

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
901 Sherman Drive, Utica, New York 13501
Phone 315.732.4662 Email stbasilsutica@gmail.com
Website www.stbasilutica.org



THANKSGIVING AND MANY BLESSINGS

Adorations, glorification and thanksgiving to Almighty God for all the Blessing obtained by Anthony & Sandra Showa and their family members. St. Basil Community will share thier prayers and devotion with Mr and Mrs Anthony Showa and all their children.

SUNDAY 5TH AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS
Saturday, October 19 & Sunday, October 20, 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 Archdeacon George Yanni, Jordan Barahmeh, Michael Klockowski, Eugene Hutchinson, Maggy Attalah, Nancy Gazzal, Rose Pawlinga, Jean Benoit and Fouad Marji. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!

Weekly Collection October 5/6: \$ 766.00
Memorial Offering: \$ 120.00
Weekly Collection October 12/13: \$ 375.00
St. Pauly Textile: \$ 403.99
Cheese Sale: \$ 70.00
Memorial Offering: \$ 120.00

† MEMORIAL MASSES †

THIS SATURDAY, OCOTBER 19

† **William Chanatry**, By Louis & Julie Shkane
† **Jackie Albright**, By Marchel & Christine Rawda

THIS SUNDAY, OCOTBER 20

† **Ronald Murad**, By Alex Murad
† **Jackie Albright**, By Marchel & Christine Rawda

NEXT SATURDAY, OCOTBER 26

† **Jackie Albright**, By Marchel & Christine Rawda
† **Edgar Hallak, 1st Memorial Anniversary**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson

NEXT SUNDAY OCTOBER 27

† **Jackie Albright**, By Marchel & Christine Rawda

*** ANNOUNCEMENT ***

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Mon November 4, 6:30 PM, Rectory Meeting Rm

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit and the Incarnation: The infancy narratives in Luke are filled with references to the Holy Spirit. In Lk we are told that John the Forerunner would be “...filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb” (Lk 1:15). The Holy Virgin is promised a visitation of the Holy Spirit as well when she agrees to conceive the Lord: “*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God*” (Lk 1:35).

When Elizabeth and Mary, both now pregnant, meet one another, the Holy Spirit is again said to be present: “*And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit*” (Lk 1:41). When John is born, his father Zachariah is said to be “*filled with the Holy Spirit*” (Lk 1:67). Luke also says that “*the Holy Spirit was upon*” Simeon when he encountered the infant Christ in the temple (Lk 2:25). Early in Luke’s Gospel John the Forerunner tells us that “*One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*” (Lk 3:16). He is, of course referring to the Lord Jesus.

The Holy Spirit in Christ’s Public Life: Luke also connects the presence of the Holy Spirit to Jesus’ baptism (see Lk 3:22), to His encounter with the devil in the wilderness (see Lk 4:1), and to the beginning of His public ministry in Nazareth. Jesus appropriates to Himself the statement of the prophet Isaiah, “*The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed*” (Lk 4:18). The bulk of Luke’s narrative on the words and works of Jesus are illustrations of how the Spirit of the Lord was upon Him.

Jesus did not claim to possess the Spirit exclusively; rather He insisted that His disciples ask for the Spirit and the Father would send Him. “*If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!*” (Lk 11:13). It has often been noted that in Matthew, the verse reads very differently: “*If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!*” (Mt 7:11). Does Luke, who seems to be so conscious of the Holy Spirit’s presence in the event of Christ, more readily see the Holy Spirit as the greatest of the Father’s gifts to us?

The Holy Spirit would be present to Jesus’ disciples when they were harassed or persecuted. Even then, they had no need of a reasoned defense, because the Holy Spirit would be with them: “*Now when they bring you to the synagogues and magistrates and authorities, do not worry about how or what you should answer, or what you should say. For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say*” (Lk 12:11).

The Holy Spirit in Acts: Luke is the only evangelist to add a second volume to his Gospel – the Acts of the Apostles. As the Gospel proper is devoted to the ministry of Jesus, the second volume focuses on the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the infant Church.

The disciples had been empowered by Christ to minister “*to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick*” (Lk 9:2) in His name. Now the Holy Spirit empowered the apostles to proclaim that it is in Christ Himself that the kingdom of God was to be found. As Peter said, “*Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ*” (Acts 2:36). (OctLeaflets2019)