



May 12, 2024

## ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH



Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea.  
Post-feast of the Ascension.

### Address

15 Skyview Drive  
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Tel (401) 722-1345

### Parish Website

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

### Facebook

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

### YouTube

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

### Email

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

### Office hours

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

### Divine Liturgy

Sunday: 9:00 AM - 11:15 AM

### Pastoral Emergencies and anointing of the sick

(401)722-1345

### Holy Mysteries

### Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available before 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

### Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 6)

The angelic powers were around your tomb, and the guards became as dead, and Mary stood at the tomb, seeking your spotless body; then You despoiled Hades without being tried by it, and You met the Virgin O Bestower of life. O Lord, who rose from the dead, glory to You!

### Troparion of the Ascension (Tone 4)

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through Your blessing they were confirmed in their belief that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

### Troparion of the Fathers (Tone 8)

O Christ our God, You are infinitely glorified, for You established our Fathers as radiant stars on earth. You led us to the true faith though them. O Most Merciful One, 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.

### Kontakion of the Ascension (Tone 6)

After fulfilling for us your plan of redemption and joining the things of earth with those of heaven, O Christ our God, You gloriously ascended without abandoning us, but remained with us forever and reassured all who love You by telling them: "Behold, I am with you: no one has power against you."

### نشيد القيامة باللحن السادس

إن القوات الملائكية ظهرت على قبرك،  
والحراس صاروا كالأموات، ومريم وقفت عند  
القبر، طالبة جسدك الطاهر. فسلبت الجحيم  
ولم تترك بأذى، ولاقيت البتول - واهباً الحياة.  
فيا من قام من بين الأموات، يا رب المجد لك

### نشيد الصعود باللحن الرابع

لقد صعدت بمجد أيتها المسيح إلهنا، مُفْرَحاً  
تلاميذك بموعد الروح القدس. وقد نيقنوا  
بالبركة، أنك أنت ابن الله المنتقد العالم.

### نشيد للأباء باللحن الثامن

أنت أيتها المسيح إلهنا فائق المجد. لأنك أقممت  
آباءنا كواكب على الأرض، وبهم هديتنا جميعاً  
إلى الإيمان الحقيقي. فيا جليل التحنن المجد  
لك

### طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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

### فنداق الصعود باللحن السادس

لما أكملت التدبير الذي من أجلنا، ووحدت ما  
على الأرض بالسماويات، صعدت بمجد أيتها  
المسيح إلهنا، دون أن تترك مكاناً، بل لايتأ غير  
منفصل وهاتفاً بمحبتك: أنا معكم، وليس أحد  
عليكم.





PROKIMENON: Daniel 3:26, 27 (Tone 7)

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and your name is worthy of praise and glorious forever. Stichon: For You are just in all You have done to us, and all your works are true and your ways right.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles  
In those days Paul decided to sail past Ephesus so as not to waste time in Asia, for he was hurrying as much as he could in order to reach Jerusalem for the day of Pentecost. From Miletus, however, he had sent an invitation to Ephesus for the presbyters of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them, (20:28) "Be careful about yourselves and the whole flock over which the Holy Spirit has placed you as bishops, to herd the Church of God which He has redeemed through his own blood. For I know this, that after I am gone fierce wolves will get in among you and will not spare the flock. And from among you, some men will rise, speaking perverse doctrines, to draw away the disciples after them. "Watch, therefore, and remember that for three years, night and day, I did not cease to warn with tears every one of you. And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the Word of His grace, who is able to edify and to grant you an inheritance among all his blessed ones.

**Our church organizations:**

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

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

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



"I have coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. You, yourselves, know these hands of mine have provided for my needs and those of my companions. In all things, I have shown you that by working in this way you should help the weak, and remember that the Lord Jesus said in person, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And after saying this, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

ALLELUIA: Ps. 49:1,5 (Tone 1)

The God of gods, the Lord has spoken and summoned the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Stichon: Gather his faithful ones around Him, those who have made a covenant with Him through sacrifices.

GOSPEL: Jn. 17:1-13, Sunday of the Fathers of Nicaea I

At that time Jesus raised His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come! Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify You, even as You have given Him power over all flesh, in order that to all You have given Him, He may give everlasting life. Now this is everlasting life, that they may know You, the only true God, and the One You have sent, Jesus Christ. I have glorified You on earth; I have accomplished the work You have given Me to do. And now do You, Father, glorify Me with Yourself, with the glory that I had with You before the world existed. I have manifested your name to the men You have given me out of the world. They were yours, and You have given them to Me, and they have kept your word. Now they have learned that whatever You have given Me is from You; because the words that You have given Me, I have given to them. And they have received them, and have known as a fact that I came forth from You, and they have believed that You did send Me. I pray for them; not for the world do I pray, but for those whom You have given Me, because they are yours; and all things that are mine are Yours, and yours are mine; and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father keep in your name those You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in your name. Those You have given Me, I guarded; and not one of them perished except the son of perdition, in order that the Scriptures might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to You and these things I speak in the world, in order that they may have my joy made full in themselves."

مقدمة الرسالة

مبارك أنت يارب إله آبائنا، ومسيح وممجد أسمك الى الدهور  
لأنك عادك في كل ما صنعت بنا. وأعمالك كلها حقيقية وظرفك مستقيمة

الرسالة (أعمال الرسل 17-20 و 27-36)

في تلك الأيام. كان بولس قد عزم أن يتجاوز أفسس في البحر، لئلا يعرض له أن يبطئ في أسية. لأنه كان يعجل حتى يكون في أوورشليم يوم الغنصرة إن أمكنه. فممن ميليتس بعث إلى أفسس فاستدعي كهنة الكنيسة. فلما وصلوا إليه قال لهم: أحذروا لأنفسكم ولجميع القطيع الذي أقامكم فيه الروح القدس أساقفة. لتروا كنيسة الله التي اقتناها بدمه الخاص. فإني أعلم هذا إنه بعد فراقي سيدخل بينكم ذئاب خاطفة لا تشفق على القطيع، ومنكم أنفسكم. سيقيم رجال يتكلمون بأقوال فاسدة. ليجتذبوا التلاميذ وراءهم، فاسهروا إذن وتذكروا أنني مدة ثلاث سنين لم أكف ليلاً ونهاراً عن أن أنصح كل واحد بالدموع. والان يا إخوة. أستودعكم الله وكلمة نعمته القادرة أن تبنيتكم وتؤتيكم ميراثاً مع جميع المقدسين. إني لم أشته من أحد فضة أو ذهباً أو ثوباً، بل أنتم تعلمون أن هاتين اليدين كانتا تخدمان حاجاتي وحاجات الذين كانوا معي، في كل شيء يثبت لكم كيف ينبغي أن نتعب للضعفاء. وأن نتذكر كلام الرب يسوع حيث قال: إن العطاء أعظم غبطة من الأخذ. ولما قال هذا جثا على ركبتيه وصل مع جميعهم.

هللوا

إله الالهة الرب قد تكلم. ودعا الأرض من مشارق الشمس الى مغاريها  
اجمعوا له أبراره. الذين بنوا عهده على الدائم.

انجيل أحد الآباء القديسين – يوحنا 17: 1-13)

في ذلك الزمان، رفع يسوع عينيه الى السماء وقال: أيها الاب، قد أتت الساعة. مجد أبناك لمجدك أبناك أيضاً. كما أعطيتك السلطان على كل بشر، ليعطيهم كل ما أعطيتك له: الحياة الأبدية. وهذه هي الحياة الأبدية، أن يعرفوك أنت الآلة الحقيقي وحدك، والذي أرسلته يسوع المسيح. أنا قد مجدتك على الأرض، وأتممت العمل الذي أعطيتني لأعمله. والان مجدني أنت أيها الاب عندك، بالمجد الذي كان لي عندك من قبل كون العالم. قد أعلنت أسمك للناس الذين أعطيتهم لي من العالم، هم كانوا لك، وأنت أعطيتهم لي، وقد حفظوا كلامك. والان علموا أن كل ما أعطيتك لي هو منك. لأن الكلام الذي أعطيتك لي قد أعطيتك لهم، وهم قبلوا وعلموا حقاً أنني منك خرجت، وأمنوا أنك أنت أرسلتني. أنا أسأل من أجلهم، لا أسأل من أجل العالم، بل من أجل الذين أعطيتهم لي لأنهم لك. وكل ما هو لي هو لك، وما لك هو لي، وأنا قد تمجدت فيهم. وأست أنا بعد في العالم، وهؤلاء هم في العالم، وأنا أتى إليك. أيها الأب القدوس، احفظ باسمك الذين أعطيتهم لي. ليكونوا واحداً كما نحن. حين كنت معهم في العالم، كنت أحفظهم باسمك. إن الذين أعطيتهم لي قد حفظتهم، ولم يهلك منهم أحد إلا ابن الهلاك، لتيم الكتاب. والان فإني أتى إليك، وأنا أتكلم بهذا في العالم، ليكون لهم فرح كامل فيهم.



# Divine Liturgy Intentions

**THIS SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024: SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER. MEMORY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL OF NICAEA 325 A.D. SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION. MOTHER'S DAY.**

9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Divine Liturgies

**For the special intentions of all mothers of the Parish both living and deceased on MOTHER'S DAY**

## 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:** May 5, 2024: Budgets: \$3,004.00 (Envelopes: \$2,823.00; Loose: \$181.00); Candles: \$71.00; Building Fund: \$65.00; Cemetery: \$322.00; 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Robes: \$150.00.

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](mailto:office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com) and leave him your message. PLEASE! NO GRATUITIES! A cup of coffee or tea is just fine. He looks forward to in-person contact this New Year.

**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 no later than Sunday, June 9, 2024, by noon. Please deposit it in the collection basket on any Sunday, or mail it to the rectory, 111 Cross Street, Central Falls, RI 02863.**

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 16<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m.*

**REFLECTION: "Life is a journey, not a destination." - Ralph Waldo Emerson**

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.

O Jesus, Who has said,  
"Ask and you shall  
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# Following Jesus - Kids bulletin



## *Jesus Ascends into Heaven!*

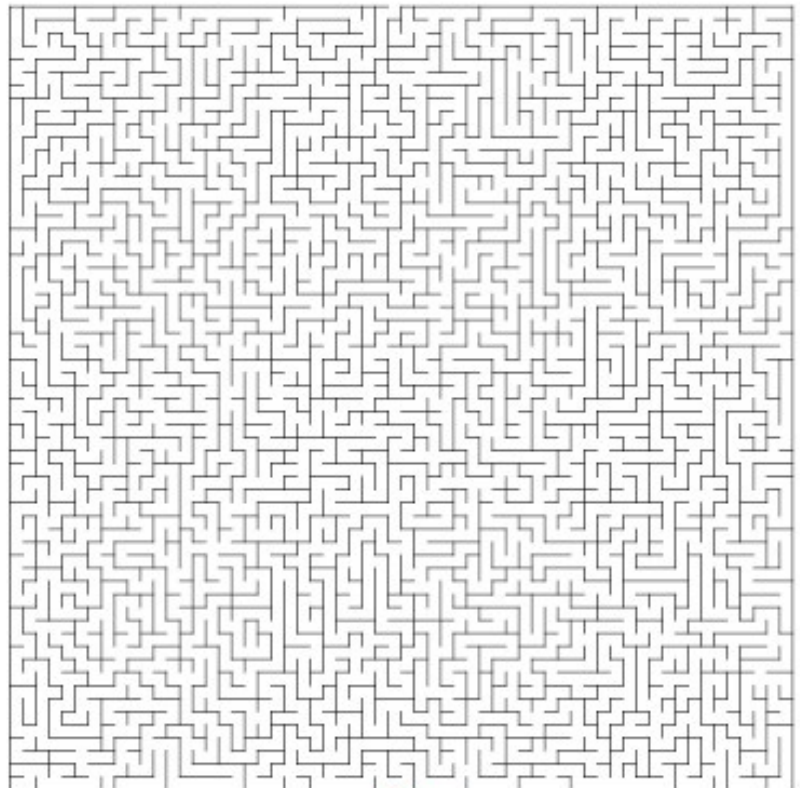


Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension- when Jesus went up, body and soul, into Heaven. Forty days after Jesus rose from the dead He took his disciples up to a big hill and told them that He was going to send the Holy Spirit to them soon. Then He went up into the sky and disappeared behind the clouds.

At first it seems kind of sad that Jesus left His friends, doesn't it? But how could they be sad when Jesus was returning with joy to His Father in Heaven?

Sometimes we are sad when somebody we love dies or moves away, and that's okay. We can't stay with our friends forever in this world, but we will in Heaven. Jesus is there waiting for us to come and live forever with Him and all our friends.

So today we should celebrate Jesus' going into Heaven, and remember that He has gone ahead of us to make a place ready for us when we die.



After his resurrection Jesus ascended to heaven.



Can you help him on his way?

# Feast of the Ascension of our Lord

Each Sunday we profess through the Creed, "He ascended into Heaven." Christ's Ascension was the culmination of God's Divine plan for Christ Jesus – his return to his Father with his "Mission Accomplished." Ascension is the grand finale of all Jesus' words and works done for us and for our salvation. It is a culmination, but not the conclusion. As Jesus is now with God in glory, so



Jesus is with us now in Spirit: "Lo, I am with you always." The feast of the Ascension celebrates one aspect of the Resurrection, namely Jesus' exaltation. Jesus did not wait 40 days to be glorified at God's right hand. That had already happened at his Resurrection. The focus of this feast is the Heavenly reign of Christ. The Lord is now "seated at the right hand of the Father" as we profess in the Nicene Creed, meaning He alone is in control of the continuing plan of salvation through the Holy Spirit, unrestricted by time, space or culture. Thus, in the Paschal Mystery, Jesus' passion, death, Resurrection, Ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit form one unbroken reality which is to be understood by Faith. The Ascension means that Jesus, His salvific suffering for our Salvation completed, is with his Father in glory. Being seated at the right hand of the Father is the fulfillment of "the prophet Daniel's vision concerning the Son of Man: 'To him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed'"

## Life messages:

1) We need to be proclaimers and evangelizers: In today's Gospel, Jesus gives this mission to all the believers: "Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." This mission is not given to a select few but to all believers. To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and proclaiming. "We preach with words but we proclaim with our lives." As we celebrate the Lord's return to His Father in Heaven – His Ascension -- we are being commissioned to go forth and proclaim the Gospel of life and love, of hope and peace, by the witness of our lives. On this day of hope, encouragement and commissioning, let us renew our commitment to be true disciples everywhere we go, beginning with our family and our parish, "living in a manner worthy of the call [we] have received."

2) We need to live a life of Christian joy in the presence of the ascended Lord. According to Luke, the disciples "returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Apparently Jesus' exaltation and final blessing gave them, as it gives us, the assurance that, though

absent, Jesus is still present, present even in the pain and sorrow we undergo. That is why St. Augustine assures us, "Christ is now exalted above the Heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his Body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?' and when he said: 'I was hungry and you gave me food.' While in Heaven he is also with us; and while on earth we are with him. He is

here with us by his Divinity, his power and his love. We cannot be in Heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love."

3) We have a teaching mission: Jesus taught us lessons of Faith, Hope, forgiveness, mercy, redemption and Love. We cannot put these lessons on a shelf and ignore them. They stand before us in the person of Jesus. Although no longer visibly present in the world, Jesus is present in his words., and we must make these words real in our lives as well as in the lives of others. Christianity was meant to be a Faith in which Jesus' followers would help and care for others, just as Jesus had done. But the spreading of the Good News to all nations is not a goal that can be attained by human might and craft. This is why Jesus promises to empower the Church with His abiding presence and that of the Holy Spirit. The challenge of sharing the Good News with all mankind should, therefore, begin with our admission that we have often been arrogant and overbearing. We must learn to be humble and let the Holy Spirit lead the way.

4) The ascended Jesus is our source of strength and encouragement: Perhaps some of the nagging doubts which inevitably accompany the journey of Faith could be lessened by our meditating on the Ascension and its implications. When we are too far from Faith to pray on our own, let us remember that we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous, praying for us. When the trials of life feel too heavy to bear, we must remember that Christ will come again in glory, the same glory in which Jesus arose from the tomb, the same glory to which Jesus ascended, and the same glory in which Jesus currently abides. Though our limited perception might find him absent, Jesus is fully present, participating in every moment of our lives. By His Ascension, Christ has not deserted us but has made it possible for the Holy Spirit to enter all times and places. In this way it is possible for each of us to be transformed by the power of the Spirit into agents or instruments of Christ. We become enlivened, and our actions become animated in a new way by the Spirit of the God we love and serve. We have become other Christs in the world

# ما معنى عيد الصعود وكيف نعيشه؟



في خميس الصُّعود نُعيدُ لصعود ربنا وإلهنا ومخلصنا يسوع المسيح إلى السماء، وذلك بعد أربعين يوماً من قيامته وظهوره للتلاميذ. "فيسوع هذا الذي رُفِعَ عنكم إلى السماء سيأتي كما رأيتموه ذاهباً إلى السماء" (أعمال 1: 11). صعد يسوع إلى السماء وعاد إلى ملكوته (يوحنا 18: 36) بعد أن أتمَّ عمل الفداء وأكمل خطة الخلاص. فالصُّعود خاتمة عيد قيامة المسيح وحياته على الأرض. وهذا ما نعبّر عنه في قانون الإيمان: لقد صُلبت عتاً على عهد بيلاطس البنطي، تألم ومات وقبر وقام في اليوم الثالث، كما في الكتب، وصعد إلى السماء وجلس عن يمين الأب، وأيضاً سيأتي بمجد عظيم. ومن هنا نسال ما هي ابعاد عيد الصُّعود وكيف نعيشه؟ يمكننا أن نميّز ثلاثة أبعاد للصُّعود على صعود المسيح والكنيسة وصعيدنا.

قلوبكم بالإيمان" بفعل الروح القدس (أفسس 3: 17).

**(1) صعود يسوع ليشفع فينا في حضرة الله**  
**(عبرانيين 9: 24)** تصور الرسالة إلى العبرانيين صعود المسيح في ضوء نظرتها لعالم سماوي تقوم فيه حقائق الخلاص، ونحوه تتجه مسيرة البشر. إن الكاهن الأعظم، لكي يجلس هناك عن يمين الله (عبرانيين 1: 3) فوق الملائكة (عبرانيين 1: 4-9) صعد أول الجميع، مجتازاً السموات (عبرانيين 4: 14) يشفع فينا في حضرة الله (عبرانيين 9: 24) على أنه الوسيط الذي يضمن لنا فيض الروح القدس (ت ك

667)، ويُعلّق القديس أوغسطينوس "صعد يسوع إلى السماء، لذلك علينا ألا نقلق على الأرض. لتكن أفكارنا هناك وسوف يكون هناك سلام. إن أردنا ان نصعد ونكون بصحبته فيجب علينا أن نكف عن الخطية وعن الشر".

## 2) الصُّعود لإعداد مكان لنا في السماء

يعودُ الربُّ بالمجد إلى أبيه ليُعدَّ لنا مكاناً (يوحنا 14: 1-3). فقد دخل يسوع أولاً تلك الحياة، ليُعدَّ لمختاربه مكاناً، ثم يأتي ويأخذهم إلى هناك ليكونوا على الدوام معه (يوحنا 14: 22). فيسوع المسيح، رأس الكنيسة، سبقنا إلى ملكوت الأب المجد حتى نحيا نحن، أعضاء جسده، في رجاء أن نكون يوماً معه إلى الأبد (ت ك 666). إذا فحن لدينا ضمانه في السماء حيث سنصعد مع الرب يسوع المسيح. وقد وعد يسوع جميع المؤمنين العاملين بوصاياه خاصة وصية المحبة بالوطن السماوي "تعالوا، يا من باركهم أبي، فترثوا الملكوت المُعدَّ لكم منذ إنشاء العالم" (متى 25: 34). وهذا الامر يدعونا ان نترنم مع صلاة قداص الصُّعود: "ليغمُ السرورُ قلوبنا، لأنَّ صعود ابنك إلى السماء، هو عنوان رفعتنا، إذ مسكنه الآن سيكون مسكننا الحقيقي الأخير" ويُعلّق القديس أوغسطينوس: "إلهي، إنك صنعتنا لأجلك. لذلك يبقي قلبنا مضطرباً قلقاً قديماً الراحة على الدوام حتى يسريح بك".

## رابعاً: كيف نعيش روحانية عيد الصُّعود؟

من ابعاد عيد الصُّعود تنبع روحانية الصُّعود متكاملة، مؤسسة على الرجاء، لأنها تجعل المسيحي بجيا منذ الآن في حقيقة العالم الجديد الذي يملك المسيح فيه. إن على المسيحيين وهم في انتظار تلك الساعة، أن يظلوا متحدين بفضل الإيمان وأسرار الكنيسة، بسيدهم المُجدد. فليعلم ان يسوعوا "إلى الأمور التي في العُلَى حيثُ المسيحُ قد جَلَسَ عن يمينِ الله"، لأن "حياتهم مُحتجبةٌ مع المسيح" (قولسي 3: 1-3)، ومدينتهم كائنة في السموات (فيلبي 3: 20). والبيت السماوي ينتظرهم (2 قورنثس 5: 31) هو المسيح المُجدد نفسه (فيلبي 3: 21)، "الإنسان السماوي" (1 قورنثس 15: 49-45). على أن المسيحي ليس لذلك أن يكون منسلخاً عن العالم، بل له رسالة على أن يجيا فيه بطريقة جديدة، تحرك العالم نحو المجد الذي يدعوه الله إليه. وهذا الامر يذكرنا بقصيدة "إرادة الحياة" للشاعر أبو القاسم الشابي "من يتهبَّب صعود الجبال يعيش أبداً الدهر بين الحُفُز". في هذا العصر تزايد اضطهاد المسيحيين أكثر من أي عصر مضى. لكن العداة والخطيئة والخوف والرعب والأوبئة والمعاناة على الأرض ليس لها الكلمة الأخيرة. يسعود يسوع بالمجد والبهاء ويضفي سيطرة على ممالك هذا العالم.

الصُّعود عيد يسوع نعتزف به مسيحاً، نعتزف به رباً ارتفع ليجذب الجميع ويصل كلمته الى العالم كله. ومن هنا علينا ان نتابع كرازه الانجيل كما اوصانا الرب "إني أوليتُ كلَّ سلطان في السماء والأرض، فاذهبوا وتلمذوا جميع الأمم، وعغدوهم باسم الأب والابن والروح القدس، وعلموهم أن يحفظوا كل ما أوصيتكم به، وهاتنذا معكم طوال الأيام إلى نهاية العالم" (متى 28: 18-20). للتلاميذ لم يعيشوا كل الأيام في حين الكنيسة تنوم إلى الأبد (أعمال 1: 9-4).

وعلينا ان نعلن انتظارنا لمجيئه الثاني. إنه سيأتي كما صعد، لذلك انتظر مجيء المسيح عقيدة "ونتنتظر قيامة الأموات وحياة الدهر الآتي أمين" ومع الليتورجيا السريانية نردد "يوم ولادته، فرحت مريم؛ يوم مماته، تزلزلت الأرض. يوم قيامته، تزعزعت ظلمات الجحيم؛ يوم صعوده، اغتبطت السموات. فليبارك صعوده"، والقديس أبقيناوس يقول: أن هذا اليوم هو مجد بقية الأعياد وشرفها لأنه يتضح أن الرب أكمل في هذا العيد عمل الراعي العظيم (لوقا 15: 7-4).

**(1) الصُّعود تمجيد المسيح السماوي** إن المسيح قبل أن يعيش على الأرض يمكن القول إنه كان لدى الله كابن، و"كلمة"، وحكمة. فصعده إلى السماء إلى يمين الأب إنما هو عودة إلى العالم السماوي الذي منه سبق ونزل من السماء، مسكن الألهوية (رؤيا 1: 5) رحمة بنا ليفتقد الناس (مزمو 5: 144). بالصُّعود والنزول ارتبطت السماء بالأرض (يوحنا 1: 51). واما جلوس يسوع عن يمين الله فيعني أنه قد أكمل عمله وأن له سلطاناً وقد توج ملكاً. والتالي ما صعوده الا تعبير عن مجد المسيح السماوي (أعمال 2: 34).

ومن ناحية أخرى يشير صعود المسيح إلى الدخول النهائي لناصوت يسوع إلى مقر الله السماوي من حيث صعوده، ويخفيه هذا المقر في هذا الوقت عن عيون البشر. (ت ك 665). وفي الليتورجيا السريانية نجد هذه الصلاة التي تعبر عن تمجيد المسيح بصعود إلى السماء: "نزل ربنا بحثاً عن آدم وبعد أن وجد من كان ضائعاً، حمله على كتفيه وبالمجد أدخله السموات معه (لوقا 15: 4). أتى وأظهر لنا أنه الله؛ وليس جسداً وكشف لنا أنه إنسان. نزل إلى الجحيم وبيّن لنا أنه مات؛ صعد وتمجد وأظهر لنا أنه كبير. فليبارك مجده!".

**(2) الصُّعود دلالة على تسامي المسيح** يدل صعود يسوع إلى السماء على تساميه على الكون والقرات السماوية كما جاء في تعليم بولس الرسول "ثم يكونُ المُنتهي حين يسلمُ المُلكُ إلى الله الأب بعد أن يكونَ قد أبادَ كلَّ رئاسةٍ وسلطانٍ وقُوَّةٍ" (1 قورنثس 15: 24). وكما قال النبي: "إيها الرُّبُّ سيِّدنا ما أعظمُ اسمُك في الأرض كلها! لأعظمُ جلالُك فوق السَّموات" (مزمو 8: 2).

ويسوع منذ الآن يجلس على العرش في السموات ليتقلد السيادة على الكون (أفسس 1: 20-21). ويكشف لنا انجيل متى سلطان يسوع الذي يتمتع به في السماء وعلى الأرض (متى 28: 18)، وأكد لنا بولس الرسول هذا النصر الذي اكتسبه بالصلب (كولسي 2: 15) وبطاعته (فيلبي 2: 6-11). ويقول القديس كبريانوس: "لا من لسان بشر ولا ملائكي يستطيع أن يصف كما يجب عظيم الاحتفال والاکرام الذي صار للاله المتجسد بصعده في هذا اليوم".

**(3) الصُّعود تمهيد لعودة المسيح في مجيئه الثاني** إن "يسوع هذا الذي رُفِعَ عنكم إلى السماء سيأتي كما رأيتموه ذاهباً إلى السماء" (أعمال 1: 11). هذه العبارة تقيم ارتباطاً عميقاً بين ارتفاع المسيح إلى السماء وبين عودته ثانية في آخر الأزمنة، عند التجديد الكلي الشامل (أعمال 3: 21) حينذاك سيأتي كما انطلق (أعمال 1: 11)، نازلاً من السماء (1 تسالونيقي 4: 16) على الغمام (رؤيا 14: 14-16)، بينما يصعد مختاروه لملاقاته، هم أيضاً على غمام (1 تسالونيقي 4: 17). فالتاريخ يتحرك نحو نقطة محددة هي مجيء يسوع المسيح ثانية ليدين العالم، ويملك على كل المسكونة. وينبغي علينا، أن نكون مستعدين لمجيئه المفاجئ (1 تسالونيقي 5: 2).

## ثانياً: الصُّعود على صعود الكنيسة:

الصُّعود على مستوى الكنيسة هو تمجيدها بحلول الروح القدس: تمجيد المسيح في صعوده كان لا بد أن يسبق تمجيد الكنيسة بحلول الروح القدس. صعد يسوع إلى السماء ليرسل الروح القدس ليحل محلّه لدى التلاميذ كما وعد تلاميذه "الروح القدس ينزل عليكم فتتألون قُدرة وتكونون لي شهوداً في أورشليم وكلَّ اليهودية والسامرة، حتى أقاصي الأرض" (أعمال 1: 8).

صعد يسوع إلى السماء كي يرسل روحه ليحل محلّه لدى التلاميذ. وبحلول الروح يتحوّل الرب من كان معنا إلى كان فينا؛ ان كان معنا محدودة، لكن كان فينا غير محدودة وذلك نتيجة عمل الروح القدس. وهذا مما يؤكد القديس بولس الرسول في صلاته إلى اهل أفسس: "إن يُقيم المسيح في



# Weekly Divine Liturgy Schedule



## *The Divine Liturgy Schedule*

### **Divine Liturgy**

- Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:15 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](http://www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com)

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

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

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



# "GOD LOVES THE CHEERFUL GIVER" 2 COR 9:7

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

As of 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

**Happy Mother's Day!**



**Stop by to Pick up Your Rose!**  
**Sponsored by The MYO and Knights of**  
**Columbus**



# Spring into Summer Dinner

Saturday, June 1st • Following Liturgy

**St. Basil's Cultural Center**

**Pasta, Meatball & Chicken Parm**

## DINNER

*Served with Salad, Bread, Coffee & Dessert*



**Adults \$25.00 • MYO and under 17 \$15.00**

**Deadline for tickets, May 26th**

**Proceeds to support**

**St. Basil's MYO**

**For Tickets and info, contact:**

**Joe Massud @ 1-508-802-7585**

**Christine Barrett @ 401-265-0386**

**SAVE**  
*The*  
**DATE**

**JULY**  
**4-7 2024**



*Becoming Disciples.*

*The Emmaus Experience*  
(Luke 24:13-53)

*Making Disciples.*

# 53rd National Melkite Convention

*hosted by*

**OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION  
MELKITE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL**

*at the*

**MARRIOTT BOSTON QUINCY**

**PRAY**

Divine Services

**LEARN**

Spiritual Workshops

**CELEBRATE**

Evening Socials

**OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL**

7 VFW Parkway | West Roxbury, MA 02132

**617.323.5242**

**Room Reservations**

**MARRIOTT BOSTON QUINCY**

1000 Marriott Drive | Quincy, MA 02169

**617.472.1000 | Marriott.com**

*Mention 53rd National Melkite Convention for discounted rate*

*Register  
today!*



[melkiteconvention.flocknote.com/signup/148976](https://melkiteconvention.flocknote.com/signup/148976)

# 53rd NATIONAL MELKITE CATHOLIC CONVENTION

## JULY 4-7 2024

*hosted by*

### OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION MELKITE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL

7 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132  
 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](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_

### PERSONAL & BUSINESS AD PRICES

*Please Mark the Desired Category*

**DEADLINE: MAY 1, 2024**

#### PREMIUM PAGES

- COLOR Back Cover Outside \$5,000
- COLOR Back Cover Inside \$3,000
- COLOR Front Cover Inside \$3,000
- Full Page Gold \$1,000
- Full Page Silver \$ 800

#### STANDARD B/W PAGES

- Full Page \$ 500
- Half Page \$ 300
- Quarter Page \$ 200

*Photos for full pages only*

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Payments and Correspondence to:**  
**ANNUNCIATION MELKITE CATHEDRAL**  
 7 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132

**Attn: Father Philip Raczka**

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

**Make Checks Payable to: ANNUNCIATION MELKITE CATHEDRAL**  
*Memo: Ad Book/53rd National Melkite*

**AD TYPE:**  Business  Personal

#### AD DIMENSIONS:

Full Page: 8.5"w x 11"h

½ Page: 4.25"w x 5.5"h

¼ Page: 2.125"w x 2.75"h

Text Received

Art/Graphics Received

Photos Received

# of Photos \_\_\_\_\_

AD COMPLETED \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_

#### FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Form # as received \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

#### PAYMENT METHOD

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Money Order # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

# 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 24:13-53)

*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		
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>			

### 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		
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>			

*Make Checks Payable to:*

**ANNUNCIATION MELKITE CATHEDRAL**  
*Memo: Convention Package*

*Mail Payment and Form to:*

**Annunciation Melkite Catholic Cathedral**  
7 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132  
**DO NOT SEND CASH**

**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 \_\_\_\_\_





Please join us for our next Emmaus Retreat that will take place on June 7th to 9th at LaSalette Retreat Center in Attleboro, MA!

Emmaus is a retreat for men and women (ages 20+) who seek to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, regardless of their present level of faith or practice. We want to invite you to join us on our next Emmaus weekend. You will be welcomed by a loving community, spend time in personal and communal prayer, and celebrate the sacraments.

For more information or to apply online, email us at [emmausretreats@gmail.com](mailto:emmausretreats@gmail.com)

# Saint Teresa School

Contact us today to learn more about our summer programs and enrollment for your child!



***Smiles Summer Camp***



***Summer Enrichment***



***Enrollment for Pk3-Grade 8***

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[stspawtucket.org](http://stspawtucket.org)

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# SUMMER ENRICHMENT

AT SAINT TERESA SCHOOL

FOR GRADES 2-7 FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

- ★ Students will improve literacy skills through engaging reading comprehension and writing exercises!
- ★ Students will strengthen math proficiency through hands-on activities, games and problem-solving tasks!

## DATES

JULY 8-12  
JULY 15-19  
JULY 22-26

## TIMES

9AM -12PM

## COST

**\$200**  
PER STUDENT / PER WEEK  
SOME FINANCIAL AID WILL BE AVAILABLE

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 23-24 Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ 23-24 School: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Weeks (circle interested weeks): **Week 1**      **Week 2**      **Week 3**

More Information    401-726-1414    [tpereira@stteresapawtucket.org](mailto:tpereira@stteresapawtucket.org)

# Saint Teresa School Presents

## SMILES SUMMER CAMP

FOR STUDENTS 4-10  
YEARS OLD!



### ACTIVITIES:

- Reading
- Writing
- Math
- Lego Challenges
- STEAM Activities
- Archery
- Martial Arts
- Playground & Water Games
- Arts and Crafts

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Camp runs weekly, Monday- Friday
- 9am-2pm
- Please be sure to pack a water!

**JULY  
08-26**

**\$200**

PER CHILD/  
PER WEEK

**FREE  
BREAKFAST  
& LUNCH**



[smiles@stteresapawtucket.org](mailto:smiles@stteresapawtucket.org)



[www.stspawtucket.org](http://www.stspawtucket.org)



140 Woodhaven Road, Pawtucket, RI

# Saint Teresa School Registration

## SMILES Summer Camp



**STUDENT'S NAME**

**DOB**

**CURRENT SCHOOL**

**AGE**

**ADDRESS**

**CITY/TOWN**

**ZIP CODE**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN**

**PHONE**

**RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD**

**ABOVE PARENT EMAIL**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN**

**PHONE**

**RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD**

**ABOVE PARENT EMAIL**

**ALLERGIES/MEDICAL CONCERNS**

**ANYTHING ELSE WE SHOULD KNOW?**

**PLEASE INDICATE WHICH WEEK(S) YOUR CHILD WILL BE ATTENDING:**

WEEK 1 - JULY 8-12

WEEK 2 - JULY 15-19

WEEK 3 - JULY 22-26

**PLEASE SUBMIT REGISTRATION FORM AND DEPOSIT OF \$75  
TO SECURE YOUR CHILD'S SPOT!**



[smiles@stteresapawtucket.org](mailto:smiles@stteresapawtucket.org)



[www.stspawtucket.org](http://www.stspawtucket.org)



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9:00AM - 4:00PM

Open to Rising 7th - 9th Graders



**Visual Arts  
and  
Art History**  
9:00-11:30 AM

**Performing Arts  
and Acting  
Intensive**  
12:00-4:00 PM

**Register: [chestertonri.org/artsweek](https://chestertonri.org/artsweek)**

**Please reachout with any questions**

Call: (401) 287-2280

Email: [rduffy@chestertonri.org](mailto:rduffy@chestertonri.org)



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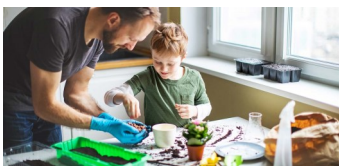


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