

GREAT AND GLORIOUS PASCHA
APRIL 5, 2026

Χριστός Ανέστη!
Αληθώς Ανέστη!
المسيح قام! حقا قام!
CHRIST IS RISEN!
INDEED HE IS RISEN!
Христос воскрес!
Воистину воскрес!



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Melkite Catholic Church

256 Hamilton St.

Worcester, MA 01604

Rectory: (508) 752-4174 Hall: (508) 755-2199

Email: olphmelkite@gmail.com

Rev. Bryan McNeil, Pastor

Rev. Deacon Elias Bailey

Email: Fr.bryan.mcneil@melkite.org Cell: (774) 502-8547

Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM

After “Blessed is the Kingdom...”

Christ is Risen from the dead and by His death He has trampled upon Death and has given life to those who were in the tombs (3 times followed by Paschal verses)

Antiphon (Feast)

1: May God be propitious to us and bless us; may He make His countenance to shine upon us and have mercy on us.

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

2: May Your name be known upon the earth; among all nations Your salvation.

Khallisna Ya-Bnallah, Ya Man qama min baynil-amwaat, nahnu muranneemeena Laka. Hale-loueya.

3: May the peoples praise You, O God; may all the peoples praise You.

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

Entrance Hymn

Priest: In Your assemblies bless the Lord our God, from the wellsprings of Israel.

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

Troparion of Pascha (Tone 5) Three Times

Christ is risen from the dead and by His death He has trampled upon Death and has given life to those who were in the tombs!

Hypocoi (Tone 2)

Mary and her companions went forth before dawn. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb and heard the angel say, “What do you seek Him as a man among the dead, when He is in Eternal splendor? Behold, the shroud is laid aside. Hasten and proclaim to the world that the Lord is risen and has put Death to death, for He is the Son of God, the Savior of mankind.”

Kondakion of Pascha (Tone 2)

Though You went down in the tomb, O immortal One, You overthrew the power of Hades and rose victorious, O Christ God, You greeted the ointment bearing women, saying: Rejoice! You gave peace to Your apostles, and to those who had fallen, resurrection.

Trisagion

All of you who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Thanks to all who worked so hard during Great Lent and Holy Week to make our celebrations both beautiful and spiritually fulfilling. That is due to you! The attendance has been at the highest level since I got here. Those who sang, those who read, those who baked or cooked/dyed the eggs, those who donated funds for the various items needed for our celebrations (flowers eggs, service books, etc.), know that your contributions are much appreciated and never taken for granted! It is a blessing to serve as your pastor!

Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen!

**From a Homily for Holy Saturday
by St. Epiphanius of Cyprus (+403)**

“For your sake I, your God, became your son; I, the Lord, took the form of a slave; I, whose home is above the heavens, descended to the earth and beneath the earth. For your sake, for the sake of man, I became like a man without help, free among the dead. For the sake of you who left a garden, I was betrayed in a garden, and I was crucified in a garden.

“See on my face the spit I received in order to restore to you the life I once breathed into you. See there the marks of the blows I received in order to refashion your warped nature in my image. On my back see the marks of the scourging I endured to remove the burden of sin that weighs upon your back. See my hands, nailed firmly to a tree, for you who once stretched out your hand to a tree.

“I slept on the cross and a sword pierced my side for you who slept in paradise and brought forth Eve from your side. My side has healed the pain in yours. My sleep will rouse you from your sleep in hell. The sword that pierced me has sheathed the sword that was turned against you.

“Rise. Let us leave this place. The enemy led you out of the earthly paradise. I will not restore you to that paradise, but I will enthrone you in heaven. I forbade you the tree that was only a symbol of life, but see! I who am life itself am now one with you. I appointed cherubim to guard you as slaves are guarded, but now I make them worship you as God. The throne formed by cherubim awaits you, its bearers swift and eager. The bridal chamber is adorned, the banquet is ready, the eternal dwelling places are prepared, the treasure houses of all good things lie open. The kingdom of heaven has been prepared for you from all eternity.”

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

Today

Our Families and Friends, living and deceased

+**Samia Hannoush.** Requested by Antoinette Arraj & Family

+**Toni Mourad**

Today's Coffee Hrs. are hosted by the parish. We will have Ka'ak and eggs in celebration of Pascha after each Liturgy!

Next Sunday's Coffee Hr. will be hosted by

Last Week's Collection

Weekly	\$ 1,544
Candles	\$ 65
Coffee Hr.	\$ 99
Easter Flowers	\$ 200
Diocesan	\$ 87
Memorials	\$ 50
TOTAL	\$ 2,045

God bless you for your generosity!



Please remember in your prayers: Robert Ghiz, Sadie Mirante, Charlotte Stockhaus, Richard Abraham, Sr., Frank Boyda, Carol Boyda, Bob Lynch, Michael Mooradian, Dennis Desplaines, Thomas Houde, Ken Jordan, Mary Rizk, Joyce Kfoury, Michael McNeil, Jeff McNeil, Jeannine McNeil, Neil Gartner, Linda Gartner, Lorraine Lian, Billy Rahall, Houda Daou, Lauren Abraham, Nicholas Haddad, Elaine Foley, David Ahlin, Elio Kanaan, Susan Bailey, Jacqueline Ventriglia, those affected by the natural disasters throughout the world, the people of Gaza, and for peace in Ukraine & the Middle East. Let us also pray for the repose of the souls of Zakeya Assaf, Genvieve Hatem, Hanna Francis, Saddalah Alkateb.

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.



RESURRECTION HOMILY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Let all pious men and lovers of God rejoice in the splendor of this feast. Let the wise servants blissfully enter into the joy of their Lord. Let those who have borne the burden of Lent now receive their pay, and those who have toiled since the first hour, let them now receive their due reward.

Let any who came after the third hour be grateful to join the feast, and those who may have come after the sixth, let them not be afraid of being late, for the Lord is gracious and He receives the last even as the first. He gives rest to him who comes at the eleventh hours as well as to him who has toiled since the first.

Yes, He has pity on the last and He serves the first. He rewards the one and is generous to the other. He repays the deed and praises the effort.

Come you all: enter into the joy of your Lord. You the first and you the last, receive alike your reward. You rich and you poor, dance together. You sober and you weaklings, celebrate the day. You who have kept the fast and you who have not, rejoice today.

The table is richly loaded; enjoy its royal banquet. The calf is a fattened one; let no one go away hungry. All of you enjoy the banquet of faith. All of you receive the riches of his goodness. Let no one grieve over his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep over his sins, for pardon has shone from the grave.

Let no one fear Death, for the death of our Savior has set us free. He has destroyed it by enduring it. He has despoiled Hades by going down into its kingdom. He has angered it by allowing it to taste of his flesh. When Isaiah foresaw all this he cried out: “O Hades, you have been angered by encountering Him in the nether world.:

Reader: Hades is angered because it is frustrated.

All: It is angered!

Reader: It is angered because it is now captive.

All: It is angered!

Reader: It seized a body, and lo! It discovered God. It seized earth, and behold! It encountered Heaven. It seized the visible, and was overcome by the invisible.

O death, where is your sting? Christ is risen and you are abolished.

All: He is truly risen!

Reader: Christ is risen and the demons are cast down.

All: He is truly risen!

Reader: Christ is risen and the angels rejoice.

All: He is truly risen!

Priest: Christ is risen and life is freed.

All: He is truly risen!

Priest : Christ is risen and the tomb is emptied of the dead.

All: He is truly risen!

Reader: For Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the Leader and Reviver of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Prokimenon

Reader This the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

People: This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

Reader: Give praise to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

People: This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

Reader: This is the day the Lord has made;

People: Let us be glad and rejoice in it.

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8

Alleluia Verses

You shall arise and have mercy upon Sion; for the time to pity her, the right time has come.

Verses: The Lord has looked down from Heaven upon all the sons of men.

Gospel: Jn 1:1-17

Hirmos (Tone 1)

The angel cried out to the one who is full of grace: Hail, O immaculate Virgin! Hail, again! For Your Son is risen from the tomb on the third day! Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has shone upon you. Rejoice and be glad, O Sion; and you, O pure one, O Mother of God, exult in the resurrection of your Son!

Kinonikon (Tone 1)

Receive the body, the body of Christ, and drink from the Fountain of immortality. Alleluia.

After Communion—Christ is risen... (Once)

Instead of “Blessed by the name of the Lord...” Christ is risen (Three Times)

At the end of the Divine Liturgy

Priest: Christ is Risen!

People: He is truly Risen! (three times)

Priest: Glory to His Resurrection on the third day!

People: We adore His holy Resurrection on the third day!