

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
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SUNDAY 1ST AFTER EASTER
Saturday April 27 Sunday, April 28, 2019

WEEKLY SERVICES

Daily Liturgy: Monday-Friday at 8:30AM

Holy Liturgy: Saturday at 4:30PM, Sunday at 11:00AM

Matins/Orthos: 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 Maggy Attalah, Nadia Casab, Nancy Gazzal, Rose Pawlinga, , and Jean Benoit. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!

Weekly Collection April 20/21: \$ 2168.00

Fuel Collection: \$ 00.00

Memorial Offering: \$ 10.00

PayPal- Donation: 000.00

Cheese Sale: \$ 40. 00

Oneida Mission Donation: \$ 199.00

† MEMORIAL MASSES †

THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 27

† **William Chantry**, By Mss. Julia & Mary Nassimos

† **Albert & Elvira Chantry, Birthday memorial Anniversary**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson

THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 28

† **William Chantry**, By Mr. & Mrs. Louise & Michael Fultz

† **Louis Fanoun**, By Sonia Bolos

NEXT SATURDAY, MAY 4

† **William Chantry**, By Mss. Julia & Mary Nassimos

† **Peter A. Farewege Sr., 25th Memorial Anniversary**, By his Family

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 5

† **William Chantry**, By Gloria Shaheen

† **Peter A. Farewege Sr., 25th Memorial Anniversary**, By his Family

THANK YOU AND MANY BLESSINGS!

EASTER FLOWERS BEQUEATHING: Sincere thanks goes to Janet Chantry for her monetary donation of \$100 toward the purchase of St Basil's 2019 Easter flowers. Bestowment made in memory of her husband William G. Chantry. May Bill's memory be eternal!

*** ANNOUNCEMENT ***

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Mon May 6, 6:30 PM, Rectory Meeting Rm

THOMAS' CONFESSION

In our culture the exclamation “My Lord and my God!” sounds like a rather banal exclamation of surprise. Sadly, we are used to hearing casually “Oh, God!” or even the Holy Name, “Jesus Christ!” taken in vain. Yet, in first-century Judea – and among many Orthodox Jews today – saying the name of God even in prayer would be considered presumptuous. Since the third century BC Jews have refrained from using the name of God even when reading the Torah. Only the high priest was permitted to read the name of God as written in the Torah, and only on Yom Kippur. Many Jews today simply say *HaShem* (the Name) when reading such passages or referring to God.

Claiming to be the Son of God was blasphemy in the eyes of the Sanhedrin, the Jewish council of elders in Jerusalem. The Gospel indicates that Jesus was condemned to death precisely for making this claim. “*And the high priest answered and said to Him, ‘I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘It is as you said... Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, ‘He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! What do you think?’ They answered and said, ‘He is deserving of death’*” (Mt 26:63-65).

Claiming to see Christ in glory caused the death of the first martyr, St Stephen, as well. Brought before the Sanhedrin he spoke of God’s mercy toward Israel, and the elders listened. But then he said, “*Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!*” *Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; and they cast him out of the city and stoned him*” (Acts 7:56-58). Clearly Thomas’ exclamation is presented in the Gospel as an act of faith in Jesus as Lord.

The Apostles’ Teaching: From the beginning, the Apostles taught that Jesus, risen from the dead, was Messiah and Lord. Believers were taught to make this their act of Christian faith: “*...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved*” (Rom 10:9). They ascribed to Christ the title Lord (*Kyrios* in Greek) which was used in the Septuagint, the Greek Old Testament, as the equivalent of God’s un-pronounceable name. To call Jesus *Lord* meant that you were calling Him *God*: precisely the confession of Thomas.

For a believer to claim that Jesus was Lord also meant that he or she was committed to Jesus’ way of life. The usual way of doing things in society was now subject to a new criterion for believers: The Gospel of Christ. This was perceived as unpatriotic by many Romans, to use a contemporary term. Christians didn’t give undivided allegiance to Rome – they had another Lord and another way of life. (*AprilLeaflets2019*)

“Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day.” (1 Corinthians 15:3-5)

May the risen Christ our Lord fill your hearts with his divine grace, and grant you a life full of love, faith and hope.

Christ is Risen, He is truly Risen

Chairman and Members of the Parish Council
Fr. Saba & Family

