

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 13th AFTER PENTECOST
Saturday, August 18 & Sunday, August 19, 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 Fred Ajaeb, Maggy Attalah, Nadia Casab, Nancy Gazzal, Edgar Hallak, Rose Pawlinga, Lorraine Tedesco, and Carol Young. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!

Weekly Collection August 11/12: \$ 00.00 Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 00.00

† MEMORIAL MASSES †

THIS SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

† Ann Cragnolin, 1st Memorial Anniversary, By Robert Lalli

THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

† Jannah Jbarah, by her Family

NEXT SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

† Elias & Catherine Chanatry, 85th Wedding Anniversary, By Lorraine Chanatry-Howell

† Joseph Reesh, 36th Memorial Anniversary, By his Family

* ANNOUNCEMENTS *

1. On **Wednesday, September 19**, St Basil will host a fund raising event at Casa Too Mucha, 13 Genesee Street, New Hartford. Please stop by for lunch or dinner and mention to your server that you're there in support of St Basil. A percentage of your sale will be donated to our beloved church. Thank you in advance for participating, and spread the word!!!

2. The St Basil **Second Fall Flea Market and Raffle** will be held on **Friday, September 28 and Saturday, September 29** at the Rectory Garage. Beginning on **Saturday, September 1, nearly new or slightly used** items will be accepted at the rectory using the back door. Virginia Reesh Lynch and Marcia Reesh will co-chair the event. Questions can be directed to the Rectory at 315.732.4662.Thank you.

* ANNOUNCEMENTS *

3. 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!

THE DORMITION FEAST

In Byzantine Churches the first Great Feast in the liturgical calendar is the Nativity of the Theotokos (September 8). The feast of her Holy Dormition (August 15), coming at the end of the Church year, brings this cycle to a close.

What Is a “Dormition”? Our English word echoes the French and Latin words for “sleep.” The corresponding Greek word, *koimisis*, appears in English as “cemetery,” or “sleeping place.” By calling death a “repose” or a “falling asleep” we are affirming our faith that death is not an ultimate reality. Mary’s is not the only Dormition observed in our Church. The first saints to be commemorated were the martyrs, witnesses to Christ at the risk of their life; their death was considered as a “crowning” to their testimony. Some saints not martyred were remembered on the day of their peaceful death, their dormition. Thus we remember the Dormition of St Anne, mother of the Theotokos (July 25) and of St. John the Theologian, the only apostle not martyred (September 26). The Coptic Church also remembers the Dormition of St Joseph (August 2).

The Tradition of the Virgin’s Repose: Several writings describing the death of the Virgin have come down to us; the earliest still in existence dates from the fifth century. But, according to biblical scholar Lino Cignelli, “All of them are traceable back to a single primitive document, a Judeo-Christian prototype, clearly written within the mother church of Jerusalem some time during the second century, and, in all probability, composed for liturgical use right at the Tomb of Our Lady.”

The early Tradition generally places Mary’s death in Jerusalem, a few years after the death and resurrection of Christ. According to one early version, “...the apostles carried the couch, and laid down her precious and holy body in Gethsemane in a new tomb. And, behold, a perfume of sweet savor came forth out of the holy sepulcher of our Lady the Mother of God; and for three days the voices of invisible angels were heard glorifying Christ our God, who had been born of her. And when the third day was ended, the voices were no longer heard; and from that time forth all knew that her spotless and precious body had been transferred to paradise.” Other of these writings speak of all the apostles being summoned and/or transported miraculously to attend the Holy Virgin at her passing. When Mary reposes, they see Christ taking her soul to heaven. When they bury her body as the Lord had instructed, the apostles once more see Christ. In one version Peter appeals to Him: “It had seemed to us Your servants to be right that, just as You, having vanquished death, now reign in glory, you should raise up the body of Your mother and take her with You in joy into heaven.” Christ restores her soul to her body and glorifies both with Him. In all these accounts Mary enters eternal life in the fullness of her spiritual and bodily existence. Employing elements of these accounts, the Churches of the East and then the West began to celebrate the feast of Mary’s passing, which became widespread before the end of the first millennium ad. The eighth century Father, St John of Damascus, has left us several sermons on the meaning of Mary’s Dormition as well as a canon which we still sing at Orthros on this feast. “What, then, shall we call this mystery of yours? Death? Your blessed soul is naturally parted from your blissful and undefiled body. The body is delivered to the grave, yet it does not remain in death, nor is it the prey of corruption. The body of her, whose virginity remained unspotted in child-birth, was preserved in its incorruption, and was taken to a better, more divine place, where there is no death, only eternal life” (First Homily on the Dormition).

(AugustLeaflets2018)