



Holy Week 2023 - Paschal Hajmeh



Friday, March 31 - Eve of Lazarus Saturday

5:00 PM Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy

6:00-8:00 PM Lenten Charity Supper + Lazarus Play

Saturday, April 1 - Lazarus Saturday

5:00 PM Vespers for Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy and Procession (English)

11:30 AM Divine Liturgy and Procession (Arabic)

Monday, April 3 - Holy Monday

7:00 PM Bridegroom Service

Tuesday, April 4 - Holy Tuesday

7:00 PM Bridegroom Service

Wednesday, April 5 - Eve of Holy Thursday

**7:00 PM Blessing of Oil and Sacrament of Holy Anointing,
Vespers-Basil Liturgy for the Institution of the Eucharist**

Thursday, April 6 - Eve of Good Friday

7:00 PM Reading of the Passion

Gospels & Ceremony of Crucifixion

Friday, April 7 - Good Friday

3:00 PM Vespers for the Descent from the Cross

7:00 PM Funeral Service of Our Lord and Matins of Holy

Saturday

Saturday, April 8 - Saturday of Light

5 PM - Vespers - St. Basil Liturgy (English)

**9:00 PM Hajmat, Orthros and Divine Liturgy of Pascha
(Arabic & some English)**

Sunday, April 17 - Great and Holy Pascha (Easter)

**10:00 AM Hajmat and Divine Liturgy of Pascha (English) -
(No Orthros)**

Please help us making this event a success, as it is our major charitable fundraiser. Charitable funds are for the help of new immigrants, to buy food cards, to help with some rent assistance. Ticket Donation = \$25. To reserve your tickets ahead you can call the office, send a check, and your tickets will be ready for you at the door, Tel: (617) 323-5242. Or you can buy it at the church after the Divine Liturgies. We rely on your generosity for extra donations. Many thanks for spreading the word about this event.

(Over)



Annunciation Melkite Catholic Cathedral
7 V.F.W. Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132
Tel: 617-323-5242 Fax: 617-325-2662
Email: MelkiteCathedral@gmail.com
Website: www.bostonmelkite.org

February 20, 2023

Dear Faithful in Christ,

Christ is with us. He is and always will be.

We begin this Great Lent with sadness in our hearts. The situation in the Middle East, where our Church originated, remains tense to say the least. Ukraine, a great bastion of Christian piety and religious faith, is still invaded by Russia. Both regions are home to millions of Eastern Catholics, who are now suffering. Here in the USA, where so many people have fled to for safety, we have rampant abortion, divorce and many other things that are odious to God. This is truly a time of Golgotha for our Eastern Catholic Faithful.

It is precisely in this time of peril that we should be turning our minds and hearts to our Lord Jesus Christ. Who else can save us? Who else can take a bad situation and make it into something good? When people immigrate to the USA, because they are Christians and fleeing persecution, and once in America live lives without Christ focused only on money, what good has been achieved? Are not their souls in danger? Are not Americans, who have forgotten their Christian roots, in peril? The whole world needs Jesus Christ, not just countries in danger of war. He alone is the Prince of Peace and Savior of mankind.

This Holy Lent is the time to repent and return to God. He never left us, but we ran away from Him by sinning. Let us all pray, fast and help the poor. Let us cleanse ourselves of all evil, so that the world will truly see that we are God's adopted children.

During Holy Week we celebrate the salvation that Christ won for us. We follow Him as He suffers, dies and rises from the dead. These great events are why we have hope. By participating in the liturgies of the Church, we participate in these salvific events, and receive the grace and gifts of Christ. When we do not participate in Holy Week, or reduce it to only Palm Sunday and Easter, we only hurt ourselves. Christ is with us offering us salvation, his grace and spiritual gifts. We have to be open to them, and accept them. If we ignore Christ, we are neither open, asking, or accepting. Let us not miss this opportunity to grow even closer to our Lord.

I hope and pray that you are all safe, and that you will run to the Lord by coming to Church. May God bless you all.

In Christ,

Rt. Rev. Philip Raczka, PhD together with Father James Koury and Deacons John, Abe and Elias