

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
901 Sherman Drive, Utica, New York 13501
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Website www.stbasilutica.org

3rd SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
Saturday, April 21 and Sunday, April 22, 2018

WEEKLY SERVICES

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

SPEEDY RECOVERY

Please continue to pray for all of our convalescing friends, including Nancy Gazzal, Edgar Hallak, Lorraine Chanatry-Howell, Daniel Klockowski, Rose Pawlinga, and Carol Young. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!

Easter Collection April 14/15: \$ 473.32 **St Pauly Textile: \$ 97.80**
Baptism & Memorial Services: \$ 110.00 **Fuel: \$ 45.00**

† MEMORIAL MASSES †

THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 21

† **Mary Machis**, by Mr. & Mrs. Henry George Murad and Family
† **George Kawam**, by his wife Renee Kawam

THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 22

† **Col. Fred Chanatry**, by his wife Teresa Chanatry
† **Albert & Elvira Chanatry**, by Eugene & Doris Hutchinson

NEXT SATURDAY, APRIL 28

† **Mary Machis**, by Mr. & Mrs. Henry George Murad and Family
† **George Kawam**, by his wife Renee Kawam

NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 29

† **Col. Fred Chanatry**, by his wife Teresa Chanatry
† **Rita Lalli**, By Robert Lalli

* ANNOUNCEMENTS *

1. The next St Basil Parish Advisory Council will be held on Monday, May 7 @ 6:30 PM in the Rectory.
2. A PayPal link is available at our website, offering a safe, secure, and confidential option to donate to St Basil, Utica. Please go to www.stbasilutica.org for more information. Weekly Sunday Bulletins can also be found there, under the Announcement Tab. Thank you for visiting our page!

Scriptural Patrons of the Lay Apostolate: The Biblical figures commemorated on this Sunday point to a principal way of exercising: using one’s resources to build up the Kingdom of God. Two of them made sizeable contributions in accordance with their stations in life. Joseph of Arimathea, described in the Gospel as “*a rich man*” (Mt 27:57) and “*a prominent member of the Sanhedrin*” (Mk 15:43) used his influence with Pilate to obtain the crucified body of the Lord Jesus and donated his own tomb that the Lord might be buried, as Chrysostom said, “not as a criminal, but magnificently, after the Jewish fashion, as some great and admirable one” (Hom. on Matthew).

Along with “the noble Joseph,” as our Troparion calls him, Nicodemus, “a ruler of the Jews” brought a one-hundred-pound mixture of myrrh and aloes – worth thousands, by some estimations. Both these men made significant donations to cover the cost of Jesus’ burial.

In the history of the Eastern Churches there have been many people who gave significant donations to the Church, building churches, schools, hospitals, or clinics for the poor. The countryside in places like Greece or Lebanon is dotted with small chapels build by donors to honor their patron saints or in thanksgiving for favors received.

In our society, the equivalent is often an endowment given to the Church. The investments generated by such endowments contribute over the years to the cause specified by the donor. An endowment by the late Father Allen Maloof has helped make possible the publication of *Sophia*, the journal of the Eparchy of Newton, for over forty years. Others remembered today contributed lesser amounts, but over an ongoing period of time. The myrrh-bearing women are those who provided for Jesus’ needs out of their own resources: Mary Magdalene, Joanna and other women who are ordinary

Applications in the Parish: There are ways based on a person’s professional skills which can help build up the Church and thereby glorify God. But there are also countless believers whose everyday skills in the kitchen or in the workshop have helped build and maintain churches and other properties in Eastern Christian parishes throughout the country. Our life-skills, even more than our talents, can help build up the Church. The witness-value of a committedly Christian family, for example, is enormous in our society where family values are neglected, if not disparaged. Couples can assist their pastors in preparing others for marriage or parenting by witnessing to the importance of the Gospel in their own family life.

In many parishes the Youth Group is a social club. People believe that they will keep their youth in church by making it fun. A much more effective approach is taken by those who help younger teens prepare for roles of service in the community. Teaching teens to serve enables them to see that working to build up the Church and spread the Gospel in society are not “electives,” but are essential to living our baptismal union with Christ. Present

Applications in the Public Square: Assisting in the activities of the parish or other organized group is certainly one way of building up the Kingdom of God, but it is not the only one. Nor is it the primary one. As the Vatican Council Fathers noted, “The laity must take up the renewal of the temporal order as their own special obligation” (AA, 7). The Christian in the business or professional world must be a Christian all week long, not just on Sundays. Christian business people are sometimes criticized for excusing their unchristian behavior in the workplace, saying “it’s just business.” The Christian in business can be an agent for renewal, transforming their business into a place of ministry.

Christian business people perhaps minister best by witnessing that increasing profits is not all that matters to them. The Christian owners of the Chick-Fil-A chain will not open any of their franchises on Sunday because it is “a day to rest and relax with family and friends.” Similarly, a number of retailers, and even entire malls, have opted to close on Thanksgiving Day to allow their employees to enjoy the day with their families. Since so many families travel great distances on that holiday to be together, workers greatly appreciate their employers’ concern.

(AprilLeaflets2018)