

*From the Divine Office for the Holy Wonderworkers & Physicians  
Cosmas and Damian (Nov. 1)*

*O wondrous saints, providers of great gifts, you lived your lives on earth in great humility: in every place through which you passed, freely healing the sufferings of the sick, you seemed to be companions of the angels. O brothers full of delights, Cosmas and Damian, by your prayers also heal all of us of our pains. (Vespers)*

*The diagnosis of these skilled physicians surpasses all wisdom; they restore strength to all without even seeing them, for they have received this power from the Most High. I owe them the grace of singing to them as divine benefactors who grant a multitude of healing, for they deliver us from all pain and heal the world through their miracles. (Ikos)*



**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS  
NOVEMBER 3, 2024**



**RICH MAN AND LAZARUS**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Melkite Catholic Church**

**256 Hamilton St.**

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**Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM**

**Antiphon (3rd)**

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!*

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 7) Pg. 42**

You destroyed Death by your cross. You opened paradise to the thief. You changed the weeping of the Myrrh bearers, and commanded your apostles to proclaim that You, have risen O Christ God, granting to the world great mercy.

**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.

**Kontakion (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.

But while the words were still on his lips, St. Nicholas had waded in. He first calmed the horses, then, putting his shoulder to the wagon with the men, he pushed. The other men pushed with him, others pulled, and one guided the horses. St. John stayed back a respectful distance, watching.

The wagon at first held firm, then, little by little, it moved out of the muck.

**White Robes and Mud**

When they got to the gates of Heaven, God saw St. John Cassian's sparkling white robe, and he saw St. Nicholas so covered in mud that it was impossible to tell what color his robe had once been. "Tell me what happened," He said.

"There was this farmer," St. Nicholas said, "and his cart and his horses were mired in the mud. I just took a few minutes to help them out before we came back."

God turned to St. John. "And how did you manage to help this man without getting your robes soiled?"

"I didn't, of course. You have clothed us in garments for the heavenly banquet, and I couldn't possibly get them soiled with earthly cares."

God looked at both of his saints, and his love flowed over them. "John Cassian, my beloved, you have indeed kept your heart in heaven, and your hands are clean of all things of the earth. And the heart of my beloved Nicholas is turned toward the people, however earthly their cares might be, and his hands are quick to help them when they call on him. And this," he said, "this is why Nicholas, my beloved, has feast days in both summer and winter, and why he's honored every Thursday besides. And this is why you, my beloved John Cassian, have but one feast day every four years."

"Does a poor man approach you? Remember how poor you once were, and how rich you were made. One in want of bread or of drink, perhaps another Lazarus, is cast at your gate; respect the Sacramental Table which you have approached, the Bread of which you have partaken, the Cup in which you have communicated, being consecrated by the sufferings of Christ. If a stranger fall at your feet, homeless and a foreigner, welcome in him the One who for your sake was a stranger, and that among His own, and who came to dwell in you by His grace, and who drew you towards the heavenly dwelling place.

"Be a Zacchaeus, who yesterday was a Publican, and is today of liberal soul; offer all to the coming in of Christ, that though small in bodily stature you may show yourself great, nobly contemplating Christ."

A sick or a wounded man lies before you; respect your own health, and the wounds from which Christ delivered you. If you see someone naked clothe him, in honor of your own garment of incorruption, which is Christ, "for as many as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." If you find a debtor falling at your feet, tear up every document, whether just or unjust. Remember the ten thousand talents which Christ forgave you, and be not a harsh exactor of a smaller debt — and that from whom? From your fellow servant, you who were forgiven so much more by the Master. Otherwise you will have to give satisfaction to His mercy, which you would not imitate and take as your copy.

*St Gregory the Theologian, Oration 40*



## DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

Today +Antonio Solitro

Next Sunday +John & Souhaila Arraje, Paula Arraje Louis. Requested by Susan Arraje

This morning's Coffee Hr. is hosted by Antoinette Arraj & Lisa Jagielski

Next Sunday's Coffee Hr. will be hosted by Susan Arraje

**Please remember in your prayers:** George Arraj ,Jr., Peter Abraham, Mark Bashour, Robert Ghiz, Sadie Mirante, Charlotte Stockhaus, Richard Abraham, Sr., Frank Boyda, Carol Boyda, Bob Lynch, Joe Najemy, Michael Mooradian, Dennis Desplaines, Thomas Houde, Michael McNeil, Jeff McNeil, Jeannine McNeil, Linda Gartner, Billy Rahall, Dan Rahall, Lauren Abraham, Nicholas Haddad, Nicholas Halal, Elaine Foley, David Ahlin, Elio Kanaan, Susan Bailey, Jacqueline Ventriglia, Thomas Houde, those affected by the natural disasters throughout the world, the people of Gaza, and for peace in Ukraine & the Middle East.

If there are people for whom you would like me to pray, please reach out and give me their names. Part of our vocation as Christians is to pray for each other, especially when someone is sick or suffering in any way.

### Last Week's Collection

Weekly	\$ 1,519
Candles	\$ 38
Coffee Hr.	\$ 54
Stole	\$ 20
Diocesan	\$ 5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,636</b>

**PLEASE PRAY FOR INCREASED  
GENEROSITY TO THE PARISH!**

**GOD BLESS YOU!**



Welcome to any visitors we have with us this morning! We are happy to have you worship with us.

Please join us downstairs in the church hall for the coffee hour so that we can get to know each other better and answer any questions you may have about the parish or the Melkite Church.

### BISHOP'S APPEAL UPDATE

The Gospel today gives us a good eye exam. What is it that we see about life, God, others and ourselves? The Rich Man was not evil – just self-centered, individualistic. We are not created to be individuals – but persons. The Trinity, in whose image and likeness we are created is three persons, a communion – not individuals. The Church, of which we are members is a communion of persons, interrelated with each other and God. The Bishop's Appeal is structured to help us understand, build up and live out that basic mystery of personal communion. The Rich Man never learned and remained cut off from everything. What about us? *Our parish has raised \$2,790 and our goal is \$8,000.* Appeal envelopes and reply cards are available in our parish. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish and to the Diocese of Newton. You may also donate online at: [melkite.org/appeal](http://melkite.org/appeal) or scan the QR code below:



## ANOTHER LAZARUS AT YOUR GATE

BEFORE JESUS BEGAN HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY, He prayed and fasted for forty days (see Matthew 4:1-11). The Church's ascetics look to His experience as the model for their spiritual life. They devote themselves to prayer throughout the night and fasting every day. But even though they may live at a distance from others, they do not neglect almsgiving. What little they have they share with visitors or give away to poor in the area. Even solitaries have ways of serving the needy.

Christians in the world may have more occasions to help the needy. Even if they do not, there are always opportunities to serve the others in their own circle: family, friends, neighbors, co-workers. Before Jesus ended His public ministry, He provided a way for Christians to model their lives on His by serving those closest to them. He washed His disciples' feet, saying: *"If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet"* (John 13:7). The image of the Lord washing His disciples' feet has become the foremost icon of service for the Christian world. Few remember, however, that Christ actually urged His disciples to mutual service: washing one another's feet. The followers of Christ are to imitate Him by serving one another.

Elsewhere Christ told His followers that caring for the needs of the poor is caring for Him, whether one knows it or not. *"I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me"* (Matthew 25:35, 36).

It is often said that the Eastern Churches have focused on prayer and fasting as their prime spiritual practices, while the West has stressed serving Christ in the poor as their foremost way of imitating Christ. This does not do justice to either East or West. The West has its share of ascetics and the East has an equally strong tradition of seeing Christ in the face of the poor. The life in Christ lived by the Church involves both asceticism and a rich liturgical life, as well as ministry to those in need.

St John Chrysostom is chiefly known for the way he influenced the liturgical life of the Byzantine Church. He also was outspoken in insisting that the Church embrace serving those in need as a way of glorifying the Lord. In his fiftieth Homily on Matthew he equates serving the poor with venerating the Eucharist! *"Do you want to honor Christ's body? Then do not scorn Him in His nakedness, nor honor Him here in the church with silken garments while neglecting Him outside where He is cold and naked. For he who said: This is my body, and made it so by His words, also said: You saw me hungry and did not feed me, and inasmuch as you did not do it for one of these, the least of my brothers, you did not do it for me"* (Hom 50, 3-4).

### The Legend of the Two Saints

There is a Russian folk tale about Saints John Cassian, the ascetic and Nicholas the Wonderworker. While the story does not depict the saints in any historical way, it tells us a good deal about the writer's desire to follow Christ through service.

It is said that St. John Cassian and St. Nicholas were sent by God to survey the Slavic lands, to see what condition the Church and the people were in. As they completed their mission and were preparing to return to heaven, St. Nicholas spotted a farmer whose wagon had gotten stuck in the mud. "Come on!" said St. Nicholas. "Let's give this poor man a hand."

St. John surveyed the scene. The wagon was in the muck up to its axels. The horses could hardly move. The farmer and at least a half a dozen people had waded into the mud, pushing and pulling and sweating and swearing.

"We can't do that," St. John said firmly. "Our robes will get filthy. We'll be unfit to enter the Kingdom."

St. Nicholas walked over to St. John, who took a quick half-step away from him. "Well, that's done," St. Nicholas said. "Let's head home."

### Prokimenon

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

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

**Reader:** Give to the Lord, you Sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

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

**Reader:** The Lord will give strength to his people;

**People:** The Lord will bless his people with peace.

### Epistle: Eph 2:14-22

### Alleluia

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

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

### Gospel: Lk 16: 19-31 -The Rich Man & Lazarus

## THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

**This year, we will again be collecting food for Thanksgiving dinners and delivering them to Pernet Family Health Services. Please take a form from the back of the church. This is an opportunity to help our brothers and sisters who may be experiencing food insecurity during this time. The deadline for bringing items to the church is next Sunday, November 9. We will deliver the food to Pernet House on Tuesday November 12.**

**Thanks in advance for your generosity!**