



April 24, 2022

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

Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreek
CatholicChurchRI/](https://www.facebook.com/StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreekCatholicChurchRI/)

YouTube

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

Email

office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Office hours

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

Divine Liturgies

Tuesday through Friday at 9:00 AM

Sunday

English 9:00 AM
Arabic 11:15 AM

Religious Education

Sunday 10:00 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



Sunday of St. Thomas أحد القديس توما

Antiphon Prayer

O Christ God, You showed Thomas your side from which gushed blood and water, symbol of Baptism. You invited him to touch the wound by which mankind was healed from its ancient deep wound. We ask You to strengthen our faith in your Divinity and Humanity so that we may become witnesses to your glorious Resurrection by our words, our deeds and our way of life.

For You are our Resurrection, 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 St. Thomas 7th Tone (3 times)

While the tomb was sealed You shone forth from it, O Christ our Life, and while the doors remained closed, You stood among your Disciples, O Resurrection of all, and through them You restored a new spirit in us according to your great Mercy.

Kondakion of Pascha

Though You went down in the tomb, O immortal One, You overthrew the power of Hades and rose victorious, O Christ God. You greeted the ointment bearing women, saying "Rejoice!" You gave peace to Your apostles, and to those who had Fallen resurrection.

صلاة الأنديفون

أيها المسيح الإله، يا مَنْ أظهرَ لتوما جنبه الذي خرج منه الدم والماء، رمز المعمودية، ودعاه ليلمس الجرح الذي به شُفي الإنسان من الجرح العظيم، ثبَّتْ إيماننا بلاهوتك ناسوتك، فنُصبح شُهوداً لقيامتك المجيدة بأقوالنا وأفعالنا وسيرتنا الجديدة.

لأنك أنت قيامتنا أيها المسيح الإله، وإليك نرفع المجد، وإلى أبينا الأزلي وروحك القدس، الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الداهرين.

نشيد القديس توما باللحن السابع (3 مرات)

إذ كان القبر مختوماً، اشرق منه إيها الحياة. ولما كانت الابواب مغلقة وقفت بالتلاميذ، أيها المسيح الإله قيامة الكل وجددت لنا بهم روحاً مستقيماً بعظيم رحمتك.

القنداق باللحن الثاني (أو الثامن)

وإن نزلت إلى القبر يا مَنْ لا يموت، فقد نقضت قُدرة الجحيم وقمت كظافر، أيها المسيح الإله. وللنساء حاملات الطيب قُلْتَ افرجن. ولرسلك وهبت السَّلام، يا مانح الواقعين القيام.



Our church organizations:

MAYA: Organization of Melkite Catholics ages 18 – 26 (and at least 1 year out of high school) under patronage of our bishop, the Most Reverend Nicholas Samra.
<https://melkite.org/maya>

MYO: Provides a common forum for all the young people of St. Basil's Church, and that the Organization initiate, coordinate, and direct religious, social, educational, and humanitarian programs designed to promote the involvement of its membership in the Christian Faith and the Melkite tradition.
www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com/myo.html

NAMW: Promotes and supports vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the United States.
<https://melkite.org/namw>



HIRMOS OF THOMAS SUNDAY: (Tone 7)

O shining Light, O Mother of God, honorable without compare, you are higher in dignity than any other creature. We magnify you with hymns.

Epistle Acts of the Apostle, 5:12-20, SUNDAY OF ST. THOMAS PROKIMENON (Tone 3)

Great is our Lord, and great is his power, and to his wisdom there is no limit.

Stichon: Praise the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

READING from the Acts of the Apostles

In those days by the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people (and with one accord, they all would meet in Solomon's portico; but of the rest, no one dared to associate with them, yet the people made much of them. And the multitude of men and women who believed in the Lord continued to increase), so that they carried the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and pallets, in order that, as Peter went by, at least his shadow would fall upon some of them. And crowds also came to Jerusalem from neighboring towns, and they brought the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits — and all of them were healed. But the High Priest rose up, and all his supporters (that is, the members of the Sadducean sect), and being filled with hatred, they laid their hands upon the apostles and threw them into the public jail. But during the night, an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, and led them out, saying: "Go, and standing in the temple, speak to the people all the words of this life."

ALLELUIA (Tone 8)

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord, let us sing gladly to God our Savior!

Stichon: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Gospel of the Feast, John 20: 19-31 (Skeptic Thomas)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the Evangelist

When it was late, that same day, the first of the week, though the doors where the disciples gathered had been closed for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst and said to them, "Peace be to you!" And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples therefore rejoiced at the sight of the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you! As the Father has sent me, I also send you." When he had said this, he breathed upon them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into his side I will not believe." And after eight days, his disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being closed, and stood in their midst, and said, "Peace be to you!" Then he said to Thomas. "Bring here your finger, and see my hands; and bring here your hand, and put it into my side; and be not unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, Thomas, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed." Many other signs also Jesus worked in the sight of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

النشيد لوالدة الإله (الحن السابع)
يا نور ساطع، يا أم الله، شريف دون مقارنة،
أنت أعلى في الكرامة من أي مخلوق آخر،
نحن نعظمك بالتراتيل.

مقدمة الرسالة

عظيم ربنا وعظيمة قوته، ولا إحصاء لعظمة
سبحوا الرب فإن الترتيم صالح، لإلهنا يلد
التسبيح

اعمال الرسل (5 : 12 - 20)

في تلك الأيام، جرت على أيدي الرسل آيات
وعجائب كثيرة في الشعب. وكانوا كلهم بنفس
واحدة في رواق سليمان. ولم يكن أحد من
الآخرين يجترئ أن يخالطهم، بل كان الشعب
يعظمهم. وكان جماعات من رجال ونساء
ينضمون بكثرة، مؤمنين بالرب، حتى إنهم
كانوا يخرجون بالمرضى إلى الشوارع،
ويضعونهم على فرش وأسرة، ليقع ولو ظل
بطرس عند اجتيازها على بعض منهم. وكان
يجتمع أيضاً إلى اورشليم جمهور المدن التي
حولها، يحملون المرضى والمعذبين بالأرواح
النجسة، فكانوا يُشفون جميعهم. فقام
رئيس الكهنة وكل من معه، وهم من مذهب
الصديقين، وامتلاؤا حسداً. وألقوا أيديهم
على الرسل وجعلوهم في السجن العام. ففتح
ملاك الرب أبواب السجن ليلاً، وأخرجهم
وقال: امضوا وقفوا في الهيكل، وكلّموا
الشعب بجميع كلمات هذه الحياة.
هللوا

هلم نبتهج بالرب، ونهلل لله مخلصنا
فإن الرب اله عظيم، وملك عظيم على
الأرض كلها.

الانجيل (يوحنا 20: 19-31)

في عشية ذلك اليوم عينه، وهو الأول في
الاسبوع، والابواب مغلقة، حيث كان
التلاميذ مجتمعين خوفاً من اليهود، جاء
يسوع ووقف في الوسط وقال لهم: السلام
لكم. ولما قال هذا أراهم يديه وجنبه، ففرح
التلاميذ إذ أبصروا الرب. وقال لهم يسوع
ثانية: السلام لكم، كما أرسلني الآب كذلك أنا
أرسلكم. ولما قال هذا نفخ فيهم وقال لهم:
خذوا الروح القدس. من غفرتم خطاياهم
تُغفر لهم، ومن أمسكتكم خطاياهم أمسكت.
وان توما أحد الاثني عشر الذي يُقال له
التوأم، لم يكن معهم حين جاء يسوع. فقال
له التلاميذ الآخرون: إنا قد رأينا الرب. فقال
لهم إن لم أر موضع المسامير في يديه، وأضغ
إصبعي في موضع المسامير، وأضغ يدي في
جنبه لا أؤمن. وبعد ثمانية أيام كان تلاميذه
أيضاً داخلًا وتوما معهم. فأتى يسوع والابواب
مغلقة ووقف في الوسط وقال السلام لكم.
ثم قال لتوما: هات إصبعك إلى ههنا. وعاین
بدي، وهات يدك وضغها في جنبي، ولا تكن
غير مؤمن بل مؤمناً. أجاب توما وقال له:
ربي والهي! قال له يسوع: لأنك رأيتني يا توما
أمنت طوبى للذين لم يروا وآمنوا. وآيات
أخر كثيرة صنع يسوع أمام تلاميذه لم تُكتب
في هذا الكتاب. وإنما كتبت هذه لتؤمنوا بأن
يسوع المسيح هو ابن الله. ولتكون لكم إذا
أمنتُم، الحياة باسمه.



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.



Divine Liturgy Intentions

TODAY, APRIL 24, 2022: SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER. SUNDAY OF ST. THOMAS.

9:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **MARION PISE (40 Day)** by M/M Ronald & Ann Marie Pise & Family.
- + **BRAHIM LOZE (10th Anniv.)** by M/M Jeffrey Boudjouk & Family.
- + **LILIAN SALOME (10th Anniv.)** by the Family.
- + **IDA SHAKAN (35th Anniv.)** by her granddaughters & Family.
- + **WALTER R. MOON** by cousin, Linda Koussa.
- + **BARBARA SHARKEY ROBERTS** by Deborah & David Schnetzler.
- + **ROBERT GERARDI (CT)** by Deacon Edmond & Theresa Robert.
- + **MARGARET SABBAGH** by George & Rita Madour.
- + **ABRAHAM & LOUISE ELIAS** by the Family.
- + **MARGARET HARGREAVES** by her loved ones.
- + **JOSEPH & ANGELA KAYATA** by Michael & Barbara O'Rourke & Family.
- + **CHARLES & ANNE O'ROURKE** by Michael O'Rourke & Family.
- + **LAYLA ANGELA CHARETTE** by Uncle Michael, Auntie B., & Katie.

11:15 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **FLORENCE SARKAS SALOME** by Katherine Horgan and Carol & Peter Ehart & Family.
- + **MICHAEL GEORGE BOUDJOUK (NJ)** by Vicky Boudjouk.
- + **GEORGETTE S. SAGGAL** by Ken & Ann Sabbagh.
- + **FRED NASHAWATY** by Pamela Desmarais.
- + **JAIME SALAZAR** by Cindy E. Salazar.
- + **VICTORIA PROCHNIAK** by Rev. Dn. Dr. Edmond & Theresa Raheb.
- + **JULIA, FRED, & ELIAS J. KISHFY** by M/M Norman E. Kishfy.
- + **REV. ARCHDEACON GEORGE YANY & ANGELA MAZZONE** by Sonja Marion Pollard.
- + **YVONNE HAGGAR COLABELLA** by Deacon Gilbert & Mimi Altongy.
- + **GEORGE, ROSE, BERNADETTE KHAOUAM** by Sami & Liliane Khaouam.
- + **YOUSSEF, ODETTE, BASSAM CHAMI** by Sami & Liliane Khaouam.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: April 17, 2022: Budgets: \$4,854.00; Envelopes: \$3,904.00; Loose: \$950.00; Candles: \$197.00; Stipends: \$25.00; Building Fund: 260.00; Addit'l Fuel: \$60.00; Add'tl Melkite Diocesan Support: \$41.00; Addit'l Cemetery: \$16.00; Addi'l Religious Ed: \$160.00; Easter Offerings: \$2,795.00.

TODAY, APRIL 24th there will be a special collection taken up for **MELKITE DIOCESAN SUPPORT**. Please help subsidize our monthly payment for the operation of our Diocese by giving generously.

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.

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 and leave him your message. **PLEASE! NO GRATUITIES!** A cup of coffee or tea is just fine. He looks forward to in-person contact.

Canon Law prohibits accepting stipends or offerings for Liturgies more than one year in advance (rolling calendar) Canon 953. The time within which Liturgies must be celebrated (1 year) begins the day the intention is received. (Canon 955 #2). Formerly under the jurisdiction of the local Latin Ordinaries before the Exarchate was established under the leadership of the late Bishop Justin Najmy of this Parish, all Melkites have been subject to the latter since its erection in 1966. The Constitution of the Melkite Eparchy which is now a sole Diocese since 1976 still acknowledges this definitive protocol. Our parishes follow local discipline in the various customs e.g. everyday clergy attire, stipends (Liturgy Offerings), etc. except in Liturgy and Ritual. Our relationship with the local Latin Dioceses and Latin pastors must be permeated with a spirit of love and friendship and cooperation.

PLEASE NOTE: Presently effective, the schedule of offerings in the parishes is now: Liturgies: \$25.00; Funeral: \$300.00; Weddings: \$300.00; Baptisms: \$100.00.

Thus far, all Liturgy Offerings received from Funerals, which exceeded more than one year or even more, have had the maximum and minimum celebrations. Surplus ones have been deposited in the Building Fund, and placed on the altar and remembered collectively, similar to the customs of Spiritual Bouquets, Perpetual Mass Enrollments & Memorial Cards, as in Chapels, Shrines, & Monasteries.

May the memories of our beloved deceased rest in peace & be eternal. Many thanks for your understanding and undivided attention in regard to these canonical guidelines and restrictions.

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.





CHANGE OF ADDRESS: All the faithful who have recently changed their address or who are planning to do so, please 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.**

2022 ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDARS are available – free for the taking – at the entrance 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.

OUT OF RESPECT FOR THE HOUSE OF GOD, please remember to remove any chewing gum before entering the church building. Also, please place your pagers and cell phones on silent.

REFLECTION: When Christ-followers listen to God together & share what they heard, Jesus shows up!

O Jesus, Who has said,
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الإيمان والشك



عظة قداسة البابا فرنسيس

قد يفكر أحدٌ منا قائلا: إن خطيئتي هكذا عظيمة، وبُعدي عن الله كبعد الابن الأصغر في المثال الإنجيلي، وعدم إيماني مماثل لشك توما؛ ليس لدي شجاعة الرجوع، أو التفكير في أن الله يمكنه أن يقبلني أو أنه ينتظرني أنا بالذات. ولكن الله ينتظرك أنت بالذات، ويطلب منك فقط شجاعة الذهاب إليه. فكم من مرة سمعت، في خدمتي الرعوية: "يا أبتي، أخطئ كثيرًا"؛ والدعوة التي قدمتها دائما هي: "لا تخف، إذهب له، إنه ينتظرك، وسيقوم هو بكل شيء". كم من الغروض الزمنية التي نسمعها حولنا، لكن دعونا نسمح لعرض الله من أن يلامسنا، فهذا العرض هو لمسة محبة. فبالنسبة لله نحن لسنا مجرد أرقام، بل أننا مهمون، بل أننا أهم شيء بالنسبة له؛ حتى وإن كنّا خطاة، فنحن أعز ما في قلبه.

لقد شعر آدم بعد الخطيئة بالعار، بأنه عريان، وشعر بثقل ما فعله؛ لكن الله لم يتركه؛ وإن كان قد بدأ في تلك اللحظة الابتعاد عن الله بسبب الخطيئة، فقد وجد أيضا الوعد بالعودة، أي إمكانية الرجوع له. فقد سأل الله مباشرة: "آدم، أين أنت؟"، كان يبحث عنه. لقد تعرى يسوع من أجلنا، لقد حمل على ذاته عار آدم، وتعري خطيئته ليغسل خطيئتنا: إننا بجراحه شفيينا. تذكروا كلمات القديس بولس: بماذا يمكنني أن أفخر سوى بضعفي، وبفقرتي؟ في الإحساس حقا بخطيئتي، وبالنظر إلى خطيئتي يمكنني أن أرى وأقابل مع رحمة الله، ومع محبته والذهاب له للحصول على المغفرة.

لقد رأيت في حياتي الشخصية لمرات عديدة وجه الله الرحيم، وصبره: رأيت في أشخاص كثر شجاعة الدخول في جراح يسوع وقول: يارب إني هنا، فاقبل فقري، واخف في جراحك خطيئتي، واغسله بدمك. ورأيت دائما أن الله قد فعل، قد استجاب، وعزى وغسل وأحب.

الأخوات والإخوة الأحباء، دعونا نترك رحمة الله لتغمرنا: واثقين من طول أناة التي تمنحنا كل الوقت؛ دعونا نتحلى بشجاعة الرجوع لبيتنا، والسكن في جراح محبته، لنترك أنفسنا لمحبه، ولقاء برحمته في الأسرار المقدسة. سنشعر بعطفه، الذي ما أروع، وسنشعر بعناقه وعندئذ نصبح، نحن أيضا، أكثر قدرة لتقديم الرحمة، والصبر، والمغفرة، والمحبة.

جميع الحقوق محفوظة ٢٠١٣ - حاضرة الفاتيكان

نحتفل اليوم بالأحد الثاني من الزمن الفصحى، والمسمى أيضا بأحد "الرحمة الإلهية". كم هو رائع واقع الإيمان هذا في حياتنا: **رحمة الله**! فمحبة الله هي هكذا عظيمة، وهكذا عميقة تجاهنا، محبة لا تنفص، محبة ترافقنا بدا بيد، وتوازرنا، وتنهضنا، وترشدنا.

في إنجيل اليوم، يختبر القديس توما حقيقة الرحمة الإلهية، تلك الرحمة التي لها وجه ملموس، وجه يسوع، يسوع القائم من بين الأموات. لم يشأ توما أن يصدق ما قالها له التلاميذ: "لقد رأينا الرب"؛ لم يعد يكفيه وعد يسوع، الذي سبق ونطق به: سأقوم في اليوم الثالث. أراد أن يرى، أراد أن يضع يده في أثر المسامير وفي الجنب. كيف كانت ردة فعل يسوع؟ الصبر: فيسوع لم يهمل توما العنيد في عدم إيمانه؛ يعطيه أسبوعا من الوقت، لا يغلق أمامه الباب، ينتظر. فيتعرف توما على فقره، وعلى قلة إيمانه. "ربي وإلهي": بهذه الصيغة البسيطة والمفعمة بالإيمان هي جوابه على صبر يسوع. لقد ترك نفسه لتغمره الرحمة الإلهية، لقد رآها ماثلة أمامه، في جراح اليدين والرجلين والجنب المفتوح، فبسترد يقينه: أصبح إنسانا جديدا، ليس بعد غير مؤمن، بل مؤمنا.

دعونا نتذكر أيضا بطرس: لقد أنكر يسوع ثلاث مرات، في الوقت الذي كان يجب عليه أن يظل قريبا منه؛ فعندما لمس القاع، هناك التقى بنظرة يسوع التي، بصبر، وبدون كلام قالت له: "يا بطرس، لا تخف من ضعفك، ثِقْ فيّ"؛ وهنا يفهم بطرس، ويشعر بنظرة محبة يسوع وبيكي. كم هي رائعة نظرة يسوع هذه – وكم مفعمة بالعطف! إخواني وأخوتي دعونا ألا نفقد أبدا الثقة في رحمة الله الحليمة!

لنتذكر لتلميذي عماوس: أصحاب الوجه الحزين، والخطى الفارغة، بلا رجاء. لكن يسوع لا يهملهما: يسير معهما على الطريق، وليس وحيدا! وبصبر يفسر لهما الكتب المقدسة وكل ما قيل عنه فيها ويتوقف ليتقاسم معهما الأكل. هذا هو أسلوب الله: فهو لا يفقد صبره كما نفعل نحن، راغبين في الحصول كل شيء سريعا، حتى مع الأشخاص. إن الله صبور معنا لأنه يحبنا، ومن يحب يتفهم، يرجو، يثق، ولا يهمل، ولا يقطع الجسور، ويعرف أن يغفر. دعونا نتذكر هذا في حياتنا كمسيحيين: الله ينتظرنا دائما، حتى عندما نبتعد عنه! فهو قريب دائما، وإن عدنا إليه فهو دائما مستعدة لاحتضاننا.

إن صبر الله يجب أن يجد فينا **شجاعة العودة إليه**، مهما كان الذنب، ومهما كانت الخطيئة المرتكبة في حياتنا. لقد دعا يسوع توما لأن يضع يدا في جراح يديه ورجليه وفي طعنة جنبه. نحن أيضا بإمكاننا الدخول في جراح يسوع، يمكننا لمسه واقعيا؛ إن هذا ما يحدث فعلينا في كل مرة ننال الأسرار بإيمان.

كلما زادت مراقبه كلما فاضت استحقاقاتنا (ن، م، 5). إن هذا مهم: شجاعة الاستسلام لرحمة يسوع، والثقة في طول أناته، والهروب دائما في حمى جراح محبته.

Seeing and Believing



As we continue to celebrate the glorious good news of this season of Pascha, we recall how Christ called doubting Thomas to faith in His great victory. “He said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing.’”

Thomas answered Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’” Still bearing His wounds even in His glorified body as the God-Man, the Risen Christ brought Thomas to faith through the witness of His own deified flesh.

The Apostles saw the Lord after His resurrection with their eyes, touched Him with their hands, heard His voice with their ears, felt His breath on their skin, and even saw Him eat food. (Luke 24: 36-43) The good news that “God is light and in Him is no darkness at all” comes from a resurrection in glory of a complete Person with a human body marked by the wounds of torture and crucifixion. His resurrection is not an escape from the body, but its fulfillment. The Eternal Word Who created us by breathing into the dust of the earth now breathes physically on His Disciples as He empowers them to carry out His ministry of bringing salvation to the world, even to the point of forgiving sins in His name. Here are powerful signs of what it means for human beings to be in the likeness of God and partakers of the divine nature by grace.

These are not merely details of ancient history, but reminders that we participate in Christ’s Passover from death to life by how we live as whole, embodied persons. We were baptized physically with water into Christ’s death in order to put Him on like a garment, in order to rise with Him into a new life of holiness. To be blunt, the Christian life is not simply about our emotions, ideas, or opinions; it is not reduced to what we say we believe. For those who are truly in Christ will live in ways that manifest the brilliant life of the resurrection, that radiate the holy light of the Savior’s great victory over sin and death. As St. John put it, “If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

We are probably all tempted at times to think how much easier it would be to serve God if we did not have our particular set of bodily limitations and problems. Some are challenged by physical or mental illness, while others wrestle with passions for the pleasures of food, sex, alcohol, or other substances. Eating disorders and unrealistic expectations of what their bodies should look like ruin the health and well-being of some, while others struggle to accept that their male or female bodies are signs of who they are in God’s image and likeness. Many today ignore the sacredness of the intimate bodily union of man and woman, which makes two into one flesh. The epidemic of pornography in our culture reflects a repudiation of the sacredness of the flesh and blood through which we encounter the living icons of Christ. Some refuse to honor the bodies of their neighbors by becoming blind to the humanity of children in the

womb, of people with skin of a different color, or of terminally ill patients in chronic pain. And whether it is greed, sloth, anger, or refusal to help the needy with our time, attention, and resources, there is no sin that does not show itself physically in some way in the lives of those who struggle with it.

No matter what someone’s particular struggles, weaknesses, or failings are, we must respond with compassion, for we too are among the sick who need the Physician. Nonetheless, no physical condition can ever make us sin or do evil. The problem is not that we have bodies, but that we choose to remain in the tomb, that we would rather walk in the darkness than in the light. For it is no sin to be ill or to be tempted in any way. The Lord Himself suffered terribly on the cross and was tempted. It is a sin, however, to let any of our wounds become excuses for not walking in the light as best we can. It is a sin to let anything fill our lives with such darkness that we refuse to open our eyes—and our lives—to the good news of the resurrection. It is a sin when we think that God must remove this or that problem in order to earn our faithfulness, in order to be worthy of our devotion. As we celebrate Christ’s great victory over sin and death, we must not be afraid to expose our wounded selves to Him with humility as we say with St. Thomas “My Lord and my God!”

Remember that the Savior has taken upon Himself even the worst bodily wounds. It is through them that He has brought life out of death and brilliant light out of the darkest tomb. He has conquered even death itself. Do you see what that means? Even our darkest inclinations ultimately do not stand a chance against His glory, if we will only expose them to Him, if we will only offer them to Him for healing. And though it probably will not happen instantaneously, our wounds will find healing as we move step by step further into His light. Darkness is simply the absence of light and it disappears when it is illumined. The same Lord Who conquered Hades and the tomb for our salvation, and Who invited Thomas to touch His wounds, will bring us as whole, embodied persons into the new day of His Kingdom if we will only keep turning as best we can from the darkness as we struggle to live faithfully each day in the midst of the problems, pains, and weaknesses that beset us. We must all take that journey one day at a time.

The good news is that Christ does not ask us to conquer sin and death by our own power, for He has already done that. But He does ask us truly to have faith, which requires a faithful life, even as we constantly ask for His mercy and strength to participate as fully as possible in the joy of His resurrection. We will not do that with a fake spirituality that relies purely on emotions or ideas, but as whole persons of flesh and blood enlivened by the One Who made us in His image and likeness and even died and rose again for our salvation. So let us celebrate Pascha by walking in the light as best we can with all our wounds, for that is how we will open ourselves to the light that has made even the tomb radiant with the divine glory. If He can do that to a grave, just imagine what He can do with us.

Following Jesus Kids bulletin

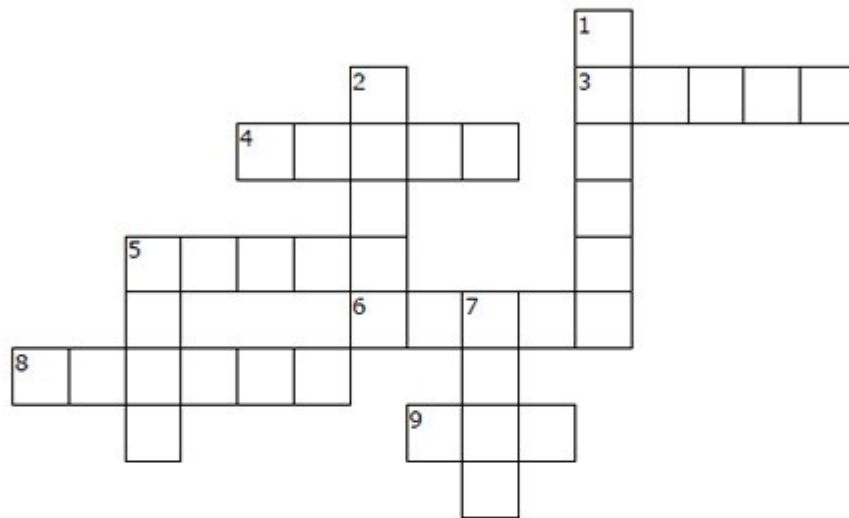
Doubting Thomas



Jesus Appears to His Disciples

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. To be in a state of pleasure, satisfaction, joy or delight
4. Free from conflict; getting along with others; opposite of war
5. To be undecided or unbelieving that something is true
6. The body parts at the end of the arms
8. Not open
9. To break God's law

DOWN

1. The disciple who would not believe without seeing
2. To believe in something for which there is no proof
5. An entrance into a building or room
7. A thin piece of metal with one pointed end and one flat end which you hit with a hammer

PEACE
NAIL

DOOR
THOMAS

HANDS
CLOSED

FAITH
SIN

HAPPY
DOUBT




LITURGICAL CALENDAR



APRIL	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 نيسان - أبريل 2022						1  St Mary the Egyptian 2 Corinthians 5:10-15 Luke 12:42-48	2  Saturday of the Akathist Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 8:27-31
MARCH 2022 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	3  Sunday of Mary of Egypt أحد مريم المصرية Hebrews 9:11-14 Mark 10:32-45	4  St Joseph the Hymnographer Colossians 3:12-16 Luke 11:34-41	5  St Victor 1 Thessalonians 5:14-23 Mark 8:30-34	6  St Eutychios of Constantinople Ephesians 4:7-13 Luke 12:16-21	7  St Callippos Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 18:18-27	8  St Hermes and his companions Ephesians 2:4-10 John 8:21-30	9  Lazarus Saturday سبت لعازر Hebrews 12:28-13:8 John 11:1-45
MAY 2022 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	10  Palm Sunday أحد الشعانين Philippians 4:4-9 John 12:1-18	11  Great & Holy Monday الاثنين العظيم المقدس Ezekiel 1:1-21 Zephaniah 3:14-19 Zechariah 9:9-15	12  Great & Holy Tuesday الثلاثاء العظيم المقدس Ezekiel 1:21-28 Exodus 1:1-20 Job 1:1-12	13  Great & Holy Wednesday الأربعاء العظيم المقدس Ezekiel 2:3-10; 3:1-3 Exodus 2:5-10 Job 1:13-22	14  Great & Holy Thursday الخميس العظيم المقدس 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 Matthew 26:1-27:1-2 John 13:3-17 Luke 22:43-44	15  Great & Holy Friday الجمعة العظيمة المقدسة Eothion: Twelve Gospels	16  Great & Holy Saturday سبت التور المقدس Romans 6:3-12 Matthew 28:1-20
	17 Easter Sunday أحد الفصح العظيم المقدس Acts 1:1-8 John 1:1-17	18 Monday of New Week أثنين التجديدات Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 John 1:18-28	19 Tuesday of New Week ثلاثاء التجديدات Acts 2:14-21 Luke 24:12-35	20 Wednesday of New Week أربعاء التجديدات Acts 2:22-38 John 1:35-51	21 Thursday of New Week خميس التجديدات Acts 2:38-43 John 3:1-15	22 Friday of New Week جمعة التجديدات Acts 3:1-8 John 2:12-22	23 St George القدس جورجوس Saturday of New Week سبت التجديدات Acts 12:1-11 John 3:22-33
	24 St Thomas Sunday أحد الرسول توما Acts 5:12-20 John 20:19-31	25 Anzac Day St Mark the Apostle 1 Peter 5:6-14 Luke 10:16-21	26 St Basil of Amasia Acts 4:1-10 John 3:16-21	27 St Simeon Acts 4:13-22 John 5:17-24	28 Sts Jason and Sosipater Acts 4:23-31 John 5:24-30	29 St Memnon the Wonderworker Acts 5:1-11 John 5:30-6:2	30 St James the Apostle Acts 5:21-32 John 6:14-27

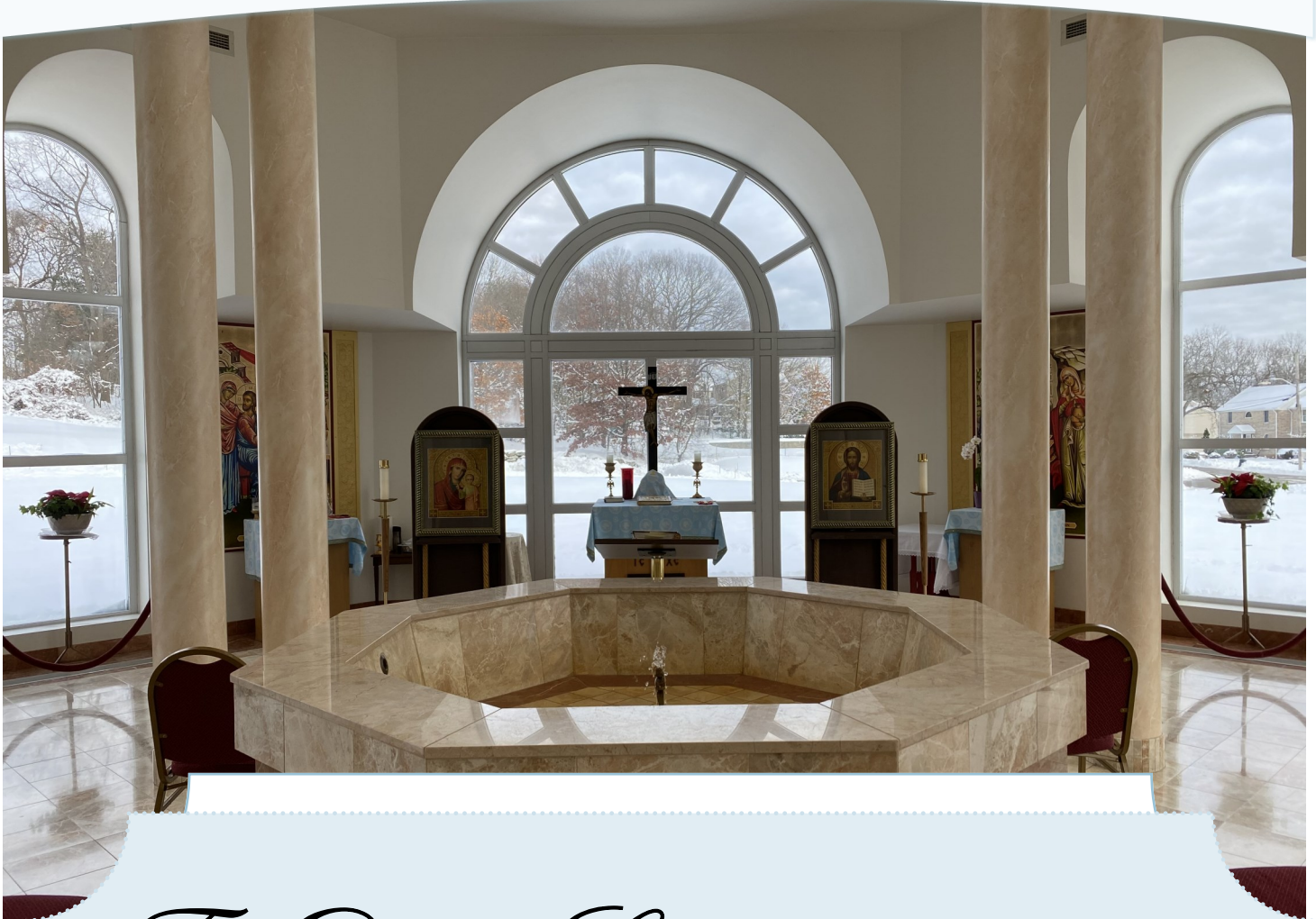
 Church Major Feasts

 Abstain from Meat

 Fast from midnight until noon

 Lenten Season

Weekly Divine Liturgy Schedule



The Divine Liturgy is celebrated

At St. Elias Chapel

|(St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church)

Tuesday to Friday at 9:00 am

Sunday Divine Liturgy :

English at 9:00 am—Arabic at 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

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

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

Contact us for information and ideas
office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com



"GOD LOVES THE CHEERFUL GIVER"

2 COR 9:7

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

As of 3/17/2022



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: \$416,000



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

Parish Community Facts:



Total Registered Families: 415



Active Families: 250



% of Active Families Participation: 40%

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

Current & Future Projects:



Roof Repair: Contract Signed- March 2022



Mold Remediation: Proposals received & In Review



Doors & Windows: Part 1 of Proposals received & In Review



HVAC & Boiler: Proposals received & In Review



Flooring Upgrades: Acquiring Proposals



Parking Lot & Walkway Resurfacing



Interior Décor Enhancements



Walk In Cooler & Kitchen Equipment Repair



Masonry Repairs



TBD

Important Highlights

- We are extremely grateful to all of those who have contributed and supported this campaign thus far.
- Our first priority of this campaign was the roof-But there are several other projects/repairs being reviewed and considered that are listed above
- 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

Shepherd's Care Associated Charities

Shepherd's Care began in 1988 at the request of the faithful and clergy who saw a need for a united effort among all Melkite Catholic Parishes in the United States to reach out to people in need. By means of this initiative, the Eparchy reaches out in love through financial assistance to people in need here in the United States and abroad. Over the years Shepherd's Care has raised more than \$250,000.

Through your love and faithful support, the Eparchy has been able to help orphans, the hungry, the homeless, drug addicted, the destitute, runaway teens, victims of war, victims of disease and disasters, and so many more.

Donations are distributed to local parish charities such as soup kitchens, food pantries, homeless shelters, eparchial charities, world charities, and offers tuition assistance to seminarians of the Eparchy.

But Shepherd's Care much more than raising funds for charitable causes. More importantly, it is a guide to assist us in living a Holy Lent through understanding and practicing the Lenten cornerstones of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.



**Shepherd's Care
Associated Charities
Eparchy of Newton
3 V.F.W. Parkway
West Roxbury, MA 02132-7727**



SHEPHERD'S CARE Associated Charities Great Lent

**"There is no sin that
alms cannot cleanse.
Charity is a medicine
suitable for any wound."**

St. John Chrysostom

The Widow's Mite

Each year during the Great Fast, the Church encourages us with the example of the "widow's mite". We receive a little box — a "mite box" which we take home. This box symbolizes the offerings (alms) we give during Lent, together with our increased prayers, fasting, and abstinence.

"When He looked up, he saw some wealthy people putting their offering into the treasury, and He noticed a poor widow putting in two small coins. He said, 'I tell you truly, this poor widow put in more than all the rest; for those others have all made offerings from their surplus wealth. But she, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood'"



recognized that the widow's "mite" was far greater than the large offerings other people were contributing. They could afford to give more. The poor widow, however, gave to God everything she had.



Lenten Gift Box

Each family, indeed every person, is invited to take home a Lenten gift (mite) box. Put it on your dining table, or in your icon corner, anywhere you will see it and be inspired to remember the needy. Throughout Lent place your offerings in the box. Some people try to put in the amount they save by abstaining from certain foods. Children find it especially fun to use the coin calendar.

At the end of Great Lent bring the proceeds of your mite box to the church

as your offering for Shepherd's Care. If you are presenting a check please make it payable to **SHEPHERD'S CARE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES**. You may also make donations by check directly to the Eparchial Office. Address is on the back. Together our eparchial family can help alleviate the sufferings of God's people.

All proceeds from Shepherd's Care Associated Charities go directly to the charities. The Bishop, together with his advisors, insures that 100% of the money is given to the needy at home and abroad.

Your tax-deductible contributions are greatly appreciated by all who will benefit from them. The Fathers of the Church encourage us to always be humbly grateful and remember those in need. In helping others, we are doing the will of God.

"The bread you do not use is the bread of the hungry. The garment in your wardrobe is the garment of the person who is naked. The money you keep locked away is the money of the poor."

St. Basil the Great

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Hosted by Eparchy of Newton

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PACKAGE REGISTRATION FORM

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if Purchased Separately from Package

Individual Events	Price per ticket	Quantity	Total Cost
Thursday July 7 BAR-B-Q Buffet	\$60.00		
Friday July 8 Hawaiian Sunset Dinner	\$80.00		
Saturday July 9 Grand Banquet Hafli	\$110.00		
Sunday July 10 Farewell Brunch	\$40.00		

COMPLETE PACKAGES

(Thursday, Friday, Saturday Evenings only – Sunday Brunch not included)

Evening Social Events	Price per package	Quantity	Total Cost
Purchased before 5/31/22	\$225.00		
Purchased after 5/31/22	\$250.00		
GRAND TOTAL			

Mail Payments and Registration to:

DIOCESE OF NEWTON - CONVENTION

802 Rifle Camp Rd. PO BOX 630

Woodland Park, NJ 07424

Make Checks Payable to:

DIOCESE OF NEWTON - CONVENTION

Do Not Send Cash

Registration material to be picked up at convention registration desk

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

Please complete entire registration form and mail with your payment.

For further information, contact Rosemary Shabouk

718.748.1235 or 52melkiteconvention@gmail.com

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Date Rec'd _____ Initials _____

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SOUVENIR BOOK – AD ORDER FORM

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Street _____ Email _____

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Contributor Signature _____ Cell (_____) _____

Solicited By _____ Date _____ Contributor Email _____

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☐ Credit Card

NAME ON CARD _____

CREDIT CARD # _____

CARD TYPE _____ EXP. DATE _____ SEC. CODE _____

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DATE RECEIVED ____/____/____ INITIAL _____

Additional info/Artwork:

Doreen Pierson | 973.800.2643

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