

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
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SUNDAY 6th AFTER THE HOLY CROSS EXALTATION
Saturday, October 27 & Sunday, October 28, 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 our convalescing friends, including Maggy Attalah, Nadia Casab, Nancy Gazzal, Rose Pawlinga, and Lorraine Tedesco. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!

Weekly Collection October 20/21: \$ 650.00 **Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 00.00**
Funeral & Memorial Services: \$ 850.00 **Casa Too Mucha: \$ 250.00**

† MEMORIAL MASSES †

THIS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

- † **William Chanatry**, By Tony & Sandra Showa
- † **Jackie Albright**, By the Zaloom Family
- † **Dr. Francis Chanatry**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson
- † **George Hallak, 9th Memorial Anniversary**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson

THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

- † **Dr. Francis Chanatry**, By Linda Kelsey Polizzi
- † **William Chanatry**, By Alex Murad

NEXT SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- † **William Chanatry**, By Tony & Sandra Showa
- † **Edgar Hallak**, By Pat Hutchinson

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

- † **Jannah Jbarah**, By her Family
- † **William Chanatry**, By Robert & Laura Zaloom

*** ANNOUNCEMENTS ***

1. The next **PAC Meeting** is scheduled for Mon Nov 5, 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room.
2. 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!

THANKS AND TRIBUTE

SYRIAN BRAIDED CHEESE: Let us all express our appreciation to the Cheese Making Committee, Nadia Casab, Virginia Lynch, MaryAnn Astour, Barbarah Dunlevy, Karen Jweid, and Carol Chanatry for helping to make our Syrian Braided Cheese. Great thanks to to Marcia Reesh for creating labels used to list ingredients on the packaging. St Basil and the entire parish community deeply appreciates your sincere dedication. God bless you! Fr. Saba

PRAYING FOR OUR DEPARTED ONE

The principal memorial days in all the Byzantine Churches also fall on Saturdays; the Saturday before Meat Fare Sunday, and the Saturday before Pentecost. In addition, most Saturdays during the year (unless there is an important commemoration from the Menaion) are devoted to remembrance of the departed.

The Synaxarion for Meat Fare Saturday explains why Saturdays have been chosen for remembering the departed: “We always remember the souls of the dead on the Sabbath, for the Sabbath (Saturday) is the day of rest. In Hebrew, Sabbath literally means ‘rest.’ As the Jews have this day for their repose and paused from every work and professional dealing, we Christians have it to remember the repose of those who preceded us. Since the dead have rested from all worldly cares, we offer supplications for them on the day which means ‘rest’”

The custom is also connected to the “Great Sabbath,” Holy Saturday, the day when Christ’s body lay in the tomb. At vespers on that day we sing the following sticheron: “The great Moses foretold this day when he said, ‘God blessed the seventh day.’ For this is the blessed Sabbath, the day of rest on which the only begotten Son of God abstained from bodily work, as He had ordained that it would occur in death. Through His Resurrection, He returned to what had been His state; and in His goodness and love for mankind, He bestowed eternal life upon us.”

Eastern Christians who attend funerals or memorial services in a Protestant church, are often struck by the absence of prayer for the dead in these events. The life and work of the departed are recalled by any number of eulogists, but none of them offer a prayer for the departed. In many Protestant traditions, the state of a departed loved one cannot be affected by prayers and Liturgies offered for them by the living. One contemporary Lutheran catechism for example asks: “For whom should we pray? ...We should pray for ourselves and for all other people, even for our enemies, but not for the souls of the dead.” In contrast, prayer for the departed is the chief focus of our traditional memorial services. The Synaxarion quoted above calls on several patristic writers to witness the power of intercession for the dead: “In his funeral oration for his brother Caesarios, St. Gregory the Theologian recommends alms on behalf of the reposed as being good. And the great Chrysostom in his commentary on Philippians says, ‘Let us think of ways to benefit the departed. Let us give them what help we can, namely almsgiving and offerings. For truly this brings them great advantage and very much gain and benefit.

“The custom of the priest commemorating those reposed in faith over the awesome Mysteries has not been without purpose nor arbitrarily ordained and delivered to God’s Church by His all-wise Disciples.’ Again, ‘In making arrangements when you dispose of your property, together with your children and relatives, let your will also include the name of your Judge as a joint heir, and let not the mention of the poor be absent ...’” The Judge, of course is the Lord. Chrysostom was encouraging people to include His Church in their wills as offerings in their memory.

(OctLeaflets2018)