

From the Fathers

“Filled with love, the holy Apostles went into the world, preaching salvation to mankind and fearing nothing, for the Spirit of God was their strength. When St. Andrew was threatened with death upon the cross if he did not stay his preaching he answered: ‘If I feared the cross I should not be preaching the Cross.’” In this manner all the other Apostles, and after them the martyrs and holy men who wrestled against evil, went forward with joy to meet pain and suffering. For the Holy Spirit, sweet and gracious, draws the soul to love the Lord, and in the sweetness of the Holy Spirit the soul loses her fear of suffering.” (St. Silouan the Athonite)

“Learn to love humility, for it will cover all your sins. All sins are repulsive before God, but the most repulsive of all is pride of the heart. Do not consider yourself learned and wise; otherwise, all your efforts will be destroyed, and your boat will reach the harbor empty. If you have great authority, do not threaten anyone with death. Know that, according to nature, you too are susceptible to death, and that every soul sheds its body as its final garment.”

(St. Antony the Great)

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 6, 2021



JESUS CALLING THE FIRST APOSTLES

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Melkite Catholic Church
256 Hamilton St.
Worcester, MA 01604
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Email: olphmelkite@gmail.com
Rev. Bryan McNeil, Pastor
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Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM

Antiphon (1st)

1: Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth, and sing praise to His name.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

2: Say to God: How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You.

Be shafa'ati Walidatil Eelah, ya Mukhallisu, khallisna.

3: Let all the earth worship You and sing praises to You; let it sing praises to Your name, O Most High!

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Entrance Hymn

Priest: Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ.

People: O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You, Alleluia.

Resurrection Troparion (Tone 1) pg. 38

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!"

Patronal Troparion (Tone 1) pg. 15

In giving birth, you have preserved your virginity, and in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You have passed to life, being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.

Kondakion (Tone 2) pg. 16

O never-failing Protectress of Christians, and their ever-present Intercessor before the Creator, despise not the petitions of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to us who call upon you with confidence. Hasten, O Mother of God, to intercede for us, for you have always protected those who honor you

Last Week's Collection

Regular	\$ 691
Candles	\$ 11
Flowers	\$ 102
Stole	\$ 25
Diocesan	\$ 10
Total	\$ 839

Thank-you for your generosity!



PARISH COUNCIL

I would like to form a Parish Council this fall. It is an important part of parish life. For a parish of our size, I think nine people will be enough, at least to begin. We will elect six members and I will appoint three. Currently, we have both a Finance & Building committee. Each of these committees will have a representative on the Council.

We will have an election this Fall. If you are interested in serving on the Council or want to nominate someone, please let me know. The election will take place in late September.

Please remember that the Parish Council, like all of the councils, is an advisory body. It's purpose is to advise the pastor on elements of church life, not to set policy for the parish. It is not a governing body. Problems often arise when that distinction is not understood by all, including the pastor.

Summer Liturgical Schedule

Wed June 23, 6PM - Vespers for the Nativity of the Forerunner

Mon June 28, 6PM - Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Apostles Peter & Paul

Mon July 19, 6PM - Vespers for the Feast of St. Elias followed by blessing of cars

Thu Aug 5, 6PM - Vespers for the Feast of the Transfiguration

Fri Aug 6, 6PM - Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Transfiguration followed by blessing of grapes

Sun Aug 15, 10AM - Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

Today **Health and Salvation of Fr. Saba Shofany, Pastor of St. Basil in Utica, NY**

June 27 **+Nicholas & Theodora Barouk.** Requested by Michael & Virginia Mischitelli and Antonio & Karen Solitro

WELCOME BACK!

As you know, the mask requirement has been changed by both the CDC and the Commonwealth of MA. Those who are **fully** vaccinated (which means that your final vaccination shot was at least **two weeks ago**), are no longer required to wear a mask in most settings. I am not going to make you prove your vaccination status, but please, if you are not fully vaccinated, keep your mask on for your safety and that of your parish family.

As of **May 29**, the Commonwealth lifted most of the remaining covid-19 restrictions. That allows us to have 100% capacity in the church. The ropes on the pews have been removed. We can also begin to have a coffee hour. That starts this morning. If there is a change in either the CDC or Commonwealth guidelines, we will adjust accordingly.

If you are comfortable taking off your mask, do so. If you aren't, feel free to keep it on. If you haven't been to the church during this time, please come and join us for the Divine Liturgy and coffee. You have been missed! Fellowship is an important part of our Christian life! I hope to be able to start home visits again soon. Even though I couldn't do home blessings at Theophany, I am happy to come bless your home now. It gives us a chance to sit and talk in a more intimate setting. Please call or email if you would like to have me bless your home.

In Christ,

Fr. Bryan

FINANCIALS

May 2021

Income \$5,830
Expenses \$7,185
Net **(\$1,355)**

YTD (10.1.20-5.31.21)

Income \$55,743
Expenses \$62,465
Net **(\$ 6,718)**

While we are running a deficit for the year, it is not too bad. As we head into the Summer months, please don't forget the parish while you are on vacation. Just like you, our bills do not stop in the Summer. Our next two projects are enhancing the lighting in the church and repairing the candle area in the back of the church. We hope to have estimates soon. If you would like to make contribution toward either project, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.

As you know, we were not able to have our Picnic last year due to the pandemic. I would like to try to have something this Fall. It doesn't have to be on the same scale. I was thinking of several things: We could have a simpler version of the Picnic or a Take-Out Food Fair. Someone also mentioned a Memorial Service for all the loved ones we lost during the pandemic followed by a luncheon. We would charge a minimal amount for the luncheon, which would be catered. That gives everyone a chance to enjoy the event. If we make a little profit, that's great, but the primary purpose is to welcome everyone back to the parish. As I have several times, you are missed!

If you have some other ideas or would like to help with one of the above possible events, please call, text, or email me. My contact information is on the first page of the bulletin.

Fr. Bryan



RETURN OF THE COFFEE HOUR

This morning, the Coffee Hour returns! It will be much simpler than in the past. It would also be nice if different families sponsored the coffee hour each week. This includes setting up and cleaning up after. If there is a mercy meal after a memorial Divine Liturgy, the family of the deceased should sponsor the coffee hour and provide the food.

This is an act of love for your brothers and sisters in the parish. I will have a sign-up sheet so that you have the opportunity to sponsor the coffee hour.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and help!

Welcome!

To the candidates from the Eparchial St. Gregory Deacon Program. These men come from all over the country to study and train to be ordained as deacons for our parishes. Please say hello during the coffee hour.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

I would like to start religious education this fall for adults and children. We will use diocesan resources for the children. For the adults, we will discuss different aspects of our Faith. If there is anything you want to know more about, please don't hesitate to let me know.

I believe that our Byzantine music is also part of religious education, so I plan to have regular music sessions so that those who want to become more familiar with our music have that opportunity. We will begin with the music for the Divine Liturgy and then move on to feast day and other music. I hope you will be able to join us!

There will be more to come during the summer.

Prokimenon

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

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

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

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

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

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

Epistle: Rom 2:10-16

Alleluia Verses

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

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

Gospel: Mt. 4:18-23

