



St. John the Baptist Melkite Catholic Church

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

Sunday, March 1, 2026 Holy Relics

أحد النخائر المقدسة الأحد، 1 آذار 2026

ANTIPHON PRAYER OF THE
2nd SUNDAY of Lent:

O Lord, our God, You have granted the holy martyrs that their relics would be spread throughout the world, including this church, to bring forth the grace of healing from diseases. Make us worthy, through the intercession of your Saints, to offer You the Spiritual Sacrifice and guide us on the way of Salvation

For You are Good and the Lover of mankind and to You we render glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

HYMNS

Troparion of the Holy Relics

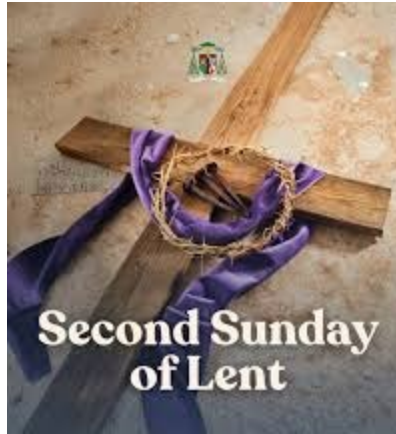
Victorious witnesses of the Lord blessed is the earth that received your blood, and holy are the heavenly places that opened to your souls. You have vanquished the enemy in battle and proclaimed Christ with courage. We beg you to intercede with Him who is all good, that He may save our souls.

نشيد الذخائر المقدسة باللحن الثاني

مغبوطة الارض التي أخصبتهما دماؤكم، يا شهداء الرب الظافرين. ومقدسة المساكن التي قبلت أجسادكم. فإنكم قد غلبتم العدو في الميدان، وكرزتم بالمسيح بشجاعة، فنسألكم أن تبتهوا إليه، بما انه صالح، في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kontakion of the Annunciation:

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 قَائِدَةً قَاهِرَهُ. وَنُقَدِّمُ الشُّكْرَ لَكَ وَقَدْ أَنْقَدْنَا مِنَ
الشَّدَائِدِ. لَكِنْ بِمَا أَنَّ لَكَ الْعِزَّةَ الَّتِي لَا تُحَارَبُ،
أَعْتَقِينَا مِنْ أَصْنَافِ الْمَخَاطِرِ حَتَّى نَصْرُخَ إِلَيْكَ:
أَفْرَحِي يَا عَرُوسَةً لَا عَرُوسَ لَهَا.

EPISTLE: Hebrews 1:10-2:4 - 2nd
Sunday of Lent

You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this

generation.

Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any holy man, for truthfulness has vanished from among the children of men.

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews:

You in the beginning, O Lord, did found the earth, and the heavens are works of your hands. They shall perish, but you shall continue; and they shall all grow old as does a garment, and as clothing shall you change them, and they shall be changed. But you are the same, and your years shall not fail.

Now, to which of the angels has he ever said, “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies the footstool at your feet” (Ps. 109: 1)? Are they not all ministering spirits, sent for service, for the sake of those who shall inherit salvation?

That is why we should all the more earnestly observe the things we have heard, lest perhaps we drift away. For if the word spoken by angels proved to be valid, and every transgression and disobedience received a just punishment, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? For it was first announced by the Lord and was confirmed to us by those who heard it.

Alleluia

Your favor, O Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

For you have said, “My kindness is established forever.” In heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

مقدمة الرسالة

أنت يا ربُّ تحفظنا وتحمينا من هذا الجيل وإلى الدهر

خَلَّصني يا رب، فإن البارَّ قد فني، لان الحقيقة قد ضَعُفَتْ عند بني البشر

الرسالة (عبرانيين 1: 10 الى 2: 3)

أنت أيها الرب في البدء أسست الارض، والسماوات هي صنع يديك. هي تزول وأنت تبقى، وكلها تبلى كالثوب، وتطويها كالرداء فتتغير، وأنت أنت، وسنوك لن تفنى. ولمن من الملائكة قال قط: اجلس عن يمني حتى أجعل أعداءك موطناً لقدميك؟ أليسوا جميعهم أرواحاً

خادمة، مرسلّة لخدمته من أجل المزمعين أن يرثوا الخلاص؟ لذلك يجب علينا أن نتنبّه إلى ما سمعناه غاية التنبّه، لئلا نبتعد عنه. فإنها إن كانت الكلمة التي تُطَقُّ بها على ألسنة الملائكة قد ثبتت، وكلُّ تعدٍّ ومعصية قد نال جزاء عادلاً، فكيف نُفِلت نحن إن أهملنا خلاصاً عظيماً كهذا قد نُطَقُّ به على لسان الربِّ أولاً، ثم تَبَّته لنا الذين سمعوه ههنا

بمراحمك يا رب. أرتم إلى الابد، إلى جيلٍ فجيلٍ أعلن حَقَّك بفي

لأنك قلت: إن الرحمة تُبنى الى الابد، وفي السماوات يُهَيَّأ حَقُّك.

(Healing of the Paralytic) the 2nd Sunday of Lent, At that time Jesus entered Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door, and he spoke the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. And since they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where he was, and, having made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic was lying. And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the Paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven you.” Now some of the Scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, “Why does this man blaspheme in this way? Who can forgive sins,

beside God?” And at once Jesus, knowing in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, said to them, “Why are you arguing these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Arise, and take up your pallet, and walk?’ But that you may know the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins” — he said to the paralytic — “I say to you, arise, take up your pallet, and go to your house,” And immediately he arose and, taking up his pallet, went forth in the sight of all, so that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, “Never did we see anything like this!”

أنجيل الأحد الثاني من الصوم الأنجيل (مرقس 2: 1 - 12)

في ذلك الزمان، دخل يسوع كفرناحوم. وسمع أنه في بيت، ففي الحال اجتمع خلق كثير بحيث لم يبقى موضع يسع ولا عند الباب، وكان يخاطبهم بالكلمة. فأتوا اليه بمخلع يحمله أربعة. وإذ لم يقدروا أن يقتربوا اليه بسبب الجمع، كشفوا السقف حيث كان، وبعد ما تقبوه دلوا الفراش الذي كان المخلع مضطجعا عليه. فلما رأى يسوع إيمانهم قال للمخلع: يا بني مغفورة لك خطاياك. وكان قوم من الكتبة جالسين هناك يفكرون في قلوبهم: ما بال هذا يتكلم هكذا بالتجديف؟ من يقدّر أن يغفر الخطايا إلا الله وحده؟ فلوقت علم يسوع بروحه انهم يفكرون هكذا في أنفسهم. فقال لهم: لماذا تفكرون بهذا في قلوبكم؟ ما الايسر: أن يُقال للمخلع مغفورة لك خطاياك. أم أن يقال قم احمل فراشك وامشي؟ ولكن لكي تعلموا ان ابن الانسان له سلطان على الارض ان يغفر الخطايا، قال للمخلع: لك أقول قم احمل فراشك واذهب الى بيتك. فقام للوقت وحمل فراشه وخرج أمام الجميع، حتى دُهِسوا كلهم ومجّدوا الله قائلين: ما رأينا قطُّ مثل هذا.



Sunday March 1st:

In Gratitude and for HPPSS for Razan Dababneh and her Family.

For our country and for our troops deployed abroad and for peace and the end of war.

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, Nazha Massih, Iskandar Serhan, Elie Ghawi, Dolores Maalouf, Mary Jabbour, Violet Daoud, Abe and Tony Baroud, Joseph Alcheikh.

In Loving Memory of: +Jamileh Akkawi; +Emile & Clotilde Harb +Fouad Nijmeh +Khoder Barhoume + Sami & Elizabeth Mondo +Farid & Hilda and Victor Farah +Fadwa Besharat.

Coming this week:

Wednesday March 4th: English Mass 7:30pm and Great Complines 8:00pm

Friday March 6th Arabic Mass 7:30pm and Acatnist 8:00pm Followed by a Documantery on the Church great reverance for Mary and her unique role in the history of Salvation

Future Events:

Next Sunday March 8th:

+Sleiman Fakhouri, +Younan & Labibe Fakhouri, +Iskandar & Margo Adasse, +George Safadi, by George Fakhouri and Family

***Ladies Society** meeting after Mass in the church.

Friday February 13th: Spiritual reflection given by Fr Wissam Mansour after the prayers

Sunday March 15th:

Memorial Mass for the rest of the soul of Fadwa Besharat

Friday March 20th: Arabic Mass 7:30pm and Acatnist 8:00pm Followed by a talk given by Dr Ghassan Aldurra.

Friday March 27th: The raising of Lazarus Mass 7:30 pm followed by the Passion of Christ Movie with commentary.

Sunday March 22 & 29 Bake Sale

Weekly donations: The 22nd February:

9:00am Mass: \$50 11am Mass: \$1,798; Online Don: \$236; Candles: \$84; Memorial: \$100 Valentine Party: \$26,819.75

1st Reconciliation and Solemn Communion

If you would like to register your child (age 8-11) for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confession, please contact Dr Dima Arbach (905)570-7195 to register your son or daughter.

Feed My Children

Cold weather didn't stop some of our NAMY and MAYA members and parishioners and friends representing St John the Baptist Church at Feed My Starving Children yesterday. 228 boxes of food, 49248 meals, were packed for children living in poverty across the Glob. God bless you abundantly for volunteering. And our deepest gratitude for the Sunday School organizers.



Don't miss the **Kashaf (drums) training** in preparation for Palm Sunday and Good Friday procession, every Sunday before Mass. With our deepest gratitude for the instructors.

St. John the Baptist Melkite Catholic Church

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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

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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

Blessed Fr Beshara Abou Mrad

Congratulations for our Melkite Church for our first recognized and beatified priest

To find out more about his life and movie, visit this link: (Arabic with English caption) Siraj al wadi, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-MwS_Qge7JI



صلاة لنيل تطويب الأب بشارة أبو مراد

أيها المخلص الكريم، يا من يزال يسكب غزير نعمه على كهنته، الذين هم ميراثه الخاص، لتقديسهم ولخير شعبه، نطلب اليك ضارعين أن تتنازل فتمجد خادمك الأمين الأب بشارة أبا مراد، الذي سار أمامك في الكمال الرهباني والكهنوتي، وعبدك بالبرّ جميع أيام حياته. أظهر فيه أيها السيد قدرتك ان حسن لديك، ليتلألاً كنجم وضياء في سماء كنيستنا الشرقية الساطعة بأمجاد قديسيها.

فيعلم الجميع أن ينبوع القداسة لا ينضب في كنيستك المقدسة ارتض بأن تكلم هام كاهنك الأمين باكايل الطوباويين، لنقدر أن نتخذة مثال الكمال، مقتدين بفضائله، فيتمجد اسمك القدوس أيها الأب والأبن والروح القدس. آمين (أبانا، والسلام، والمجد).

To read his original biography

English translated version :


<https://obslb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/The-Servant-of-God-Fr-Bechara-Abou-Mourad-Maria-Louise-LOMBA.pdf>

Original Arabic version:

<https://obslb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Biographie-du-P.-Bchara-Abou-Mrad-C.-Bacha-ARABE1.pdf>

Message for Lent 2026

Pope Leo XIV invites the Church to live Lent as a time of ****listening****, ****fasting****, and ****communal conversion****.

 Listening :

The Pope emphasizes making space for God's word. He recalls how God "heard the cry" of His people (Ex 3:7) and teaches that true listening helps us recognize the suffering around us and respond with compassion. Scripture forms us to hear "the cry of the poor," which continually challenges society and the Church

 Fasting:

Fasting prepares the heart to receive God. It reveals our deeper desires, purifies them, and strengthens our hunger for justice. Drawing on St. Augustine, the Pope explains that this longing expands the soul. Fasting must be done with humility and rooted in God's word; otherwise, "those who are unable to nourish themselves with the word of God do not fast properly"

He also highlights a neglected form of fasting: ****abstaining from harmful speech****—avoiding harsh words, judgment, slander, and fostering kindness instead.

 Together

Lent is a communal journey. Like Israel listening to the Law and fasting together, Christian communities are called to shared repentance, deeper dialogue, and attentiveness to the poor and the earth. Conversion involves not only personal conscience but also the quality of our relationships and our openness to reality

The message ends with a blessing and a call to build a "civilization of love."

Join us for our annual Sunday School

Easter

EGG HUNT & FUNDRAISER

Sunday, March 22, 2026
directly after liturgy

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN AGES 0-6TH GRADE

Please bring your own basket to collect the eggs.
Pre-made Easter gift bags full of treats & goodies will be
available for purchase in the Hall during coffee hour.
To help us keep this event free in the future, we
appreciate your support for our Sunday School program.

For questions or to make a donation,
please contact
708-574-4150 | Rasha Nijmeh

