

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
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SUNDAY OF THE FATHER JOHN CLIMAKOS
Saturday, March 21 & Sunday, March 22, 2020



SEASON OF LENT - WEEKLY SERVICES

Daily Liturgy: Monday-Friday at 8:30AM Holy Confession: Every Monday at 4-6PM
Holy Liturgy: Saturday at 4:30PM, Sunday at 11:00AM Vespers: Every Saturday at 3:00PM
Matins/Orthos: Every Sunday at 9:00AM Holy Rosary: Every Sunday at 10:30AM
Great Compline: Wednesday at 6:00PM Akathistos: Friday at 6:00PM

SPEEDY RECOVERY

Please continue to pray for our convalescing friends, including Archdeacon George Yany, Nadia Casab, Wael and his son Jordan Barahmeh, Maggy Atallah, Nancy Gazzal, Rose Pawlinga, Julia Nassimos, Jean Benoit and Brian Sagrestano. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!

Weekly Collection March 14/ 15: \$ 261.00 Easter Flowers Donation: \$ 285.00
Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 40.00 Memorial Offering: \$ 20.00
St. Pauly Textile: \$ 170.01

† MEMORIAL MASSES †

THIS SATURDAY, MARCH 21

† Eugene Hutchinson, By Debbie Gillihan

THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 22

† Eugene Hutchinson, By Tom Moran

NEXT SATURDAY, MARCH 28

† Eugene Hutchinson, By Carol Chanatry and Family

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 29

† Eugene Hutchinson, By Tom Moran

* ANNOUNCEMENT *

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Mon Apr. 6, 6:30 PM, Rectory Meeting Rm

THE BISHOP'S APPEAL

The annual Bishop's Appeal is an essential way in which our parish fulfills its duty to our larger Melkite family throughout the U.S. Our Father and Shepherd, Bishop Nicholas asks every Melkite household in the U.S. to give **at least \$100-\$200 each year** to support our Eparchy in America. By contributing to the Appeal, each of us responds to Christ's call to support our Church and helps to fund its vital works, such as: publishing *SOPHIA* magazine; supporting our seminarians for the Priesthood and Diaconate; providing for our elderly priests; teaching the Faith to our children and young adults; establishing/supporting new missions and outreaches.

Those who give a gift of \$1000 or more will be automatically enrolled in the Order of Saint Nicholas, the charitable society of our Eparchy. **It is the holy obligation of every member of our parish to support our Church as you are able. Please send your gift today. May God bless your generosity.**

THANK YOU AND MANY BLESSINGS!

EASTER FLOWERS BEQUEATHING : Sincere thanks to the following parishioners for their monetary donations toward the purchase of St Basil's 2020 Easter flowers: Wael & Olga Barahmeh, in memory of their families' deceased members; Julia & Mary Nassimos, in memory of their parents Kareem & Shafiha Nassimos; Mary Ann Astour, in memory of Andrew Astour, Agnes Astour and James Edward Astour; Juan Thomas, in memory of the deceased members of Thomas and Testa Families; Shirley Casab, in memory of her parents Albert & Margaret Casab; John Anthony Kawam; Robert & Laura Zaloom; Robert Lalli, in memory of Arlene & Nestor Lalli, Rose & Joseph Cimbalo and Violet Gentile; Andrew & Robin Astour; Anthony & Sandra Showa;

THE ANGEL'S GREETING IN PRAYERS

One effect of the Council of Ephesus (431), which affirmed the Virgin Mary as Theotokos, was an increase of devotion to her. St Theodotos of Ancyra, a Father of that council, left us a praise of Mary based on Gabriel's greeting:

*Hail, our desirable gladness;
Hail, O rejoicing of the churches;
Hail, O name that breathes out sweetness;
Hail, face that radiates divinity and grace;
Hail, most venerable memory;
Hail, O spiritual and saving fleece;
Hail, O Mother of unsetting splendor, filled with light;
Hail, unstained Mother of holiness;
Hail, most limpid font of the life-giving wave;
Hail, new Mother, workshop of the birth.
Hail, ineffable mother of a mystery beyond understanding;
Hail, new book of a new Scripture, of which, as Isaiah tells, angels and men are faithful witnesses;
Hail, alabaster jar of sanctifying ointment;
Hail, best trader of the coin of virginity;
Hail, creature embracing your Creator;
Hail, little container containing the Uncontainable (Homily 4:3).*

Later poets would use the same literary device in composing Akathists to the Theotokos and, later, to numerous saints. It is also found in the Greek and Syriac hymns of Severus of Antioch (c. 459-538), Andrew of Crete (650-740), and John of Damascus (c. 675-749). (*MarchLeaflets2020*)