المسيح فيما بيننا! كائن وسيكون!





# St. Jacob Melkite Greek-Catholic Church

Serving San Diego Since 1990

### **Sunday of Our Mother Mary of Egypt**

"Where shall I begin to weep for the actions of my wretched life? What first-fruit shall I offer, O Christ, in this my lamentation? But in Your compassion grant me forgiveness of sins." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 1, vs. 2.)

During Great Lent we remember and venerate Saint Mary of Egypt both on April 1 and the Fifth Sunday of Lent. With the Canon of St. Andrew, read in many churches during the first and fifth weeks of Lent, we uphold her as an icon of repentance, an example for every Orthodox Catholic to emulate. Yet for many years, she lived a life of bondage to sexual passions. If St. Mary of Egypt were alive today, would we welcome her into our assembly?

"I confess to You, O Savior, the sins I have committed, the wounds of my soul and body, which murderous thoughts, like thieves, have inflicted inwardly upon me."

(The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 1, vs. 12.)



While we don't know about the very early years of her life, we do know that she lost her virginity at age twelve and ran away from home. For the next seventeen years she was a slave to her insatiable appetite for sexual perversions, including sexual encounters with "young men," even against their will. This sounds very much like a victim of pedophilia who recoils and continues in her victimization by taking on the role of a predator herself, victimizing others in the process. Many adults who fall into the bondage of pedophilia are victims of sexual abuse as children. In a futile attempt to reconcile the horror of their own victimization, they try to regain control of their lives through exploitation, continuing to inflict wounds on their own souls and bodies.

"Like David, I have fallen into lust and I am covered in filth; but wash me clean, O Savior, by my tears." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 2, vs. 54.)

"O Lady, you have brought forth our Joy: Grant me the spirit of mourning that in the coming Day of Judgment I may be comforted by God." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 9, vs. 327.)

(Continued on page 2)

"For all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

For seventeen years, Saint Mary of Egypt lived a lifestyle that isolated her from the community and God. Covered with filth amassed over the years, her heart yet longed for union with God. People in prison feel ostracized too, isolated from God and society, as they sit in shame in prison cells longing for the same tears of repentance that lead to joy and reconciliation.

"Christ became man, calling to repentance thieves and harlots.

Repent, my soul: the door of the kingdom is already open,
and Pharisees and Publicans and adulterers pass through it before you, changing their lives."

(The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 9, Vs. 342)

The healing of the venerable Saint Mary of Egypt was not instantaneous but required a rigorous and lengthy spiritual journey. Being led by the Holy Spirit, she retreated to the wilderness where she lived the life of a hermit for seventeen years, seeking freedom from bondage of the passions. She spent a further thirty years in the wilderness having obtained the true gifts of repentance, healing and freedom from the enslavement of sin.

During Great Lent, each of us seeks repentance, turning from our own vices and passions and setting our minds and hearts on God. Through the intercessions of the most Holy Theotokos, God grants us the gift of compunction to turn from our wounds and sins to find healing and comfort in Him.

Let us remember Saint Mary of Egypt and her wonderful redemption. During the remainder of this Lenten journey, may we pray to be freed from our imprisonment to the passions that enslave us. Let us also pray for strength for all of our brothers and sisters who are imprisoned, for their struggles and their journeys to repentance.

O Glorious Mary of Egypt, you cast out the darkness of sin and followed the light of penance. You directed your heart to Christ and offered Him His Immaculate Mother as an all-compassionate intercessor. Wherefore you avoided sin and now live in the joyful company of the angels in Heaven. (Kondakion of St. Mary of Egypt, Tone 4)

**Remember in your prayers:** Those who have fallen asleep before us in the hope of resurrection, especially +Sesel Safo (40th memorial today). All who are sick, suffering or recovering from illness, especially Julio Gudiel, Juan Lopez and Maryann Katkowsky.

**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 <a href="https://www.stjacobmelkite.org/prayer-request">www.stjacobmelkite.org/prayer-request</a> or by telephone at 858-987-2864.

**THIS WEEK AT ST. JACOB:** <u>Tues</u>: 7:20pm - Young Adult Movie Night. <u>Weds</u>: 7:30pm - Great Compline. <u>Thurs</u>: 7pm - Arabic & English Choir Rehearsals. <u>Friday</u>: 7:30pm - Vespers.

**Must-See Movie!** Please make time as soon as possible (teenagers and adults) to see "Unplanned" which is playing in theatres now but will not be there for long.

**Eastern Christian Spirituality Conference:** May 17-18th in Seattle, WA. "Growing in the Likeness of God" hosted by Shared Inheritance. Early bird registration now open. More information and tickets available at <a href="https://www.shared-inheritance.com">https://www.shared-inheritance.com</a>.

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

#### Summary of offerings made on Sunday, March 31

<u>Tithes and Sacrificial Offerings</u>: Member envelopes returned: 15, Visitor envelopes used: 1, Basket offerings: \$1,041, Automated giving: \$150, Total tithes and sacrificial offerings: \$1,191

Average weekly expenses: \$1,200

Average offerings made: Members: \$21.13, Visitors: \$30.00

<u>Tithe</u>: Represents 10% of our gross income returned to God. Sacrificial offering is a gift that is a true sacrifice for us to make.

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.

Attendance: 62

2 members gave \$200

2 members gave \$100

2 members gave \$50

1 member gave \$40

1 member gave \$30

2 members gave \$25

4 members gave \$20

1 member gave \$15

3 members gave \$10 1 member gave \$6

Visitors gave \$240

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

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

Parish Advisory Council: Rami Maria (Chairman), Max Samaan (Co-Vice Chairman), Eihab Shahtout (Co-Vice Chairman), Rana Metri, Dani Maria and Anthony Porrello.

**Volunteers wanted!** Please sign up online at <a href="www.stjacobmelkite.org/volunteer">www.stjacobmelkite.org/volunteer</a> or with Fr. Rezkallah or Rami Maria for the unassigned tasks on the following page. For social hour clean-up, please see Hala Shahtout or Rana Metri.

**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 4/7/2019	Epistle Reading	EN: Dani Maria	AR: Fadi Buni			
	Welcoming Visitors	Rami Maria				
	Gospel Bearing	EN:	AR:			
	Social Hall	Suha Maria				
Palm Sunday 4/14/2019	Epistle Reading	EN:	AR:			
	Welcoming Visitors	Max Samaan				
	Gospel Bearing	EN:	AR:			
	Social Hall	Ladies Society				

#### **Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great**

#### **Antiphon Prayer**

O Lord God, You examine the inner heart. You know our concerns before they emerge into being. You saved Mary of Egypt from the tribulations of this earth, for she had recourse to You. We implore You to purify our hearts and to make us temples of your Holy Spirit and rich in virtues, so that we may glorify You by hymns of praise and good works. For You are our God and to You are due all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

R: Amen.

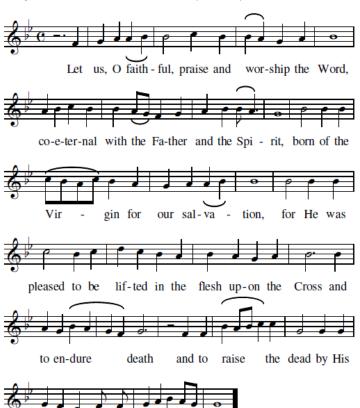
#### صلاة الأنديفونة

أيها الرب الإله الفاحص أعماق القلوب والعارف أمور نا كلها قبل ان تكون، لقد اختطفت من اضطرابات الحياة من لجأت اليك. فنضرع اليك أن تُطهر قلوبنا، وتظهرنا هياكل لروحك القدوس، وأغنياء بالفضائل، فنعظمك بالتسابيح والأعمال الصالحة. لأنك أنت هو إلهنا ولك ينبغي كل مجد واكرام وسجود، أيها الأب والابن والروح القدس، الآن وكل اوان والى دهر الداهرين.

ألشعب: آمين

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection** (Tone 5)

glo-ri-ous Res-sur - rec



tion.

#### نشيد القيامة (ألحن الخامس)

لنشد نحن المؤمنين ونسجد للكلمة، الأزلي مع الآب والروح، المولود من العذراء لخلاصنا. لأنه ارتضى أن يصعد بالجسد على الصليب، ويحتمل الموت، و بنهض الموتى بقيامته المحددة.

#### **Troparion of Mary of Egypt** (Tone 8)

In you, O Mother Mary, was restored the likeness of God, for you carried your cross and followed Christ. You taught by your deeds how to spurn the body, for it passes away and how to value the soul, for it is immortal. Wherefore your soul is forever in happiness with the angels.

طروبارية البارة مريم المصرية (ألحن الثامن) فيك حُفِظت صورة الله بتدقيق أيتها الام مريم. فقد أخذت الصليب وتبعت المسيح، وعلمت بالعمل إهمال الجسد لأنه زائل، والاهتمام بالنفس لأنها خالدة. فلذلك تبتهج روحُكِ أيتها البارَّة مع الملائكة

#### **Troparion of St. James, Brother of the Lord** (*Tone 4*)

O holy James, as a disciple of the Lord, you received the Gospel; as a martyr, you displayed an 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 (ألحن الرابع)

بما أنكَ تلميدٌ للرب قبلتَ الإنجيل، أيها الصدِّيق. وبما أنك شهيدٌ لك عزمٌ لا ينثني، وبما أنك أخٌ للرب لك الدالةُ لديه. وبما أنكَ رئيسُ كهنة لك حقُ الشفاعة. فاشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

#### Kondakion (Tone 2)

O never failing Protectress of Christians and their ever present intercessor before the Creator, despise not the petitions of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to us who call upon you with confidence. Hasten, O Mother of God, to intercede for us, for you have always protected those who honor you.

القنداق (ألحن الثاني)

يا نصيرة المسيحيين التي لا تُخزى، ووسيطتهم الدائمة لدى الخالق، لا تعرضي عن أصواتِ الخطأة الطالبين اليكِ. بل بما اللهِ صالحة، بادري الى معونتنا، نحن الصارخين اليكِ بأيمان: هلمي الى الشفاعة، وأسرعي الى الابتهال، يا والدة الالهِ المحامية دائمًا عن مكرميكِ.

#### EPISTLE of the Fifth Sunday of Lent Hebrews 9: 11-14

PROKIMENON (Tone 8) Ps.75: 12,2

Reader: Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the awe-

some God.

All: Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the

awesome God.

Reader: God is renowned in Judah; in Israel great is his name.

All: Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the

awesome God.

Reader: Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them ...

All: ... let all round about bring gifts to the awesome God.

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

RETHREN, when Christ appeared as the high priest of the good things to come (Cf.Lv.16: 14; 19: 4), he entered once for all through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made by hands (that is, not as a part of the present creation), nor again by virtue of blood of goats and calves, but by virtue of his own blood, into the sanctuary, having obtained

eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkled ashes of a heifer sanctify the unclean for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ (Cf. Rv. I: 5), who through the Holy Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God!

**ALLELUIA** (Tone 8) Ps.94: 1,2

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.

Stichon: Let us greet him with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

## رسالة الأحد الخامس من الصوم عبرانيين 9: 11- 14 مقدمة الرسالة

أندُرُ و ا و أو قُو ا الربَّ الهنا، كلُّ الذينَ حولهُ يَأْتُونَ بهدايا القارئ:

أندُرُ وا وأوقوا الربَّ الهنا، كلُّ الذينَ حولِهُ يَأْتُونَ بهدايا الجميع:

اللهُ معروفٌ في يَهُوذا، وإسمُهُ عظيمٌ في إسرائيل القارئ:

أندُرُ وا وأوقوا الربَّ الهنا، كلُّ الذينَ حولهُ يَأْتُونَ بهدايا الجميع القارئ:

أندُرُوا وأوقُوا الربَّ الهنا ...

الجميع: ... كلُّ الذينَ حولهُ يَأْتُونَ بهدايا

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول ألى العبر انين

يا إخوَة، إنَّ المسيحَ الذي جاءَ حَبرا ً لِلخيراتِ الآتِيَة، واجتازَ بالمسكن الأعظم والأكمَل الغير المصنوع بيدٍ، أي الذي ليسَ مِن هذهِ الخَلِيقَة، دَخلَ الأقداسَ مَرَّةً وإحدَةً، ليسَ بدَم تُبُوس وعُجول، بَل بدَمِه الخاص، فوَجَدَ فداءً أبدياً. لأنَّهُ إن كانَ دَمُ ثِيران وتُيُوس ورَمادُ عِجلة يُرَشُّ على المُنَجَّسين، فيُقدِّسُهُم لتَطهير الجَسَد، فكم بالأحرى دَمُ المسيح، الذي قرَّبَ بالرُّوح الأزَلِيِّ نَفْسَهُ للهِ بِلا عَيِبٍ، يُطَهِّرُ ضَميرِكُم مِنَ الأعمالِ الميِّنَّةِ لتَعبُدُوا الله الحَيّ.

#### هللويا

هَلُمُّوا نَبتَهِجْ بِالرَّبِّ، ونْهللْ شهِ مخلصنا لنُبادِر ْ الى وَجهِهِ بِإلاعتر افِ، وبالمز امير نُهلِلْ لهُ

#### GOSPEL of the Fifth Sunday of Lent Mark 10: 32-45 (The Greatest in the Kingdom)



t that time Jesus took the Twelve, and began to tell them what would happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the Scribes; and they will condemn him to death, and will deliver him to Hite Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him and scourge him, and put him to

death; and on the third day he will rise again." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him, saying, "Master, we want thee to do for us whatever we ask." But he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said, "Grant to us that we may sit, one at thy right hand and the other at thy left hand, in thy glory." But Jesus said to them,

"You do not know what you are asking for. Can you drink of the cup of which I drink, or be baptized with the baptism with which I am to be baptized?" And they said to him, "We can." And Jesus said to them "Of the cup that I drink, you shall drink; and with the baptism with which I am to be baptized, you shall be baptized; but as for sitting at my right hand or at my left, that is not mine to give, but it belongs to those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard this, they were at first indignant at James and John. But Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers among the Gentiles I lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it is not so among you. On the contrary, whoever wishes to become great shall be your servant; and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be the slave of all; for the Son of Man also has not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

#### انجيل الأحد الخامس من الصوم مرقس 10ك 32ب – 45

في ذلك الزمان، أخذ يسوع تلاميذه الاثني عشر، وطفق يقول لهم ما سيعرض له: ها نحن صاعدون إلى أورشليم، وابن البشر سيسلم إلى رؤساء الكهنة والكتبة، فيحكمون علية بالموت ويُسلمونه إلى الامم، فيهزؤون به، ويجلدونه، ويبصقون

عليه، ويقتلونه، وفي اليوم الثالث يقوم. فتقدّم اليه يعقوب ويوحنا ابنا زبدى قائلين: يا معلّم، نريدُ أن تصنع لنا كل ما نسألك. فقال لهما فقال لهما: ماذا تريدان ان اصنع لكما؟ قالا له: هب لنا أن يجلس احدنا عن يمينك والآخر عن يسارك في مجدك. فقال لهما يسوع: انكما لا تعلمان ما تطلبان. أتستطيعان أن تشربا الكأس التي أشربها أنا، وأن تصطبغان بالصبغة التي اصطبغ بها أنا؟ فقالا له: نستطيع. فقال لهما يسوع أما الكأس التي أشربها فتشربانها، والصبغة التي اصطبغ بها فتصطبغان بها. وأما الجلوس عن يميني أو يساري فليس لي أن اعطيه بل هو للذين أعد لهم. فلمّا سمع العشرة أخذوا يغضبون على يعقوب الجلوس عن يميني أو يساري فليس لي أن اعطيه بل هو للذين أعد لهم. فلمّا سمع العشرة أخذوا يغضبون على يعقوب ويوحنا. فدعاهم يسوع وقال لهم: تعلمون ان الذين يُعدّون أركان الامم يسودونهم، وعظماء هم يتسلطون عليهم. وأما في ما بينكم فلا يكن هكذا. بل من أراد أن يكون فيكم كبيراً، يكون لكم خادماً. ومن أراد أن يصير فيكم الاول، يكون للجميع عبداً. فإن ابن الانسان لم يأتي ليُخدَم بل ليخدم، وليَبُدُلُ نفسَهُ فداءً عن كثيرين.

نشيد لوالدة الأله: إن البرايا ... Hirmos: In You, O full of grace ...

نشيد المناولة: سبحوا الرب من السموات ...

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

**BEING MELKITE - DID YOU KNOW?** On December 25, 1970, Archbishop Joseph Tawil delivered his first pastoral letter as Exarch in America. It remains today a valuable and influential document for all Eastern Christians in Diaspora. Here's the first in a series of excerpts to be included in future bulletins:

#### OUR INCOMPARABLE PATRIMONY

The incomparably rich writings of our Fathers are the voice of your own ancestors in the faith. Their names are known throughout the Christian world - Athanasius of Alexandria, Basil the Great, the two Gregories, John Chrysostom, John of Damascus, and the rest. We alone can truly say that they are bones of our bones, flesh of our flesh: ours in the truest sense of the term. They lived in the lands of our origin and the riches of their inheritance is now the treasured possession of the entire Church. Still we are the most rightful heirs of their inestimable treasures, for we are their very descendants, sons of the same soil. However true this may be, we do not live in the past, but in the present. Why must we exert so much energy to preserve the heritage of days long since past, we who are such a minority in American Catholicism? Since we live in the United States now, why do we not simply follow the majority of Catholics and become Latin? These questions are often heard and deserve answers. We can do no better than recall the teaching of Vatican II which declared: "History, tradition, and numerous ecclesiastical institutions manifest luminously how much the universal Church is indebted to the Eastern Churches. Therefore, ...all Eastern rite members should know that they can and should always preserve their lawful liturgical rites and their established way of life ... and should honor all these things with greatest fidelity." <sup>2</sup>

Credits: 1. Adapted from OCA and Melkite Greek Catholic Church Information Center, 2. Archbishop +Joseph Tawil, "The Courage to be Ourselves"

**St. Jacob Mission Statement:** To foster a Catholic and Godly renewal with worship through the awe-inspiring Liturgy of the Byzantine Rite and by safeguarding our Orthodox Faith and Tradition; in order to bring the message of the Living Lord to the faithful and seekers of truth.

#### SAINT JACOB MELKITE GREEK-CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 Catholic Church is an Eastern Catholic Community of the Eparchy of Newton, headed by His Grace, Bishop Nicholas. Liturgical services are celebrated in English and Arabic in the Byzantine Rite. 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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### **April 2019**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
	1	2	3 Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	4	5 Akathist Hymn المديح لوالدة الإله	6		
7 Divine Liturgy Mary of Egypt	8	9 Young Adult Movie Night	10 7:30p Great Compline صلاة النوم الكبرى	Arabic Choir	12 7:30p Vespers for Lazarus Saturday	13 Lazarus Saturday سبت لعازر		
14 Divine Liturgy Palm Sunday أحد الشعانين	15	16	17	Holy Thursday	71	20 9p Holy Saturday Rush Svc. الهجمة Agape Breakfast		
English Divine Liturgy Great and Holy Pascha عيد القيامة المجيد	22	23 Great Martyr George	24	25 Apostle and Evangelist Mark	26	27		
28 Divine Liturgy Saint Thomas	29	30						