

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
901 Sherman Drive, Utica, New York 13501  
Phone 315.732.4662 Email [stbasilutica@gmail.com](mailto:stbasilutica@gmail.com)  
Website [www.stbasilutica.org](http://www.stbasilutica.org)



**\* ANNOUNCEMENTS \***

1. Our next **PAC Meeting** is scheduled for Mon Jan 3, 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room. Please join us, share your ideas, and become a St Basil Parish Advisory Council Member.

2. **2018 St Basil Christmas Party:** Please join us on **Sat Dec 15, following 4:30 PM Liturgy**. Chairpersons for the event are Janet George, Michelle Roth and Christina Marrero. They have placed a sign-up sheet in the church vestibule to request food items, beverages, and paper products donations. A \$10 admission fee per person over 12 years old will be collected at the door for those who do not sign on sheet. Questions can be directed to the rectory at 315.732.4662. Santa will be attending to distribute gifts to the children; please bring a wrapped gift for your child with a value of \$20 or less, with their name clearly written on the tag.

3. **IMPORTANT: This year, 50% of the Christmas Party collection** will be offered to His Beatitude Patriarch Joseph to serve his charity program, which assists to feed, shelter, and clothe children of Syria who have lost their parents due to war. Please participate by making a generous donation to this program. Thank you. God bless you and grant you many years to come in good health, prosperity, happiness, and holiness. Fr. Saba

**SUNDAY 10th AFTER THE HOLY CROSS EXALTATION**  
**Saturday, December 8 & Sunday, December 9, 2018**

**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

**SPEEDY RECOVERY**

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

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!**

**Weekly Collection December 1/2: \$ 416.00**  
**Memorial servicers: \$120.00**  
**Donation for the Christmas Party: \$ 50.00**  
**Syrian Braided Cheese Sale: \$ 30.00**  
**Fuel Collection: \$ 170.00**

**† MEMORIAL MASSES †**

**THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**

† **William Chanatry**, By John Anthony Kawam  
† **Edgar Hallak**, By Mrs. Elizabeth Chanatry  
† **Lorraine Chanatry-Howell**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson  
† **Dr. Nader Fayez**, By Michael & Christine Barahmeh

**THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**

† **William Chanatry**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson  
† **Jackie Giang-Albright**, By her Family  
† **J.A.F Lieutenant Najib Barahmeh**, By Michael & Christine Barahmeh  
† **Georgia Reesh Lindfield**, By her Family

**NEXT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15**

† **William Chanatry**, By Peter & Hanah Farawege  
† **Edgar Hallak**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson  
† **Ibrahim Khalil Barahmeh**, By Michael & Christine Barahmeh

**NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16**

† **William Chanatry**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson  
† **Edgar Hallak**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson  
† **Thieb Rihani**, By Michael & Christine Barahmeh

**BISHOP'S APPEAL 2018**

**THE BISHOP'S APPEAL:** As we travel with the Virgin to Bethlehem where she will give birth to the greatest gift in human history—God's Only-Begotten Son—let us remember our Melkite Church by which Christ comes to us. **Please consider giving an end-of-year, tax-deductible gift to the Melkite Church in America to support its vital mission.** Help produce *SOPHIA* magazine, assist in the spiritual renewal of our parishes, support the vocation, recruitment, and the training of seminarians, assist our missions, and give support to our elderly priests. **Please give generously; YOUR Melkite Church needs YOU!**

**THE LIFE OF ST NICHOLAS**

Nicholas was born to wealthy Christian parents in Patara, on the southwest coast of the Roman province of Lycia in Asia Minor. He was orphaned in an epidemic while he was still young and raised by his uncle, another Nicholas, the Bishop of Patara. Of a religious disposition, Nicholas was tonsured as a reader by his uncle while quite young and eventually was ordained a priest. Obeying Christ's words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his own inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. As a prominent Christian, Nicholas was imprisoned during the persecutions of Diocletian and Galerius, which ended in 311. In response to his deliverance, Nicholas traveled to the Holy Land on pilgrimage. While there he reportedly lived with a group of monks in what is today Beit Jala. However, Nicholas was not called to the monastic life and returned to Patara. On the return voyage the ship was threatened by a powerful storm. The terrified sailors were amazed to see the storm suddenly subside at Nicholas' prayers. This gave rise to the custom of praying to St Nicholas as protector of seamen. In 317 Nicholas was chosen as Archbishop of Myra, the provincial capital of Lycia. He was neither a great ascetic nor a martyr. His reputation rests on his pastoral concern for the people under his care, particularly the poor and the defenseless. The tenth-century life of St. Nicholas by Symeon the Translator tells of secret gift-giving to save an impoverished man's daughters from penury. St. Nicholas secretly left money to provide a dowry for each of the daughters in turn. These stories and more became known in the West and Nicholas became a favorite saint throughout Europe.

*(DecLeaflets2018)*