



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, March 15, 2026 Sunday of our Father John Climacus

الأحد، 15 شباط 2026 تذكر ابينا البار يوحنا السلمى

Antiphon Prayer:

O Lord, Lover of mankind, You saved the people of Nineveh as they repented, fasting and weeping. Have mercy on us, for we fall short of any defense. And since You are compassionate, strengthen in our hearts our faith in your name and steady our footsteps in the way of your Commandments. For You are good and forbearing, O our God, and to You we render glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

قنداق الختام

نَحْنُ عِبِيدُكَ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، نَكْتُبُ لَكَ آيَاتِ الْعَلْبَةِ يَا قَائِدَهُ قَاهِرَهُ.
وَقَدِّمِ الشُّكْرَ لَكَ وَقَدْ أُنْقِدْنَا مِنَ الشَّدَايِدِ. لَكِنْ بِمَا أَنَّ لَكَ الْعِزَّةَ الَّتِي
لَا تُحَارَبُ، أَعْتَقِينَا مِنْ أَصْنَافِ الْمَخَاطِرِ لِكَيْ نَصْرُخَ إِلَيْكَ:
إِفْرَحِي يَا عَرُوسَةً لَا عَرُوسَ لَهَا

Kondakion

At the magnificence of your virginity and your exceedingly splendid purity Gabriel stood amazed and cried out to you, O Theotokos: what praise may I offer you that is worthy of your beauty? By what name shall I call you? I am lost and bewildered. But I shall greet you as I was commanded: Hail, O full of grace.

Epistle: The 4th Sunday of Lent

The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Give to the Lord. You sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 6: 13- 20



Brethren, when God made his promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, “I will surely bless you, and will surely multiply you Gn.22: 14).” And so, after patient waiting, Abraham obtained the promise. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and an oath given as a

guarantee is the final settlement of all their disagreements. Hence God, meaning to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the firmness of his will interposed an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to deceive, we may have the strongest comfort — we who have sought refuge in holding fast the hope set before us. This hope, we have as a sure and firm anchor of the soul, reaching even behind the veil where our forerunner Jesus has entered for us, as he became a high priest forever according to the order of Melchisedek.

Alleluia

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High!

To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

مقدمة رسالة الأحد الرابع من الصوم

الربُّ يُؤْتِي شَعْبَهُ قُوَّةً، الرَّبُّ يَبَارِكُ شَعْبَهُ بِالسَّلَامِ
قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ، قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ أَبْنَاءَ الْكِبَاشِ

الرسالة (عبرانيين 6: 13 – 20)

يا إخوة، ان الله عند وعده لإبراهيم، إذ لم يكن له أن يُقسم بما هو أعظم منه، أقسم بنفسه قائلاً: لأباركك بركةً وأكثرتك كثيراً. وهكذا إذ تاتى نال الموعد. وإنما الناس يُقسمون بما هو أعظم منهم، وتنقضي كلُّ مُشَاجِرَةٍ بَيْنَهُمْ بِالْقَسَمِ لِلتَّيْبِتِ. لذلك لما شاء الله ان يزيد وَرَثَةَ الموعِدِ بياناً لعدم تحول عزمه، تَوَسَّطَ بِقَسَمِ، حتى نحصلُ بأمرين لا يتحولان ولا يُمكن أن يحلف الله فيهما، على تعزية قوية، نحن الذين التجأنا إلى التمسك بالرجاء

الموضوع أمامنا. الذي هو لنا كمرساة للنفس أمينةً وراسخة. وهو يُدخِلُ إلى داخل الحجاب، حيث دخلَ يسوعُ كسابقٍ لأجلنا، صائراً رئيسَ كهنةٍ إلى الأبد على رتبة ملكيصادق . هلوليا

صالح الاعتراف للرب، والترنيم لاسمك أيها العلي
ليُخبَّر برحمته في الغداة، وبجفك كلَّ ليلة.

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS

Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31 The 4th Sunday of Lent
(Healing of a possessed boy)

At that time one of the crowd came to Jesus and bowed to him saying: “Master, I have brought to you my son, who has a dumb spirit; and whenever it seizes him it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth; and he is wasting away. And I told your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” And he, answering him, said, “O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to me.” And they brought him to him; and the spirit, when it saw Jesus, immediately threw the boy in convulsions, and he fell down on the ground and rolled about foaming at the mouth. So he asked his father, “How long is it since this has come upon him?” And he said, “From his infancy. Oftentimes, it has thrown him into the fire and into the waters to destroy him. But if you can do anything have compassion on us and help us.” But Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to the man of faith.” At once the father of the boy cried out and said with tears, “I do believe; help my unbelief.” Now when Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, go out of him and enter him no more.” And crying out and violently convulsing him, it went out of him, and he became like one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” But

Jesus took him by the hand, and raised him and he stood up. And when he had come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And he said to them, “This kind can be cast out in no way except by prayer and fasting.” And leaving that place, they were passing through Galilee, and he did not wish anyone to know it. For he was teaching his disciples, and saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and having been killed, he will rise again on the third day.”

الأناجيل - الأحد الرابع من الصوم (مرقس 9: 17 - 31)
في ذلك الزمان، دنا إلى يسوع انساناً وسجد له قائلاً: يا معلم، قد أتيتك بابني به روح أبكم. وحيثما اعتراه يصصره فيزيد ويصرف بأسنانه ويببس. وقد قلنت لتلاميذك أن يخرجوه فلم يقدرُوا. فأجابه قائلاً: أيها الجيل الغير المؤمن، إلى متى أكون عندكم وحتى متى أحتملكم؟ هلم به اليّ. فأتوا به. فلما رآه للوقت صرعه الروح، فسقط على الارض يتمرغ ويزيد. فسأل أباه: منذ كم من الزمان أصابه هذا؟ فقال منذ صباه. وكثيراً ما ألقاه في النار وفي المياه ليهلكه، لكن إن استطعت شيئاً فتحنّ علينا وأغثنا. فقال له يسوع: إن استطعت أن تؤمن فكل شيء ممكن للمؤمن. فصاح أبو الصبي لساعته بدموع وقال: إني أومن يا رب، فأعن قلّة إيماني. فلما رأى يسوع أن الجمع يتبادرون إليه، انتهر الروح النجس قائلاً: أيها الروح الأصبم الابكم، أنا أمرك أن اخرج منه ولا تُعدّ إليه من بعد. فصرخ وخبطة كثيراً وخرج منه، فصار كالميت حتى قال كثيرون إنه قد مات. فأخذ يسوع بيده وأنهضه فقام. ولما دخل البيت سأله تلاميذه على انفراد: لماذا لم نستطيع نحن أن نُخرجه؟ فقال لهم: إن هذا الجنس لا يمكن أن يخرج بشيء إلا بالصلاة والصوم. ولما خرجوا من هناك، اجتازوا في الجليل، ولم يكن يريد أن يدرى أحد. وكان يعلم تلاميذه ويقول لهم: إن ابن الانسان سيُسلم إلى أيدي الناس فيقتلونه، وبعد أن يُقتل يقوم في اليوم الثالث.



Weekly donations: The 8th of March:

9:00am; Mass: \$50; 11am Mass: \$1,404; Online Don: \$30; Candles: \$141; Rent: \$1000; Memorial: \$50; Wedding gift: \$400.

Sunday March 15th:

For HPPSS for Fadi Azar and Family, for the healing of their sick and the rest of the souls of their departed ones.

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

In Loving Memory of: +Jamileh Akkawi; +Sobhi Azar; +Fadwa Besharat; +Emile & Clotilde Harb +Fouad Nijmeh +Khoder Barhoume; +Hanna & Georgette Barsa; +George & Mary Barsa; +Manoel Zahlawi, +Silvi Khawam, +Laurice Boubshara.

Coming this week:

Wednesday March 18th: Feast of Saint Joseph, Mass 7:30pm and Great Complines 8:00pm

Friday March 20th: 7:30pm Last Acatist Followed by a talk given by Dr Ghassan Aldurra: **Stress, Faith and Family Dynamics.**

Future Events:

Sunday March 22nd: (Last Sunday Divine Liturgy at 200 E North Ave, Northlake)

Memorial Mass for the rest of the soul of + Elias & +Fadwa Besharat; +Ghaleb, +Hnayneh and Souhail Rafidia; + Claude & Bishara Hawa; +Yacoub Faycurry; + Dr Ibrahim Fakhouri; +Fahdeh & Jiries Fakhouri

Wednesday March 25th : Feast of the Annunciation, Mass 7:30pm and final Great Complines 8:00pm at 200 E North Ave



Friday March 27th: The raising of Lazarus (Last Divine Liturgy in Northlake) 7:30 pm followed by the Passion of Christ Movie with commentary.

Sun March 29 Palm Sunday (New Location)

9:00 English Mass

11:30 English and Arabic Mass

1st Divine Liturgy at the New Location

330 N Westmore Ave, VillaPark, IL 60181

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.



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

200 E. North Ave.,
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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 RECIEVE OUR BULLETIN:

Please email your full name and email to stjohnthebaptist.northlake@melkite.org

Easter Flowers

If you would like to enhance the beauty of the Sanctuary with easter flowers please consider donating as memorials for your departed beloved ones or in thanksgiving for your health, peace, safety of your beloved ones.



<https://stjohnmelkite.flocknote.com/signup/250454>

Holy Week Schedule

At the new Location

330 N Westmore Ave, VillaPark, IL 60181

Monday 30 March: 6:30 Confession
7:00 pm Mass 7:40 pm Bridegroom Service

Tuesday 31 March: 6:30 Confession
7:00 pm Mass 7:40 pm Bridegroom Service

Wednesday 1st April: 6:30 Confession
7:00 pm Blessing of the Holy Oil
7:40 pm Last Supper Mass

Thursday 2nd April:

7:30 pm Service of the Passion of Christ, English readings of the Gospels of the Passion
9:30 pm Adoration and prayer time with Jesus on the Cross.

Friday 3rd April:

7:30 pm Descent from the Holy Cross and Funeral Service of Christ

Saturday 4th April:

7:00 pm Odes of the Resurrection

7:30 pm Hajmeh, Easter Vigil Service and Divine Liturgy followed with Cheese & Wine

Sunday 5th April:

9:00 am (English) Easter Sunday Divine Liturgy
11:00 am (English and Arabic) Easter Divine Liturgy
12:30 pm (Spanish) Easter Divine Liturgy

The Sacrament of Confession

Please consider going to **Confession** during the Easter Season.

The Mother Church recommends a minimum of one confession a year during the Easter Season.



Cheese & Wine

We are looking for generous Sponsors for the Easter vigile Cheese & Wine. If you would like to donate money or food items or volunteer, please talk to Abouna or Rweiday and Caroline AlCheikh and Safaa Azar.

