

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 11th AFTER PENTECOST
Saturday, August 4 & Sunday, August 5, 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 Fred Ajaeb, Nancy Gazzal, Edgar Hallak, Rose Pawlinga, Maggy Attalah and Carol Young. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness

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**WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!**

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|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Weekly Collection July 8: \$ 188.00</b>  | <b>Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 50.00</b> |
| <b>Memorial Services: \$ 00.00</b>          | <b>St. Pauly Textile: \$ 00.00</b>  |
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| <b>Weekly Collection July 15: \$ 219.00</b> | <b>Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 16.00</b> |
| <b>Memorial Services: \$ 00.00</b>          | <b>St. Pauly Textile: \$ 202.90</b> |
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| <b>Weekly Collection July 22: \$ 280.00</b> | <b>Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 00.00</b> |
| <b>Memorial Services: \$ 00.00</b>          | <b>St. Pauly Textile: \$ 00.00</b>  |
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| <b>Weekly Collection July 29: \$ 323.00</b> | <b>Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 55.00</b> |
| <b>Memorial Services: \$ 30.00</b>          | <b>St. Pauly Textile: \$ 00.00</b>  |

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† **MEMORIAL MASSES** †

THIS SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

† **Elvira Chanatry**, 16th Memorial Anniversary, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson

THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

† **Jannah Jbarah**, by her Family

NEXT SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

† **Jannah Jbarah**, by her Family

*** 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, 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. 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.

3. **2018 Taste of Lebanon:** St Basil will sell Syrian Braided Cheese at the Taste of Lebanon again this year. Fri Aug 3 from 5-9 pm, Sat Aug 4 from 1-9 pm, and Sun Aug 5 from 11 am to 4 pm.

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**CHRIST THE COMPASSIONATE**

THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENCES between the three world religions originating in the Middle East (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam). One thing which they all share is the emphasis on God as Compassionate. In the biblical story of Moses, for example, God reveals Himself to the prophet in these words: “*The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness*” (Ex 34:6).

The prophets of Israel continually returned to this theme, adding a new dimension. They saw compassion as a parental trait, paving the way for the Lord Jesus’ description of God as our Father.

In His parables the Lord often returned to themes of compassion. In the parable of the unforgiving servant (Mt 18:23-35) the king, an image of God, is described as “*moved with compassion*” (Mt 18:27), in contrast to his servant who shows no compassion to his fellow. The father of the prodigal son, is described, on the bedraggled boy’s return, as “*filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him*” (Lk 15:20).

The Gospels describe Christ as “*deeply moved*” with compassion by the death of the widow’s son in Nain (Lk 7: 11-17), and of his friend Lazarus in Bethany (Jn 11). When recording the miraculous feeding of the four thousand, Mark tells us “*Since they had nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I have compassion for these people...”*” (Mk 8:1,2). In each case He did something concrete in response.

In the Church God was proclaimed from the beginning as “*the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort*” (2 Cor 1:3). In our prayers today we regularly address God as “the only Compassionate One,” in contrast to the evident lack of that quality in our own lives.

**What Is Compassion?** When the Gospels describe Christ as being “*deeply moved*” or being “*moved with compassion,*” they use a word which points to the heart of that quality. A literal translation of the Greek term would be “to be moved from the bowels.” (i.e. to feel deeply). Compassion is at the other end of the spectrum from the casual “I’m sorry” that people fling out at any unpleasant circumstance. Compassion is a “gut feeling” which we experience when we allow ourselves to be moved by the suffering of others.

People often equate compassion with sympathy, but true compassion is more. A person may express sympathy in response to sorrow with kindness and concern, then move on with their own lives. True compassion, on the other hand, includes expressions of care and concern, but moves on to concrete action. The compassionate person involves himself in the suffering of the other. Unlike the priest or the Levite in the parable, the Good Samaritan directly engages himself in the troubles of the man who was a victim to robbers and does not leave him until the man has recovered.

*(AugustLeaflets2018)*