

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
901 Sherman Drive, Utica, New York 13501
Phone 315.732.4662 Email stbasilutica@gmail.com
Website www.stbasilutica.org

4th SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
Saturday, April 28 and Sunday, April 29, 2018

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**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

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SPEEDY RECOVERY

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

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**WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!**

**Weekly Collection April 21/22: \$ 520.00      Donation: \$ 100.00**  
**Memorial Services: \$ 250.00      Cheese Sale: \$ 65.00**

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† MEMORIAL MASSES †

THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 28

† **Mary Machis**, by Mr & Mrs Henry George Murad and Family
† **George Kawam**, by his wife Renee Kawam
† **Fr. Raed Rabadi**, by Michael & Christine Barahmeh
† **NYPD Officer David Barahmeh**, by Michael & Christine Barahmeh

THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 29

† **Col. Fred Chanatry**, by his wife Teresa Chanatry
† **Rita Lalli**, by Robert Lalli
† **Dr. Nader Fayez**, by Michael & Christine Barahmeh

NEXT SATURDAY, MAY 5

† **Mary Machis**, by Mr & Mrs Henry George Murad and Family
† **George Kawam**, by his wife Renee Kawam
† **J.A.F Lieutenant Janeib Barahmeh**, by Michael & Christine Barahmeh

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 6

† **Mary Machis**, by Mr & Mrs Henry George Murad and Family
† **Catherine Chanatry**, by Lorraine Chanatry- Howell

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**\* ANNOUNCEMENTS \***

1. The next St Basil Parish Advisory Council will be held on Monday, May 7 @ 6:30 PM in the Rectory.

**\* ANNOUNCEMENTS \***

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](http://www.stbasilutica.org), on the Donation Tab and follow the webpage instructions. Weekly Sunday Bulletins can also be found there, on the Announcement Tab. Thank you for visiting our page!

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THANKS AND TRIBUTE

SYRIAN BRAIDED CHEESE: Let us all express our appreciation to the Cheese Making Committee, Nadia Casab, Virginia Lynch, Sandy Showa, Carol Chanatry, and Tony Showa for their help making our Syrian Braided Cheese. Great thanks to Marcia Reesh for creating labels used to list ingredients on the packaging for the braids. St Basil and the entire parish community deeply appreciate your sincere dedication. God bless you! Fr. Saba

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**JESUS CHRIST PREACHING**

SOME CHRISTIANS TODAY seem to believe that Jesus never judged anyone. They feel that He welcomed everyone, without calling them to turn from their sin. This “live and let live” attitude hardly describes the Jesus we see depicted in the Gospels. Rather these Scriptures show that the Lord reacted differently to different people in different circumstances, teaching us something about Himself and holding a mirror up to our actions as well.

**Jesus’ Public Preaching:** The Gospel of Mark, perhaps the oldest of the canonical Gospels, describes the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry in this way: “*Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel’*” (Mk 1:14, 15). The call to repentance was at the very heart of His teaching: of that there should be no doubt. How Jesus approached individuals who were living in sinful situations is another matter. The Lord addressed very strong words to those who were the religious leaders of Israel – the Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes, and teachers of the Law – whom He judged to be failing in their mission to pastor God’s people. He publicly called them “*a wicked and adulterous generation*” (Mt 13:4); “*blind guides*” (Mt 23:16, 24); “*fools and blind*” (Mt 23:17, 19); “*white-washed tombs*” (Mt 23:27); and “*serpents, brood of vipers*” (Mt 23:33). He told them they had hard hearts! In Mt 23 He repeatedly threatened them, “*Woe to you, Scribes and Pharisees: Hypocrites! ... How can you escape the condemnation of hell?*” (Mt 23:13 ff.)” Yet, as the Gospel tells us, His hearers did not reproach Him for being politically incorrect; rather “*people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes*” (Mt 7:28, 29).

**Jesus’ Approach to Individuals:** When the Lord was trying to lead people to recognize their own sinfulness and repent, His approach was very different. He was not aggressive or condemnatory, but He was not timid either. When He was dining on the Sabbath with a leading Pharisee, a man with dropsy (edema) was brought before Him. The Gospel says that Jesus answered the (unasked) question of the onlookers by asking them a question, “*Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?*” (Lk 14:7) His questions forced people to examine their own beliefs or attitudes, opening a way for them to see their own errors and repent.

Two Gospel incidents frequently heard in our Churches show Jesus dealing with people who were public sinners, yet ready to hear His call to repentance. Before the Great Fast we hear the story of Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector in Jericho, who himself admitted getting money by fraud (Lk 19:8). The Lord did not raise the issue of Zacchaeus’ financial manipulations even indirectly. He simply told Zacchaeus that “*today I must stay at your house*” (v. 5). Jesus allowed Zacchaeus to see Him close up and that alone was sufficient to bring him to repentance. Something similar happened in the case of the Samaritan woman who met Jesus at Jacob’s Well. Like Zacchaeus, her way of life was already well-known and she was probably not welcome among the local women. This explains why she had come to draw water at the height of the midday heat. Yet Jesus did not bring up the matter of her multiple marriages; He innocently asks her to call her husband. When she tells Him, “*I have no husband,*” (Jn 4:17) then He responds, “*You have well said, ‘I have no husband,’ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly*” (vv. 17, 18).

(April Leaflets 2018)