



**ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

901 Sherman Drive, Utica NY 13501  
Fr Saba Shofany, Pastor  
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**SUNDAY 13th AFTER PENTECOST**  
**Saturday, September 2 & Sunday, September 3, 2017**

**WEEKLY SERVICES**

**Daily Liturgy:** Monday-Friday at 8:30AM      **Holy Confession:** Every Monday at 4-6PM  
**Holy Liturgy:** Saturday at 4:30PM, Sunday at 11:00AM      **Vespers:** Every Saturday at 3:00PM  
**Matins/Orthos:** Every Sunday at 9:00AM      **Holy Rosary:** Every Sunday at 10:30AM

**SPEEDY RECOVERY**

Please continue to pray for our convalescing members, including **Carol Chanatry, Lorraine Chanatry-Howell, Edgar Hallak, Mary Machis, Rose Pawlinga, and Donald Thomas.**  
Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness.

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!**

**Sunday Collection Aug 26/27: \$ 460.00      Memorial Services: \$ 40.00**  
**Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 280.00**

**† MEMORIAL MASSES †**

**This Saturday, September 2, 2017**

† **Louis Chanatry**, 44th Memorial Anniversary, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson  
† **Anne Cragnolin**, By the St Basil Community

**This Sunday, September 3, 2017**

† **Jannah Jbarah**, By her Family  
† **Anne Cragnolin**, By the St. Basil Community

**Next Saturday, September 9, 2017**

† **Alfred Chantry**, 2nd Memorial Anniversary, By his family

**Next Sunday, September 10, 2017**

† **Jannah Jbarah**, By her Family  
† **Dr. Anthony Chanatry**, 7th Memorial Anniversary, by Lorraine Chanatry- Howell

**\* \* ANNOUNCEMENTS \* \***

- 1. St Basil’s **First Fall Flea Market and Raffle** will be held on Fri Sep 29 and Sat Sep 30 at the Rectory Garage. **Nearly new** or **slightly used** items will be accepted **beginning September 1st** at the rectory’s back door. Cheryl Reesh Kopyt and Virginia Reesh Lynch will co-chair the event.
- 2. Parish Advisory Council (PAC) will meet next on Mon Sep 11 @ 6:30 PM in the meeting rm.

**THANKS AND TRIBUTE**

**SYRIAN BRAIDED CHEESE:** Please join me in thanking the Cheese Making Committee, Janet Kakaty-George, MaryAnn Astour, Sandy Showa, Michelle Roth, Nadia Casab, Diane Kakaty, Karen Jewid, Barbara Dunlany, and Tony Showa for their help making our Syrian Braided Cheese. St Basil and the entire parish community deeply appreciates your sincere dedication. God bless you! Fr. Saba

**MOSES THE FATHER OF ALL PROPHETS**

**The Father of All the Prophets:** Contemporary Jews still reverence the “Tomb of the Prophets” Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi on the west side of the Mount of Olives. Tombs of other prophets are venerated as holy sites in Israel (Hosea and Isaiah), Palestine (Zedekiah) and Iraq (Ezekiel). However the prophet whom Jews call the “Father of all the prophets” and whom our Church remembers this week (September 4) has no tomb. As we read in the Torah: *“So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor; but no one knows his grave to this day”* (Dt 34:5, 6). Some authors have suggested that Moses was buried in an unmarked grave to prevent the still semi-idolatrous Israelites from making it a shrine or place of worship. The bulk of the Torah (Exodus through Deuteronomy) is concerned with the story of Moses. It tells how he was born to an Israelite couple in Egypt. The Pharaoh, in an attempt at population control, had ordered that newborn Hebrew boys were to be killed. *“But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive”* (Ex 1:17).

Exodus tells how Moses fled Egypt after killing a man who was abusing a Hebrew. He settled in Midian (on the northeastern shore of the Red Sea) and married Zipporah, a daughter of the local priest. While shepherding his father-in-law’s flocks, Moses had this life-changing experience: *“And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. Then Moses said, ‘I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.’ “So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, ‘Moses, Moses!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ Then He said, ‘Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. Moreover, He said, ‘I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God”* (Ex 3:2-6). Thus Moses is known in our Tradition as “the God-Seer”. Perhaps the most touching image of Moses’ relationship with God occurred just before the Israelites leave Sinai for the Promised Land: *“And it came to pass, when Moses entered the tabernacle, that the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses. All the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the tabernacle door, and all the people rose and worshiped, each man in his tent door. So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend”* (Ex 33:9-11). When Moses asked God to reveal His divine glory, God replied: *“... ‘I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you... But He said, ‘You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live... you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen”* (Ex 33:19-23).

Moses’ vision of God was true, but imperfect. He would become the perfect seer of God on another mountain, Tabor, when he would appear with the prophet Elias at the Transfiguration of Christ.

**“A Prophet like Moses”** When the Hebrews were preparing to enter the Promised Land, Moses uttered this prophecy, *“The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear”* (Dt 18:15). After Moses’ death, his assistant Joshua assumed the leadership of the Israelites, but this prophecy was not thought to refer to him. While there would be many prophets among God’s People in the centuries that followed, none of them would attain the stature of Moses.

*(August2017Leaflet)*

Commented [MR1]: