



St. John the Baptist Melkite Catholic Church

200 E. North Avenue – Northlake, Illinois 60164 www.stjohnmelkite.church

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Prayers Hotline, <https://chat.whatsapp.com/DjekhCR0tVC5kGH3KLYBav>

Sunday January 25, 2026 Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican

الاحد، 25 كانون الثاني 2026 أحد الفريسي والعشار

Antiphon Prayer:

O Christ our God, You condemned the Pharisee proud of his works and justified the Publican bent by repentance. We implore You in your mercies to give us repentant hearts and to enlighten our minds so that we may recognize our sins and confess them. Forgive us our trespasses and restore us to the initial justification which we have lost by rebelling against your divine commandments. For You alone are merciful and compassionate and to You we render glory and to your Eternal Father and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.



honor, we fall short when singing your praise. Your glorious birth saved your mother from the shame of barrenness, returned to your father the power of speech, and proclaimed to the world the Incarnation of the Son of God.

Kontakion of the Pharisee and the Publican

Let us shun the boastful words of the Pharisee and learn from the Publican humility with sighing: let us cry out to our Savior. “Have mercy on us. You who alone are merciful.

القنطاق للفريسي والعشار بالحن الرابع

لنهريبن من صلف الفريسي، ونتعلمن تواضع العشار من زفراته، هاتفين إلى المخلص: إغفر لنا، أنت الحليم وحدك.

صلاة الأنديفوننة:

أيها المسيح إلهنا الحقيقي، يا من حكم على الفريسي المفتخر بأعماله، وبرر العشار المنحري بالتوبة، نسأل مرأحمك ان تهيننا قلوباً منسحقة نادمة، وتثبير ضمائرنا لنعرف خفيانا ونقر بأخطائنا، ونصفح عن سيئاتنا، مُعيداً إلينا البرارة التي فقدناها بعصياننا وأمرك الإلهية. لأنك أنت وحدك رحيمٌ وغفور، واليك نرفع المجد، وإلى أيليك الأزلي وروحك القدوس، الصالح والمحبي، الآن وكل أوان وألى دهر الداهرين. آمين.

HYMNS:

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 8)

You descended from on high O compassionate One, * and consented to burial for three days * that You might free us from suffering. * O Lord, our life and our resurrection, * glory to You.!

نشيد القيامة بالحن الثامن

انحدرت من العلاء أيها التحن، وقبليت الدفن ثلاثة أيام، لكي تعتقنا من الآلام، فيا حياتنا وقيامتنا، يا رب المجد لك.

Troparion of the patron of the church

O Prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ, in spite of our eagerness to render you due

EPISTLE Hebrews 7: 7-17

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Because He has regarded the lowliness of his handmaid, for, behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews

Brethren, certainly the lower is blessed by the higher. And in one case indeed mortal men receive tithes, while Scripture testifies that this man lives on. And even Levi, the receiver of tithes, was also, so to speak, through Abraham made subject to tithes (Cf. Gn. 14:20), for he was still in his father's loins when Melchisedek met him.

If then perfection was by the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the Law), what further need was there that another priest should rise, according to the order of Melchisedek, and

said not to be according to the order of Aaron? For when the priesthood is changed, it is necessary that a change of law be made also.

For the one of whom these things are said is from another tribe, from which no one has ever done service at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord has sprung out of Judah (Cf.Is.1:2), and Moses said nothing at all about priests when referring to this tribe.

And it is yet far more evident if there arises another priest, according to the likeness of Melchisedek, who has become so not according to the law of carnal commandment, but according to a life that cannot end. For it is testified of him, You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchisedek Alleluia:

Now you shall dismiss your servant, O Lord, according to your word in peace; because my eyes have seen your salvation.

A light of revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people, Israel.

مقدمة الرسالة

تعظيمُ نفسي الرب، فقد ابتهج رُوحِي باللهِ مخلصي

لأنه نظر إلى تواضع أمته، فما منذ الآن تغبطني جميعُ الاجيال

الرسالة (عبرانيين 7: 7 – 17)

يا إخوة، ممَّا لا خلافَ فيه أنَّ الاصغرَ يأخذُ البركةَ من الأكبر. وههنا انما يأخذُ العشورَ أناسٌ يموتون، اما هناك فالمشهودُ له بأنَّه حيٌّ. حتى إنه يسوعُ أن يُقال: إنَّ لاويَ نفسه الذي يأخذُ العشورَ قد ادى العشورَ في ابراهيم. لأنه كانَ بعدُ في صُلبِ ابيه، حينَ لاقاه ملكيصادق. ولو كان بالكهنوتِ اللاويِّ كمالاً، وقد أخذَ الشعبُ الناموسَ تحته، اذن أيُّ حاجةٍ بعدُ ان يقومَ كاهنٌ آخرُ على رتبة ملكيصادق؟ ولا يقالُ على رتبة هرون. لأنه عندَ تحولِ الكهنوتِ لا بدُّ من تحوُّلِ الناموسِ ايضاً. والحالُ أنَّ الذي يقالُ هذا فيه انما نُسبُهُ في سبطِ آخرٍ لم يُلزمَ احدٌ منه المذبح. لأنه من الواضح ان ربَّنَا خرجَ من يهوذا، من السبطِ الذي لم يصفهُ موسى بشيءٍ من الكهنوت. وممَّا يزيِّدُ الامرَ وضوحاً أنه يقومُ على مشابهة ملكيصادق كاهنٌ آخر، لا يُنصبُ على حسبِ ناموسِ وصيةٍ جسدية، بل على حسبِ قوَّةِ حياةٍ لا تزول. لأنه يشهدُ أنَّ انت كاهنٌ الى الابد على رتبة ملكيصادق.

هللويَا

الآن تُطلقُ عبدك ايها السيِّدُ على حسبِ قولك بسلام، فان عيني قد ابصرتنا خلاصك
نوراً ينجلي للأمم، ومجداً لشعبك إسرائيل

Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14 (The Pharisee and the Publican)



The Lord told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and began to pray thus within himself: ‘O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of men, robbers, dishonest, adulterers, or even like this publican. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all I possess.’ But the publican, standing far off, would

not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven, but kept striking his breast, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you; this man went back to his home justified rather than the other; for anyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself shall be exalted

أنجيل الفريسي والعشار (لوقا 18: 10-14)

قال الربُّ هذا المثل: رجلان صعدا الى الهيكل ليصليا، أحدهما فريسي والآخر عشار. فالفريسي انتصب يصلي في نفسه هكذا. اللهم أني اشكرك لأني لست كسائر الناس الخطفة الظالمين الفاسقين. ولا مثل هذا العشار. اني أصوم في الاسبوع مرتين، وأعشر كل ما هو لي. وأما العشار فوقف عن بعد ولم يرد حتى أن يرفع عينيه إلى السماء. بل كان يقرع صدره قائلاً: اللهم اغفر لي أنا الخاطي. أقول لكم: إن هذا نزل إلى بيته مبرراً دون ذلك. لأن كل من رفع نفسه وضع ومن وضع نفسه رفع.



Sunday January 25th: 40 Day Memorial for Fouad Nijmeh.

*For the new church project.

*For good health and speedy recovery for all the sick among parishioners and friends. Antoine & Denise Shehata, Basemah Aranki, Julie Yff, Anthony Baroud, Nazha Massih.

In Loving Memory of: +Jamilah Akkawi; +Michel & Lydia Makdah, + John Ghazal, +Emile Harb +George & Jamileh Nijmeh, +Nakhle & Nahida Nakhle, +Khoder Barhoume.

Sunday February 1st: One year Memorial for Semaan El Hajj, Yasmin Naji Dababneh.

Friday February 6th: Arabic Mass for All-Souls Saturday (please notify the priest with your intentions ahead)

Friday February 20th: FR Beshara Movie

سراج الوادي, Siraj Al wadee,

Weekly donations: The 18th of January:

11am Mass: \$2,225; Online Don: \$230; Candles: \$111; Mail Don: \$2300; Coffe Hour: \$150; Hall rental: \$2,100.

A big THANK YOU

is due to the New Year's Eve Committee

Nicola & Jaky Tamer, Sarie Haddad, Majed Dalloul, Rasha Mansour and many other volunteers. You did a wonderful job, your hard work showed in the elegance and the well organization of the evening. It was a great welcoming of the new year. May you be rewarded 100 folds & more for your dedication and your great commitment.

Feed My Starving Children

St. John will be participating in a church-wide Feed My Starving Children event (all parishioners are welcome). They ask that participants be 5 years of age or older. We have 55 spots reserved for Feb 28 at noon, so get your RSVP in quick if you plan to attend. Hope to have a great turnout during this touching and fun outing. Let me know if you have any questions :)

<http://www.fmssc.org/join-group?joincode=5160XG>



2026 Week of Prayer for the Unity of Christians 18-25 Jan

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling."

(Ephesians 4:4)

Suggested daily prayer:

O Our Lord and God, Jesus Christ, on the eve of your redemptive suffering, you fervently asked your heavenly Father that all your followers be one, as You are One with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

We implore You, divine Master, to bestow upon all Christian Churches the unity of faith, of hearts and of purpose, so that they become one flock under the leadership of One Shepherd according to your wish.

Grant us, Lord, to love one another as You loved us, so that, seeing our unity, the world may believe in You and embrace your message of peace and love. For You are the Prince of Peace and Lover of mankind and to You we render glory, and to your Eternal Father, and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen


اسبوع الصلاة لأجل وحدة الكنائس صلاة يومية
أيها السيد الرب يسوع المسيح إلهنا، يا من في عشية آلامه
الخلاصية صلي بحرارة إلى ابيه السماوي، ليكون جميع أتباعه
واحداً كما أنت واحد مع الأب والروح القدس،
نتوسل إليك أيها المعلم الإلهي، أن تنعم على كنائسك بوحدة
الايمان ووحدة القلوب ووحدة العمل الرسولي تحقيقاً لرغبتك في
أن تكون رعية واحدة تحت إمرة راع واحد.
هَب لنا، أيها الرب، أن نُحب بعضنا بعضاً كما أنت أحببتنا، بالبذل
والعطاء، حتى إذا شاهد العالم وحدتنا في الايمان، أمن بك
واعتنق انجيلك ومجد معنا، بقم واحد وقلب واحد، اسمك الجدير
بكل كرامة والعظيم الجلال ايها الأب والابن والروح القدس،
الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الداهرين. آمين



DEPART FROM CHICAGO
TRAVEL DATE: 2 MAY – 10 MAY, 2026

HOLY LAND

Pilgrimage



08 DAYS

TOUR COST \$3300
INCLUDING FLIGHTS

Single supplement \$700

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- From Chicago to Tel Aviv R/T
- Professional, licensed English speaking guide
- Air conditioned bus throughout
- Accommodation in superior first class hotels
- Daily breakfast and dinner
- All entrance fees listed in the itinerary
- Tips, service charges, and taxes included
- Group Mass coordination

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

- Lunches
- ETA for Israel : <https://israel-entry.piba.gov.il/apply-for-an-eta-il-1>
- Meals or drinks not listed, room service, laundry
- Personal expenses and any services not specifically listed as included

Payment and Registration ▶

Registration ends March 1st | Places are limited

Inquiries: Fr.imad.barakeh@melkite.org | +1 708 916 2068
Overseas Travel Bureau (O.T.B) Ltd | info@otbtravel.com | +972 2 628 7090 | www.otbtravel.com



**JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
THE 25TH ANNUAL
VALENTINE'S DAY FUNDRAISER**
Benefitting the Orphans of the Middle East

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

**St. John the Baptist Melkite Catholic Church
200 E North Ave, Northlake IL, 60164**

**Live Performance Featuring:
ANDRE IBRAHIM & BAND**



TICKETS \$125

Appetizers 7:00 PM, Dinner 8:00 PM

**For more information:
JoAnn Fakhouri 708-691-4461
Pierre Azar 224-402-2000**

The Road to Pascha and Pentecost 2026

February 1	Sunday of the Prodigal Son
February 2	(Presentation of Our Lord into the Temple)
February 7	All-Souls Saturday
February 8	(Meat-Fare)
February 15	(Cheese-Fare)
February 16	Lent and the Great Fast
February 22	Sunday of Orthodoxy & Icons
March 1	Sunday of the Holy Relics
March 8	Veneration of the Cross
March 15	St. John of the Ladder
March 22	St. Mary of Egypt
March 25	Annunciation to the Mother of God
March 28	Lazarus Saturday
March 29	Palm Sunday
April 2	Great and Holy Thursday
April 3	Great and Holy Friday
April 4	Great and Holy Saturday
April 5	Easter Sunday
April 12	Apostle Thomas
April 19	Myrrh-Bearing Women

April 26	Healing of the Paralytic
April 29	Mid-Pentecost
May 3	Samaritan Women at the Well
May 10	Man Born Blind
May 14	Feast of the Ascension
May 23	All-Souls Saturday
May 24	Pentecost - Descent of the Holy Spirit
May 25	Memorial Day
May 31	All Saints Sunday
June 24	Nativity of John the Baptist
June 29	Peter & Paul

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Fr. Imad Barakeh b.s.o (708) 916-2068 Fr.Imad.Barakeh@melkite.org
For Spanish Community: Fr. Sergio Ayala (630) 936-1839

OFFICE PHONE
(708) 680-2210
option 1: Priest or office
option 2: Spanish
option 3: Hall Rental

EMAIL
stjohnthebaptist.northlake@melkite.org

ONLINE GIVING
<https://stjohnmelkite.flocknote.com/give/25225>
or scan the QR Code

WEBSITE
<https://stjohnmelkite.church>



TO BE ADDED TO OUR PARISH DIRECTORY AND TO RECEIVE OUR BULLETIN:
Please email your full name and email to stjohnthebaptist.northlake@melkite.org