

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Phone 315.732.4662 Email stbasilutica@gmail.com
Website www.stbasilutica.org



SUNDAY 7th AFTER THE HOLY CROSS EXALTATION
Saturday, November 3 & Sunday, November 4, 2018

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**WEEKLY SERVICES**

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

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SPEEDY RECOVERY

Please continue to pray for our convalescing friends, including Maggy Attalah, Nadia Casab, Nancy Gazzal, Rose Pawlinga, and Lorraine Tedesco. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness.

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**WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!**

**Weekly Collection October 27/28: \$ 469.00**      **Syrian Braided Cheese Sale: \$ 102.00**

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† **MEMORIAL MASSES** †

THIS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

† **William Chanatry**, By Tony & Sandra Showa
† **Edgar Hallak**, By Bart Hutchinson

THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

† **Jannah Jbarah**, By her Family
† **William Chanatry**, By Robert & Laura Zaloom

NEXT SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

† **William Chanatry**, By Alex Murad
† **Edgar Hallak**, By Douglas Hutchinson

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

† **Jannah Jbarah**, By her Family
† **William Chanatry**, By Madeline Zaloom Forsythe

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**\* ANNOUNCEMENTS \***

1. The next **PAC Meeting** is scheduled for Mon Nov 5, 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room.
2. A **PayPal** link is available on our website offering a safe, secure, and confidential option to donate to St Basil, Utica. Please go to [www.stbasilutica.org](http://www.stbasilutica.org), click on the Donation Tab and follow the webpage instructions. Weekly Sunday Bulletins can also be found there; click on the Announcement Tab. Thank you for visiting our page!

**BISHOP'S APPEAL 2018**

**THE BISHOP'S APPEAL:** The freedom to practice our religion is one of the greatest blessings we cherish in America and was a compelling reason why many of our Melkite forbearers came to this great Country. Your gift to our Bishop's Appeal is one way you can exercise your freedom of religion; another way is by your active witness to faith in the public square. Our Church needs both your support and your witness. Now is the time to act upon your faith. Please give joyfully from the heart for "God loves a cheerful giver." Thank you for your generous response. Extra appeal envelopes are available in the narthex.

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GOD MAKES UP FOR OUR FAILURES

It is the Church's traditional belief that the whole Church – those in heaven as well as those on earth – are present at its worship. Our liturgical texts are written with this faith in mind. Thus, we sing at the Presanctified Liturgy, "Now the Powers of Heaven minister invisibly with us. For, behold, the King of Glory enters."

From time to time people have been made deeply aware that the whole Church is with us when we worship. The Russian priest-confessor Arseny Streltsoff, held captive in a Soviet prison camp, was singled out for special punishment for trying to stop the beating of another prisoner, a non-believer named Alexei. Both Fr Arseny and Alexei were put in an outdoor steel cell in below freezing weather. They were not expected to survive. Fr Arseny saw this isolation as a chance to pray freely and without restraint. His companion told how the priest's clothes were transformed as he prayed into brilliant white priestly vestments. "There was no more cell; now they were in a church... Alexei saw with surprise that there were two men assisting Fr Arseny. Both were dressed in the same bright vestments and both shone with an undefinable white light." Alexei saw the universal Church in his punishment cell. Needless to say, he became a believer.

Fudel tells the following remarkable story that illustrates how God works to preserve holiness in His Church despite our failings. If what we see is the "dark double" at work, the angels and saints supply what is lacking.

"A five-year-old boy was baptized in a parish church. A week later he and his grandmother were walking when they met the priest in the street. 'Say hello to Father,' said Granny, 'he baptized you.' 'No,' answered the boy, 'he did not baptize me, an angel baptized me, and Father was lying on a bench, with his hands tied down.'"

A similar confirmation is attributed to a most unlikely source, the nineteenth-century German romantic poet Clemens Brentano. A frequent visitor to the nun and visionary, Anne Catherine Emmerich (1774-1824), Brentano recorded his recollections of their conversations. In one such recollection, she reportedly spoke of a vision:

"I beheld pictures referring to the defects in divine worship and how they are supernaturally repaired... God receives the honor due Him from a higher order. Among other things I saw that when priests have distractions during the sacred ceremonies, Mass, for instance, they are in reality wherever their thoughts are — and during the interval a saint takes their place at the altar... Sometimes I see a priest leaving the sacristy vested for Mass; but he goes not to the altar. He leaves the church and goes to a tavern, a garden, a hunt, a maiden, a book, to some rendezvous, and I see him now here, now there, according to the bent of his thoughts, as if he were really and personally in those places. It is a most pitiful and shameful sight!

(OctLeaflets2018)