

ST BASIL GREEK MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
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SUNDAY 12TH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS
Saturday, January 18 & Sunday, January 19, 2020

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**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

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SPEEDY RECOVERY

Please continue to pray for our convalescing friends, including Archdeacon George Yany, Wael and his son Jordan Barahmeh, Eugene Hutchinson, Maggy Atallah, Nancy Gazzal, Rose Pawlinga, Jean Benoit and Fouad Marji. Please notify Fr. Shofany in case of illness.

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**WEEKLY OFFERINGS: THANK YOU!**

**Weekly Collection Jan. 11/ 12: \$ 501.00**      **Fuel Donation: \$ 10.00**  
**St. Pauly Textile: \$ 203.38**      **Memorial Offering: \$ 60.00**

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† **MEMORIAL MASSES** †

THIS SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

† **Joseph Nassimos**, By Anthony John Kawam
† **Joseph Kakaty**, 27th Memorial Anniversary, By his Children

THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

† **Salwa Atallah- Hamati**, By Gloria Shaheen
† **Joseph Nassimos**, By Anthony & Sandra Showa

NEXT SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

† **Joseph Nassimos**, By the Astour Family
† **Michael Klockowski**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

† **Salwa Atallah- Hamati**, By Gloria Shaheen
† **Joseph Nassimos**, By Eugene & Doris Hutchinson

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**\* ANNOUNCEMENT \***

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Mon February 3, 6:30 PM, Rectory Meeting Rm

**THE BISHOP'S APPEAL**

The annual Bishop's Appeal is an essential way in which our parish fulfills its duty to our larger Melkite family throughout the U.S. Our Father and Shepherd, Bishop Nicholas asks every Melkite household in the U.S. to give **at least \$100-\$200 each year** to support our Eparchy in America. By contributing to the Appeal, each of us responds to Christ's call to support our Church and helps to fund its vital works, such as: publishing *SOPHIA* magazine; supporting our seminarians for the Priesthood and Diaconate; providing for our elderly priests; teaching the Faith to our children and young adults; establishing/supporting new missions and outreaches.

Those who give a gift of \$1000 or more will be automatically enrolled in the Order of Saint Nicholas, the charitable society of our Eparchy.

It is the holy obligation of every member of our parish to support our Church as you are able. Please send your gift today. May God bless your generosity.

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TIMOTHY A "YOUNG ELDER"?

The Acts of the Apostles and some of the epistles of St Paul tell us a bit about Timothy. He was born in Asia Minor to a Greek father and a Jewish mother who had accepted Christ. Timothy was raised as a Christian by his mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois and, as St Paul reminds him, "*from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation*" (2 Tm 3:15).

As a young man, Timothy became a helper to St Paul in his travels and eventually joined him in his missionary journeys. St Paul ultimately left him in Ephesus as the leader of his Christian community there. The epistles which St Paul wrote to Timothy were sent to him in Ephesus.

St Paul mentions Timothy's ordination twice in this correspondence in seemingly contradictory ways. In Second Timothy St Paul writes, "*I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying-on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power and love and self-control*" (2 Tm 1:6,7).

In the previous epistle, however, Paul had written, "*Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you*" (1 Tm 4:1). In both texts St Paul speaks of the laying-on of hands, the most ancient term for what we call *ordination*. Was St Timothy ordained twice?

We know that, in the first century Church, a variety of terms was used to describe ecclesiastical orders. In some places, the presbyters were the council assisting the bishop (overseer); in other places the terms *bishop* and *presbyter* (and others) were used interchangeably. There is no documentation to shed light on what the practice was in Ephesus at the time St Paul wrote this epistle. It is possible, therefore, that St Paul had ordained Timothy as a presbyter, and that the presbyterate in Ephesus had ordained him as their bishop. It is also possible that there was one laying-on of hands by Paul, assisted by the presbyterate.

When Christianity was recognized as the official religion of the Roman Empire, Church offices and the terms used to describe them became more standardized. This is why St John Chrysostom (+397) could observe, "He speaks not here of Presbyters, but of Bishops. For Presbyters cannot be supposed to have ordained a Bishop" (Homily on 1 Tim).

Timothy had been a co-worker of St Paul for some fifteen years before this epistle was written. Why, then, does St Paul tell Timothy, "*Let no one despise your youth*" (1 Tm 4:12)? He may have been referring to Timothy's place as head of the Christian community: Timothy was young as a bishop rather than a young person. (*JanLeaflets2020*)