

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
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****IMPORTANT GUIDELINES****

1. Take all precautionary measures according to the directives issued by medical and local authorities.
 2. All Faithful of the Eparchy are dispensed from the obligation of attending Sunday and Holy Day Divine Liturgies.
 3. All Melkite churches must follow the restrictions of the local government and Latin dioceses in which they are located, i.e. if the local Latin diocese has cancelled Mass, then cancel Liturgy, at least until the end of March.
 4. Public Lenten Services and parish dinners are suspended.
 5. Funerals should be served only with the immediate family members of the deceased. A date can be chosen later for a public memorial service when the pandemic subsides.
 6. Each parish may celebrate a Sunday Divine Liturgy with two or three present and *live stream* it to the parish members. Or, tune into several other Melkite churches who are presently *live streaming*. Father Hezekias will send out links to our churches that are *live streaming* the Divine Liturgy.
 7. Lenten week-day services (Presanctified, etc.) may also be celebrated in the church with two or three and *live streamed*.
 8. Parishioners should be sent via email a copy of the Typica Service (it is in the Horologion), and families should be encouraged to pray it at home daily and at least on Sunday.
 9. Churches may be open at designated times after the *live streamed* Liturgy for those who wish to receive the Eucharist.
- These guidelines remain in effect until the end of March. At that time, we will assess what the government officials and other dioceses recommend. Or till further notice.

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**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

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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.

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**WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!**

**Weekly Collection March 28/ 29: \$ 00.00**      **Easter Flowers Donation: \$ 00.00**  
**Syrian Cheese Sale: \$ 00.00**      **Memorial Offering: \$ 00.00**  
**St. Pauly Textile: \$ 00.00**

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† **MEMORIAL MASSES** †

THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 4

† **Eugene Hutchinson**, By Carol Chanatry and Family

THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 5, PALM SUNDAY

† **Eugene Hutchinson**, By Tom Moran

NEXT SATURDAY, APRIL 11, EASTER EVE

† **Eugene Hutchinson**, By Carol Chanatry and Family

NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 12, EASTER DAY

† **Eugene Hutchinson**, By Tom Moran

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**\* ANNOUNCEMENT \***

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Mon May. 4, 6:30 PM, Rectory Meeting Rm

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PALM SUNDAY

FROM ARMENIA TO EVERY CORNER of the Middle East Palm Sunday is celebrated as a feast for children. Describing Christ's entry into Jerusalem, St Matthew's Gospel highlights the participation of children in the event. "When the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did and the children crying out in the temple and saying, 'Hosanna to the Son of David,' they were indignant and said to Him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' And Jesus said to them, Yes – have you never read, 'Out of the mouths of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise?'" (Mt 21:15-16).

Children are singled out for mention in the first historical witness we have to this feast as well. Towards the end of the fourth century, the Spanish nun Egeria, on pilgrimage to the newly-adorned places of Palestine, described what she saw on that Palm Sunday: "As the eleventh hour draws near... all the children who are [gathered at the top of the Mount of Olives], including those who are not able to walk because they are too young and therefore are carried on their parents' shoulders, all of them bear branches, some carrying palms, others, olive branches. And the bishop is led in the same manner as the Lord once was led... From the top of the mountain as far as the city and from there through the entire city... everyone accompanies the bishop the whole way on foot, and this includes distinguished ladies and men of consequence." The scene Egeria witnessed has been repeated ever since.

While today the procession is held at the end of Orthros or the Divine Liturgy, Egeria describes it as taking place "at the eleventh hour" (our five PM). This practice echoed the Gospel witness that "Jesus went into Jerusalem and into the temple. So when He had looked around at everything, He went out to Bethany with the twelve" (Mk 11:11). There they spent the night. (AprilLeaflets2020)