

Sunday, December 8, 2019

Christ is among us! He is and always will be!

الاحد، 8 كانون اول 2019

المسيح فيما بيننا! كائن وسيكون!

كنيسة القديس يعقوب
للروم الملكيين الكاثوليك
بخدمة سان دييغو منذ عام 1990



St. Jacob Melkite
Greek-Catholic Church

Serving San Diego Since 1990

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Pre-festive Day of the Conception of Saint Ann,
Mother of the Theotokos

Saint of the Day

Commemoration of our venerable Father Patapius

Saint Patapius was born at Thebes into a pious Christian family. Reaching the age of maturity, he scorned the vanities of the world and so went into the Egyptian desert where he became known for his ascetic deeds. Though he wished to dwell in silence, people began to come to him for advice.

He went eventually to Constantinople, where he obtained a cell at the city wall, near the Blachernae church. But here, too, he quickly became known. The sick began to throng about, and he having been vouchsafed the gift of healing, began to help all the needy.

After a life adorned with virtue and miracles, Saint Patapius fell asleep in the Lord and was buried in the church of Saint John the Baptist. ¹



Remember in your prayers: Those who have fallen asleep before us in the hope of resurrection, especially the recently departed Manaar Isaac. All who are sick, suffering or recovering from illness, especially Laura Shaheen and Fr. Saba Shofany.

Know someone in need of a prayer? Please notify Fr. Shaun by Wednesday to ensure they are included in the following Sunday's special intentions. Reach Fr. Shaun online by visiting www.stjacobmelkite.org/prayer-request or by telephone at 619-333-2772.

Good Stewards: Anthony Porrello and Sally Provencio for coordinating and delivering Fr. Rezkallah's farewell gift. May God grant abundant blessings to all His faithful stewards.



Do you have your prayer rope? Prayer ropes will be for sale in the social hall for a limited time. Various lengths and colors are available but they are in short supply. Don't forget to get yours while you can!

BEING MELKITE - DID YOU KNOW? What do the Bishops of Rome have to say about the Eastern Church? Below is the papal quote for the month of December:

"The august age which ennobles these diverse rites is a great glory for all the church, and affirms the divine unity of the Catholic faith. No witness perhaps better brings to light the Catholicity of the Church of God in a more admirable manner than the unique homage which is rendered to it by the differing ceremonies and the noble ancient languages all made more venerable by their use by the Apostles and Fathers." ²

THE NATIVITY FAST The American shopping season is at hand. Some people will spend it jostling for bargains; others will pass the time lamenting the commercialization of Christmas. The Eastern Churches, on the other hand, encourage their faithful to prepare for this feast by fasting. Each of these Churches has a pre-Nativity Fast, but each Church observes it to a different degree. Like the feast of Christ's Nativity itself, this fast originated in the West. In ad 380 he Council of Saragossa in Spain mandated daily church attendance beginning on December 17. Pope St Leo the Great (400-461) described four Fasts, one in each season, "so that over the course of the year we might recognize that we are constantly in need of purification." He indicated that the "winter fast" was to begin when the "ingathering of the crops was complete." In France it was specified in the next century that this Fast begin on November 11, the feast of St Martin; the Fast was called "St Martin's Lent." The Eastern Churches began observing this Fast between the 6th and 8th centuries. Originally it lasted one week, as in the Armenian Church today. In the eleventh century Pope Christodoulos lengthened it to forty days for the Coptic Church. The Byzantine Church followed suit in the next century. The Syrian Churches (Chaldeans, Indians, etc.) keep it for three to four weeks in December.

WHY DO WE FAST? St Simeon of Thessalonika, writing in the fifteenth century, explained the purpose of this Fast in terms of its length. "The Nativity Forty-day Fast represents the fast undertaken by Moses, who—having fasted for forty days and forty nights—received the Commandments of God, written on stone tablets. And we, fasting for forty days, will reflect upon and receive from the

Summary of offerings made on Sunday, December 1

Tithes and Sacrificial Offerings: Member envelopes returned: 17, Visitor envelopes used: 2, Basket offerings: \$1,346, Automated giving: \$150, Building Fund: \$157, Social Hour: \$68, Total tithes and sacrificial offerings: \$1,564

Average weekly expenses: \$1,200

Average offerings made: Members: \$29.67, Visitors: \$22.60

Tithe: 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: 68

- 1 member gave \$200
- 1 member gave \$150
- 1 member gave \$120
- 3 members gave \$100
- 2 members gave \$75
- 1 member gave \$50
- 1 member gave \$40
- 1 member gave \$35
- 1 member gave \$30
- 1 member gave \$25
- 2 members gave \$20
- 1 member gave \$10
- 1 member gave \$7
- Visitors gave \$339

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: Dani Maria (Chairman), Sally Provencio (Vice-Chairwoman/Treasurer), Reem Rame (Secretary), Anthony Porrello, Eihab Shahtout and Rusty Barghout.

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

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 12/8/2019	Epistle Reading	EN: --	AR:
	Welcoming Visitors	Anthony Porrello	
	Gospel Bearing		
	Social Hall		
Sunday 12/15/2019	Epistle Reading	EN:	AR: --
	Welcoming Visitors	Dani Maria	
	Gospel Bearing		
	Social Hall		

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 1)

After the stone was sealed by the Jews and the while the soldiers were watching Your spotless body, You rose, O Savior, on the third day, bestowing life to the world. Wherefore, the heavenly powers cried out to you, O Giver of life: "Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your kingdom! Glory to Your economy, O You who alone are the lover of mankind!"

طروبارية القيامة (ألحن الاول)

إن الحجر ختمه اليهود، وجسدك الطاهر حرسه الجنود. لكنك قمتَ في اليوم الثالث، أيها الخالص، واهباً للعالم الحياة. لذلك قواتُ السمواتِ هتفتُ اليك، يا مُعطيَ الحياة: المجدُ لقيامتكِ أيها المسيح. المجدُ لملكك. المجدُ لتدبيرك، يا محبَ البشرِ وحذك.

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 (ألحن الرابع)

بما أنك تلميذٌ للرب قبلتَ الإنجيل، أيها الصديق. وبما أنك شهيدٌ لك عزمٌ لا ينتني، وبما أنك أخٌ للرب لك الدألهُ لديه. وبما أنك رئيسُ كهنة لك حقُ الشفاعة. فاشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kondakion of the Preparation for the Nativity of our Lord (Tone 3)

Today the Virgin is on her way to the cave where she will give birth to the Eternal Word of God in an ineffable manner. Rejoice therefore O Universe when you hear this news, and glorify with the angels and the shepherds, Him who shall appear as a new Child being God from all eternity.

قنداق تقدمة ميلاد ربنا يسوع المسيح (ألحن الثالث)

اليوم العذراء تأتي الى المغارة، لتلد الكلمة الكائن قبل الدهور، ولادة يُعجزُ بياؤها. فأطربي ايها المسكونة اذا سمعت، ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة، من شاء ان يظهر طفلاً جديداً. وهو الاله الذي قبل الدهور.

EPISTLE of the Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Ephesians 5:8-19

PROKIMENON (Tone 1)

Reader: May Your kindness, O Lord, be upon us, for we have hoped in You.

All: May Your kindness, O Lord, be upon us, for we have hoped in You.

Reader: Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting.

All: May Your kindness, O Lord, be upon us, for we have hoped in You.

Reader: May Your kindness, O Lord, be upon us ...

All: ... for we have hoped in You.

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



RETHREN, walk as children of light (for the fruit of the spirit is in all virtue and holiness and truth), testing what is well pleasing to the Lord, and have nothing to do with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For of the things that are done by people in secret, it is shameful even to speak; but all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light: for all that is made manifest is light. Thus there is a saying, Awake, sleeper, and arise from among the dead, and Christ will enlighten you. (Is.26: 19) See to it, therefore, brethren, that you walk with care, not as unwise but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. Do not become foolish, then, but understand what is the Lord's will. And do not be drunk with wine, for in that is wantonness; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and chanting in your hearts to the Lord.

ALLELUIA (Tone 1)

O God, You granted me retribution and made peoples subject to me and saved me from my raging enemies.

Stichon: Therefore I will proclaim You, O Lord, among the nations, and I will sing praise to Your name.

رسالة الاحد السادس والعشرون بعد العنصرة افسس 5: 8-ب-19

مقدمة الرسالة

القارئ: لتكن ياربُ رحمته علينا، بحسب اتكالنا عليك

الجميع: لتكن ياربُ رحمته علينا، بحسب اتكالنا عليك

القارئ: ابتهجوا أيها الصديقون بالرب، بالمستقيمين يليقُ التسبيح

الجميع: لتكن ياربُ رحمته علينا، بحسب اتكالنا عليك

القارئ: لتكن ياربُ رحمته علينا ...

الجميع: ... بحسب اتكالنا عليك

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل أفسس

يا إخوة، أسلكوا كأبناء النور، فإن ثمر الروح هو في كل صلاح وبرٍ وحق، مختبرين ما هو مرضيٌ لدى الرب. ولا تشتركوا في أعمال الظلمة التي لا ثمر لها، بل بالحري وبخوا عليها. فإن الأفعال التي يفعلونها سراً يقبَح حتى ذكروها. لكن كل ما يُوبَّخ عليه يُعلنُ بالنور، لأن كل ما يُعلنُ هو نور. لذلك يقول: استيقظ أيها النائم، وقم من بين الاموات، فيضي لك المسيح. فاحترصوا أذن ان تسلكوا بحذر لا كجهلاء، بل كحكماء مُفتدين الوقت، لأن الأيام شريرة. لذلك لا تكونوا أغبياء، بل أفهموا ما مشيئة الرب. ولا تسكروا من الخمر التي فيها الدعارة، بل امتلئوا من الروح، متحاورين فيما بينكم بمزاميرٍ وتسابيحٍ وأغاني روحية، مُرنمين ومُرتلين في قلوبكم للرب.

هللوا

الله هو المنتقم لي، ومُخضع الشعوب تحتي

المعظم خلاص الملك، والصانع رحمة الى مسيحه

GOSPEL of the Tenth Sunday after Holy Cross Luke 13:10-17



t that time Jesus was teaching in one of their synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who for eighteen years had had a sickness caused by a spirit; and she was bent over and utterly unable to look upwards. When Jesus saw her, He called her to him and said to her, "Woman, thou art delivered from thy infirmity." And he laid His hands upon her, and instantly she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant that Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, addressed the crowd, saying, "There are six days in which one ought to work; on these therefore come and be cured, and not on the Sabbath. "Hypocrites! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or ass from the manger, and lead it forth to water? And this woman, daughter of Abraham as she is, whom Satan has bound, lo, for eighteen years, ought not she to be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" And as he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame; and the entire crowd rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

انجيل الاحد العاشر بعد الصليب لوقا 13: 10 - 17

في ذلك الزمان، كان يسوع يُعلِّم في احد المجامع يوم السبت. واذا امرأةٌ بها روحٌ مرض منذ ثمانى عشرة سنة، وكانت مُحنينة لا تستطيع أن تنتصبَ البتة. فلمَّا رآها يسوع دعاها وقال لها: يا امرأة أنتِ مُطلقةٌ من مرضك. ووضع يديه عليها، وفي الحال استقامتُ وجعلتُ تمجدُ الله فقالَ رئيسُ المجمع، وهو مغتاضٌ لإبراء يسوع في السبت: لكم سِتَّةَ أيَّامٍ ينبغي العملُ فيها، ففيها تَأْتُونَ وتَسْتَشْفُونَ، لا في يوم السبت. فأجابهُ الربُّ وقال: يا مُرائي، أما يَحِلُّ كل واحدٍ منكم ثورَهُ او حمارُ في حمارُ في السبت من المذود وينطلقُ به فيسقيه؟ وهذه ابنة ابراهيم التي ربطها الشيطانُ منذُ ثمانى عشرة سنة، أما كان ينبغي ان يُطلقَ من هذا الرباطِ يومَ السبت؟ ولمَّا قال هذا، خزيَ جميعُ مُقاوميه، وفرحَ الجمعُ كُلُّه بجميعِ الأمورِ المجيدةِ التي كانت تجري على يده.

Hirmos: It is truly right ...

الأرمس: انه واجب حقا...

Kinonikon: Praise the Lord ...

نشيد المناولة: سبحوا الرب من السموات...

Post-communion hymn: We have seen the true light...

بعد المناولة: إذ قد نظرنا النور الحقيقي...

Virgin the living Word—not written upon stone, but born, incarnate—and we will commune of His Divine Body.” As Moses received the Law after his 40-day fast, we will receive the living Word incarnate at the end of this Fast. One thread running through this Fast is the remembrance of the time before the Incarnation. Mankind was in one sense disconnected from God, having lost the intimacy with Him which we were meant to have because we were created in His image. Fasting is our way to express our sorrow at man’s loss of fellowship with God. The process of recovering this intimacy with God climaxed with the Incarnation, but was prepared for centuries by the Old Testament prophets. During the Nativity Fast we commemorate the prophets Nahum (12/1), Habakkuk (12/2), Zephaniah (12/3), Daniel and the Three Young Men in the Furnace (12/17). On the second Sunday before the feast we remember all those in sacred history who came before Christ and prepared the way for Him, His ancestors and ours.

WHEN AND HOW DO WE FAST? Each patriarchate and other local Byzantine Church has a slightly different way of keeping this Fast. According to one tradition a person should fast from meat and dairy for the forty days, but only need fast from fish after December 17. Another tradition holds that fish may be eaten throughout the Fast, but only on Saturdays and Sundays. In Greece and the Middle East it is customary to limit the fast to Tuesdays and Thursdays until December 12 (Greece) or December 19. In the Melkite Church the fast has been shortened to begin on December 10 but to continue uninterrupted after then. The number of feast days at the beginning of the forty days may account for these practices. Besides the Great Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple (November 21 to 25), we observe feasts in honor of these popular saints: the Apostles Matthew (11/16) and Andrew (11/30), Sts Catherine of Alexandria (11/25), Barbara, and John of Damascus (12/4), Sabbas the Sanctified (12/5) Nicholas the Wonder-worker (12/6), the Maternity of St Ann (12/9), and St Spiridon the Wonderworker (12/12). In addition, of course, we in the U.S. also have the national holiday of Thanksgiving during this time. That doesn’t leave much time for fasting! There are no penitential services appointed for this Fast like those we know during the Great Fast. Greeks, who do not generally do so otherwise, have the custom of serving the Divine Liturgy daily during these forty days. This practice echoes the idea that the Nativity Fast is a joyous fast, celebrating the immanent coming of Christ. Other Churches may serve the Akathist or the Paraclisis to the Theotokos during these days.

CHARACTER OF THE NATIVITY FAST Many contemporary Eastern writers have encouraged the observance of the Nativity Fast in contrast to the popular Western “pre-celebration” of Christmas, which focuses on decorating, spending, and partying. They emphasize preparation for the feast in quietness and a simplified way of life. Instead of a harried pursuit of gifts and cards for people who will likely “re-gift” them for the next Christmas party, the Fast enables believers to focus on the mystery of the Incarnation, the “reason for the season.” Many see this Fast as essential for us at this time of the year, to shift our focus from ourselves to others, spending less time worrying about our appearance, our cuisine and our home decor in order to use our time in increased prayer and caring for the poor. The Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch, John X, emphasized the Nativity as the “feast of almsgiving” in which we celebrate and perpetuate Christ’s love for mankind. “The Nativity of Christ is primarily the feast of divine dispensation – the feast of charity and of almsgiving... Through acts of mercy, extended to one another and to everyone, no matter what race we belong to, we implore the tender mercies of the divine Child, whose springs of mercies and bounties we will never be able to surpass. As the pious Augustine says, “the lamp of our love toward our neighbors causes the divine compassion to abide in this creation.”³

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

Phone: 619-333-2772 E-mail: frshaun@stjacobmelkite.org Web site: www.stjacobmelkite.org

Fr. Shaun Brown, 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.

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.

Follow



Visit



Watch



Like



Follow



December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Divine Liturgy	2	3	4 Great-martyr Barbara and Father John Damascene	5 Sabbas the Sanctified	6 Nicholas the Wonderworker	7
8 Divine Liturgy	9 Conception of Saint Ann	10	11	12 Spiridon the Wonderworker	13	14
15 Divine Liturgy Holy Ancestors	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Divine Liturgy Genealogy of Christ	23	24 Paramony of the Nativity	25 Nativity of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ	26 Synaxis of the Theotokos	27 Joseph, James and David	28
29 Divine Liturgy	30	31				