary His mother, and falling down they worshipped Him. And opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another way.

#### النشيد لوالدة الإله

عَظِّمِي يَا نَفْسِي مَنْ هِيَ أَكْرَمُ وَأَمَجَّدُ مِنَ الْجُنُودِ الْعُلُويَّةِ. إِنِّي أَشَاهِدُ سِرًّا عَجِيبًا مُسْتَعْرَبًا. فَاَلْمَغَارَةُ قَدْ أَصْحَحَتْ سَمَاءًا. وَابْتَدَأَتْ عَرْشًا شَرْوَبِيْمِيًّا. وَالْمِنْدُودُ مَحَلًّا شَرِيفًا. إِنَّكَ فِيهِ الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهَ. الَّذِي لَا يَسْغُهُ مَكَانٌ. فَلْنُسَبِّحْهُ مُعَظِّمِينَ.

#### رسالة الليتورجيا الإلهية

لتسجد لك جميع الأرض ولتُشيد لك هلكوا للرب يا جميع الأرض

#### الرسالة (غلاطية 4: 4-7)

يا إخوة، لَمَّا بَلَغَ مِلءُ الزَّمَانِ، أَرْسَلَ اللهُ ابْنَهُ مَوْلُودًا مِنْ امْرَأَةٍ، مَوْلُودًا تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، لِيَتَفَدِّيَ الَّذِينَ تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ لِنَنَالَ التَّبَتِّيَّ. وَبِمَا أَنَّكُمْ أَبْنَاءُ، أَرْسَلَ اللهُ رُوحَ ابْنِهِ إِلَى قُلُوبِكُمْ صَارِحًا أَتًا بِهَا الْآبُ. فَلَسْتُ بَعْدَ عَبْدًا بَلْ ابْنًا. وَإِذَا كُنْتُ ابْنًا فَانْتَ ابْنًا أَيْضًا وَارِثٌ لِلَّهِ بِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ. هَلْلُويا

السَّمَاوَاتُ تَذْبِغُ مَجْدَ اللهِ، وَالْقُلُوكُ يُخْبِرُ بِأَعْمَالِ يَدَيْهِ يَوْمَ لَيَوْمٍ يُبْدِي قَوْلًا. وَلَيْلٌ لِلَّيْلِ يُخْبِرُ عِلْمًا.

#### الانجيل (متى 2: 1-12)

لَمَّا وُلِدَ يَسُوعُ فِي بَيْتِ لَحْمِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ، فِي أَيَّامِ هِيرُودَسَ الْمَلِكِ، إِذَا مَجُوسٌ قَدْ أَقْبَلُوا مِنَ الْمَشَارِقِ إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ قَائِلِينَ: أَيْنَ الْمَوْلُودُ مَلِكُ الْيَهُودِ؟ فَإِنَّا رَأَيْنَا نَجْمَهُ فِي الْمَشْرِقِ، فَوَافِينَا لِنَسْجُدَ لَهُ؟ فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ هِيرُودُسُ الْمَلِكُ اضْطَرَبَ، هُوَ وَكُلُّ أُورُشَلِيمَ مَعَهُ. وَجَمَعَ كُلَّ رُؤَسَاءِ الْكَهَنَةِ وَكُتَّابَةِ الشَّعْبِ وَاسْتَخِيرَهُمْ أَيْنَ يُولَدُ الْمَسِيحُ: فَقَالُوا لَهُ فِي بَيْتِ لَحْمِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ، فَانْ هَكَذَا كُتِبَ بِالنَّبِيِّ: وَأَنْتَ يَا بَيْتَ لَحْمِ أَرْضِ يَهُوذَا، لَسْتَ الصَّغْرَى فِي مَدِينِ يَهُوذَا الرَّئِيسِيَّةِ، لِأَنَّهُ مِنْكَ يَخْرُجُ الْمَدْبُرُ الَّذِي يَرعى شَعْبِي إِسْرَائِيلَ. حِينَئِذٍ دَعَا هِيرُودُسُ الْمَجُوسَ سِرًّا، وَتَحَقَّقَ مِنْهُمْ زَمَانَ النَّجْمِ الَّذِي ظَهَرَ. ثُمَّ أَرْسَلَهُمْ إِلَى بَيْتِ لَحْمٍ وَقَالَ: اذْهَبُوا وَابْحَثُوا بِتَدْقِيقٍ عَنِ الصَّبِيِّ، وَإِذَا وَجَدْتُمُوهُ فَأَخْبِرُونِي لِأَذْهَبَ أَنَا أَيْضًا وَأَسْجُدَ لَهُ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعُوا هَذَا مِنَ الْمَلِكِ ذَهَبُوا، فَإِذَا النَّجْمُ الَّذِي رَأَوْهُ فِي الْمَشْرِقِ يَتَقَدَّمُهُمْ، حَتَّى جَاءَ وَوَقَفَ فَوْقَ الْمَوْضِعِ الَّذِي كَانَ فِيهِ الصَّبِيُّ. فَلَمَّا رَأَوْا النَّجْمَ فَرِحُوا فَرَحًا عَظِيمًا جَدًّا. وَاتَّوْا إِلَى الْبَيْتِ، فَوَجَدُوا الصَّبِيَّ مَعَ مَرْيَمَ أُمِّهِ، فَخَرُّوا وَسَجَدُوا لَهُ، وَفَتَحُوا كُنُوزَهُمْ وَقَدَّمُوا لَهُ هَدَايَا مِنْ ذَهَبٍ وَلُبَّانٍ وَمُرٍّ. ثُمَّ أَوْعِزَّ إِلَيْهِمْ فِي الْخُلُمِ بِأَنْ لَا يَرْجِعُوا إِلَى هِيرُودُسَ، فَانصَرَفُوا فِي طَرِيقٍ أُخْرَى إِلَى بِلَادِهِمْ.





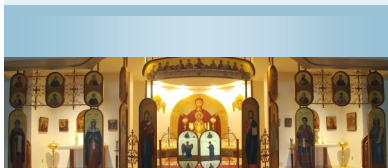
# ST. BASIL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS



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.



On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, there will be a special collection taken up for your **CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS**. Envelopes for this purpose may be found in your weekly budgets.

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.

Our thoughts and prayers are directed to our elderly and sick parishioners in this joyous season. We ask the Emmanuel to strengthen your faith so that you may accept His will and may He bring you peace, joy, and health for the coming year.

Please make **CHRISTMAS FIRST & FOREMOST A SPIRITUAL FEAST**: Make your peace with God in the Mystery of Confession. Receive Him in Holy Communion. Begin the New Year reconciled to God and determine to worship Him regularly. May Christmas bring a rebirth of grace to you individually, to your family and to our whole Parish Community. Together may we "grow to the full maturity of Christ" (Ephesians 4:15) during the year.

**CHRISTMAS DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE**: Due to the Pandemic which we face, we take this opportunity to accommodate and make it possible for as many who are able to attend Liturgy: Thursday, Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>: 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup>: 11:00 a.m.

**THE BISHOP'S APPEAL**: As we prepare our hearts and our homes to receive the greatest gift in human history--the Nativity of Christ our God---let us not forget our Melkite Church by which Christ comes to our families and loved ones. **Please give a special end-of-year, tax-deductible gift to the Melkite Church** to support all the vital works of our Church in America, and for our suffering brothers and sisters.

**Remember the Melkite Church in Your Will**: Give the lasting gift of the Melkite Faith to your children's children and help to ensure that our beautiful Melkite heritage continues to flourish for generations to come. Simply add the following statement to your last will and testament: **I hereby bequeath to the Melkite Eparchy of Newton the following sum; \$\_\_\_\_\_**. Contact Bishop NICHOLAS personally to inform him of your generous bequest: 3 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132.

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

**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.

# Christmas message from His Excellency Bishop Nicholas



EPARCHY OF NEWTON  
MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2020



EPARCHY OF NEWTON  
MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Clergy and Faithful

2020 ميلاد

*Bethlehem, make ready,  
For Eden has been opened for all.  
Ephrata, be alert,  
for the Tree of Life has blossomed forth from  
the Virgin in a cave.  
Her womb has become a spiritual Paradise  
wherein the divine Fruit was planted –  
And if we eat it, we shall live  
and not die like Adam.  
Christ is coming to restore the image  
that had been lost in the beginning.*

Troparion for Forefeast of Christmas

The season of God's manifestations in the flesh is upon us. It is not just his birth in Bethlehem's cave: He is named and circumcised according to his people's tradition; He enters the temple after 40 days to encounter his people; He is baptized by John in the midst of his people. All these events proclaim and celebrate the gift of the Word of God who is fully revealed to us in the person of Jesus Christ. As the Troparion above says: Truly Jesus becomes a human being to restore the image lost in the beginning in Paradise with the sin of Adam and Eve. These feasts reveal to us God's saving work in the world through his Son. They are not just historical narratives, for Jesus is very much alive today in the world through the proclamation of the Gospel – God's saving action in our lives.

We refer to this entire forty-day season in a general way as the Christmas season.

Christmas means that "The Word (the Eternal God) became flesh and dwelt among us, full of Grace and Truth" (John 1:14).

Christmas means God is not an impersonal machine or super power who runs the universe by remote control. He is a Person "Emmanuel – God with us." "And you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Mt 1:21).

God is a Person who wants to establish a personal relationship with you. A person to whom you can pray, a Person who cares for you.

Christmas means that God has visited his people and not just a visit but here to stay. He is with us in joy and sorrow, living and dying, and he will come again at the end of time to judge the living and the dead.

Christmas means that we do not have to be terrorized by the sins of the past. God's great gift to us is a Savior wrapped in human flesh. He came to wipe out our sins of the past and restore us to holiness.

Christmas means that God cared to give us the Best. "God so loved the world that He gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (Jn 3:16).

God did not send an angel or a saint or a prophet – He came HIMSELF IN PERSON.

Christmas means that there are two births of Christ: one in Bethlehem for all; the other in each of us to allow us to be spiritually reborn. He unites our humanity with his divinity – the initial plan for all of us in Paradise. He allows us to be a communicant of the Divine nature through Theosis, becoming GODLY.

He was born in the first Bethlehem so that he might come and be born in the second Bethlehem – your soul and mine!

Our liturgical prayers tell us we "behold a strange and wonderful mystery: The cave is heaven, the Virgin a cherubic throne, the manger, a noble place where reposes Christ, the uncontainable God." (9<sup>th</sup> Ode of Nativity).

Accept Christ in, allow Him space in you, and not just will the "cave be heaven," your body too will be heaven with Christ reposing in you and restoring you to touch the divinity.

I offer all of you my best wishes during this glorious season, asking you to stay safe during this COVID crisis. Pray for each other, care for each other, love each other, for you have Christ living within you.

With my love and prayers, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ God,

*Nicholas*

Most Rev. Nicholas Samra  
Eparchial Bishop of Newton

أحباتي أعضاء الإكليروس وجماعة المؤمنين:

"استعدي يا بيت لحم فقد انفتحت عدن للجميع. تأهبي يا إفراثا فإن عود الحياة قد نبت في المغارة من البتول. وبطنها ظهر فردوساً عقلياً، فيه الغرسة الإلهية التي إذا أكلنا منها نحيا ولا نموت مثل آدم. المسيح يولد ليقيم الصورة التي سقطت قديماً."

إننا على وشك الاحتفال بظهور الله متجسداً. واحتفالنا لا يقتصر على ميلاده في مغارة بيت لحم، بل يتناول أيضاً تسميته وختانته وفقاً لشريعة شعبه، ودخوله الهيكل بعد أربعين يوماً ليلقي شعبه، وعماذه على يد يوحنا على مرأى من شعبه. تلك الأحداث كلها إن هي إلا إعلان للنعمة التي من بها علينا كلمة الله باعتلانه لنا كاملاً في شخص يسوع المسيح. فقد أصبح إنساناً حقيقياً، كما جاء في النشيد الوارد أعلاه، "اليقيم الصورة التي سقطت قديماً في الفردوس" بسبب خطيئة آدم وحواء. إن هذه الأعياد تكشف لنا العمل الخلاصي الذي يُجرى به الله في العالم بواسطة ابنه. ليست هي إذن مجرد رواية تاريخية، فيسوع لا يزال حياً، يعمل في العالم بفضل التبشير بالإنجيل: إنه عمل الله الخلاصي في حياتنا. وهذه الفترة التي تستغرق أربعين يوماً هي ما نسميه اصطلاحاً بموسم الميلاد. والميلاد يعني "أن الكلمة (الله الأزلي) صار بشراً وسكن بيننا، مملوءاً نعمةً وحققاً." (يوحنا 1: 14).

الميلاد يعني أن الله ليس آلة بلا شخصية. ولا هو مجرد طاقة خارقة تُدير الكون بجهاز تحكم عن بعد. إنه شخص، "عنانويل"، أي الله معنا. "وستلد ابناً تسميه يسوع لأنه هو الذي يخلص شعبه من خطاياهم." (متى 1: 21). إن الله شخص يريد إقامة علاقة شخصية مع كل منكم. شخص يمكنكم أن ترفعوا إليه الصلاة. شخص يهّمه أمركم.

الميلاد يعني أن الله افتقد شعبه، ليس بزيارة عابرة، بل بإقامة دائمة. إنه معنا في السراء والضراء، شخصاً حياً يعيش ويموت، وسيرجع حين انقضاء الدهر ليدين الأحياء والأموات.

الميلاد يعني أننا لم نعد بعد تحت وطأة خطايانا الماضية. لأن نعمة الله العظمى قد أتت في شخص مخلص ملتحف بجسد بشري، جاء ليحو خطايانا السابقة ويعيدنا إلى حالة القداسة.

الميلاد يعني أن الله أبى ألا أن يهب لنا ما هو الأفضل: "لقد أحب الله العالم حتى إنه بذل ابنه، وحده، لكي لا يهلك كل من يؤمن به بل تكون له الحياة الأبدية." (يوحنا 3: 16) إن الله لم يرسل إلينا ملاكاً أو قديساً أو نبيّاً، بل أتانا شخصياً هو ذاته! الميلاد يعني أن للمسيح ميلادتين: ميلاداً في بيت لحم للجميع. وميلاداً لكل منا لنتنمّن من أن نولد روحياً. إنه يريد أن يوحد بشرتنا ولاهوتة. ذلك كان أصلاً مخططة لجميعنا في جنة عدن. وهو بذلك يؤهلنا لأن نشركه طبيعته الإلهية. فتصبح نحن أيضاً متألّهين.

لقد ولد في بيت لحم الأولى ليأتي ويولد في بيت لحم الثانية: أي في نفسي ونفسي! صلواتنا الطقسية تدعونا إلى أن "نشاهد سرّاً عجيباً مستغرباً. فالمغارة قد أضحّت سماءً والبتول عرشاً شيروبيمياً. والمدود محللاً شريعياً. اتكا فيه المسيح الإله الذي لا يسعه مكان." (التسبحة التاسعة من قانون الميلاد).

رغبوا بالمسيح. أفسحوا له محلاً في قلوبكم. لا تدعوا المغارة وحدها تصبح سماء. بل ليحل المسيح في أجسادكم ويجعلها هي أيضاً سماءً لكي تلمسوا ألوهته.

ختاماً، أعرب لكم عن أطيب التمنّيات في هذا الموسم المبارك، راجياً أن تحافظوا على سلامتكم في أزمة الكورونا. صلّوا بعضكم لأجل بعض. واعتنوا بعضكم ببعض. وأحبوا بعضكم بعضاً إكراماً للمسيح الذي يحيا فيكم.

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# St. Basil's Fellowship Organization



## Layla's Dream

Layla Angela Charette was granted her angel wings February 12, 2017 following a sudden illness(SEPSIS). She was only five years old but left a lifetime of loving memories. She was a dreamer with a gracious smile and eyes that could melt your heart. Layla was a creative, kind, imaginative, and giving spirit who truly loved being with her family and friends. She has a giving and nurturing way about her and we want to spread that love to others in need. "Layla's Dream" was created as a way to honor her and all the things she loved. Any money raised will go directly towards bringing joy and a little hope to those going through difficult times at Hasbro Childrens' Hospital. As a family, we will shop for things like dolls, stuffed animals, books, play doh, etc. and donate our time to brighten the days of those going through tough times like our sweet Layla did. Thank you and God Bless.

In lieu of monetary donations we would graciously accept new and packaged...

dolls	action figures	play doh
baby rattles	baby toys	kids blankets
themed pillow cases	hand-held games	kids wall decals

...or anything that a child confined to a bed/hospital room would be able to hold or play with. Please refrain from donating stuffed animals that are not in sealed packages, as they can bring germs into the hospital.

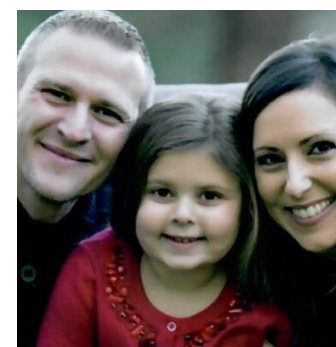
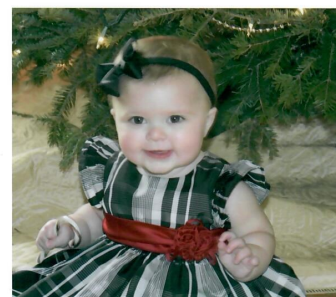
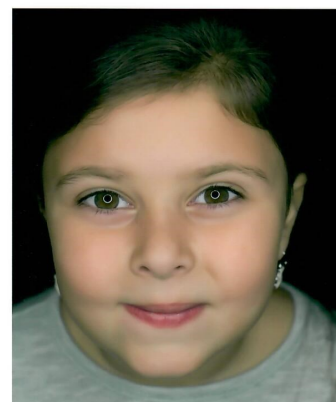


Layla Charette is the daughter of BJ and Alaina (Kayata) Charette,

Grand-daughter of Nicholas and Joyce Kayata

Niece of Joe and Meghan Kayata

Great-Niece to Michael & Barbara O'Rourke and Tom and Joanne Sabbagh





# 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 <sup>th</sup> 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.



# CHRISTMAS-NEW YEAR-THEOPHANY

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



- \* **Eve of the Nativity of our Lord, December 24<sup>th</sup>:**  
4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- \* **Nativity of our Lord, December 25<sup>th</sup>:** 11:00 a.m.
- \* **Synaxis of the Mother of God, December 26<sup>th</sup>:** 4:00 pm
- \* **New Year Eve, December 31<sup>st</sup>:** 4:00 pm
- \* **New Year Day, January 1<sup>st</sup>:** 11:00 am
- \* **Feast of St. Basil the Great, January 2<sup>nd</sup>:** 4:00 pm
- \* **Feast of the Theophany, January 6<sup>th</sup>:** 9:00 am

# FOLLOWING JESUS—KIDS BULLETIN



## The Christmas Story

<p>1</p> <p>"God sent the angel Gabriel to a girl named Mary." Luke 1:26</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>"The angel said to her, 'Don't be afraid, because God is very pleased with you.'" Luke 1:30</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>"Listen! You will become pregnant and have a baby boy. You will name him Jesus." Luke 1:31</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>"He will be great. People will call him the Son of the Most High God." Luke 1:32</p> 
<p>5</p> <p>"Mary said, 'I am the Lord's servant. Let this thing you have said happen to me!'" Luke 1:38</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>"Caesar sent out an order... that everyone's name must be put on a list." Luke 2:1</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>"Everyone traveled to their hometowns to have their name put on the list." Luke 2:3</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>"So Joseph went to the town of David because he was from the family of David. Joseph registered with Mary." Luke 2:4-5</p> 
<p>9</p> <p>"While Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have the baby. She gave birth to her first son." Luke 2:6-7</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>"There were no rooms left in the inn. So she wrapped the baby with cloths and laid him in a box where animals are fed." Luke 2:7</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>"That night, some shepherds were in the fields nearby watching their sheep." Luke 2:8</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>"An angel of the Lord stood before them. The glory of the Lord was shining around them." Luke 2:9</p> 
<p>13</p> <p>"The angel said to them, 'Don't be afraid, because I am bringing you some GOOD News!'" Luke 2:10</p> 	<p>14</p> <p>"Today your Savior was born in David's town. He is Christ, the Lord." Luke 2:11</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>"This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a feeding box." Luke 2:12</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>"All the angels were praising God, saying, 'Give glory to God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace to the people who please God.'" Luke 2:13-14</p> 
<p>17</p> <p>"So the shepherds went quickly and found Mary, Joseph, and the baby." Luke 2:16-17</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>"Then the shepherds went back to their sheep, praising God and thanking him for everything that they had seen &amp; heard." Luke 2:20</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>"After Jesus was born, some wise men came from the east." Matthew 2:1</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>"When the wise men saw the star, they were filled with joy." Matthew 2:10</p> 
<p>21</p> <p>"They went to the house... and they bowed down and worshiped the child." Matthew 2:11</p> 	<p>22</p> <p>"They gave him treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>"A child will be born to us. God will give a son to us. His name will be... Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>"For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. God gave his Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life." John 3:16</p> 



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



*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  
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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Thank you and God bless you and yours.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Welcome to*

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

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**On Facebook**

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**YouTube**

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

**Contact us for information and ideas**

[office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com](mailto: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 أجل 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](https://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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