

# St. Basil the Great

## MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

901 Sherman Drive, Utica, NY 13501

Telephone Number: 1 (315) 732-4662

Email: fatherthomasmoses@gmail.com

Website: stbasilutica.org

### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

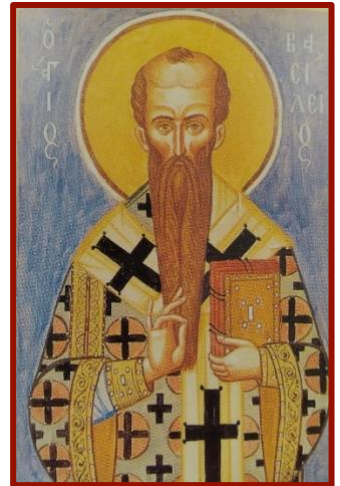
Rev. Thomas A. Moses

### WEEKEND VISITING CLERGY:

Rt. Rev. Philip Raczka    Rev. James Koury    Rev. Oliver Black

*"Enter the Church and repent ... for here is the physician, not the judge. Here one is not investigated, one receives remission of sins."*

- St. John Chrysostom



## Palm Sunday and Pascha Bulletin: April 2022

### *Parish Advisory & Finance Council:*

*Maryann Astour (Chair), Albert Casab, Janet George, Robert Lalli,  
Michelle Roth, Anthony Showa, Robert Zaloom*

**HOLY MYSTERY OF CONFESSION:** Before or after any service, or by appointment;

**HOLY MYSTERY OF CHRISTIAN ILLUMINATION:** Please contact the pastor in advance to arrange for the required baptismal preparation and formation;

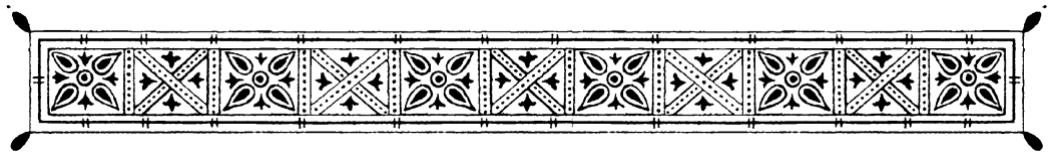
**HOLY MYSTERY OF CROWNING:** At least six months prior to the proposed wedding date, please contact the pastor to arrange for the required interview and sacramental preparation and formation;

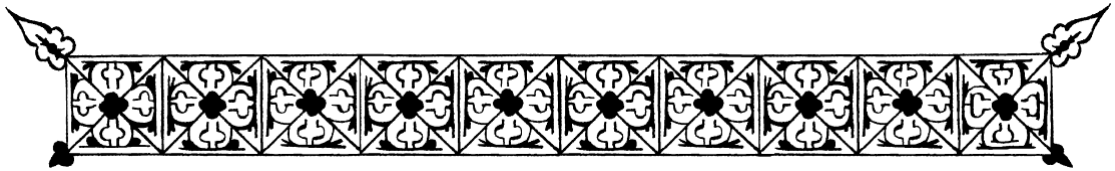
**HOLY MYSTERY OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Please contact the pastor at any time when this sacrament is needed. The pastor will make attempt to provide himself or arrange for another priest to provide the sacrament of anointing;

**HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK:** Anyone too infirm to attend our services may receive the Eucharist in their home or in a local hospital. Please advise the pastor when the sacrament is needed.

**FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES:** Please contact the pastor to plan arrangements to provide a proper burial and honor the memory of our beloved departed.

*Please remember to contact the pastor if a loved one is in the hospital and would like a visit from the priest. The hospitals do not always notify the church!*





**Sunday, April 10, 2022**

**Palm Sunday**

**Please see pg. 53 in the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Books**

**PROKIMENON:**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

God is the Lord and He has appeared to us.

*Stichon: Sing to the Lord, for He is good, for his mercy endures forever.*

**EPISTLE:**

Philippians 4:4-9

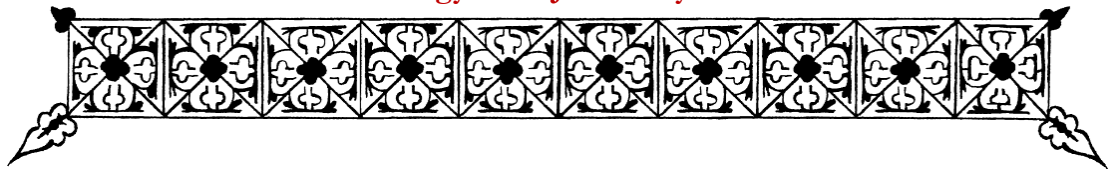
**GOSPEL:**

John 12:1-18

**Sunday, March 17, 2022**

**Great and Holy Pascha**

**Please see the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom and Pascha Books**



**UPCOMING SERVICES:**

Sun. Apr. 10	11:00 AM	<b>Divine Liturgy with Procession:</b> Fr. Thomas Moses
Sat. Apr. 16	7:00 PM	<b>Hajme with Pascha Divine Liturgy:</b> Fr. Michael Bundz
Sat. Apr. 23	4:30 PM	<b>Vigil Divine Liturgy:</b> Fr. Bryan McNeil
Sun. Apr. 24	11:00 AM	<b>Divine Liturgy:</b> Fr. Bryan McNeil
Sat. Apr. 30	4:30 PM	<b>Vigil Divine Liturgy:</b> Fr. Oliver Black
Sun. May. 1	11:00 AM	<b>Divine Liturgy:</b> Fr. Oliver Black

For Holy Week Services: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings at 7 pm, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgeMelkite/>.

# LITURGY INTENTIONS

Please, email Fr. Thomas at [fatherthomasmoses@gmail.com](mailto:fatherthomasmoses@gmail.com) to request memorial services or prayer intentions for your beloved living or deceased.



**Sunday April 10, 2022, 11:00 PM:**

**For the repose of the soul of**

**Dr. Albert Altongy**

By Anne Altongy

**John Gazzal**

By Mary Nassimos

**Rev. Saba Shofany**

By Olga Shofany and Family

**Joseph & Sally Showa**

By Anthony & Sandra Showa

**Saturday April 17, 2022, 7:00 PM:**

**Jalil & Phillipine Altongy**

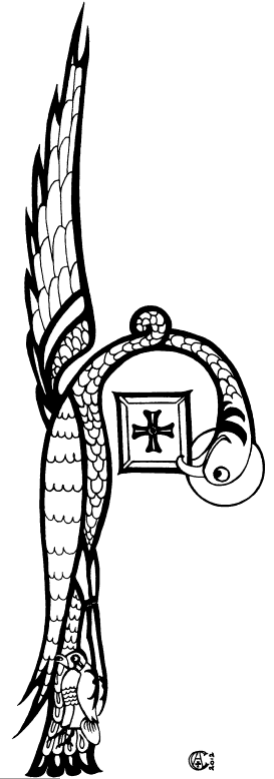
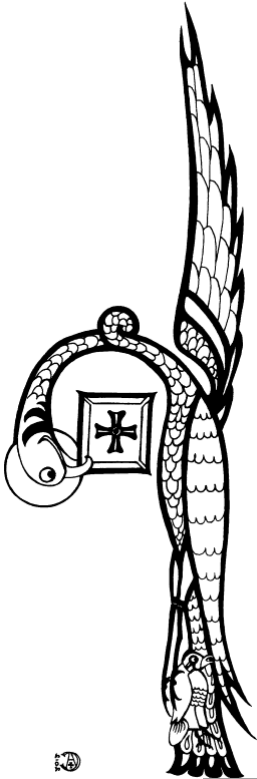
By Anne Altongy

**William Chanatry**

By Janet Chanatry

**Rev. Saba Shofany**

By Astour Family



**March Collection: \$3,750.55**

**Month's Expenses: \$(5,902.05)**

## ***March's Liturgy Attendance:***

Wednesday Great Compline Mar. 2: 15	Sunday Mar. 13: 23
Friday Akathist Mar. 4: 13	Saturday Mar. 19: 27
Saturday Mar. 5: 46	Sunday Mar. 20: 33
Sunday Mar. 6: 69	Saturday Mar. 26: 23
Saturday Mar. 12: Cancelled (Weather)	Sunday Mar. 27: 20

## **Announcements:**

Please, email Fr. Thomas to request prayer intentions and memorials or to discuss information and “thank you” notes to be included in future bulletins: [fatherthomasmoses@gmail.com](mailto:fatherthomasmoses@gmail.com).

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### **The Celebration of Holy Week and Pascha**

**A message from Fr. Thomas:** I am sorry to deprive you of the rich and beautiful Holy Week services. The two most important events I could possibly think of in my family and parish are coinciding. I am doing my best to navigate this for the good of everyone involved. As of Palm Sunday, Presbyteria Rebekah is happy and healthy. We are still anxiously awaiting the arrival of our second daughter.

“Man proposes and God disposes.” I want to do my best to not miss BOTH Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. So, with Presbyteria’s encouragement, I am serving in Utica on Palm Sunday. I am not sure I will be able to return on Easter weekend. But, God knows how all these events will unfold. God willing, next year, Holy Week and Pascha, we will be able to observe the holy days properly, together, united in love for our Lord and for one another. I am immensely grateful for your patience during this unusual time!

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### **Rectory Facilities Maintenance Project**

With the encouragement of Bishop Nicholas, Fr. Philip, and the Parish Advisory Council, throughout March, I met with various contractors to receive quotes for replacing the windows in the church rectory. The current windows are original to the building from 1962 and haven’t been replaced. They are drafty, some are cracked, for some, the storm windows don’t work and others are covered by plexi glass and can’t be opened. The parish was also built without egresses in the bedrooms. This means that there is no easy way to escape in case of a fire. The parish heating bill is over \$1,200 each month in the middle of winter and almost \$8,000 per year. With permission from the Finance Council of the diocese and Bishop Nicholas, we are in process of signing a contract with Sure Seal Window Installations to replace 17 windows and 1 patio door, and to enlarge the openings of one of the windows in each bedroom. The cost is estimated to be \$37,500 and the project should be done by the end of June. The windows should pay for themselves over the next twenty years in saved heating costs, and even less time if the price of natural gas increases.

As administrator of the parish, I am responsible for meeting the spiritual and pastoral needs of the community, but also to serve as the steward of the physical property of St. Basil the Great. I think this is a much-needed maintenance for the long term health of the parish’s infrastructure. Window replacement in the church rectory will help preserve the physical security of the parish for many years to come!

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### **Thank You!**

**Khouria Olga and Michelle Roth** for decorating the church for Palm Sunday and their willingness to decorate for Easter. If anyone is available to help them decorate Saturday April 16, please reach out.

**Dr. Angela Elefante** for generously donating the Easter decorations.

**Khouria Olga, Hanan Barahmeh, and Janet George** for baking prosphora and memorial bread for various liturgies and memorial services throughout the last few months.

**Wael Barahmeh** for patching holes in the church parking lot.

**Janet George, Michelle Roth and Wael Barahmeh** for organizing the closet in the church hall.

**Anthony and Sandra Showa** for helping Fr. Thomas to remotely arrange for plumbers and contractors to walk through the church rectory and hall to assess facilities emergencies and maintenance needs.

**Travis Strain** for initiating the Lenten Prayer Group on Zoom.

## Kid's Corner:

### Resurrection

#### Coloring Page and Gospel Reading



### Gospel Reading

Matthew 28:1-20

<sup>1</sup>After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. <sup>2</sup>There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. <sup>4</sup>The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.” <sup>8</sup>So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet

and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.” <sup>11</sup>While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. <sup>12</sup>When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, <sup>13</sup>telling them, “You are to say, ‘His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.’ <sup>14</sup>If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” <sup>15</sup>So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day. <sup>16</sup>Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

## Reading Corner

### **The Paschal Homily of St. John Chrysostom**

If any man be devout and love God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast.

If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord.

If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense.

If any have wrought from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward.

If any have come at the third hour, let him with thankfulness keep the feast.

If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; because he shall in no wise be deprived therefore.

If any have delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing.

If any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, also, be not alarmed at his tardiness; for the Lord, who is jealous of his honor, will accept the last even as the first; he gives rest unto him who comes at the eleventh hour, even as unto him who has wrought from the first hour.



And he shows mercy upon the last, and cares for the first; and to the one he gives, and upon the other he bestows gifts.

And he both accepts the deeds, and welcomes the intention, and honors the acts and praises the offering. Wherefore, enter you all into the joy of your Lord; and receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second.

You rich and poor together, hold high festival.

You sober and you heedless, honor the day.

Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast.

The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously.

The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away.

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness.

Let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed.

Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shown forth from the grave.

Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free.

He that was held prisoner of it has annihilated it. By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive.

He angered it when it tasted of His flesh. And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry:

Hell, said he, was angered, when it encountered Thee in the lower regions.

It was angered, for it was abolished.

It was angered, for it was mocked.  
It was angered, for it was slain.  
It was angered, for it was overthrown.  
It was angered, for it was fettered in chains.  
It took a body, and met God face to face.  
It took earth, and encountered Heaven.  
It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unseen.

O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory?

Christ is risen, and you are overthrown!

Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen!

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice!

Christ is risen, and life reigns!

Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave!

For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.



***Please remember*** to pray for the health and protection of our Bishop Nicholas and his reverend clergy, the faithful in this city of Utica and every surrounding country place, the government and the armed forces that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, the parish community of St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church, and for all of the intentions of her faithful, for Dillan, Jordan Barahmeh, Maryangela Fiorentino, Rt. Rev. Ed Kakaty, Mary Nassimos, John Roth, Karen Zalatan, Robert Zaloom.

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***If you are visiting our church***, our parish family is delighted to welcome you here! Please give us the chance to get to know you. If you would like to know more about the Melkite Catholic Church, please visit [www.melkite.org](http://www.melkite.org) or [www.godwithusonline.org](http://www.godwithusonline.org).

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**Let us keep in our prayers the departed servants of God, the priests who have served  
St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church**

+ Fr. Saba Shofany August 30, 2021

+ Fr. Jean Ghaby January 20, 2021

+ Rt. Rev. Julien Eliane February 8, 2011

+Rt. Rev. Benedictos Abdennour, BAO April 28, 1947

+ Fr. Beshara Kayata, BSO December 17, 1933

***“O Christ God, with the Saints grant rest to the soul of your servant,  
in a place where there is no pain, no grief, no sighing, but everlasting life.”  
May his memory be eternal.***

# God With Us

✠ ONLINE ✠

— *presents* —

## O DEATH WHERE *is thy* STING?

The Biblical Roots of the Paschal Homily



LIVE WEBINAR

Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>  
8 - 9 p.m. ET

Presented by Rev. Sebastian Carnazzo, PhD

St. John Chrysostom's renowned paschal homily, proclaimed during the celebration of Pascha each year, helps us grasp the great mystery enunciated when we sing: "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs, bestowing life!" Join us as we study the rich Biblical background of this powerful text.



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