



## St. John the Baptist Melkite Catholic Church

200 E. North Avenue – Northlake, Illinois 60164 [www.stjohnmelkite.church](http://www.stjohnmelkite.church)

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

**Sunday, February 8, 2026 MeatFare Sunday,**

الأحد 8 شباط 2026 احد مرفع اللحم



### HYMNS:

Troparion of the Resurrection

When You descended to death, O Immortal Life, You put Hades to death by the splendor of your Divinity, and when you raised the dead from below the earth, all the heavenly Powers cried out: O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to You.

لما نزلت الى الموت، أيها الحياة الخالدة، أمت الجحيم بسنى لاهوتك. ولما أقمت الاموات من تحت الثرى، صرخت جميع قوات السماويين: أيها المسيح ألھنا، يا مُعطي الحياة، 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 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 Meat-Fare

When You shall come down, O God, upon earth in your glory, every creature shall tremble before You. A river of fire shall flow before your judgement seat; the books shall be opened and all secrets revealed. On that day, O righteous Judge, deliver me from the unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at your right hand.

نشيد الختام (القنطاق) باللحن الثالث

متى اتيت يا الله على الارض بمجد، وارتعد كل شيء، وجرى نهر النار أمام المنبر، وفتحت الكتب، وأعلنت الخفايا، حينئذ أنقذني من النار التي لا تطفأ، وأهلني للوقوف عن يمينك، أيها القاضي العادل.

### Antiphon Prayer of MEAT-FARE SUNDAY:

O Christ, our God, You were sent by the Father, not to judge the world, but to save it. We ask You in your boundless compassion: Assist our weakness. Overcome our selfishness. Teach us to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and to serve all people faithfully for your sake. Then we shall deserve to hear your Divine Voice saying: "Come you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." For You are our Life and our Hope, O Christ God, and to You we render glory, and to your Eternal Father, and to your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

صلاة الأنديفوننة:

أيها المسيح إلهنا، لقد أرسلك الأب لا لتدين العالم، بل لتخلصه. فنسألك برحمتك التي لا تُحد: قوّي ضعفنا، واغلب أناثيتنا، وعلمنا أن نُطعم الجائع، ونكسو العريان، ونخدم جميع الناس بأمانة ومحبة من أجل اسمك القدوس. حينئذ نستحق أن نسمع صوتك الإلهي يقول: "تعالوا يا مباركي أبي، رثوا الملكوت المُعد لكم منذ تأسيس العالم".

لأنك أنت حياتنا ورجاؤنا، أيها المسيح الإله، ولك نرفع المجد، مع أبيك الأزلي، وروحك القدوس الصالح المُحيي، الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الداهرين. آمين.



### EPISTLE:

My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my Savior.

The Lord has chastised me through his teaching, yet He has not delivered me to death.

Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brethren, food does not commend us to God. For neither shall we gain any advantage if we eat, nor suffer any loss if we do not. And yet, beware lest perhaps this right of yours become a stumbling-block to the weak. For if a man sees you who “have knowledge” sitting at table in a place dedicated to idols, will not his conscience, weak as it is, be emboldened to eat idol offerings? And through your “knowledge” the weak one will perish, the brother for whom Christ died. Now, when you sin in this way against the brethren and wound their weak conscience, you are sinning against Christ. Therefore, if food scandalizes my brother, I will never again eat any more meat so as not to scandalize my brother.

Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? And if to others I am not an apostle, yet to you I am. For you are the seal set upon my apostleship in the Lord. Alleluia

The Lord shall hear you on the day of distress; the Name of the God of Jacob shall defend you.

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

### مقدمة الرسالة

الربُّ قوتي وتسييحي، لقد كان لي خلاصاً  
أدبني الربُّ تأديباً، والى الموت لم يُسلمني

الرسالة (1 كورنثس 8: 8 الى 9: 2)

يا إخوة، إنَّ الطَّعامَ لا يُقرِّبنا الى الله، لأنَّنا إنَّ أكلنا لم نتردِّدْ وإنَّ لم نأكلْ لم ننقُصْ. ولكن احذروا ان يكونَ سُلطانكم هذا معثرةً

للضعفاء. فإنه إن رآك أحد، أنت الذي لك العلم، مُتَكَنّاً في بيت الاوثان، أفلا يتقوى ضميره، إذ هو ضعيف، على أكل ذبائح الاوثان؟ فيهلك، بسبب علمك، الاخ الضعيف الذي مات المسيح لأجله. وهكذا إذ تخطون إلى الاخوة، وتجرحون ضميرهم الضعيف، انما تخطون إلى المسيح. فلذلك إن كان الطعام يشكك أخي، فلا أكل اللحم إلى الابد، لئلا أشكك أخي. ألسنت رسولاً؟ ألسنت حراً؟ أما رأيت يسوع المسيح ربنا؟ ألسنتم أنتم عملي في الرب؟ إن لم أكن رسولاً إلى آخرين، فإني رسول اليكم، لأنني خاتم رسالتي هو أنتم في الرب. هلوليا

ليستجلب لك الربُّ في يوم الضيق، ليعضدك اسمُ إله يعقوب  
خلص يا رب شعبك، وبارك ميراثك

GOSPEL: Matthew 25, 31-46 (Last Judgement)

The Lord said, “At that time when the Son of Man shall come in his majesty, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of his glory; and before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; and He will set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, Come, blessed of my Father, take possession of the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me to drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; naked and you covered Me; sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ Then the just will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You; or thirsty, and give You to drink? And when did we see You a stranger, and take You in; or naked, and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ And answering, the King will say to them, ‘Amen I say to you, every time you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for Me.’ Then He will say to those on his left hand, ‘Go away from me, accursed ones, into the everlasting fire which was prepared for the devil and his ministers. For I was hungry, and you did not give Me to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in; naked and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’ Then they also will answer and say, ‘Lord, when did we see You

hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Amen I say to you as long as you did not do it for one of these least ones, you did not do it for Me.’ And these will go into everlasting punishment, but the just into everlasting life.”



أحد مرفع اللحم

الانجيل (متى 25: 31-46)

قال الرب: متى جاء ابنُ الانسان في مجده، وجميعُ الملائكة القديسين معه، حينئذٍ يجلسُ على عرشِ مَجْدِهِ. وتُجمَعُ لديه كل الامم فيُمَيِّزُ بعضهم من بعض، كما يُميِّزُ الراعي الخراف من الجداء. ويقمُّ الخراف عن يمينه والجداء عن يساره. حينئذٍ يقول الملك للذين عن يمينه: تعالوا يا مباركي ابي، رثوا الملك المعد لكم منذ انشاء العالم. لاني جعت فاطعمتموني، وعطشتم فسدتموني، كنتُ غريباً فأويتموني، وعرياناً فكسوتموني، ومريضاً فعدتموني، وكنتُ محبوساً أتيتم إليَّ. حينئذٍ يجيبه الصديقون قائلين: يا رب، متى رأيناك جائعاً فاطعمناك، أو عطشان فسقيناك، ومتى رأيناك غريباً فأويتمنا، أو عرياناً فكسوناك. ومتى رأيناك مريضاً أو محبوساً فأتينا إليك؟ فيجيب الملك ويقول لهم: الحق أقول لكم، إنكم كلما فعلتم ذلك بأحد إخوتي هؤلاء الصغار فبني فعلتموه. حينئذٍ يقول أيضاً للذين عن يساره: اذهبوا عني يا ملاعين إلى النار الابدية المعدة لإبليس وملائكته. لاني جعت فلم تطعموني، وعطشتم فلم تسقوني، وكنتُ غريباً فلم تؤنوني، وعرياناً فلم تكسوني، ومريضاً ومحبوساً فلم تزوروني. حينئذٍ يجيبونه هم أيضاً ويقولون: يا رب متى رأيناك جائعاً أو عطشان أو غريباً أو عرياناً أو مريضاً أو محبوساً ولم نخدمك؟ حينئذٍ يجيب ويقول لهم: الحق أقول لكم، كلما لم تفعلوا ذلك بأحد هؤلاء الصغار فبني لم تفعلوه. فيذهب هؤلاء إلى عقابٍ أبدي، والصديقون إلى الحياة الابدية.

**Sunday February 8<sup>th</sup>:**

For the good intentions of the Akkawi Family  
For the new church project. For good health and speedy recovery for all the sick among parishioners and friends. Antoine & Denise Shehata,

Antoinette Mansour, Basemah Aranki, Julie Yff, Anthony Baroud, Nazha Massih, Iskandar Serhan.  
In Loving Memory of: +Jamileh Akkawi; +Emile Harb +Fouad Nijmeh +Khoder Barhoume.

**Sunday February 15<sup>th</sup>:** For the good intentions of the Akkawi Family

**Monday February 16<sup>th</sup>:** 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Lent, Mass and Great Compline.

**Friday February 20<sup>th</sup>:** FR Beshara Movie

سراج الوادي, Siraj Al wadee,



**Weekly donations:** The 1<sup>st</sup> February:

9:00am Mass: \$55; 11am Mass: \$2,111; Online Don: \$180; Candles: \$150; Memorial: \$60 ; Rent: \$1500.

**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**

## 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>



### **Proskida**

If you would like to offer a Memorial (Neyaha) at the end of the Mass for your beloved departed one's anniversary, or for the occasion of a Third or Nineth or 40 Days

Memorial, you may order:

Sleeka (\$150) from Bernadette 708-927-1988  
Memorial Korban sweet and small individual wrapped bread (\$1.50 each, \$250 total) from Caroline 847-401-1037

Korban Koddas for remembrance during 2nd procession (\$7 each, medium size) this is the Holy Bread for Communion and distribution after Liturgy. 3 breads are usually needed for a regular Sunday. Please contact Bernadette at 708-927-1988.

### Liturgy Intentions:

The church doesn't sell Masses or Sacraments, but if you would like to add a name to the list of mass intentions, please write it on your envelope or talk to the priest, and specify the number of Masses, considering a Mass intention is valued universally for \$10. In our church, Mass intentions are considered as donations, and it goes to the same bank account.

### The Road to Pascha and Pentecost 2026

February 15 (Cheese-Fare)  
February 16 Lent and the Great Fast  
February 22 Sunday of Orthodoxy & Icons  
March 1 Sunday of the Holy Relics

**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](mailto:Fr.imad.barakeh@melkite.org) | +1 708 916 2068

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**Fr. Imad Barakeh b.s.o (708) 916-2068** [Fr.Imad.Barakeh@melkite.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:stjohnthebaptist.northlake@melkite.org)

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
March 30/31/April 1	Holy Week
April 2	Great and Holy Thursday
April 3	Great and Holy Friday
April 4	Great and Holy Saturday
April 5	Easter Sunday