

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

SUNDAY 6th AFTER PENTECOST
Saturday, June 30 & Sunday, July 1, 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, Rose Pawlinga, and Carol Young. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness

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**WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!**

**Weekly Collection June 23/24: \$ 00.00**      **Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 00.00**  
**Memorial Services: \$ 00.00**      **St. Pauly Textile: \$ 00.00**

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**** IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING HOLY LITURGIES DURING JULY ****

Fr. Saba will be absent from the parish between July 5 & July 30. Rev Richard Dellos and Rev Anthony LaFache will preside during Holy Liturgies during this time. In case of funeral planning, please contact Tony Showa at 315-732-5411. Tony will contact the Diocese to provide St. Basil with Melkite priests.

- 1. THERE WILL BE NO SATURDAY LITURGIES OFFERED BETWEEN JULY 5TH & JULY 30TH.**
- 2. DURING THE MONTH OF JULY, HOLY LITURGIES WILL BE CELEBRATED EVERY SUNDAY AT 11:00AM.**

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**† MEMORIAL MASSES †**

**THIS SATURDAY, JUNE 30**

† **Antoinette Murad**, 2nd Memorial Anniversary, by Alex Murad  
† **Salim Ghariba**, 65th Memorial Anniversary, by Eugene & Doris Hutchinson  
† **Raymond Chanatry**, 63rd Memorial Anniversary, by Eugene & Doris Hutchinson

**THIS SUNDAY, JULY 1**

† **Mary Machis**, by Mr. & Mrs. Henry George Murad and Family  
† **Jannah Jbarah**, by her Family

**NEXT SATURDAY, JULY 7 - NO LITURGY**

**NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 8**

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

**\* ANNOUNCEMENTS \***

1. A PayPal link is available on 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), click on the Donation Tab and follow the webpage instructions. Weekly Sunday Bulletins can also be found there; click on the Announcement Tab. Thank you for visiting our page!

2. Fr. Shofany & the Parish Advisory Council members have agreed to sell the antique organ located in the church, on the balcony. If you or someone you know has any interest, please call the rectory at 315.732.4662.

3. We are looking to form two Garage Sale Committees; one to organize the event, and one to provide labor to set-up and break down the event. Please see any PAC member to express you interest. Thank you.

4. St Louis Taste of Lebanon: St Basil will sell Syrian Braided Cheese at the Taste of Lebanon again this year. We are looking for folks to cover the booth during the event; Fri Aug 3 from 5-9 pm, Sat Aug 4 from 1-9 pm, and Sun Aug 5 from 11 am to 4 pm. A sign up sheet will soon be available during liturgies.

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THE POWER OF FAITH

In Matthew's Gospel Chapter 8, we read about the story of the healing of the Centurion servant by Christ. We Christ praising the faith of the centurion saying: *"And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth"* (Mt 8:11, 12).

The idea that Gentiles would be preferred to Jews in the heavenly realm was scandalous to Jews. When Jesus had expressed a similar idea in the synagogue at Nazareth, it nearly got Him killed: *"Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."* So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. Then passing through the midst of them, He went His way" (Lk 4:25-30).

The Lord referred to times in the ninth century BC when the Jews fell away from the worship of the one God, accepting the Phoenician deities Baal and Asherath. The prophets Elijah and his successor Elisha confronted the Jews for their apostasy but ministered to Phoenicians and Syrians who were disposed to hear their message. As the widow of Zarephath confessed to Elijah, *"Now by this I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is the truth"* (1 Kgs 17:24). Their stories are told in the first and second books of Kings. The story of Jesus and the Canaanite woman (Mt 15:21-28) is another example of a believing pagan contrasted to contentious Jews. After a confrontation with Jewish leaders from Jerusalem, the Lord went to the region of Tyre and Sidon where a woman begged His help for her daughter. After at first appearing to decline because she was not a Jew, Jesus obliged her saying, *"O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire"* (Mt 15:28). Again, a Gentile's faith is contrasted to the argumentative response of God's own people.

In each case, the prophets and the Lord Himself step outside the box to respond to a believing Gentile, who is then held up an example to Jews who doubted Him and n encouragement to the Gentiles who were being added to the company of His followers.

(JuneLeaflets2018)