



St. Jacob Melkite Catholic Community

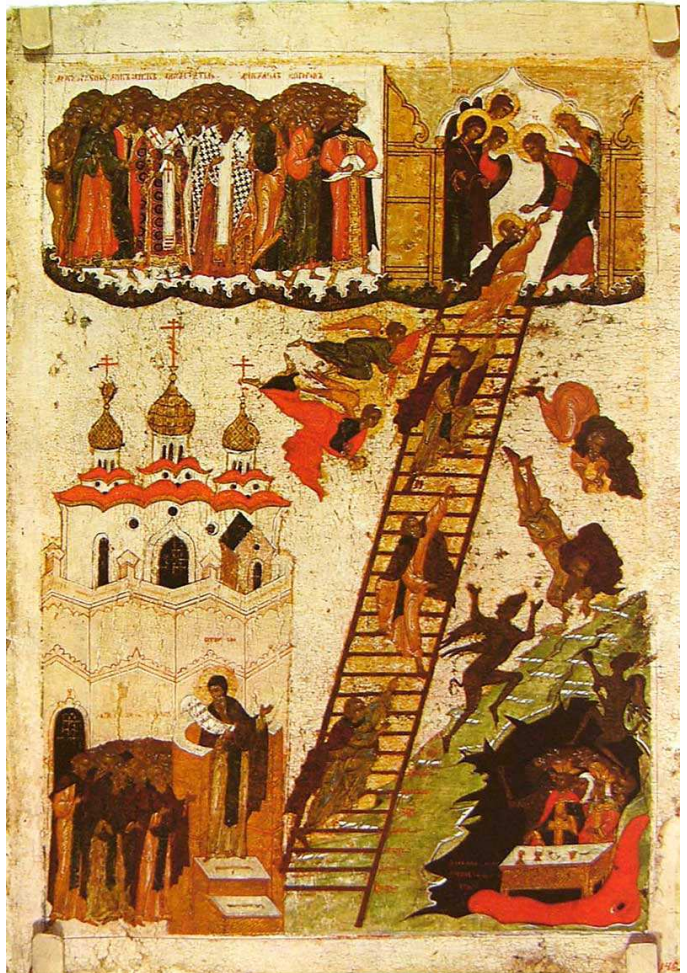
Serving San Diego Since 1990

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast - Sunday of St. John Climacus

Icon of the Ladder of Divine Ascent

This icon is written with the Sinai desert in the background which was the place for which St. John Climacus wrote this book. In writing his treatise John was inspired by the Ladder that Jacob saw in his dream which extended from the earth into heaven. The Book of Genesis describes the Ladder saying, "Jacob dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to Heaven, and Angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord leaned upon it and said: 'I am the God of Abraham your father, and the God of Isaac, be not afraid ... And behold, I am with you, and will keep you wherever you go'" (Gen. 28:12-13, 15).

Starting at the bottom left of the icon St. John Climacus is found instructing monks and pilgrims alike about the ladder and gesturing to them the ascent they must make to reach heaven. The church in the background is St. Catherine's monastery, for which he was abbot. The three onion domes topped with crosses represent the trinity. The saints of the church are often seen in the upper left hand corner in heaven watching and praying for the souls as the souls climb the ladder.



(Continued from page 1)

The ladder ascends from the bottom left to the upper right hand corner, with the souls of those on their ascent towards heaven. There are thirty rungs on the ladder representing the thirty chapters in the book of The Ladder of Divine Ascent for which one must climb. Angels are seen ministering to and encouraging the souls as they climb the ladder as well as taking their prayers to heaven. Opposite of the angels are demons who look to grab the souls of those who have fallen off of the ladder, after succumbing to their passions, taking them to Hell (depicted in the bottom right corner). The demons have tails which symbolize their fallen state and represent different sins, and passions for which John writes about in his book. In other icons the demons can be seen shooting arrows, symbolizing the passions, at those trying to climb the ladder trying to knock them off of the narrow path to heaven.

As the souls reach heaven the angels crown them for having reached the height of spiritual ascent. Jesus is seen blessing them with his right hand, taking their hand with his left, and bringing them into heaven. These souls have detached themselves from the material things, and being freed from their passions now look only to God.

Credit: Adapted from St George Byzantine Catholic Church

Great Lent Prayer Service Schedule (all services begin at **7:30pm** at Holy Angels Church):

- **GREAT COMPLINE** aka Lord of Powers (صلاة النوم الكبرى المعروفة بصلاة يارب القوات) will be on the first, third and fifth Tuesdays (2/13, 2/27 and **3/13**) of Great Lent
- **LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS** (قداس السابق تقديسها) will be on the second, fourth and sixth Wednesdays (2/21, 3/7 and 3/21) of Great Lent
- **AKATHIST HYMN** (رتبة المدائح) will be on the first five Fridays (2/16, 2/23, 3/2, 3/9, **3/16**) of Great Lent

Remember in your prayers: All who are sick or suffering or recovering from illness, especially Madeline Maria and Dani Maria.

Know someone in need of a prayer? Please notify Fr. Rezkallah by Wednesday to ensure they are included in the following Sunday's special intentions. Reach Fr. Rezkallah online by visiting www.stjacobmelkite.org/prayer-request or by telephone at 858-987-2864.

Forgot your envelope? Not to worry. Visitor offering envelopes are available in the narthex.

Bake Sale! Don't forget to place your orders for Paschal Pastries (Ka'ak and Ma'amoul). Dates and walnuts are available for \$15 per dozen. Please contact Juliette Shamieh today at 760-436-2749 to place your order.

Holy Mysteries

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 Fr. 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 Unction: Available for those who are ill or anticipating an operation.

Summary of offerings made on Sunday, March 4

Tithes and Sacrificial Offerings: Member envelopes returned: 24, Visitor envelopes used: 0, Basket collection: \$774, Automated giving: \$225, Building Fund: \$206, Social Hour: \$34, Total tithes and sacrificial offerings: \$1,033

Average weekly expenses: \$1,200

Average offerings made: Members: \$21.07, Visitors: \$5.19

Are you a member or a visitor? Members have offering envelopes. If you consider yourself a member and don't have offering envelopes, please see Rami Maria.

Tithe: Represents 10% of our gross income returned to God. Sacrificial giving represents a gift that is a true sacrifice for us to give.

Attendance: 78

- 2 members gave \$125
- 2 members gave \$100
- 1 member gave \$75
- 1 member gave \$50
- 1 member gave \$40
- 1 member gave \$30
- 1 member gave \$25
- 6 members gave \$20
- 2 members gave \$15
- 3 members gave \$10
- 1 member gave \$8
- 1 member gave \$6
- Visitors gave \$135

Youth / Young Adults: Please see Dani Maria if you are interested in joining Living In Truth.

Choir Group: Please see Suha Maria if you would like to join the English or Arabic choirs.

Parish Advisory Council: Rami Maria (Chairman), Max Samaan (Vice-Chairman), Rose Habash (Secretary), Waled Qamoh, Rana Metri and Micheline Haggar.

Volunteers wanted! Please sign up online at www.stjacobmelkite.org/volunteer or with Fr. Rezkallah or Rami Maria for the unassigned tasks on the following page. For social hour preparation and clean-up, please see Hala Shahtout.

Epistle Reading: Sign up to read the Epistle in the church narthex or online.

Volunteer Schedule

Please sign up at stjacobmelkite.org/volunteer if you would like to help!

Date	Task	Responsible Member(s)	
Sunday 3/11/2018	Epistle Reading	EN:	AR:
	Welcoming Visitors	Waled Qamoh	
	Gospel Bearing	EN:	AR: Adli Hanna
	Social Hour	Suha Maria	
Sunday 3/18/2018	Epistle Reading	EN:	AR:
	Welcoming Visitors	Max Samaan	
	Gospel Bearing	EN:	AR:
	Social Hour	Suad Morassi	

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Variable parts of the Liturgy:

Antiphon Prayer

O Lord, Lover of mankind, You saved the people of Nineveh as they repented, fasting and weeping. Have mercy on us, for we fall short of any defense. And since You are compassionate, strengthen in our hearts our faith in your name and steady our footsteps in the way of your Commandments.

For You are good and forbearing, O our God, and to You we render glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

✠: Amen.

صلاة الأنديفوننة

أيتها الربُّ المحبُّ البشر، لقد خلّصتَ أهلَ نينوى لَمَّا تابوا بالصَّوم والدموع. فأرأفُ بنا نحن العاجزين عن كلِّ جواب. فبما أنك حنون، وطدَّ في قلوبنا الايمان باسمك، وتبَّت خطواتنا في سبيل وصاياك لأتَّك إلهٌ صالحٌ وطويلُ الأناة، وإليك نرفعُ المجد أيتها الأب والابنُ والروحُ القُدس، الآن وكلَّ أوانٍ وإلى دهر الداهرين.

الشعب: آمين.

نشيد الدخول: ...يا من قام من بين الاموات... ..

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 7)

You destroyed Death by Your cross. * You opened paradise to the thief. * You changed the weeping of the myrrhbearers,* and commanded Your apostles to proclaim * that You, O Christ God have risen, * granting to the world great mercy.

نشيد القيامة باللحن السابع

لاشيتَ بصليبك الموت، وفتحت للصح الفردوس، وحولت نوحَ حاملات الطيب الى فرح، وأمرتَ رسلك أن يكرزوا مبشرين بأنك قد قمتَ، أيتها المسيحُ الاله، مانحاً العالم عظيمَ الرحمة.

Troparion of St. John Climacus (Tone 8)

Your abundant tears made the wilderness to sprout and bloom, and your deep sighs of love made your labors fruitful a hundredfold; you became a shining star showering miracles upon the world. Holy Father John, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

نشيد للبار يوحنا السلمى مؤلف كتاب "سلم الفضائل" (على اللحن الثامن)

بسيول دموعك أخصب القفر العقيم. وبزفرائك العميقة أثمرت أتعابك مئة ضعف. فصرت للمسكونة كوكباً متألئناً بالعجائب يا أبانا البار يوحنا. فاشفع الى المسيح الاله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Troparion of St. Jacob, Brother of the Lord (Tone 4)

As a disciple of the Lord, you received the Gospel, O holy Jacob. As a martyr, you displayed

unyielding will. As a brother of God, you have special power with Him. As a hierarch, you have the right of intercession. Intercede, therefore, with Christ God that he may save our souls.

طروبارية القديس يعقوب أخي الرب (شفيح الرعية)

بما أنك تلميذ للرب قبلت الإنجيل، أيها الصديق. وبما أنك شهيد لك عزم لا ينثني، وبما أنك أخ للرب لك الدألة لديه. وبما أنك رئيس كهنة لك حق الشفاعة. فاشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kondakion of the Annunciation (Tone 8)

Triumphant leader to you belongs our prize of victory! And since you saved us from adversity we offer you our thanks. We are your people O mother of God! So as you have that invincible power, continue to deliver us from danger that we may cry out to you Hail, O Virgin and bride ever pure.

قنداق الختام باللحن الثامن

نَحْنُ عِبِيدُكَ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، نَكْتُبُ لَكَ آيَاتِ الْعَلْبَةِ يَا جَنْدِيَةَ قَاهِرَةٍ. وَتُقَدِّمُ الشُّكْرَ لَكَ وَقَدْ أَنْقَذْنَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ. لَكِنْ بِمَا أَنَّ لَكَ الْعِزَّةَ الَّتِي لَا تُحَارَبُ، أَعْتَقِينَا مِنْ أَصْنَافِ الْمَخَاطِرِ لِكَيْ نَصْرُخَ إِلَيْكَ: أَفْرَاحِي يَا عَرُوسَةَ لَا عَرُوسَ لَهَا.

EPISTLE of the Fourth Sunday of Lent Hebrews 6: 13- 20 (pg. 359)

PROKIMENON (Tone 7)

Reader: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

People: *The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.*

Reader: Give to the Lord. You sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

People: *The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.*

Reader: The Lord will give strength to his people...

People: *...the Lord will bless his people with peace.*

A READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews

Brethren, when God made his promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you, and will surely multiply you (Gn. 22:14)." And so, after patient waiting, Abraham obtained the promise. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and an oath given as a guarantee is the final settlement of all their disagreements. Hence God, meaning to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the firmness of his will interposed an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to deceive, we may have the strongest comfort — we who have sought refuge in holding fast the hope set before us. This hope we have as a sure and firm anchor of the soul, reaching even behind the veil where our forerunner Jesus has entered for us, as he became a high priest forever according to the order of Melchisedek.

ALLELUIA (Tone 7)

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High!

Stichon: To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

رسالة الاحد الرابع من الصوم (ص 407)
مقدمة الرسالة

القاري ٤: الرب يوتي شعبه قوة، الرب يبارك شعبه بالسلام.
الشعب: الرب يوتي شعبه قوة، الرب يبارك شعبه بالسلام.
القاري ٤: قدموا للرب يا أبناء الله، قدموا للرب أبناء الكباش.
الشعب: الرب يوتي شعبه قوة، الرب يبارك شعبه بالسلام.
القاري ٤: الرب يوتي شعبه قوة...
الشعب: ...الرب يبارك شعبه بالسلام.

الرسالة (عبرانيين 6 : 13 - 20)

يا إخوة، ان الله عند وعده لإبراهيم، أذ لم يكن له أن يُقسَمَ بما هو أعظم منه، أقسمَ بنفسه قائلاً: لأباركك بركة وأكثرتك تكثيراً. وهكذا إذ تأتى نال الموعد. وإنما الناس يُقسَمونَ بما هو أعظم منهم، وتنقضي كلُّ مُسَاجِرَةٍ بينهم بالقسَمِ للتثبيت. لذلك لما شاء الله ان يزيدَ وَرَثَةَ الموعدِ بياناً لعدم تحول عزمه، تَوَسَّطَ بِقَسَمٍ، حتى نحصلَ بأمرين لا يتحولان ولا يمكنُ أن يحلفَ الله فيهما، على تعزيةٍ قوية، نحنُ الذين التجأنا إلى التمسُّكِ بالرجاء الموضوع أمامنا. الذي هو لنا كمرساةٍ للنفسِ أمانةٍ وراسخة. وهو يُدخِلُ الى داخلِ الحجاب، حيثُ دخلَ يسوعُ كسابقٍ لأجلنا، صائراً رئيسَ كهنةٍ إلى الابد على رتبة ملكيصادق.

هللويّا

صالحُ الاعترافُ للرب، والترنيمُ لاسمك أيها العلي
لِيُخَبِّرَ بِرَحْمَتِكَ فِي الْغَدَاةِ، وَبِحَقِّكَ كُلَّ لَيْلَةٍ

GOSPEL of the Fourth Sunday of Lent Mark 9: 17-31 (*Healing of a possessed boy*)

At that time one of the crowd came to Jesus and bowed to him saying: "Master, I have brought to you my son, who has a dumb spirit; and whenever it seizes him it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth; and he is wasting away. And I told your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." And he, answering him, said, "O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to me." And they brought him to him; and the spirit, when it saw Jesus, immediately threw the boy in convulsions, and he fell down on the ground and rolled about foaming at the mouth. So he asked his father, "How long is it since this has come upon him?" And he said, "From his infancy. Oftentimes, it has thrown him into the fire and into the waters to destroy him. But if you can do anything have compassion on us and help us." But Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to the man of faith." At once the father of the boy cried out and said with tears, "I do believe; help my unbelief." Now when Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, go out of him and enter him no more." And crying out and violently convulsing him, it went out of him, and he became like one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand, and raised him and he stood up. And when he had come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to

them, "This kind can be cast out in no way except by prayer and fasting." And leaving that place, they were passing through Galilee, and he did not wish anyone to know it. For he was teaching his disciples, and saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and having been killed, he will rise again on the third day."

انجيل الاعد الرابع من الصوم (مرقس 9 : 17 - 31)

في ذلك الزمان، دنا إلى يسوع انساناً وسجد له قائلاً: يا معلم، قد أتيتك بابني به روح ابكم. وحيثما اعتراه يصرعهُ فيزبد ويصرفُ بأسنانه ويبيسُ. وقد قلتُ لتلاميذك أن يُخرجوه فلم يقدرُوا. فأجابه قائلاً: أيها الجيلُ الغير المؤمن، إلى متى أكون عندكم وحتى متى أحتلمكم؟ هلمَّ به اليَّ. فأتوا به. فلماً رآه للوقت صرعهُ الروح، فسقط على الارض يترعُ ويترعُ. فسألَ أباه: منذُ كم من الزمان أصابه هذا؟ فقالَ منذُ صباه. وكثيراً ما ألقاهُ في النار وفي المياه ليهلكهُ، لكن إن استطعتَ شيئاً فتحننْ علينا وأغننا. فقال له يسوع: إن استطعتَ أن تؤمنَ فكلُّ شيءٍ ممكنٌ للمؤمن. فصاحَ أبو الصبي لساعته بدموع وقال: إني أومن يا رب، فأعن قلَّة ايماني. فلما رأى يسوع أن الجمعَ يتبادرونَ اليه، انتهرَ الروحَ النجسَ قائلاً: أيها الروحُ الأصبمُ الابكم، أنا أمركُ ان اخرجْ منه ولا تُعذُ اليه من بعد. فصرخَ وخبطهُ كثيراً وخرجَ منه، فصارَ كالصبي حتى قالَ كثيرون إنه قد مات. فأخذ يسوعُ بيده وأنهضهُ فقام. ولما دخلَ البيت سألَهُ تلاميذهُ على انفراد: لماذا لم نستطيعَ نحنُ أن نُخرجهُ؟ فقالَ لهم: إن هذا الجنس لا يمكنُ ان يخرجَ بشيءٍ إلا بالصلاة والصوم. ولما خرجوا من هناك، اجتازوا في الجليل، ولم يكنْ يريدُ أن يدري أحد. وكان يعلمُ تلاميذه ويقولُ لهم: إن ابنَ الانسان سيُسلمُ إلى أيدي الناس فيقتلونهُ، وبعد أن يُقتلَ يقومُ في اليوم الثالث.

Hirmos: In you, O full of grace, all creation exults, the hierarchy of angels together with the race of men: in you, sanctified Temple, spiritual Paradise, Glory of virgins of whom God took flesh from whom our God who exists before the world, became a child! For He has made your womb his throne, making it more spacious than the heavens. In you, O Woman full of grace, all creation exults: glory to you!

نشيد لوالدة الاله: إن البرايا بأسرها تفرحُ بك يا ممتلئة نعمة. محافلُ الملائكة وأجناسُ البشر لك يعظمون. أيها الهيكلُ المتقدِّسُ والفرديوسُ الناطق وفخرُ البتولية، التي منها تجسد الاله وصار طفلاً، وهو الهنا قبل الدهور. لانه صنع مستودعك عرشاً، وجعل بطنك أرحب من السماوات. لذلك، يا ممتلئة نعمة تفرحُ بك كلُّ البرايا وتمجِّدك.

Kinonikon: "Praise the Lord ..."

"نشيد المناولة:" سبحوا الرب من السموات..."

Post-communion hymn: "We have seen the true light..." "إذ قد نظرنا النور الحقيقي..."

SAINT JACOB MELKITE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Sunday Divine Liturgy 11 a.m. at Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church

Worship address: 2235 Galahad Road, San Diego, CA 92123

Mailing address: PO Box 231328, San Diego, CA 92193

Pastor office address: 4772 Felton Street, San Diego, CA 92116

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

Fr. Rezkallah Samaan, Pastor/Administrator Deacon Antoine Kabbane, Associate

Saint Jacob Melkite Community is a Greek-Catholic (Eastern Catholic) Community of the Eparchy of Newton, headed by His Grace, Bishop Nicholas. Liturgical services are celebrated in Arabic and English. The Eparchy (Diocese) is a part of the Patriarchate of Antioch, headed by His Beatitude, Patriarch Joseph. "...and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians" (Acts 11:26). The Melkite Greek-Catholic Church professes the Orthodox Faith and maintains full communion with the See of Rome.

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St. Jacob Melkite Comm.

March 2018

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