



August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

### Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

الأحد الثالث عشر بعد العنصرة

**Address :**

15 Skyview Dr.  
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

**Parish Website :**

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

**Facebook :**

<https://www.facebook.com/StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreekCatholicChurchRI/>

**YouTube :**

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

**Email :**

[office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com](mailto:office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com)

**Telephone :** (401)722-1345

**Office hours :**

Tue-Sat 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Divine Liturgies :**

Sundays at 10:00 am

**Pastoral Emergencies and anointing of the sick:** (401)722-1345

**Holy Mysteries:**

**Reconciliation:** every Sunday before the Divine Liturgy 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.

**Resurrectional troparion (Tone 4)**

The Women disciples of the Lord heard from the Angels the joyful news of the resurrection, and casting away the ancestral sentence, they announced with pride to the Apostles: Death is vanquished, Christ God is risen! And has bestowed great mercy upon the world

**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 Nativity of the Theotokos**

Through your holy birth, O Immaculate One, Joachim and Anne were delivered from the shame of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. Your people, redeemed from the debt of their sins, cry out to you to honor your birth: "the barren one gives birth to the Mother of God the Sustainer of our life!"

**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 of the Divine Liturgy**

PROKIMENON How great are your works, O Lord! in wisdom you have wrought them all.  
Stichon: Bless the Lord, O my soul! You are very great indeed, O Lord my God!

**Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians: 16: 13-24**

Brothers and sisters watch, stand fast in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let everything you do be done out of love. Now, I beg you, brethren: you know that the members of Stephanas' family are the first-fruits of Achaia and have devoted themselves to the service of the saints. To such as these, you too become subject, and to every helper and worker. I rejoice at the presence of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because what was lacking on your part they have supplied — for they

**طروبارية القيامة (باللحن الرابع)**

إن تلميذات الرب تعلمن من الملاك بشري القيامة البهيجة. ونبذن القضاء على الجدين، وقلن للرسل مفخرات: لقد سلب الموت، ونهض المسيح الإله، واهباً للعالم عظيم الرحمة.

**طروبارية القديس باسيليوس**

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

**قنداق الختام لميلاد السيدة باللحن الرابع**

ان يواكيم وحنة من عار العقر أطلقا، وآدم وحواء من فساد الموت أعتقا، بموليدك المقدس أيتها الطاهرة. فله يُعبد شعبك أيضاً، وقد أنقذ من تبعه الزلات، صارخاً إليك: العاقرة لئلا والدته الإله مُغذية حياتنا.

**النشيد لوالدة الإله**

يا نصيرة المسيحيين التي لا تخزي ووسيطتهم الدائمة لدى الخالق لا تعرضي عن أصوات الخطاة الطالبين إليك، بل بما أنك صالحة، بادري إلى معونتنا، نحن الصارخين إليك بإيمان، هلمّي إلى الشفاعة وأسري إلى الابتهاال، يا والدته الإله المحامية دائماً عن مكرميك.

**رسالة الليتارجيا الالهية :**

ما أعظم أعمالك يا رب، لقد صنعت جميعها بحكمة باركي يا نفسي الرب، أيها الرب إلهي لقد عظمت جداً

**الرسالة (1 كورنثس 16: 13-24)**

يا اخوة، أسهروا، أثبتوا في الايمان، كونوا رجالاً، تشددوا. لتمكن أموركم كلها بمحبة. وأطلب اليكم أيها الاخوة، بما انكم تعرفون بيت استيفانا، انه باكورة أكانية، وقد خصصوا أنفسهم لخدمة القديسين، أن تكونوا أنتم أيضاً مطلوعين لمثل هؤلاء، ولكل من يعلوهم ويتعب. اني أفرح بحضور استيفانا وقزنتائس وأخائكس، لانهم سدا ما أخللتم به. فأراحوا روحي وروحكم. فأعرفوا مثل هؤلاء. تسلم عليكم كنائس آسية، تسلم عليكم في الرب كثيراً أكيلاً وبرسكيلة،





#### 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 support vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the United States. <https://melkite.org/namw>

**\*\*Sunday School and all other church activities are suspended due to COVID-19 .**



have refreshed both my spirit and yours. To such as these, therefore, give recognition. The churches of Asia greet you. Acula and Priscilla with the church at their house greet you heartily iii the Lord. All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, greet you with my own hand. If any man does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you. My love is with all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen.

#### ALLELUIA

String your bow, go forth, reign for the sake of truth, meekness and righteousness and your right hand shall lead you wonderfully.

Stichon: You loved righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore God, your God, anointed you with the oil of joy above your companions.

#### The Holy Gospel

Gospel Matthew 21:33-42,

The Parable of the Wicked Tenant

The Lord told this parable: "There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard, and put a hedge around it, and dug a wine vat in it, and built a tower; then he leased it to the vine-dressers, and went abroad. But when the fruit season drew near, he sent his servants to the vine-dressers to receive his fruits. And the vine-dressers seized his servants, and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent another party of servants more numerous than the first; and they did the same to these. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But the vine-dressers, on seeing the son, said among themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and we shall have his inheritance.' So they seized him, cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When, therefore, the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vine-dressers?" They said to him, "He will utterly destroy those evil men, and will lease the vineyard to other vine-dressers, who will render to him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'The Stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone; by the Lord this has been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes'?"

#### Special Petitions

- For all your people who have proven positive with the Covina virus, that they may be restored to full health and offer you their praise and thanksgiving, we pray to you, Lord, hear us and have mercy.
- For all those who have died as a result of the corona virus that he may be granted rest with the Saints and the mercy of God in the Heavenly Kingdom, we pray to You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.
- For doctors, nurses, and all in health care, risking their lives to minister to those afflicted with the corona virus, that they remain safe, and in good health as they serve others, we pray to You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.
- For all your people in Lebanon who were hurt during the disastrous explosion, that they may be restored to full health, and for those who died that they may be granted rest among the Saints, we pray to You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.
- For peace throughout the Middle East, especially in Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, and Iraq, we pay to You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

مع الكنيسة التي في بيتهم. يُسَلِّم عليكم جميعاً الأخوة. سَلِّمُوا بعضكم على بعض بِقُبْلَةٍ مَقْدَسَةٍ. السَّلَامُ بِخَطِّ يَدِي أَنَا بُولُسَ. إِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ لَا يُحِبُّ رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ فَلْيَكُنْ مُبْسَلًا. "مَارَانْ أَنَا". نَعْمَةُ رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ مَعَكُمْ. مُحِبِّيَّ مَعَكُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ، آمِينَ.

#### هللوا

اسْتَلِّ وَسِرَّ إِلَى الْإِمَامِ، وَامْلِكْ فِي سَبِيلِ الْحَقِّ وَالِدَعَةِ وَالْبَرْ، فَتَهْدِيكَ يَمِينُكَ هَدِيًّا عَجِيبًا

أَحْبَبْتَ الْبِرَّ وَأَبْغَضْتَ الْإِثْمَ، لِذَلِكَ مَسَحَكَ اللَّهُ الْهُكَّ بِدُهْنِ الْبَهْجَةِ أَفْضَلَ مِنْ شَرَكَاثِكَ.

#### الانجيل المقدس

(متى 21: 33 – 42)

قال الربُّ هذا المَثَلُ: إنسانٌ سَيِّدٌ بَيْتٍ غَرَسَ كَرْمًا، وَحَوَّطَهُ بِسَيَاجٍ، وَحَفَرَ فِيهِ مَعْصَرَةً، وَبَنَى بُرْجًا، وَسَلَّمَهُ إِلَى كَرَّامِينَ وَسَافِرٍ. فَلَمَّا قَرُبَ أَوَانُ الثَّمَارِ، أَرْسَلَ عَبِيدَهُ إِلَى الْكَرَّامِينَ لِأِيْخُذُوا ثِمَارَهُ. فَأَخَذَ الْكَرَّامُونَ عَبِيدَهُ، فَجَلَدُوا بَعْضًا وَقَتَلُوا بَعْضًا، وَرَجَمُوا بَعْضًا. فَأَرْسَلَ مِنْ جَدِيدٍ عَبِيدًا آخَرِينَ أَكْثَرَ مِنْ الْأَوَّلِينَ، فَفَعَلُوا بِهِمْ كَذَلِكَ. وَفِي الْآخِرِ أَرْسَلَ إِلَيْهِمْ ابْنَهُ، قَائِلًا: إِنَّهُمْ سَيَهَابُونِ ابْنِي. فَلَمَّا رَأَى الْكَرَّامُونَ الْابْنَ قَالُوا فِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ. هَذَا هُوَ الْوَارِثُ، تَعَالَوْا نَقْتُلُهُ وَنَسْتَوْلِي عَلَى مِيرَاثِهِ. فَأَخَذُوهُ وَأَخْرَجُوهُ خَارِجَ الْكِرْمِ وَقَتَلُوهُ. فَإِذَا جَاءَ رَبُّ الْكِرْمِ، فَمَاذَا يَفْعَلُ بِأُولَئِكَ الْكَرَّامِينَ؟ قَالُوا لَهُ إِنَّهُ يُمِيتُ أُولَئِكَ الْآرْدِيَاءَ أَرْدًا مِيتَةً. وَيَدْفَعُ الْكِرْمَ إِلَى كَرَّامِينَ آخَرِينَ يُؤَدُّونَ إِلَيْهِ الثَّمَرَ فِي أَوَانِهِ. فَقَالَ لَهُمْ يَسُوعُ: أَمَّا قَرَأْتُمْ قَطُّ فِي الْكُتُبِ، إِنَّ الْحِجَرَ الَّذِي رَذَلَهُ الْبَنَّاؤُونَ هُوَ صَارَ رَأْسًا لِلزَّوَايَةِ. مَنْ عِنْدَ الرَّبِّ كَانَ ذَلِكَ، وَهُوَ عَجِيبٌ فِي أَعْيُنِنَا؟

#### طلبات خاصة

- من أجل شفاء جميع المصابين بوباء الكورونا، لكي يمجّدوك ويرفعوا إليك الشكر، إليك نطلب يا رب، فاستجب وارحم.
- من أجل جميع الذين توفّقوا بوباء الكورونا، وراحة نفوسهم مع القديسين، وتمتّعهم برحمتك في الملكوت السّماوي، إليك نطلب يا رب فاستجب وارحم.
- من أجل الأطباء والممرضين والعاملين في المجال الصحيّ، الذين يعتنون بالمصابين بوباء الكورونا، معرّضين حياتهم للخطر، أن تحميهم وتؤمن عليهم بالصّحة الجيّدة في خدمتهم، إليك نطلب يا رب فاستجب وارحم.
- من أجل الشفاء التام لأفراد شعبك في لبنان، الذين أصيبوا بجراح من جرّاء كارثة الانفجار، والزّاحة الأبدية مع القديسين لضحايا الانفجار، إليك نطلب يا رب فاستجب وارحم.
- من أجل السّلام في ربوع الشرق الأوسط، لا سيما في لبنان وسورية وفلسطين والعراق، إليك نطلب يا رب فاستجب وارحم.



# Divine Liturgy Intentions



**NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2020: THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. COMMEMORATION OF OUR FATHERS AMONG THE SAINTS ALEXANDER, JOHN AND PAUL THE LATTER, ARCHBISHOPS OF CONSTANTINOPLE.**

**10:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:**

- + Souhail Albatal & Haiat Neima by their children.
- + REV. ALBERT AZRAK by Mr. Dennis Dakake.
- + JOSEPH & ANGELA KAYATA by Michael & Barbara O'Rourke & Family.
- + CHARLES & ANNE O'ROURKE by Michael & Barbara O'Rourke & Family.
- + LAYLA ANGELA CHARETTE by Uncle Michael, Auntie B., Greg & Katie.
- + GEORGE & ELLA (LAZIEH) HARRIS by Hon. Thomas Lazieh & Family.
- + MARY A. MOON (16<sup>th</sup> Anniv.) by her children & grandchildren.
- + MARY WAKIM TAHHAN by Samir & Hanaa Boudjouk.
- + YOUSEF AGHIA by Marwan & Afaf Ashkar.
- + JOSEPH P. AZAR, JR. by George Madour & Family.
- + GEORGE P. BANNA, JR. by Mrs. Joan T. Ray.
- + ANITA & JOSEPH BRULE by the Family.
- + VINCENT H. CAPALDI, JR. by Brian & Christine Gilmore & Family.
- + ROSE KHOURY by Dr. Roland & Micheline Ghanem.
- + DONALD AJMO by Michael & Lina Raheb & Family.
- + HON. LOUIS E. AZAR, ESQ. by Deacon Gilbert & Mimi Altongy.
- + JAY PAUL by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- + VICTORIA PROCHNIK by M/M Jamil Mardo & Family (Beirut, Lebanon).
- + YOUSSEF MADOUR by Anthony Brahimsha & Family.
- + DR. YUSUF & BLANCHE MUSSALLI by Jalal & Souad Dekki.
- + GEORGE BOUDJOUK by James Procter & Family.
- + GEORGEANNA DECKEY by Terry McMichael.
- + STEVEN KILSEY by his brother Jeffrey Kilsey.
- + WAYNE LACY by Sally Gravino.
- + ELIAS J. KISHFY by Samir & Hanaa Boudjouk.
- + GEORGE DECKEY by M/M George Mardo.
- + JULIA & FRED KISHFY by the Family.
- + ALBERT J. KISHFY by M/M Stephen Walsh & Family.
- + FRANCIS A. SAGGAL by Joe Sackal.
- + RIZKALLAH DEKKI by George & Sherine Mussalli.
- + MARK HADDAD by Ken, Ann, Allyson & Kimberly Sabbagh.
- + HALA ASHKAR KARRAZ by Joe & Yolanda Saggal.
- + MARJORIE & ANTHONY TAGER by the Family.
- + JOAN ZAINYEH by Shirley Moon Lemay.
- + AMANDA ROWEY by her parents, Anthony & Fadia Rowey.
- + HOLY & FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY by M/M Joseph Saggal.

**For the wellbeing, health, protection and salvation of the servants of God; Archdeacon George Yany, Sally Gravino, Francine Robot, Fred Kousa, and Samir Boudjouk.**

**NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020: FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. THE MIRACLE PERFORMED BY THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AT COLOSSUS, LATER CALLED CHONE.**

**10:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:**

- + REV. ALBERT AZRAK by Thomas Lazieh & Sons.
- + JANE DIOHEP MURRAY by Maryjoan & Steve Walsh.
- + KEVIN DURNIN by his wife Christine.
- + ABOUD & ANTOINETTE TAHAN by their daughters Mary & Christine.
- + MARY WAKIM TAHHAN by Bishara Tahhan & Family.
- + CABRINA PASQUALINE CIPRIANO by Hon. Thomas Lazieh & Family.
- + HON. LOUIS E. AZAR, ESQ. by Deacon Edmond & Theresa Raheb.
- + DONALD AJMO by Brenda & Roger Hultquist & Family.
- + VICTORIA PROCHNIK by Samir & Hanaa Boudjouk.
- + STEVEN KILSEY by his brother Jeffrey Kilsey.
- + JOSEPH P. AZAR, JR by M/M Jim Briden.
- + ANITA & JOSEPH BRULE by the Family.
- + YOUSEF AGHIA by Marwan & Afaf Ashkar.
- + JAY PAUL by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- + RIZKALLAH DEKKI by Chantnl Deckey Simon.
- + GEORGE BOUDJOUK by Joe & Vanessa Altongy & Family.
- + ALBERT J. KISHFY by Sharon Kishfy-Landry.
- + YUSUF & BLANCHE MUSSALLI by M/M V. Edward Fayan.
- + GEORGE DECKEY by Ms. Vicky Boudjouk.
- + GEORGEANNA DECKEY by Marie & George Ghazal.
- + ROSE KHOURY by Dr. & Mrs. Roland Ghanem.
- + JULIA & FRED KISHFY by the Family.
- + ELIAS J. KISHFY by Charles & Francine Robot.
- + YOUSSEF MADOUR by Jane Jabren..
- + FRANCIS A. SAGGAL by John & Najat Khoury.
- + LORICE H. SENNO By Richard & Grace Brown.
- + WAYNE LACY by Olga Caswell.
- + MARK HADDAD by MM Thomas Sabbagh & Family.
- + VINCENT H. CAPALDI, JR. by M/M Anthony G. Mardo.
- + GEORGE P. BANNA, JR. by Delores & Lorian Agag.
- + AMANDA ROWEY by Joseph & Leila Eid.
- + SADIE TAGER by Mary Ann & Eric Johnson.
- + LOUIS SIMON SARKAS & MATHILDE SARKAS by their granddaughter, Dr. Jennifer Sarkas.
- + ELIAS JOSEPH SARKAS by his daughter, Dr. Jennifer Sarkas.
- + HALA ASHKAR KARRAZ by Bishara & Wafaa Tahhan.
- + MARJORIE & ANTHONY TAGER by the Family.
- + JOSEPH BERETTA, SR. & ADRIANNE BERETTA by the Family.
- + ANN BERETTA MORFILI & NORMAN BERETTA, JR. by the Family.
- + 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.







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

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

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



## ST. BASIL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**SACRIFICIAL GIVING: AUGUST 23, 2020:** Budgets: \$1,696.00, Envelopes: \$1,694.00; Loose: \$2.00; Building Fund: \$115.00; Stipends: \$40.00; Candles: \$59.00; Melkite Diocesan Support: \$236.00; Add'l Cemetery: \$2.00.

Anyone, interested in reading the Epistle in English or Arabic at the Liturgies should contact Father Ephrem or the Deacons as soon as possible. If you so desire, you must register your name or you will not be included in the schedule.

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.

**Church: "Enter in Quietness, Rest in Prayer, Worship in Reverence, Depart in Peace to Serve."**

**Due to the escalating situation in Lebanon and the Middle East, please remember in your prayers and sacrifices, the victims and their families of this unfortunate devastation. Let us open our hearts and offer any assistance to this noble cause. Envelopes have been placed at the entrance to the church where you can place your generous gifts in the basket provided to aid our brothers and sisters in Lebanon in their recovery from the disastrous explosion in Beirut. Gifts and donations will be forwarded to the Diocese so that they may arrive to the proper beneficiaries. All Checks should be payable to the DIocese of NEWTON. May Christ God have mercy on His people.**

**We now have the diocesan link to make donations to *Lebanon Relief* on-line. Please click on the link below to give your generous gift to aid our brothers and sisters in Lebanon in their recovery from the devastating explosion in Beirut.**

<https://melkite.org/products-page/donation/donate-to-a-melkite-greek-catholic-ministry>

**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.

**ST. BASIL'S FELLOWSHIP** will meet after the Divine Liturgy in Cultural Center. Because there was a little hiatus since the last one, we urge and encourage all members to be in attendance. Please mind your social distancing to keep everyone safe.

**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.

# The Beheading of St John the Forerunner

THE GOSPELS DEPICT St John the Baptist as the “forerunner” or herald, announcing the immanent coming of God’s saving work in Jesus Christ. In the Gospel of Mark, for example, we hear John say: *“There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit”* (Mk1: 7, 8).

John’s work as herald of our salvation was not limited to announcing the beginning of Christ’s ministry in Galilee. Our troparion for today’s commemoration mentions that John baptized the Lord Jesus. Then, it continues, “You have fought for the sake of truth and proclaimed to those in Hades that God, who appeared in the flesh, has taken away the sins of the world and bestowed His great mercy upon us.” John’s ministry continued after death, as he announced to the dead in Hades that Christ’s coming was close at hand.

## The Story of John’s Struggle

We read the story of John’s final fight “for the sake of truth” in Mark’s Gospel. *“For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife; for he had married her. Because John had said to Herod, ‘It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife’”* (Mk 6:17, 18).

John languished in prison because Herod had a superstitious fear of the prophet. He revered John as a holy man, but could not bring himself to follow the Baptist’s teachings.

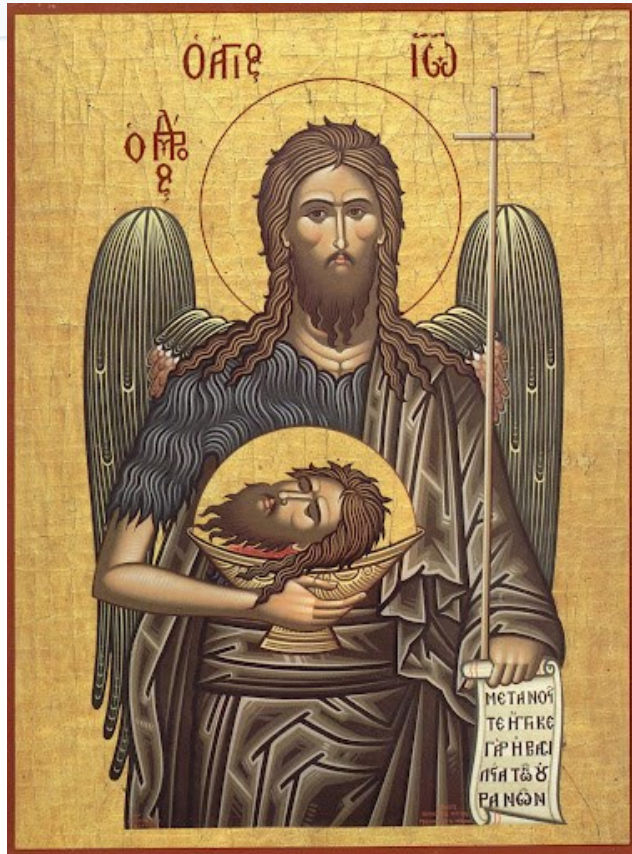
*“Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee. And when Herodias’ daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, ‘Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you.’ He also swore to her, ‘Whatever you ask me, I will give you – up to half my kingdom’”* (Mk 6:21-23).

What followed has frequently been retold in literature, music, painting and sculpture. Prompted by her mother, Salome asks for the head of John: *“I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter”* (v. 25).

Because of the oath he had sworn in the presence of his guests, Herod agreed and had John beheaded, making possible the prophet’s ministry in Hades.

## Our Observance of John’s Death

Because John, whom the Lord Himself had called the greatest man born of woman, was killed as a result of Herod’s birthday revels, the Byzantine Churches observe today as a strict fast: no parties, no luxury



foods, no drink. We see where these things can lead.

A number of popular local customs have risen to mark the day among various Eastern Christians. People may:

Avoid eating anything on round plates, since Salome asked for John’s head “*on a platter*” (Mk 6:25). Use bowls instead.

Avoid eating any round fruits or vegetables (they resemble a head);

Avoid eating anything that requires use of knives or anything that cuts;

Avoid eating or drinking anything red (they remind us of blood).

A contemporary way to observe this commemoration might be to fast and pray for those who have died senselessly at the hands of others through terrorism, armed conflicts or senseless violence. Think of them as John’s “companions in suffering.”

## Did John Witness in Hades?

As the Gospels affirm, Jesus was still alive when John was executed. But the New Testament does not teach that John witnessed to Christ in Hades. How and when did this concept enter our tradition?

Origen of Alexandria, the foremost commentator on the Scriptures in the third century, explained that John the Baptist had died before Christ, “so that he might descend to the lower regions and announce His coming. For everywhere the witness and forerunner of Jesus is John, being born before and dying shortly before the Son of God, so that not only to those of his generation but likewise to those who lived before Christ should liberation from the death be preached, and that he might everywhere prepare a people trained to receive the Lord” (Origen, *Homily on Luke* 4).

Those in Hades would “receive the Lord” upon His death as we read in the New Testament: *“Christ also died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit; in which he went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly did not obey...”* (1 Pt 3:18, 19). A number of the Apostolic Fathers such as Saints Polycarp of Smyrna, Ignatius of Antioch, Irenaeus of Lyons, and Clement of Alexandria all taught that Christ had descended into Hades. We find the same teaching in the Syriac Fathers Jacob of Sarouj, Aphrahat the Persian and Ephrem the Syrian as well as the Greek Fathers Athanasius the Great, Basil the Great, Gregory Nazianzen, John Chrysostom, Cyril of Alexandria, Maximus the Confessor and John of Damascus.

Our most common icon of the resurrection depicts Christ emerging from Hades leading out by the hand Adam and Eve (and, by implication, the human race). In many icons John the Forerunner is beside Him, at the head of those who had died before Christ and were now brought to eternal life by Him.





# AUGUST LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> <b>13th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>الأحد الثالث عشر بعد العنصرة</b> 1 Corinthians 16:13-24 Matthew 21:33-42	<b>31</b> Cincture of the Theotokos وضع زئار والدة الإله Hebrews 9:1-7 Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28			<b>Liturgical Symbols:</b> Abstain from meat Church Major Feasts Fast from midnight until noon Lenten Season		<b>1</b> Procession of the Cross <b>Beginning of the Theotokos Fast</b> <b>بدء قطاعة السيدة العذراء</b> Hebrews 11:33-12:1 Matthew 10:16-22
<b>2</b> <b>9th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>الأحد التاسع بعد العنصرة</b> 1 Corinthians 4:9-17 Matthew 14:22-34	<b>3</b> Sts Isaac, Dalmatos and Faustos 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 Matthew 21:18-22	<b>4</b> Seven youths of Ephesus 1 Corinthians 15:29-38 Matthew 21:23-27	<b>5</b> Preparation of the Transfiguration 1 Corinthians 16:4-12 Matthew 21:28-32	<b>6</b> <b>Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ</b> <b>عيد تجلي الرب</b> 2 Peter 1:10-19 Matthew 17:1-9	<b>7</b> St Dometios 2 Corinthians 1:12-20 Matthew 22:23-33	<b>8</b> <b>St Mary Mackillop</b> St Emilian of Cyzica Romans 15:30-33 Matthew 17:24-18:4
<b>9</b> <b>10th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>الأحد العاشر بعد العنصرة</b> 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Matthew 17:14-23	<b>10</b> St Lawrence 2 Corinthians 2:4-15 Matthew 23:13-22	<b>11</b> St Euplos 2 Corinthians 2:14-3:3 Matthew 23:23-28	<b>12</b> Sts Photios and Anicetos 2 Corinthians 3:4-11 Matthew 23:29-39	<b>13</b> Leave-taking of Transfiguration <b>وداع عيد تجلي الرب</b> 2 Corinthians 4:1-12 Matthew 24:13-28	<b>14</b> Vigil of the Feast of the Dormition of our Lady 2 Corinthians 4:13-18 Matthew 24:27-33,42-51	<b>15</b> <b>Dormition of the Theotokos</b> <b>رقدة والدة الإله</b> Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28
<b>16</b> <b>11th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>الأحد الحادي عشر بعد العنصرة</b> 1 Corinthians 9:2-12 Matthew 18:23-35	<b>17</b> St Myron 2 Corinthians 5:10-15 Mark 1:9-15	<b>18</b> Sts Floros and Lauros 2 Corinthians 5:15-21 Mark 1:16-22	<b>19</b> St Andrew and his companions 2 Corinthians 6:11-16 Mark 1:23-28	<b>20</b> Holy Prophet Samuel 2 Corinthians 7:1-10 Mark 1:29-35	<b>21</b> St Thaddeus the Apostle 2 Corinthians 7:10-16 Mark 2:18-22	<b>22</b> St Agathonikos and his companions 1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5 Matthew 20:29-34
<b>23</b> <b>12th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>الأحد الثاني عشر بعد العنصرة</b> 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Matthew 19:16-26	<b>24</b> St Eutyches 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 3:6-12	<b>25</b> Relics of St Bartholomew 2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5 Mark 3:13-19	<b>26</b> St Mary of Jesus Crucified (Bawardy) 2 Corinthians 9:12-10:7 Mark 3:20-27	<b>27</b> St Poemen 2 Corinthians 10:7-18 Mark 3:28-34	<b>28</b> St Augustine of Hippo 2 Corinthians 11:5-21 Mark 4:1-9	<b>29</b> Beheading of St John the Baptist <b>قطع هامة يوحنا المعمدان</b> Acts 13:25-33 Mark 6:14-30

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.

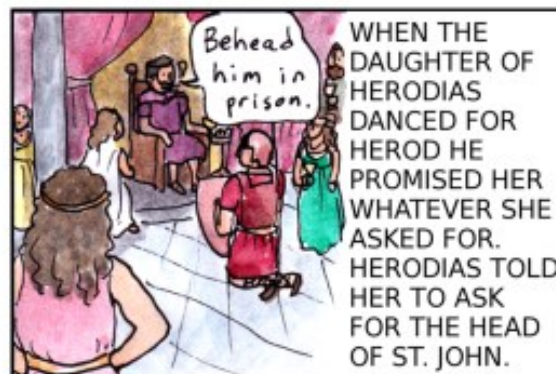
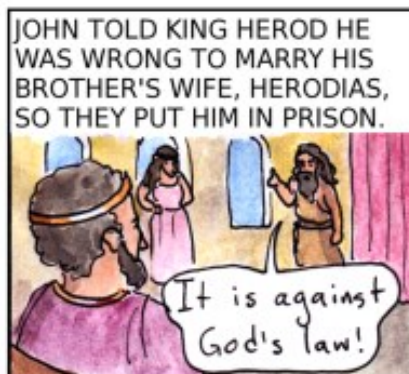
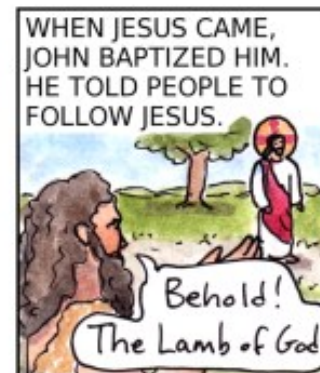
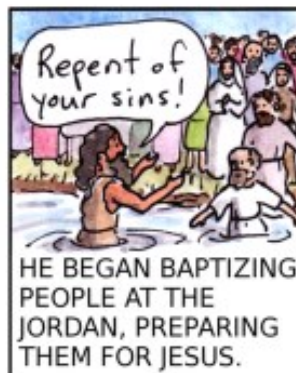
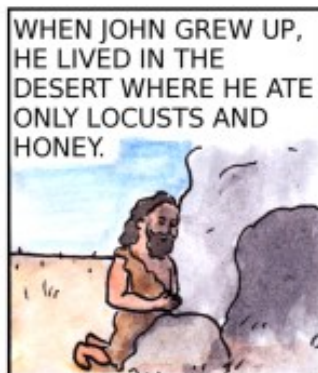
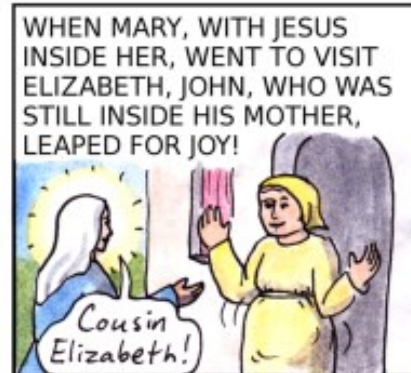
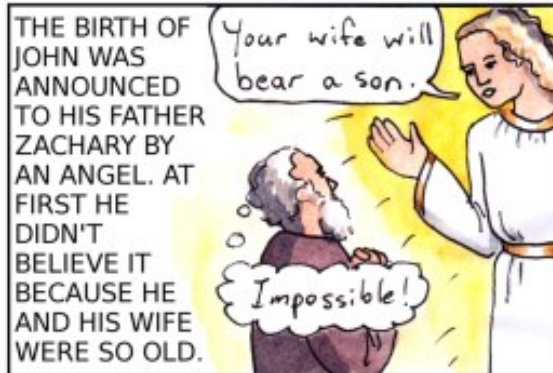
# FOLLOWING JESUS—KIDS BULLETIN



## SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

BIRTHDAY: JUNE 24

DEATH: AUGUST 29



SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST IS LIKE A SIGN-POST THAT POINTS TO JESUS. EVEN THOUGH PEOPLE THOUGHT HE WAS WEIRD, HE PREACHED THE TRUTH. HE EVEN GAVE UP HIS FREEDOM AND HIS LIFE FOR THE TRUTH. LIKE ST. JOHN, OUR LIVES SHOULD BE LIKE SIGNS THAT DIRECT PEOPLE TO GOD AND TO THE TRUTH.



# COVID-19 Updates

## AS WE GATHER

*please note the following*



### REMAIN AT HOME IF...

Remain at home and self isolate if you are feeling sick. Please use the self-assessment tools at [www.alberta.ca](http://www.alberta.ca) before attending.



### PHYSICAL DISTANCE

Maintain physical distancing of 2 metres (6 ft) between people who are not from the same household, at all times.



### WEAR A MASK

Wear Non-Medical Mask. Sanitize your hands before and after wearing or adjusting your mask.



### SANITIZE

Please sanitize your hands before entering or exiting the church. Sanitizing stations are available in the church.



### CHILDREN

Children should remain with their parents or guardians at all times.



### General Guidelines

- ❖ Temporary maximum capacity is 150 Parishioners!
- ❖ IF you are sick, have been identified to be in a high-risk group or are over the age of 65 PLEASE stay home!
- ❖ A Face Covering is **REQUIRED** at all times once you enter the Church.
- ❖ Parishioners must Enter from the main glass doors by the fountain and Exit from baptistry doors.
- ❖ Prior to entering all visitors will have their temperature taken. Your temperature must be **BELOW** 100 degrees Fahrenheit to enter.
- ❖ Hand sanitizer will be available- You are encouraged to use it when you are not able to properly wash your hands.
- ❖ Collection boxes will be at the entrance of the church, baskets will NOT be circulated during the liturgy.
- ❖ We are suspending the use of Liturgy books and printing of bulletins.
- ❖ Please follow the signs and direction of the ushers during Communion.
- ❖ Congregating of ANY kind will not be allowed!

### Family Seating Guidelines

- ❖ Upon request, we will make every effort to seat family members who live in the same home together.
- ❖ You must arrive as a family in order to sit together.
- ❖ We will NOT hold seats for late arriving family members.
- ❖ ALL seats will be assigned by the ushers
- ❖ Once seated, your seat CANNOT be moved.

## Phase III Revised: Picking Up Speed

Public health guidance must still be followed: Mask-wearing, social distancing, sanitation and screening are key to stopping the spread of COVID-19. Setting-based public health protocols (table spacing, etc.) from Phase II remains in effect for Phase III.

	Social gatherings	Public events and venues of assembly	Other places of public interaction (businesses, cultural institutions, outdoor recreation)
Examples include	Weddings, parties, networking events	Performances, festivals, religious services	Retail, restaurants, gyms, museums, close-contact business, office-based businesses, parks, beaches
Limits for indoor settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit of 25 people</li> <li>Exception: Social gatherings with licensed catering can have 50 people</li> <li>The smaller the group, the lower the risk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit of 125 people</li> <li>Up to 66% capacity with 6-foot spacing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indoor venues operating at a percent capacity in phase 2 can increase up to 66% capacity with 6-foot spacing</li> <li>Indoor venues operating at a square footage capacity in phase 2 can increase up to 1 person per 100 square feet with 6-foot spacing</li> </ul>
Limits for outdoor settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit of 50 people</li> <li>Exception: Social gatherings with licensed catering can have 100 people</li> <li>The smaller the group, the lower the risk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit of 250 people</li> <li>4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations subject to beach/park rules. Plans <b>for July 4</b> required above 250. Masks must be worn. Social distance must be maintained.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6-foot distancing and all other public health guidance must be followed</li> </ul>



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



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