



June 9, 2024

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 Liturgy

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 10:00 AM

Pastoral Emergencies and anointing of the sick

(401)722-1345

Holy Mysteries

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available before and after 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



Third Sunday After Pentecost

الأحد الثالث بعد العنصرة

Troparion of the resurrection, (Tone 2)

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

Troparion of St 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:

O never failing Protectress of Christians and their ever-present intercessor before the Creator, despise not the petitions of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to us who call upon you with confidence. Hasten, O Mother of God, to intercede for us, for you have always protected those who honor you.

نشيد القيامة بالحن الثاني

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

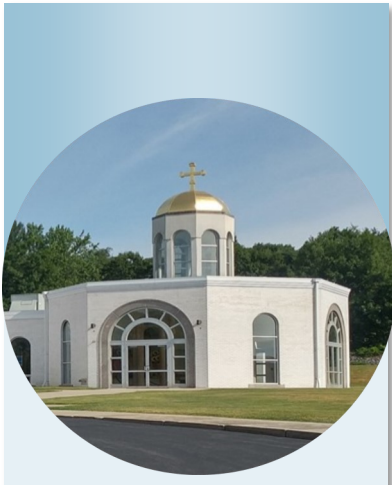
طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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

نشيد الختام (القنداق)

يا نصيرة المسيحيين التي لا تُخزي، ووسيطتهم الدائمة لدى الخالق، لا تعرضي عن أصوات الخطاة الطالبين اليك. بل بما انكِ سالحة، بادري الى معونتنا، نحن الصارخين اليك بإيمان: هلمي الى الشفاعة، وأسري الى الابتهاال، يا والدة الاله المحامية دائماً عن مكرميك.





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>



Epistle Romans 5:1-10, PROKIMENON (Tone 2)

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

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans

Brethren, now that we have been justified by faith, let us have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom we have access by faith to that grace in which we stand and exult in the hope of God's glory.

And not only this, but we exult also in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces endurance, and endurance challenge, and challenge hope, and hope does not deceive, for God's love is poured forth in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

For why did Christ die at the appointed time for the wicked while we were still weak? Hardly would someone die for a just man; perhaps someone would have the courage to die for a virtuous man. But God proves His love for us, since Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Much more now that we are made just in His blood, shall we be saved by Him from wrath.

For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled with God through His death, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life.

ALLELUIA (Tone 2) Ps.19: 1; 27: 9

May the Lord answer you in the days of distress; may the name of the God of Jacob defend you.

Stichon: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance

Gospel 3rd Sunday after Pentecost, Matthew 6:22-33

The Lord said: The lamp of the body is the eye. If your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. Therefore, if the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness itself! No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will stand by the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore, I say to you, do not be anxious for your life, what you shall eat and drink; nor yet for your body, what you shall wear. Is not life a greater thing than food, and the body than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow, or reap, or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you of much more value than they? But which of you by being anxious about it can add to his stature a single cubit? And as for clothing, why are you anxious? See how the lilies of the field grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory was adorned like one of these. But if God so clothes the wild flower of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more you, O you of little faith! Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or, 'What shall we drink?', or, 'What are we to wear?' (For all these things the Gentiles seek); for your heavenly Father knows you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His justice, and all the rest shall be given you besides."

مقدمة الرسالة

الرَّبُّ قَوِّيَ وَتَسْبِيحِي لَقَدْ كَانَ لِي خِلاصًا
أَدَّبَنِي الرَّبُّ تَأْدِيبًا، وَإِلَى الْمَوْتِ لَمْ يُسَلِّمْنِي

الرسالة (رومة 5: 10-1)

يا إخوة، إذ قد بُرِّزنا بالأيمان، لنا سلامٌ لدى الله برَّبِّنا يسوع المسيح الذي نلنا به أيضاً الدخولُ بالأيمان الى هذه النعمة، التي نحنُ مقبِّمون فيها، ومفتخرون في رجاءِ مجدِ الله. وليس هذا فقط، بل نفتخرُ أيضاً في الشدايد، عالمين بأنَّ الشدَّةَ تُنشِئُ صبراً والصبرُ امتحاناً، والامتحانُ رجاءً، والرجاءُ لا يُخزي، لان محبَّةَ الله قد أفيضت في قلوبنا بالروح القدس المعطى لنا. لان المسيح، ونحنُ بعد ضعفاء، قد مات في الاوان عن الكافرين. ولا يكادُ أحدٌ يموت عن بارٍّ، فلعلَّ أحدًا يُقَدِّمُ أن يموتَ عن صالح. أما الله فيُبْرِهِنُ على محبته لنا، بأنَّ المسيح، ونحنُ بعد خطاة، قد ماتَ عنَّا، فبالأحرى كثيراً إذ قد بُرِّزنا بدمه نخلصُ به من الغضب. لانا إذا كنَّا قد صولحنا مع الله بموتِ ابنه ونحنُ أعداء، فبالأحرى كثيراً ونحنُ مصالحوون نخلصُ بحياته.

هللوا

ليستجبَ لكِ الرَّبُّ في يوم الضيق، ليعبِّدُك اسمُ
اله يعقوب

خَلِّصْ يا رَبُّ شعبَكَ، وبارك ميراثَكَ

انجيل الاحد الثالث بعد العنصرة

الانجيل (متى 6: 22-33)

قال الرب: سراجُ الجسد العين. فإن كانت عينك بسيطةً، فجسدك كله يكون نيراً. وإن كانت عينك شريرةً، فجسدك كله يكون مُظلماً. واذا كان النور الذي فيك ظلاماً، فالظلامُ كم يكون مُدلهماً؟ لا يستطيع أحد أن يعبدَ ربَّين. فإنه إما يُبغضُ الواحد ويحبُّ الآخر، أو يُلْزَمُ الواحد ويُرذَلُ الآخر. لا تقدرون أن تعبدوا الله والمال. فلهذا أقول لكم: لا تهتموا لنفسكم بما تأكلون، بما تشربون، ولا لجسدكم بما تلبسون. أليست النفس أفضل من الطعام، والجسد أفضل من اللباس؟ أنظروا الى طيور السماء، فإنها لا تزرع ولا تحصد ولا تجمع في الأهراء، وأبوكم السماوي يقوتها. أفلمستم أنتم أفضل منها؟ من منكم يقدرُ باهتمامه، أن يزيد على قامته ذراعاً واحدة؟ ولماذا تهتمون باللباس؟ تأملوا زنايق الحقل كيف تنمو. إنها لا تتعب ولا تغزل. وأنا أقول لكم: إن سليمان نفسه في كلِّ مجده لم يلبس كواحدةٍ منها. فإذا كان عُشبُ الحقل الذي يكون اليوم، وغداً يُطرح في التَّنُّور، يلبسه الله هكذا، أفلا يلبسكم بالأحرى أنتم يا قبليي الايمان. فلا تهتموا إذن قائلين، ماذا نأكل، أو ماذا نَشْرَب، أو ماذا نَلْبَس. فإنَّ هذا كله تطلبه الأمم، وأبوكم السماوي يعلمُ أنَّكم تحتاجون الى هذا كله. بل اطلبوا أولاً ملكوت الله ويريته، وهذا كله



Divine Liturgy Intentions

THIS WEEKEND, SATURDAY, JUNE 8, SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2024: THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.
FATHER CYRIL ARCHBISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA.

5:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + VICTORIA GEORGE ALCHIKH by Farid & Ebtessam Dib & Family.
- + YOUSEF GEORGI DEEB by Joe Azar & Valerie Dunn.

10:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + GEORGE CHARCHAFLIAH (18th Anniv.) by his wife Janet & Family, Children & Grandchildren.
- + NAJAT CHARCHAFLIAH by Gloria Deckey (NY).
- + FADILA TOUBIA by Dr. Jason & Mrs. Jiana Boudjouk.
- + MRS. GEORGETTE DALAK ELDAYAA by M/M Juseff Badro & Family.

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.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: JUNE 2, 2024: Budgets: \$1,932.00 (Envelopes: \$1,832.00; Loose: \$100.00); Candles: \$94.00; Building Fund: \$40.00; Stole Offerings: \$100.00.

Father Ephrem has now been here almost four years come June 15, 2024, and has been fully available for 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 any time.

PLEASE NOTE: Anyone who is planning an ENGAGEMENT/BAPTISM/MARRIAGE RECEPTION PLANS is kindly requested to notify a member of the clergy BEFORE reception/party plans are made. The Clergy may be already scheduled for something else on the day that you have rented a hall/restaurant. Following this policy will help avoid any- later misunderstandings.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE of any change of address or telephone number information. This cut down on returned mail and time waste. Unfortunately, this has been an ongoing request but to no avail. Kindly give this your undivided attention and as Our Lord says in His parables: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

We, the Family of St. Basil's Church, would like to congratulate our 2024 high school, college graduates and those who earned higher degrees.

To assure a complete and accurate list, we ask you to submit such names in your household by filling out the form below, as TODAY IS THE DEADLINE. Please deposit it in the collection basket IMMEDIATELY OR PUT IN THE FRONT DOOR SLOT OF THE RECTORY. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

Name of Graduate _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

Parent's Names _____

Please circle **ONE:** (a) High School Graduate (b) College Graduate (c) Other _____

Name of School or College _____

Degree _____

We will have a special remembrance for these graduates at the Divine Liturgy to be celebrated on Sunday, JUNE 16th, at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome following the Divine Liturgy for Collation in the Cultural Center.

GRADUATES ARE STRONGLY URGED TO ATTEND WITH CAP AND GOWN IF THEY HAVE THEM.

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.





CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

According to the Canons, St. Basil's membership is the formal and voluntary affiliation of persons expressing their commitment and dedication to this church's beliefs, values, and activities. Individuals align themselves with the church's beliefs and doctrines, and in return, the church offers its members spiritual leadership, community, and support.

Attending church services or identifying as a "member in name only" are not sufficient criteria for membership. Deeper involvement, active participation at Divine Liturgy consistently, or if for any reason unable, at least once a month, and a willingness to support the life and mission of the church are requirements. Sponsorship certificates will not be issued unless these requirements are met. However, Sacramental Certificates will be available when needed.

Church membership is based on the notion of a cohesive community of believers. Church membership is dedicated to engaging in a shared spiritual journey with other members while pursuing accountability, mutual support, and spiritual progress.

The basis for pastoral care and spiritual leadership is provided by church membership. The role of the pastor and other church leaders is to shepherd and lead the congregation by providing spiritual counseling, assistance when needed, and direction in questions of faith and morals.

It goes without saying, membership implies a dedication to good money management. Members are urged to give financially to the church to sustain its missions, keep its facilities in good repair, and support outreach programs. Financial assistance enables the church to efficiently carry out its purpose and broaden its beneficial influence on society.



Grape leaves

We are requesting your assistance again with picking grape leaves for the Bazaar & Food Fair. There will be a container placed in the front entrance of the church for the **unwashed grape leaves**. Place the grape leaves in any type of bag in the container. Thank you again for your support.

REFLECTION: "Man's way leads to a hopeless end – God's way leads to an endless hope."

O Jesus, Who has said,
"Ask and you shall
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shall find, knock and it
shall be opened," through
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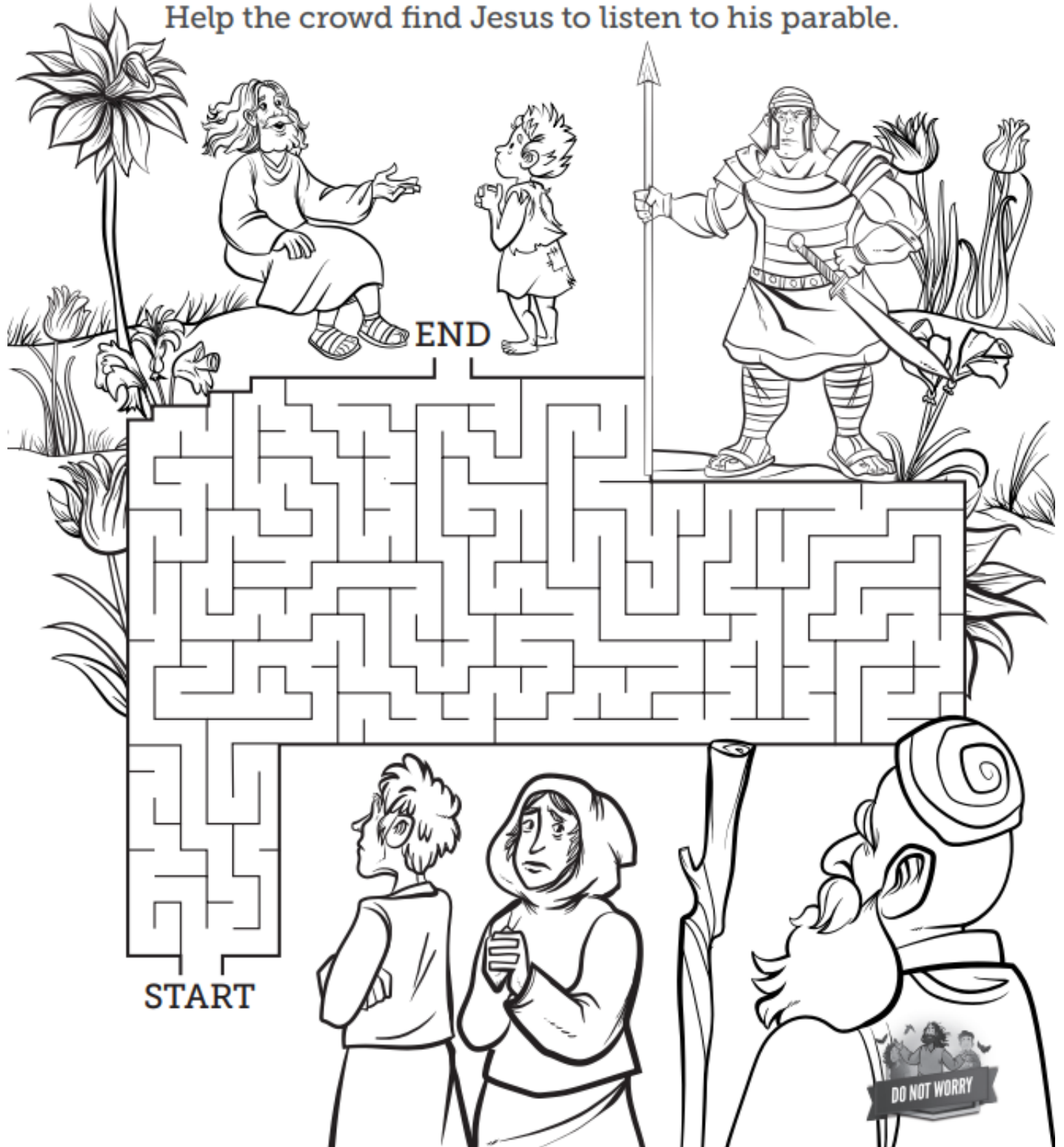
O Jesus, Who has said,
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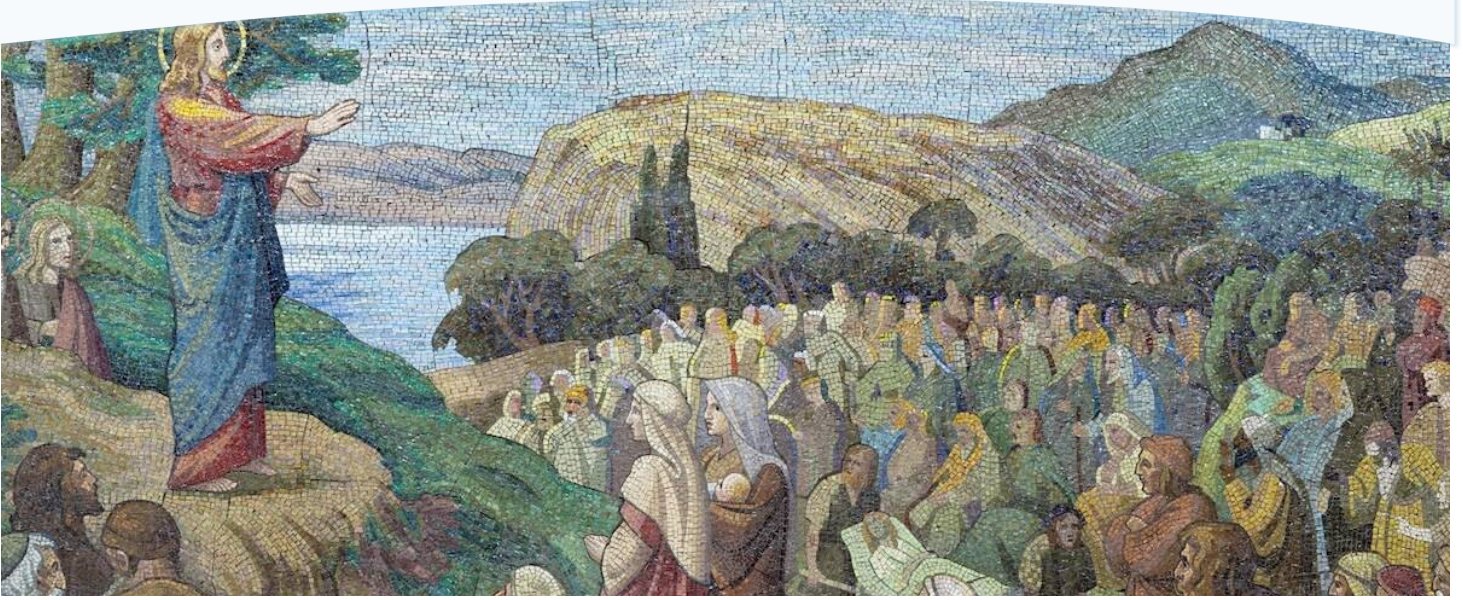
Following Jesus - Kids bulletin



Help the crowd find Jesus to listen to his parable.



ملكوت الله



الخسارة أو الوحدة. وعندما يحدث هذا، فإننا في أيدي أمينة.

لقد أحب الله كل من أيوب وإيليا، ولكنه سمح للشيطان أن يدمر أيوب (تحت رقابته)، وسمح للمرأة الشريرة، إيزابل، أن تكسر روح نبيه إيليا (أيوب 1-2؛ ملوك الأول 18-19). وفي كلتا الحالتين، تبع الله هذه التجارب بإسترداد ومساندة لذا على الإنسان أن يطلب البر بنفسه وحسب قول الرب (أطلبوا أولاً البر) فعلينا أن لا نهتم بالماديات الضرورية للجسد، فنقول ماذا نأكل وماذا نشرب أو نلبس وكما تطلبها الأمم، لأن أبانا السماوي يعلم بتلك الاحتياجات كلها. فعلينا أن لا نفرضها على البر والقداسة المطلوبة منا من قبل الله، ولأن ملكوت الله هو الضرورة الملحة فيجب أن نسعى إليه أولاً، أما المتطلبات الأخرى فهي مجرد ضروريات نحتاج إليها في الزمن فقط ونوضح هنا ونقول ما هو الملكوت؟ الملكوت هو حب الإنسان المطلق لله، فعندما يعيش الإنسان على هذا المستوى من الحب فملكوت الله ستهيمن على عقله ووجدانه. أي عن طريق المحبة المتبادلة بين الخالق والمخلوق. فالمحبة تملك القلوب! فتصبح قوية لا تهاب الخوف أو الموت (يو 18:4). لذا ليس (أبناء الملكوت) الذين هم أبناء الله قوماً يخافون الرب، كما أنهم لا يخافون من وسائل الترهيب والتعذيب لأن الله هو راعيهم، والمسيح قال أنا الراعي الصالح الذي أبذل نفسي عن خرافي. فملكوت المسيح هي مسيرة خلف المسيح الراعي الذي حمل الصليب متحدياً الموت. فالمؤمن بالمصلوب لا يخاف من الصليب، بل يفخر به كما أفخر الرسول بولس قائلًا (أما أنا فحاشى لي أن أفخر إلا بصليب ربنا يسوع المسيح) (غل 6: 14)

بعد أن اختار المسيح تلاميذه، ألقى عليهم عظة فريدة وافية شاملة أبدية، تُعتبر قاعدة المواعظ وخالصة الدين، وتُسمى «الموعظة على الجبل». ألقاها المسيح في مكان مرتفع بقرب كفرناحوم، والموعظة على الجبل هي أهم وأكمل ما ورد من عظات المسيح، كما أنها الأكثر شهرة

هذه الموعظة دستور الملكوت الروحي الجديد الذي أنشأه المسيح على أساس النظام القديم الإلهي الذي أنزل على موسى والأنبياء، وجاء المسيح لا لينقضه بل ليكمّله.

في هذا الملكوت نرى أن المسيح هو الملك الذي أنبأ الله عنه قديماً بضم نبيه داود: «أما أنا فقد مسحتُ ملكي على صهيون جبل قديسي» (مز 2:6).

الله يريدك أن ترفع عينيك إليه، خلقهما لكي تراه بهما، الله يسعد بأن يرى عينيك متجهتين نحوه في العلاء، في السماء. ارفع عينيك إليه حيث البهاء والخير والعون.

ابعد عينيك عن التراب حيث النجاسة والشر والعثرة. ما أروع أن ترى الله دائماً فهو دائماً يراك، دائماً. سراج الجسد بحسب توجيه العين وهي "العين" المرشد الموجه للإنسان. يُعبر الرب في حديثه هنا عن العين بالنافذة التي منها يدخل النور، فعن طريق العين يدخل النور إلى كياننا من الداخل. والعين البسيطة، تعرف أن تستقر على هدف وهدف واحد، وهو الرب تبارك اسمه، وبذلك نجد النظرة مستقرّة وهادئة، وبذلك يُصبح الجسد كله نيرًا.

فإذا ارتفعنا بأعيننا نحو عرش السماء كذا أحاسيسنا وسلوكنا ومشاعرنا نسمو نحو السماويات والعكس تماماً فيما لو نظرنا نحو الأرضيات.

يشبه القديس يوحنا الذهبي الفم العين "بالقائد"، وإذا وقع ماذا ينفع الجسد "الجسد"؟ والعين مثل "رَبان" السفينة "إن هَوَت للغرق بفقدان قائدها فما ينفع الجسد والخيرات التي على متنها؟!

البساطة هي أن عيوننا لا تبصر سوى غرض واحد: «سراج الجسد هو العين، فإن كانت عينك بسيطة فجسدك كله يكون نيرًا» (مت 6: 22).

يجب علينا ألا نطلب الأشياء كما لو كانت مصدر سعادتنا، كما لا نصنع الخير لأجل نوالها رغم كونها ضرورية في حياتنا. لقد أوضح لنا الرب الفارق بين السعادة التي نطلبها وبين حصولنا على ضروريات الحياة، وذلك بقوله "اطلبوا أولاً ملكوت الله وبره، وهذه كلها تزداد لكم" فملكوت الله وبره هو الخبز الذي نسعى إليه والذي نقصده من كل أعمالنا. ولكننا إذ نخدم في هذه الحياة كجنود راغبين في ملكوت السموات نحتاج إلى الضروريات اللازمة للحياة، لذلك قال الرب "هذه كلها تزداد لكم"، ولكن اطلبوا أولاً ملكوت الله وبره (مت 6: 33)

لذا علينا أن نطلب أمور الله كأولوية فوق أمور العالم. وهذا يعني، أساساً، أننا يجب أن نطلب الخلاص الكامل في ملكوت الله لأن قيمته أعظم من كل غنى العالم. هل يعني هذا أن نهمل الواجبات اليومية المنطقية التي تساعدنا على الحياة؟ بالتأكيد كلا. ولكن بالنسبة للمؤمن، يجب أن يكون هناك إختلاف في إتجاهه نحوها. فإذا كنا نعطي الإهتمام بشئون الله الأولوية – مثل طلب الخلاص الذي يقدمه، والحياة في طاعته، ومشاركة الآخرين بالأخبار السارة عن ملكوت الله – فإنه سوف يهتم بشئونا كما وعد – وإذا كان هذا هو الإتفاق، فلماذا القلق؟

لقد وعد الله أن يهتم بخاصته، وأن يدير كل احتياجاتهم (فيلبي 4: 19)، ولكن أحياناً يختلف فكره بشأن ما نحتاجه عن أفكارنا، ويختلف توقيته عن توقعاتنا. فمثلاً، قد نرى حاجتنا للأموال أو الترفي، ولكن ربما يرى الله أن حاجتنا الحقيقية هي فترة من العوز أو

ان الرب يسوع طلب من تلاميذه أن لا تخفهم هموم الدنيا كما يخفق الشوك الزرع. فأوصاهم قائلًا (اطلبوا أولاً ملكوت الله وبره وهذه كلها تزداد لكم) (مت 6: 31-33) فعلى المؤمن أن ينظر إلى الأعلى لأنهم أبناء الملكوت، ليسوا من هذا العالم رغم وجودهم في العالم.

وجودهم في العالم له إيجابياته لأنهم ملح العالم والخميرة التي يجب أن تبقى في العجين. في كل مؤمن يوجد ملك المسيح وهذا الملك هو المحبة، وشعاره الصليب، وثمرته أعطاه النور لبني البشر لكي يشهدوا للحق ويقتربوا من الملكوت، فالمطلوب من أبناء الملكوت في هذا العالم أن يسالموا جميع الناس وأن يحبوا حتى أعدائهم، وأن لا يعادوا أحداً، بل أن يحاربوا مبادئ الشر الكامنة لا في الآخرين فحسب، بل في ذاتهم أولاً، ان في كل مؤمن إنسان عتيق يقاوم الإنسان الجديد في نفس الإنسان. أي في كل إنسان هناك معركة بين الخير والشر، بين الأنانية والتفاني، بين المسيح وقوى الظلام، بين النور والظلام، بل بين ملكوت المسيح ومملكة الشيطان، فعلى المؤمن أن يتق بقول الرب القائل في يو 33:16

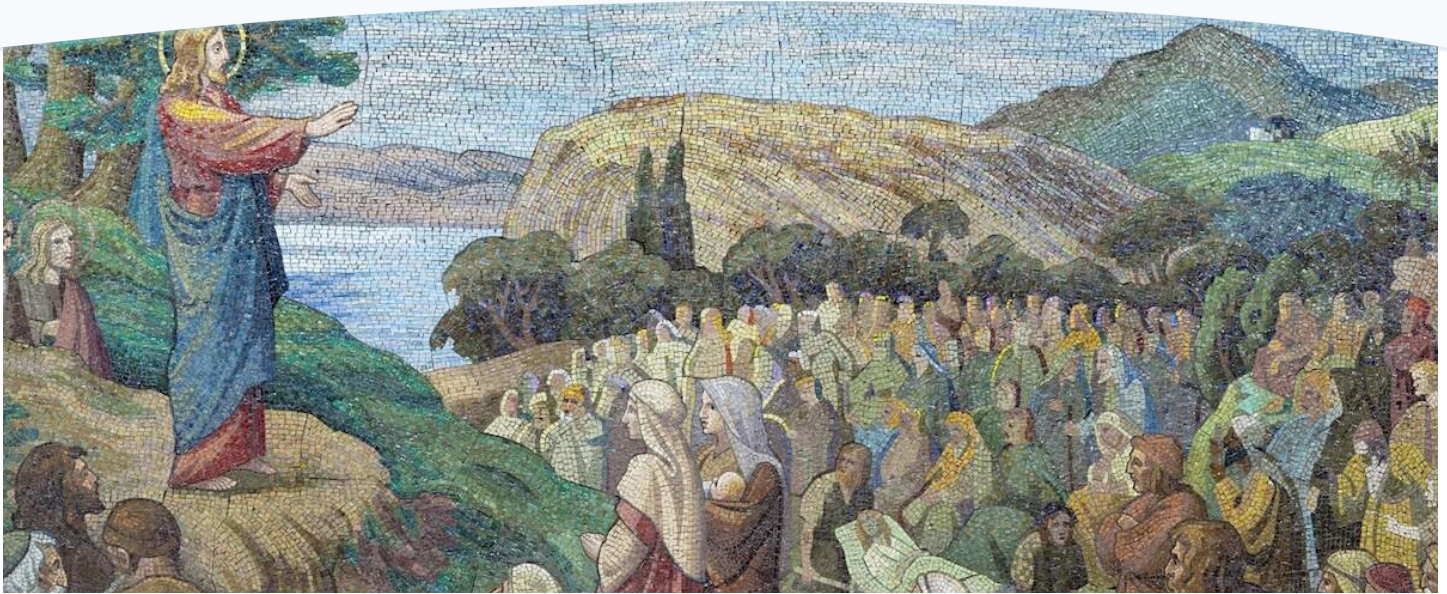
نشرك ونسبك ونباركك على كل أعمالك وأحساناتك الجزيلة علينا ونسالك يا سيدنا ان تتعم علينا بحواس مقدسة وأفكار طاهرة وقلب محب لك وللجميع.

أفتح يارب عيني لأعين مجدك، وهبني بصيرة داخلية ترى حكمتك في الأحداث، واعطني حكمة وقوة لاجهاد على رجاء القيامة وأضبط جسدي واقمعه لينطلق في خدمتك بعيون مختونة بنعمتك ومستتيرة بهياء مجدك ومقدسة بالنظر الي صورتك المقدسة.

يا مسيحا القدوس شمس البر، أشرق في قلبي بنور برك، وقدس جسدي ونفسي وروحي.

أكتب وصاياك على لوح قلبي وأنزع مني كل قساوة وتجبر وعلمني إن اكون رحيم على أختي، أنظر نظراً طاهراً للجميع. قدس حواسي بنعمتك واضبط فكري بروحك القدوس وهبني حكمة ونعمة لكي أرضيك كل أيام حياتي، آمين

What is faith?



Today, on this Sunday, the Gospel reading is about what we really need in life, about what our real requirements are. In this Gospel, the Lord offers several images or comparisons, saying: *The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thy eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thy eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness* (Matthew 6:22-23).

Here the Lord offers us three images.

First, the Lord speaks about the eyes, about how important it is for them to see all that is full of light, for then the whole body will be full of light. If the eyes only look for good, then the whole person will be good and light. But if the eyes are darkened, then the whole person will be blackened.

The second image compares the eye with a lamp. A lamp dispels the darkness around it and gives light to any quarter – and the eye should do likewise for the body.

The Lord implicitly offers us a third image, that of the mind. If our mind be full of light, then all the remaining powers of the soul will likewise be full of light. If, on the contrary, our mind be darkened, then our entire soul will become dark and gloomy.

This is the first instruction the Lord gives us today: we should seek not only visible light, but also the spiritual light that would illumine our mind and thereby our soul as well.

Next the Lord warns us against avarice, saying: *Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on* (Matthew 6:25). Here He identifies two kinds of avarice. There are people who fall into the sin of avarice and begin to gather money. This form of avarice is called greed. Moreover, people who gather money give way to greed to such an extent that they are afraid to spend their money, so seized are they by this passion. There is another form of avarice, when one does not simply gather money, but hastens to spend it on mundane pleasures, thereby falling into spiritual dissipation. Both are dangerous. The Lord calls this “mammon,” saying: *No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one,*

and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon (Matthew 6:24). Here the Lord is speaking about the qualities of our heart, that it is impossible to unite love for God with love for earthly riches. Moreover, there is also the risk that this “mammon” might not even be riches, but even a small amount of money. The Lord forewarns us, by giving us – as though we were little children – various images and comparisons. He comforts, instructs, and upholds us, saying: *Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them* (Matthew 6:26). If He feeds the birds, surely He can feed us as well. What a vivid comparison, invigorating and admonishing us!

The Lord also says: *Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?* (Matthew 6:28-30). Here again the Lord instructs and comforts by making a comparison, saying that we, of course, are better than birds or ephemeral flowers. Moreover, the Lord calls us to break away from corrupt, earthly concerns that are vain and sinful, and to direct our gaze to the surrounding world that He created.

The most important thing is to see that God is present in everything in this world: He gives thought to birds and flowers of the field. But, brothers and sisters, when the Lord offers us these comparisons, He is also cautioning us against another extreme. When He offers us these examples of the birds of the heavens or flowers, He does not want us, once we have heard these examples, to stop doing anything, sit down, fold our hands, and say: “That’s it, Lord! Now You will take care of us, and we’ll put aside all earthly cares.” No, nothing of the sort! The Lord certainly does not want us to wilt like these wildflowers. Indeed, their lifespan at time lasts only days or hours, but this does not mean that we should imitate flowers by stopping and doing nothing. Nor are we to be like birds that fly about at random, as they please, and do nothing else. The Lord guards us from extremes, and is certainly not calling upon us to do nothing.

St. Basil the Great

Our Patron Saint



St. Basil the Great was born at Caesarea of Cappadocia in 330. He was one of ten children of St. Basil the Elder and St. Emmelia. Several of his brothers and sisters are honored among the saints. He attended school in Caesarea, as well as Constantinople and Athens, where he became acquainted with St. Gregory Nazianzen in 352. A little later, he opened a school of oratory in Caesarea and practiced law. Eventually he decided to become a monk and found a monastery in Pontus which he directed for five years.

As a monk, Basil wrote the first set of monastic rules which has proved the most lasting of those in the East. After founding several other monasteries, he was ordained a priest and, in 370, made bishop of Caesaria. He stayed in this post until his death in 379 and continued to be a man of vast learning and constant activity, genuine eloquence and immense charity. This earned for him the title of "Great" during his life and Doctor of the Church after his death.

Basil is considered one of the giants of the early Church. He was responsible for the victory of Nicene orthodoxy over Arianism in the Byzantine East, and the denunciation of Arianism at the Council of Constantinople in 381-82 was in large measure due to his efforts. Basil fought simony, aided the victims of drought and famine, strove for a better clergy, insisted on a rigid clerical discipline, fearlessly denounced evil wherever he detected it, and excommunicated those involved in the widespread prostitution traffic in Cappadocia. He was learned, accomplished in statesmanship, a man of great personal holiness, and one of the great orators of Christianity.

St. Basil fell asleep in the Lord on January 1, 379, and the young age of 49. He is truly called "Great" for in his short life the light of Christ shone through him, revealing how a Christian should live – in faith, for he opposed the Arian heresy, and proclaimed the divinity of our Lord, in hope, for he established monasteries looking toward God in spirit, confessing Christ to be "our hope, the image of your (the Father's) goodness, and the seal bearing your likeness." (Anaphora of St. Basil) and in love, for he established hospitals and orphanages to house and feed the poor.

In the meantime, he also composed the bulk of the Divine Liturgy anaphora that bears his name, showing a profound understanding of Scripture. Here the incarnation of the Word

of God is proclaimed, "Although he (the Father's Son) is the reflection of your glory and the express image of your person, sustaining all things by his powerful word, he did not deem equality with you, God and Father, something to be grasped; rather, while remaining everlasting God, he appeared on earth and lived among men." (Anaphora of St. Basil, quoting Hebrews 1:3; Philippians 2:6 and Baruch 3:38)

His whole anaphora is a wondrous weaving together of

texts from Scripture giving us a complete profession of God's salvation story. Hearing this prayer, we must be led to become true Christians, imitating our Lord as much as possible according to our weakness. He was also the author of numerous theological discourses, where he wrote about the mystery of the Incarnation: "The actual, first birth of Christ, his actual birth from all eternity in the bosom of his Father, must be venerated in silence. We should never permit our mind to investigate this mystery. Since time and space did not exist, since no form of expressions had yet been created, since there is not a single eyewitness, nor anyone who can describe this eternal birth, how can reason form any concept for reflection? How can the tongue give expression to thoughts that cannot be formulated? The Father was, and the Son was born! Do not say: "when?" but rather leave that question unasked. Do not ask "how?" for there is not answer! For the word "when" suggests time, and "how" suggests birth in the flesh...God is on earth, he is among men, not in the fire nor amid the sound of trumpets; not in the smoking mountain, or in the darkness, or in the terrible and roaring tempest giving the Law, but manifested in the flesh, the gentle and good One dwells with those he condescends to make his equals! God is in the flesh, not operating from a distance, as did the prophets, but through him human nature, one with ours, he seeks to bring back the whole human race to himself." (St. Basil the Great "On the Incarnation")

His Kontakion, therefore, celebrates his memory: "You have appeared as the unshakeable foundation of the Church, leading all mortals to safe pasture in the Lord, and confirming them by your teachings, O venerable Basil, revealer of heavenly mysteries."

To the parents of our young children

Relax! God put the wiggle in children, so don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome here at Little Flower!



- Don't be afraid to sit toward the front where it is easier to see and hear.
- Quietly explain the parts of the Mass to your children. They'll learn quickly.
- Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the Mass responses out loud. Have the kids sit, kneel and stand together with you, too. Children best learn liturgical behavior by copying you.
- If you need to step out of Mass with your child to calm them down or just to take a walk, feel free to do so, but please come back! As Jesus said: "Let the children come to me."
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, to Christ and to one another. Let them know that they are always at home in this house of worship.

To the members of the parish:

A smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small, active children. The presence of children is a gift to the Church and to our parish. They give us, "a future full of people."

Weekly Divine Liturgy Schedule



The Divine Liturgy Schedule

Divine Liturgy
Saturday at 5:00 pm
&
Sunday at 10:00 am

The Holy Sacrament of Reconciliation is available before and after the Divine Liturgy or by appointment.

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 03/27/2024



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: \$307,000



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

Parish Community Facts:



Total Registered Families: 410



Active Families: 200



% of Active Families Participation: 56%

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

Current & Future Projects:



Church Roof Replacement: Project completed, final cost \$321,000.



Rectory Roof Replacement: Project completed, final cost \$18,850.



Church Window Repairs: Project initially completed, final cost \$9,000. Additional window was found to need repair, estimated cost of \$1,665.



HVAC & Boiler Replacement: Proposals received, estimated cost \$196,000. Boiler does need immediate replacing, awaiting timeframe. HVAC system is okay for now.



Flooring Upgrades: Proposal received, estimated cost \$50,000 (carpeting for Church, Cultural Center, office & hallway), awaiting samples and timeframe.



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



Interior Repairs, Expand Storage & HVAC Vent Cleaning: Partial proposals received. Vent cleaning completed, final cost \$9,020



Power Washing/Masonry/Walkway Repairs: Awaiting proposals. Maintenance to mosaic of The Blessed Mother completed, cost \$8,000.



Security Cameras/Door Upgrades: Camera system complete, final cost \$10,500. Electrification of doorway proposal received, pending completion.



Central Air Conditioning and HVAC improvements to Rectory: Project completed, final cost \$56,845. Additional upgrades are necessary.

Important Highlights

- We are extremely grateful to all of those who have contributed and supported the campaign thus far.
- The finance committee has begun strategy planning on maximizing the return of current financial reserves for future projects. God willing, this will prevent the need for another capital campaign and *allow for a more spiritual focus!*
- As reflected above, donations have varied in amounts, we do not expect everyone to support with the same amount...*However, we do pray that everyone will support this important campaign!*
- This is an open and transparent campaign, if you have any questions, suggestion, or concerns Fr. Ephrem or any of the committee members would be more than happy review/discuss during coffee hour or feel free to call them at the numbers listed below.



For more information contact any of the committee members, [click here](#), or scan this code with your Smartphone Camera!

Jeff Boudjouk: 401-441-2737

Ann Sabbagh: 508-243-1190

Kyle Mardo: 401-578-5369

SAVE
The
DATE

JULY
4-7 2024



Becoming Disciples.

The Emmaus Experience
(Luke 24:13-53)

Making Disciples.

53rd National Melkite Convention

hosted by

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MELKITE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL**

at the

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CELEBRATE

Evening Socials

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7 VFW Parkway | West Roxbury, MA 02132

617.323.5242

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today!*



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53rd NATIONAL MELKITE CATHOLIC CONVENTION

JULY 4-7 2024

hosted by

OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION MELKITE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL

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 Tel: (617) 323-5242, (617) 323-5248
 Fax: (617) 325-2662



Becoming Disciples.

Making Disciples.

The Emmaus Experience
(Luke 24:13-53)

SOUVENIR BOOK - AD ORDER FORM

fill out this form or use the link below to sign up online:

melkiteconvention.flocknote.com/signup/148969

Contributor Name _____

Business Name _____ Manager/Owner/Relative _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

Contributor Signature _____ Date _____ Fax or Cell (____) _____ Fax _____ Cell _____

Solicited By _____ Date _____ Contributor Email _____

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Tel: (617) 323-5242, (617) 323-5248 Fax: (617) 325-2662

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53rd NATIONAL MELKITE CATHOLIC CONVENTION

JULY 4-7 2024

hosted by

OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION MELKITE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL

at the

MARRIOTT BOSTON QUINCY



Becoming Disciples.

The Emmaus Experience
(Luke 24:13-35)

Making Disciples.

PACKAGE REGISTRATION FORM

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

if Purchased Separately from Package

Individual Events	Price per ticket	Quantity	Total Cost
Thursday, July 4 . Opening Night BBQ	\$80.00		
Friday, July 5 . Hafleh	\$95.00		
Saturday, July 6 . Grand Banquet	\$130.00		
Sunday, July 7 . Farewell Brunch	\$45.00		
TOTAL DUE			

COMPLETE PACKAGES

Thursday, Friday, Saturday Evenings only – SUNDAY BRUNCH NOT INCLUDED

Evening Social Events	Price per package	Quantity	Total Cost
Purchased before 5/15/24	\$275.00		
Purchased after 5/15/24	\$305.00		
TOTAL DUE			

Make Checks Payable to:

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Memo: Convention Package

Mail Payment and Form to:

Annunciation Melkite Catholic Cathedral
7 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132
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GRAND TOTAL \$

Registration material will be picked up at the convention registration desk

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

Please complete the entire registration form and mail it with your payment to the address on the left.

For further information,
contact Our Lady of Annunciation Cathedral at (617) 323-5242

REGISTRATION

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Additional Names _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Parish/City _____

53rd Melkite Catholic Convention & Deacons' Retreat Schedule

Marriott Boston Quincy Hotel
1000 Marriott Dr, Quincy, MA 02169
July 2-7, 2024

Becoming Disciples and Making Disciples:

Strengthening our Melkite Catholic Communities by discerning, growing, and committing together to live our faith in Christ.

* Hotel Rate is the same for 3 days before and after the Convention: \$159 room w/ King Bed, and \$169 room w/ 2 Queen Beds

Deacons Retreat, "Becoming Disciples and Making Disciples" the work of the deacon in building their communities, nurturing vocations, leading adult education, works of charity, outreach, serving those in need including the sick and the homebound, etc. Rediscover what it means to be a deacon and what the requirements and expectations are for deacons. Retreat given by Fr. Daniel Dozier.

Start of Deacons Retreat

Theme: Growing in Ministerial Discipleship.

Tuesday, July 2, 2024

Chapel transport to and set up at Quincy Marriott

5:00-5:45 p.m. Vespers at the Cathedral.

5:45 p.m.-6:15 p.m. 1st Talk: **The Diaconate: A Discipleship of Love** (Bishop François Beyrouiti)

6:30 p.m. Dinner in the Cathedral Hall. Food will be provided by the Annunciation Cathedral parishioners.

8:00 p.m. Transportation for deacons from the Cathedral to the Quincy Marriott Hotel provided by parishioners.

Deacon's Retreat at the Hotel

Wednesday, July 3, 2024

8:00 a.m. Breakfast. Catered by the hotel.

9:00 a.m. Orthros

10:00 a.m. 2nd Talk: **Growing in Ministerial Discipleship. First Principle: The Good Soil**

(Fr. Daniel Dozier)

11:00 a.m. 3rd Talk: **Growing in Ministerial Discipleship. Second Principle: The Good Seed**

(Fr. Daniel Dozier)

12:00 p.m. Deacon's Lunch Meeting; & Clergy Wives Lunch with Bishop François.

2:00 p.m. 4th Talk: **Growing in Ministerial Discipleship. Third Principle: The Good**

Planting (Fr. Daniel Dozier)

3:00 p.m. 9th hour followed by quiet time

6:00 p.m. Vespers (Reflection by Deacon John Moses)

7:00 p.m. Dinner, Social time

Thursday, July 4, 2024

8:00 a.m. 1st hour

9:00 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. 5th Talk: **Growing in Ministerial Discipleship. Fourth Principle: The Good**

Fruit (Fr. Daniel Dozier)

12:00 p.m. Clergy Wives Lunch Meeting; & Deacon Lunch with Bishop François.

End of Deacons Retreat

Start of 53rd Melkite Catholic Convention

Becoming Disciples and Making Disciples

Marriott Boston Quincy Hotel

1000 Marriott Dr, Quincy, MA 02169

Thursday July 4, 2024

2:00 p.m. **Opening Address to All Clergy in Attendance** (Bishop François Beyrouiti)

3:00 p.m. Clergy Workshop: **Next steps to Thriving in Ministry: Clergy Conference**

Follow-up and Application. (Fr. Daniel Dozier)

4:00 p.m. Confessions

4:30 p.m. Vespers with Sermon

6:00 p.m. Social (Meal with DJ Romel)

Friday, July 5, 2024

7:30 a.m. Orthros and Confessions

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Celebrant & Homilist: Fr. Philip Raczka

9:15 a.m. Hospitality: Zatar, Pita bread, String cheese, etc.

10:00 a.m.-10:50 a.m. 1st Workshop: **Becoming Disciples and Making Disciples:**

Strengthening Melkite Catholic Communities by discerning, growing, and committing together to live our faith in Christ. (Fr. Daniel Dozier)

11:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m. 2nd Workshop: **Deep Dive: Reviewing the results of the Melkite**

Catholic Diocese Parishioners survey and discerning next steps (Fr. Daniel Dozier)

12:00 p.m. NAMY Lunch and Activities

12:00 p.m. Presbyteral Region Meetings

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Order of St. Nicholas Luncheon

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. NAMW Meeting

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Presbyteral Council Meeting

4:00 p.m. Confessions

4:30 p.m. Vespers with Sermon

6:00 p.m. Social (Hafla) Dinner with live Arabic Music by George Maalouf Ensemble

Saturday, July 6, 2024

7:30 a.m. Orthros and Confessions

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Celebrant & Homilist: Bishop Nicholas Samra

9:15 a.m. Hospitality: Zatar, Pita bread, String cheese, etc.

10:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **Appreciating Our Past. Planning Our Future**

Moderated by Fr. Philip Raczka

10:00 a.m.-10:50 a.m. **Activating Stewardship in Parish Life** (Bishop Nicholas Samra)
11:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m. **A Roadmap for Becoming Disciples and Making Disciples** (Bishop François Beyrouiti)

11:50 a.m.-11:55 a.m. Submit Written Questions to the Moderator

11:55 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Questions and Answers

12:30 p.m. NAMY Lunch and Activities

4:00 p.m. Confessions

4:30 p.m. Great Vespers with Sermon

6:00 p.m. Banquet: Surf and Turf Menu, Music by Legends of Summer Band

Sunday, July 7, 2024

9:00 a.m. Orthros and Confessions

10:00 a.m. Hierarchal Divine Liturgy. Celebrant & Homilist: Bishop François Beyrouiti

12:00 p.m. Brunch

Closing of Convention

National Association of Melkite Catholic Youth

NAMY CONFERENCE 2024

Our Melkite Catholic Mission: *Becoming Disciples, Making Disciples*

Monday, August 12 – Friday, August 16, 2024

Saint Methodios Faith and Heritage Center
Contoocook, New Hampshire . saintmethodios.org



YOUTH: Ages 13-18 . ADVISORS: Ages 23 and Older

\$300 per person

Price includes meals and lodging, spiritual, social, and athletic activities, and more.

Use the QR Code or email Fr. Thomas and Rebekah Moses at namy@melkite.org to complete the interest form if you, your child, or your parish youth group, would like to attend the national conference in August.

Please note: contact your parish priest or youth advisor for help with registration forms. All registration forms are due by June 1, 2024.





Fellowship

(Due to a scheduling conflict) The next Fellowship meeting will be on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, at 6:00 pm. Dr. Sara Rawan, who is one of our parishioners, will, once again, be our guest speaker at the next meeting. Sara is the Director of Outpatient Services for Alliance Health at Marina Bay. She has a Bachelor of Science, Exercise Science and Doctorate of Physical Therapy. Sara received her degrees from Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT. and has been treating patients for 10 years. She has extensive experience treating, orthopedic, joint replacement, chronic pain conditions, Parkinson's Disease, lumbar, and cervical spine conditions, and balance/ fall prevention. Please invite your family and friends to this informative discussion and watch live, interactive demonstrations on FALL PREVENTION and BALANCE. It will be an evening you won't want to miss!

COOKING & BAKING



2024 Food Fair Cooking Schedule **Thank you for your help!**

Syrian Cheese – Tuesday, June 4 @ 9:00 a.m.

Kibbeh – Tuesday, June 11 @9:00 a.m.

Sfeeha – Tuesday, July 16 @ 9:00 a.m.

Sfeeha - Tuesday, July 23 @ 9:00 a.m.

Grapeleaves – Thursday, August 15, 9:00 a.m.

Sfeeha - Tuesday, August 22 @ 9:00 a.m.

2024 Food Fair Baking Schedule **Thank you for your help!**

Kaak Thursday, September 26 @ 10:00 a.m.

Maamoul Saturday, October 5 @10:00 a.m.

Kata Thursday, October 10 @ 10:00 a.m.

Ba'lawa & Souart al Sit Saturday, October 19 @ 10:00 a.m.

Enders Island



Anyone interested in the Enders Island retreat day, on June 18th, please add your name to the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board. There are only a few spots left. The cost is \$30 pp. Enders will be providing hotdogs, hamburgers, condiments, paper goods, water, and lemonade. Volunteers who wish to bring food or desserts please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Also, kindly see Judy Rawan or Christine Durnin with your payment or place it in the collection basket.

Thank you!

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