

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 7th AFTER PENTECOST
Saturday, July 10 & Sunday, July 11, 2021

~~~~~  
**PARISH SERVICES**

**Holy Liturgy:** Saturday 4:30PM, Sunday 11:00AM      **Holy Rosary:** Sunday 10:30AM

~~~~~  
HEALING PRAYERS NEEDED

Prayers needed for our friends, Nazmie Barahmeh, Jean Benoit, Nadia Casab, Jeanette Farewege, Nancy Gazzal, Daniel Klockowski, Jean Murad, Rose Pawlinga, John Roth, Brian Sagrestano, and Karen Zalatan. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness.

~~~~~  
**RECENT RECEIPTS**

Weekly Collection July 3/4: \$ 000.00      Memorial Services: \$ 00.00

~~~~~  
DAILY SPIRITUAL ADVICE

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? If someone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, which is what you are. (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

~~~~~  
**† MEMORIAL MASSES †**

**THIS SATURDAY, JULY 10**

† **Julia Nassimos**, By Joseph & Evelyn Aiello  
† **John Gazzal**, By George & Penny Kunkel  
† **Dr. John Kakaty**, By Janet Chanatry and family  
† **Daniel Mosley II**, By Anthony & Sandra Showa

**THIS SUNDAY, JULY 11**

† **Julia Nassimos**, By Selma Smith  
† **John Gazzal**, By David & Janet George  
† **Dr. John Kakaty**, By Alex Murad

**NEXT SATURDAY, JULY 17**

† **Julia Nassimos**, By Joseph & Evelyn Aiello  
† **John Gazzal**, By George & Penny Kunkel  
† **Dr. John Kakaty**, By Janet Chanatry and Family

**NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 18**

† **Julia Nassimos**, By William Dooley  
† **John Gazzal**, By David & Janet George  
† **Dr. John Kakaty**, By David & Janet George and family

**REMEMBERING OUR LEADERS IN THE HOLY LITURGY**

One of the Epistle readings often heard at the Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Council Fathers, Hebrews 13:7-16, begins with these words: “Remember those who preside over you, who have spoken the word of God to you. Follow their faith, considering the outcome of their conduct” (v.7). Clearly this passage was chosen for this day to honor the Fathers of the first six Ecumenical Councils for expressing with clarity the orthodox faith.

When this passage was written – in the first century AD – there were no ecumenical councils. The first one (Nicaea I) was called in the fourth century, some 150 years later, so who are the leaders mentioned in the epistle?

The Greek word for leaders used here is *hegoumenoi*, which the monastic tradition would later use to mean the head of a monastery. In the first century this term, like *proistamenos*, was used to refer to the head of the local community: the person who presided over its gatherings and, indeed, all its activities. At first the *hegumenos* in some communities was one of the Twelve; in other places he might be one of the other apostles, the Seventy chosen by the Lord and dispatched by the Twelve to communities in various parts of the region. Thus, Barnabas was sent home to Cyprus, Timothy to Ephesus, and Titus to Crete.

Scholars suggest that the term *hegumenos* was most used in Palestine while the terms bishop or presbyter were more common in other places. In any case, the Epistle is calling on believers to revere their faithful leaders for bringing them the Gospel and for the outcome of their faith for, as St John Chrysostom observed, “One’s faith is declared in the purity of one’s life.”

**Remembering Our Leaders Today:** The framers of our liturgical tradition set a precedent for us. They applied the Apostle’s call to remember their leaders to their own era, the age of the councils. We continue to remember them on this Sunday, but we should also consider applying this text by remembering the leaders of our more immediate past. Take the following little quiz to discover whom we might recall in this spirit. Can you identify any of them by name: In our Liturgy we regularly pray for “the ever to be remembered founders of this holy church.” Who are these founders? What do you know about: The first pastor who gathered your community?

The first members who thought it important to provide a church for their families and descendants; The first bishop of your eparchy. Those who built or adorned your parish church.

In addition, we may recall other notable figures in the life of our Church: the bishops, priests and deacons as well as the lay leaders who made important contributions to its life. Reminiscences of your parish and eparchial history are often found in souvenir journals, diocesan periodicals or, increasingly, on Church web sites. Explore these resources to become more familiar with the Fathers and Mothers of your local Church.

**The Spiritual Leaders of Our Day:** In addition to the founders of our parish or eparchy we remember with profit those who made our Churches bear spiritual fruit in the recent past. First among them will be the so-called “new martyrs” – those who suffered for their faith under Communism or Islam.

There are others who set directions for renewal which are still affecting us. Ukrainian Greek Catholics remember in this vein Metropolitan Andriy Sheptytsky who began the process to rediscover lost elements of Tradition in the life of the Ukrainian church. Melkites recall the Fathers of the “School of Cairo,” including Archbishop Joseph Tawil and Archimandrite Oreste Kerame, who did the same.

All Catholics are indebted to the Eastern Fathers at the Second Vatican Council, particularly Patriarch Maximos IV, whose thoughts on ecclesiology and liturgy affected the life of all the Churches since that day. When Pope John XXIII announced his call for a council, Patriarch Maximos and his synod of bishops began preparing their responses to the ideas circulated by Council.

(July2021Leaflet)