



ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

901 Sherman Drive, Utica NY 13501
Fr Saba Shofany, Pastor
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SUNDAY 6th AFTER PENTECOST
Saturday, July 15 & Sunday, July 16, 2017

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

SPEEDY RECOVERY

Please pray for our convalescing members: **MaryEllen Busa, Carol Chanatry, Lorraine Chanatry-Howell, Anne Cragnolin, Edgar Hallak, Mary Machis, Rose Rawlings, and Donald Thomas.**
Notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!

Sunday Collection July 8/9: \$ 487.00 Cheese Sale: \$ 40.00 Memorial Services: \$ 00.00

† MEMORIAL MASSES †

This Saturday, July 15, 2017

This Sunday, July 16, 2017

† **Jannah Jbarah**, By her Family
† **Yousef Marji**, By his Family

Next Saturday, July 22, 2017 – NO HOLY LITURGY

Next Sunday July 23, 2017

† **Jannah Jbarah**, By her Family
† **Yousef Marji**, By his Family

**** ANNOUNCEMENTS ****

1. **St Basil Syrian Braided Cheese Sale** is underway! Please tell your family, friends, coworkers, & neighbors! Call the rectory at 315.732.4662 to place your orders. One braid for \$6, or two for \$10.
2. **Syrian Braided Cheese Sale** on Sunday, July 23, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Church Vestibule. Sign up on clipboard in vestibule to volunteer working this sale.
3. Next **Parish Advisory Council Mtg** will be held on Monday, September 11, 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room.

THE SCRIPTURES ARE FULFILLED

From the first, Jesus affirmed that He was realizing what had been foretold. *“So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.”* After reading Is 61:1, 2 He announced, *“Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing”* (Lk 4: 18, 19, 21). When His fellow-townsmen rejected Him, He moved on to Capernaum.

In Matthew’s Gospel the story of Jesus’ ministry begins with another prophecy: *“...and leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: ‘The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned.’ From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand’”* (Mt 4:12-17)

The New Testament Quotes the Old: There are a number of times in the Gospels when specific Old Testament texts are quoted in the belief that they are fulfilled in Christ. Some of these claims are interwoven into the stories of Christ’s teaching and miracles. Thus, in the Sermon on the Mount the Lord announces: *“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled”* (Mt 5:17, 18).

In Luke’s Gospel the Lord speaks more directly: to say that He fulfills the Law means that the era of the Law was at an end. *“The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it. And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one tittle of the law to fail”* (Lk 16:16, 17).

Several times in the course of his preaching the Lord Jesus tried to show His disciples that He was the realization of these prophecies. He explained His use of parables in terms of an Old Testament prophecy: *“Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: ‘Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; for the hearts of this people have grown dull’ ... that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: ‘I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world’”* (Mt 13:13-15, 35).

In a similar way the Lord confronted the Pharisees citing the Prophet Isaiah: *“Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition? ... Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition. Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: ‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me and in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men’”* (Mt 15:3, 7-9).

The Passion Prophesied and Fulfilled: As Jesus’ time with His disciples was drawing to a close, He tried to prepare them to see His coming Passion as fulfilling the words of the prophets. *“Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, ‘Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. They will scourge Him and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again.’ But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken”* (Lk 18:31-34). Later, of course, the Twelve would see that Christ’s death and resurrection fulfilled the prophets’ teaching and would proclaim it as such. They taught, for example, that His triumphal entry as king into Jerusalem was such a fulfillment: *“All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: ‘Tell the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey – a colt, the foal of a donkey’”* (Mt 21:4, 5). (July2017Leaflets)