

SAINT JACOB MELKITE-GREEK CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Serving San Diego

Sunday Liturgy 11 a.m. at Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church, 2235 Galahad Road, San Diego. Mailing address: PO Box 231328, San Diego, CA 92193;

Phone: 858 987 2864 E-mail: rsamaan@stjacobmelkite.org

Web site: stjacobmelkite.org

Fr. Rezkallah Samaan, Administrator; Deacon Antoine Kabbane, Associate

Mysteries of Christian Initiation: 1 month advance notice. Parents and Sponsors must be practicing Catholics and properly registered in a parish.

Mystery of Holy Crowning: 6 months advance notice. Required: One meeting with Father Rezkallah and participation in a marriage preparation program approved by the Catholic Church.

Mystery of Reconciliation: Before or after any service or by appointment

Mystery of Holy Anointing: Available for those who are ill or anticipating an operation.

St. Jacob Melkite COMMUNITY:

is a Melkite-Greek Catholic Community of the Eparchy of Newton headed by His Grace, Bishop Nicholas. Liturgical services are in Arabic and English. The Eparchy (Diocese) is a part of the Patriarchate of Antioch, headed by His Beatitude, Gregorios VI. "...and in Antioch the disciples were for first time called Christians" Acts 11:26). The Melkite-Greek Catholic Church maintains communion with the Roman Catholic Church.

Standing, Sitting, Kneeling

In any Melkite Church, the proper position of prayer is STANDING. Kneeling on Sunday is strictly forbidden. Christ is Risen, so we stand. Kneeling in the Melkite Church is a sign of repentance, not reverence as is the case in Roman (Latin) Church. Kneeling is a proper prayer position during great lent and at the special prayers offered on Pentecost when we beg the Holy Spirit to come upon us.

What about sitting? We sit during the reading of the Epistle and during the homily (sermon) as these are time of teaching. We should stand throughout the Anaphora the heart of the Eucharistic service and make a profound bow at the time of the Epiclesis (the calling of the Holy Spirit to change the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ).

Sitting is permitted for those unable to stand during the litanies. Those prayers of petition chanted by the deacon.

In any case on Sunday we should not kneel, but should stand!

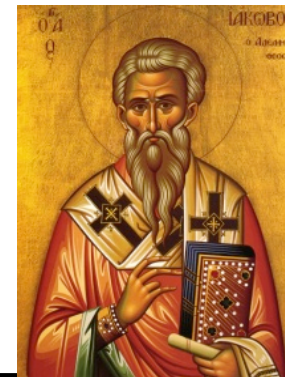
Christ is born!

Glorify Him!

St. Jacob Melkite Catholic Community

Serving San Diego

Sunday, January 1, 2017



Feast of the Circumcision of Christ and of Saint Basil the Great



Saint Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia, "belongs not to the Church of Caesarea alone, nor merely to his own time, nor was he of benefit only to his own kinsmen, but rather to all lands and cities worldwide, and to all people he brought and still brings benefit, and for Christians he always was and will be a most salvific teacher." Thus spoke Saint Basil's contemporary, Saint Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium. Saint Basil celebrated the church services almost every day. He was particularly concerned about the strict fulfilling of the Canons of the Church, and took care that only worthy individuals should enter into the clergy. He incessantly made the rounds of his own church, lest anywhere there be an infraction of Church discipline, and setting aright any unseemliness. At Caesarea, Saint Basil built two monasteries, a men's and a women's, with a church in honor of the Forty Martyrs whose relics were buried there.

On the eighth day after His Nativity, our Lord Jesus Christ was circumcised in accordance with the Old Testament Law. All male infants underwent circumcision as a sign of God's Covenant with the holy Forefather Abraham and his descendants (Gen. 17:10-14, Lev. 12:3). After this ritual the Divine Infant was given the name Jesus, as the Archangel Gabriel declared on the day of the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos (Luke 1:31-33, 2:21). The Fathers of the Church explain that the Lord, the Creator of the Law, underwent circumcision in order to give people an example of how faithfully the divine ordinances ought to be fulfilled. The Lord was circumcised so that later no one would doubt that He had truly assumed human flesh, and that His Incarnation was not merely an illusion.

SAINT JACOB MELKITE COMMUNITY - Sunday, January 1 - Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ and of St. Basil the Great- The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

THIS WEEK AT ST. JACOB COMMUNITY:

Thursday/Friday, January 5/6 - Feast of Theophany - Blessing of Water

Sunday, Jan. 7 - 11 a.m. - Sunday after Theophany

THE BISHOP'S APPEAL: THE BISHOP'S APPEAL: We thank God for tremendous gift of His Only-begotten Son, and we offer thanks to our new-born King for all the blessings received in 2016. Please make a generous thanksgiving gift to your Melkite Catholic Church in America. The annual Bishop's Appeal officially ends in all the parishes of the Eparchy on 31 December 2009. **However, gifts to the Appeal will continue to be received and credited to your parish until 31 January 2010 for anyone who makes an end-of-year, tax-deductible donation.** Your gift means so much to so many! Thank you for your generosity. May God bless you and all your family with a blessed and merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, and holy New Year! CHRIST IS BORN!

REMEMBER THE MELKITE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL: Give a lasting gift for future generations of Melkites in America by remembering the Melkite Catholic Church in your will. Simply add the following statement to your last will and testament: *I hereby bequeath to the Melkite Eparchy of Newton the following sum: \$_____.* Contact Bishop Nicholas personally to inform him of your generous bequest: 3 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132.

SAN DIEGO WALK FOR LIFE You are invited to attend the Fifth Annual San Diego Walk for Life on Saturday, January 21, 2017, from 8:30 a.m. to Noon in Balboa Park on Sixth Ave. and Laurel St. Speakers this year include: Bishop Robert McElroy, Fr. Agustino Torres, CFM, Patti Smith, and many ore. Music will be provided by Nuevo Amanecer Band. Help make this family-friendly event a success by sharing information on the Walk with family, friends, and co-workers. Please use these materials to promote the Walk starting the weekend of December 31 and ending on Friday, January 20. For additional information contact Kent Peters at: 858-490-8324, kpeters@sdcatholic.org or Evangely Ward 858-490-8221, or visit SanDiegoWalkForLife.org.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: those who are ill and those who may be recovering from illness. Especially **Fr. Theophan Leonarczyk.** *If you know someone in need of prayers please notify Fr. Rezkallah.*

PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME so that you can refer to it throughout the week.

O LORD GOD, BLESS THE SACRIFICIAL WORSHIP & STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR FAITHFUL SERVANTS

Sunday, December 18

ATTENDANCE: 76

1 member gave \$1,000
1 member gave \$300
3 members gave \$100
1 member gave \$50
1 member gave \$40
1 Quick Pay \$25
9 members gave \$20
3 members gave \$10
1 member gave \$5
Visitors gave \$312
Total offerings
\$2,242

Christmas, Dec. 25

ATTENDANCE 43

1 member gave \$2,525
1 member gave \$500
3 members gave \$200
1 members gave \$100
2 members gave \$50
1 member gave \$40
4 members gave \$30
1 Quick Pay \$25
1 member gave \$20
2 members gave \$10
Visitors gave \$50
Total offerings
\$4,200

WHAT IS QUICK PAY? This is an easy way to make donations from your checking account that you can arrange through your own bank. Just visit chase.com/QP or ask Rami Maria how it works. You may give to St. Jacob Community by sending your gift to donate@stjacobmelkite.org.

FEAST OF THEOPHANY (GHATTAS) - Theophany is the Feast which reveals the Most Holy Trinity to the world through the Baptism of the Lord (Mt.3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22). God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son, the Son was baptized by the Saint John the Forerunner, and the Holy Spirit descended upon the Son in the form of a dove. From ancient times this Feast was called the Day of Illumination and the Feast of Lights, since God is Light and has appeared to illumine "those who sat in darkness," and "in the region of the shadow of death" (Mt.4:16), and to save the fallen race of mankind by grace. Traditionally water is blessed on this day and is the sprinkled upon the congregation and the whole church structure. It may be taken home to be used at a time of sickness. Those who wish to have their homes blessed may contact Fr. Rezkallah.

St. Jacob Advisory Council members: Rose Habbash, Rami Maria, Rana Mitri, Waleed Qammouh, Max Samaan, Steve Saed, (Ladies Society President Majeda Maria.) *If you would like to serve on the Advisory Council, please contact Fr. Rezkallah*

Sunday, December 18 & 25

Total Tithes and Sacrificial Offerings \$6,442
Stipends \$0
Coffee Hour \$212
Total income \$6,654
Average weekly expenses \$1,500

Are you a member or a visitor? Members have offering envelopes.

If you consider yourself a member and don't have offering envelopes, just ask Emil Shahtout or Father Rezkallah.

Tithe: Represents 10% of our our gross income returned to God.

Sacrificial giving represents a gift that is a true sacrifice for us to give.