



OUR LADY OF THE CEDARS CHURCH

A MELKITE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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REV. ROGER BOUCHER - Weekend Ministry

REV. DEACON JOHN FLESHMAN

REV. DEACON THOMAS MOSES

*"Enter the Church and repent ... for here is the physician, not the judge.
Here one is not investigated, one receives remission of sins." (St. John Chrysostom)*

June 28, 2020

**The Commemoration of the Transfer of the Remains
of the Holy Unmercenary Physicians, Cyrus and John**

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Parish Advisory & Finance Council:

KEN MONTY (PRESIDENT), ROBERT ANDERSON, ROBIN ANDERSON, JOHN CULLEN,
MARTHA DAGHER, TIM ERMATINGER, KEN KOMISAREK, MARYLOU LAZOS, JESSICA LOMANNO,
MAURICE PARÉ, RAFAEL PESCHIERA, PAUL ST. GERMAIN, AND JOHN SIWIK

Parish Secretary: ROBIN ANDERSON

Cedars Society President: MARYLOU LAZOS

Sunday School Coordinator: MARTHA DAGHER

N.A.M.Y. Advisor: ROBIN ANDERSON

HOLY MYSTERY OF CONFESSION: Before or after any service, or by appointment;

HOLY MYSTERY OF CHRISTIAN ILLUMINATION: Please contact the clergy in advance to arrange for the required baptismal instructions;

HOLY MYSTERY OF CROWNING: At least six months prior to the proposed wedding, please contact the clergy to arrange for the required interview and instructions;

HOLY MYSTERY OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please contact the pastor at any time when this sacrament is needed;

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK: Anyone too infirm to attend our services may receive Communion in the home. Please advise the clergy whenever this sacrament is needed.

THE ORDER OF TODAY'S LITURGY

The Troparion of the Resurrection (3rd Tone) Page 52

The Troparion of the Dormition of the Theotokos (1st Tone): Page 16

Kondakion : "O Never Failing Protectress of Christians": Page 17

THE PROKIMENON:

SING PRAISE TO OUR GOD, SING PRAISE!

SING PRAISE TO OUR KING, SING PRAISE!

All you peoples, clap your hands! Shout to God with cries of gladness!

Today's Readings: Romans 6: 18-23 and Matthew 8: 5-13

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, (June 27) 4:30 PM:

For the repose of Elias Ashooh (77th), Wilfred Burkush (34th),
and Nora Noyes (14th)

Sunday (June 28) 10:30 AM

For the repose of the members of the clergy of our Eparchy
who have fallen asleep in the Lord

Next Saturday (July 4) 4:30 PM:

For the repose of Joseph Barody (49th), Anthony Stephen (19th),
Zahia George (47th), Theodora Smit (38th), Martha Khatter (27th),
Peter Flamant (29th), and Elias Solomon (52nd), and Afef Nassif (32nd)

Next Sunday (July 5) 10:30 AM:

For the repose of Louis P. Abdou,
by William and Cheryl Koury

Vocation View

In the readings today, both Paul and Christ are urging people to live in a faith relationship with God so that they might experience dynamic freedom and salvation. That faith must be expressed in the attitudes and actions of one's life. Faith opens the door to a transforming relationship with God. We need priests top help us keep moving in that direction in our Christian lives. Have you ever considered that ministry for yourself? Have you encouraged others to it? Have you prayed for more vocations? That in itself is an act of faith.

Do you have
collar I.D.?





MAHRAJAN
WE ARE REALLY COOKING NOW!

It is time to make kibbee! We really need your help!
No experience necessary!

Wednesday evening, 6:00 PM in the Church Hall!

Also: Please help us keep our costs down! Grape leaves will be needed in July so please wash and pack them in your freezer as they become available. We need about 3,000 so if you can, please help ASAP.

Livestreamed Services:

Sunday beginning at 9:45 AM, Monday at 7:00 PM.

They can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyoftheCedars/> or
<https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyoftheCedars/live/>.

Our Lady of the Cedars Church On-Line Bible Study

With Deacon Thomas Moses

Date: Every Thursday Evening through August 13, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm-7:30 pm **Location:** Zoom Conference Room

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6033684154>

Meeting ID: 603 368 4154 **Password:** 354554

Topic: Each Thursday evening, during the summer months, we will look at the Epistle reading for the coming Sunday together. The Bible study will be both informative and devotional. Please bring a journal or notebook and a Bible.

Attendance Last Saturday 4:30 PM: 24 Sunday 10:30 SAM: 89

Last Weekend's Collection: \$ 1,139.⁰⁰

The average Sunday envelope donation: \$44.³⁵

The balance on our mortgage is: \$52,653.¹³

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Mon., June 29	7:00 PM	Divine Liturgy: The Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul
Sat., June 27	4:30 PM	Divine Liturgy: The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
Sun., July 4	9:45 AM	Sunday Orthros
Sun., July 5	10:30 AM	Divine Liturgy: The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

The Feast of the Glorious and Praiseworthy Princes of the Apostles, Peter and Paul

On June 29 the Church observes the memory of the Holy and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles Saints Peter and Paul. The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul concludes one of the four major fasting periods of the Church.

The divinely-blessed Peter was from Bethsaida of Galilee. He was a fisherman by trade, unlearned and poor, and was called Simon; later he was renamed Peter by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, Who looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of Jonas; you shall be called Cephas (which is by interpretation, Peter, meaning "Rock")" (John 1:42).

After the Resurrection of Christ and the descent of the Holy Spirit, he preached in Judea, Antioch, and certain parts of Asia, and finally came to Rome, where he was crucified upside down by Nero, and thus he ascended to the eternal habitations about the year 66 or 68, leaving two Catholic (General) Epistles to the Church of Christ.

Paul, the chosen vessel of Christ, the glory of the Church, the Apostle of the Nations and teacher of the whole world, was a Jew and a Roman citizen, fluent in the Greek language, a Pharisee, born of a Pharisee. In the beginning, Paul was a most fervent zealot and a great persecutor of the Church of Christ; at that time, his name was Saul (Acts 22:3-4).

While traveling on the road to Damascus, a light from Heaven suddenly shone upon him. Falling on the earth, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?" And he asked, "Who are You, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus Whom you are persecuting; it is hard for you to kick against the goad." The encounter left him blind. He was led by the into the city, and on account of a divine revelation to the Apostle Ananias, he was baptized by him, and both his bodily and spiritual eyes were opened to the knowledge of Christ.

And straightway, he spoke with boldness in the synagogues, proclaiming that "Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 9:1-21). In his zeal for preaching the Gospel he endured afflictions of diverse kinds – prison, beatings, stonings, a shipwrecks, hunger, thirst, nakedness - all endured for the Name of Christ. Having completed the work of his ministry, he likewise ended his life in martyrdom when he was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Nero, at the same time, some say, when Peter was crucified.

The icon of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul is a beautiful presentation of their importance and prominence. The icon that shows both Apostles are standing together holding an image of the Church. In the icon, the Apostle Paul, the great missionary of the early Church, is holding a Gospel book, while the Apostle Peter offers a blessing with his right hand. At the top of the icon is a semicircle, representing the divine realm. Rays extend in the semicircle representing the blessings and presence of God upon His two chosen heralds of the True Faith.



Wonderworking Ascetics

WE ARE AT THE END of the Fast of the Apostles and many who have observed this Fast will be happy that it is over. We prefer feasts to fasts and look forward to any fast-free days observed during the year. There are some, however, who make every day a fast day. They regularly adjust their diet and their activities, as the rest of us may do during a Fast. They are often the ones who will one day be recognized as saints. At the end of a Fast it may be most appropriate to recall some saints and saintly people who lived their whole lives in prayer and fasting (the ascetics) or in almsgiving (the merciful) to a noteworthy degree.

Holy Ascetics

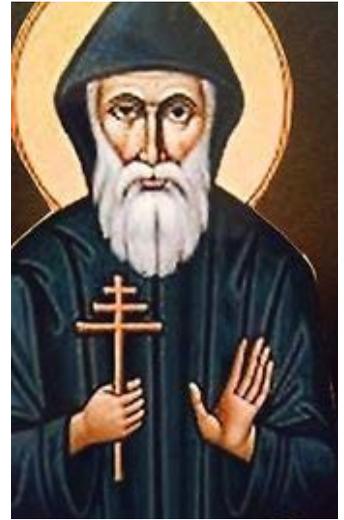
When we think of a life of prayer and fasting, we tend to think of the monastic life. Not all ascetics live in monasteries, however (Mary of Egypt was not a nun), and not all monastics are ascetics. These ascetics from several Eastern Churches are those whose ascetical lives were confirmed by the miracles attributed to them.

St Kyrillos VI (1902-1971) was a middle-class Egyptian Copt: an office worker who left his job and family at the age of 25 to enter the Baramous Monastery in the Nitrian desert. He was tonsured a monk in 1928 and ordained a priest in 1931 as “Father Mina.” He began serving all-night vigils and the Divine Liturgy daily from 2 to 8 AM, a practice not common in the Coptic Church at the time. Three years later he began living as a solitary, first in a cave and later in the ruins of an abandoned windmill. He lived on bread, herbs and spices and the water he brought back with him on his weekly visit to the monastery.

It was during this time that his first miraculous healing was recorded. “Within months,” the ascetic’s biographer writes, “Father Mina’s reputation... blazed throughout Old Cairo. A myriad of healings, prophecies, visions and unusual divine happenings surround the period.” Another adds, “No other period in the recorded history of the Coptic Church witnesses so many reports of unfamiliar and extraordinary events.”

From 1941 to 1959 Father Mina lived as an urban monastic, becoming a confessor to many. In 1947 he established a church in Old Cairo in honor of his patron; the next year he built a hostel for university students at the church. For the next twelve years he formed countless disciples at the church, inspiring many university students to monasticism and church service. Finally, in 1959, he was elected patriarch. As Pope Kyrillos VI, he spearheaded the total renewal of the Coptic Church.

St Charbel Makhlouf (1828-1898) was the orphaned son of a Lebanese mountain family who, as a child, would spend the day in prayer while caring for the family’s small flock. Two of his mother’s brothers were monks and the youth wanted to follow them, but his mother objected. Finally, in 1851, the young man was able to sample the monastic life at the Maronite Monastery of Our Lady in Mayfouk. He ultimately took monastic vows at St Maron’s Monastery in Annaya, where he remained. Ordained a priest in 1859, Father Charbel remained at the monastery until 1875. For the next 23 years, he lived as a solitary at the monastery’s hermitage. He suffered a stroke while serving the Liturgy and died on December 24, 1898.



St Maron's Monastery in Annaya has received hundreds of thousands of letters from people all over the world who want to share the news of miracles, cures and wonders performed by St Charbel. One of the hardest to explain away concerns Kevin Boustany, a Canadian who suffered from an eye and cornea infection and eventually lost sight in his eye. Kevin wanted to research his condition on the Internet. When he turned the computer on, a photo of St Charbel appeared on the computer screen with the following sentence next to the photo, "I will heal you and give you back your sight". Kevin was shocked and immediately visited his doctor who examined his eye and testified that Kevin was indeed healed. Kevin travelled to Lebanon to visit the tomb of St Charbel at the monastery of St Maron in Annaya and to thank God and St Charbel for his healing.

Kevin's healing is not the only example of unexplained photos of St Charbel. On May 8, 1950, the hermit's birthday, four Maronite missionaries came on pilgrimage to his tomb. Father George Webby, a Maronite priest from Scranton, PA took a photo of the four monks and the guard on duty. When the picture was developed, there was a mysterious monk with a white beard shown standing next to the missionaries. Experts ruled out trick photography. The oldest monks, who had known Father Charbel, recognized the monk in the picture as St Charbel, just as he had looked during the last years of his life. All subsequent portraits of the Saint were based upon this photo.

St Xenia of St Petersburg (c. 1719-1803) An ascetic who was not a monastic, Xenia was the wife of a Russian military officer assigned to the capital, Col. Andrei Petrov. One evening at a party, Andrei suddenly fell over dead (perhaps an aneurism had burst). After his funeral, Xenia, 26 years old at the time, left the capital for eight years, some say, to live in a hermitage. When Xenia returned to the capital, she gave away her possessions, including her house. She kept only her husband's uniform, which she wore, and adopted his name. For 45 years, Xenia would wander the poorest sections of the city, consoling the poor and the homeless. At night she would go out to the fields to pray.

Known for her gift of sight, Xenia came to be recognized as able to foretell the future. People welcomed her into their homes in the hope that her presence would bring them a blessing. Any donations people would give her she passed on to the homeless. After her death, Xenia was often manifested to people and they began venerating her as a saint. An elaborate chapel was built over her grave.

One such manifestation occurred in California to a young biker who was looking for spiritual peace. He visited an evangelical church and was attracted by what he heard. Told that he should conquer the passions, he found that giving up biking was too hard for him, so he left the group. He was later involved in a serious road accident in which he lost his legs. An invalid, he took up again with some old friends, who were crashing in a run-down tenement. Once in an alcohol and drug fueled stupor, he found himself lying in a dumpster – his "friends" had thrown him in for a laugh. Depressed and at the brink of despair, he saw an old bag lady approach him. Glaring at him, she commanded him, "You know where to go, so go there!" He immediately thought of the church and set out to find it.

When he reached the church, he saw that it had been transformed by domes and crosses. The church was part of a group that had been received into the Orthodox Church. He saw an iconostasis at the front of the church and on it an image of his bag lady – St Xenia had brought him back to God.

The Transfer of the Remains of the Holy Unmercenary Physicians, Cyrus and John

The Holy martyrs Cyrus and John were physicians who suffered martyrdom during the years of Emperor Diocletian's persecutions. They are also commemorated on January 31.

St. Cyrus was born in Alexandria of Egypt in the 3rd Century A.D., to faithful Christian parents. He attended the university in Alexandria becoming a medical physician. He treated his patients without pay or rewards. St. Cyrus healed in the name of Jesus Christ with prayers and by reciting passages from the Old Testament. After his patients were healed he would advise them that in order to stay healthy they must avoid sin as most of the time sickness comes through sin. As St. Cyrus became popular the citizens of Alexandria built a hospital for his work.

At that time the emperor of the Roman world was the pagan Diocletian (284-305) who was known for his merciless Christian persecutions. By preaching Christianity St. Cyrus was disobeying the laws of Rome to worship Roman Gods, an offense punishable by death. The saint narrowly escaped to Arabia and became a monk near a monastery close to the Persian Gulf. Through prayer and fasting St. Cyrus became a miracle worker. He could heal many illnesses by merely praying and performing the sign of the cross.

It was to this monastery another physician arrived, St John, a military doctor in the forces of Diocletian. Back in Egypt, a pious Christian woman named Athanasia was arrested along with her three young daughters – Theoctista, age fifteen, Theodota, age thirteen, and Eudoxia, age eleven, in the town of Canopis. When learning this Sts. Cyrus and John came to the Canopis prison to encourage the women not to abandon their faith.

Sts. Cyrus and John were arrested and tortured with beatings, whippings and burnings with lighted torches and boiling tar. This example of Christian courage and devotion strengthened the resolve of Athanasia, Theoctista, Theodota and Eudoxia who were also similarly tortured and beheaded only to be canonized as Saints of our Church. Because of their refusal to pay homage to Roman Gods, Sts. Cyrus and John were beheaded in the year 311. They were buried in the church of the disciple and evangelist St. Mark at Canopis.

In the year 412, the relics of these martyrs were transferred to the nearby village of Manuphin. This Egyptian village prompted fear in everyone, since in a former time there was a pagan temple inhabited by evil spirits. Patriarch Cyril (412-444) of Alexandria wanted to cleanse this place of demons, and he prayed fervently in carrying out this project. An angel of the Lord appeared in a vision to the hierarch and commanded the venerable relics of Sts Cyrus and John be transferred to Manuphin. His Holiness Patriarch Cyril did the angel's bidding and built a church at Manuphin in the name of the holy martyrs.

The village was purified of the demons, and by the prayers of the holy Martyrs Cyrus and John there began to occur many miracles, healings of the sick and infirm. The relics were later transferred to Rome and eventually they were brought to Munich. We invoke the Unmercenary Sts. Cyrus and John during the Blessing of the Water and in the Sacrament of Holy Unction.



Please remember to pray for the health and protection of Genevieve Allen, Donna Andruskiewicz, Olivia Aragon, Erin Baroody, Michael Baroody, Anthony Blando, Helena Burkush, Fr. Michael Carl, Danielle Caron, Michael Cavanaugh, Meghan Connors, Sarah Dagher, Sher Farrow, Julie Fregeau, Peter Fregeau, John Gallagher, Marguerite Ganem, Mary Ann Garvey, Loretto Gauvin, Arthur Goldberg, Bonnie Gomez, Laurice Haddad, Nick Haddad, Lucille Harper, Laura Jorba, Leila Khoury, Shirley Lanoue, Sarah Lavery, Susan Latvis, Diana Lebel, Haley Lesmerises, Ramona Matias, Susan Merrill, Maria Moser, Joanne Nader, Mimi Nasser, Alfred Nasr, Afef Nasr, Jessica Nehme, Raymond Nehme, Samira Nehme, Stefan Notter, Steven O'Leary, Ellen Osgood, Alice Paymant, Marco Enrique Peschiera, MaryJo Pond, Noreen Pond, Ellen Powell, Michael Proulx, Sheila Quinn, Daniel Quintal, Deborah Roberts, Julia Rose, Fr. Andre St. Germain, Kara Salvas, Barbara Schultz, Iris Angelina Velasquez, Gina Walcott, Catherine Waldron, George Webber, Martha Webber, Angela Wise, and Marilyn Whitmore.

If you are visiting our church, our parish family is delighted to welcome you here! If you would like to know more about the Melkite Catholic Church, check out the brochure entitled *"Welcome to this Holy House,"* located on the table in the back of the church.

  <p>Joe Ashooh, Agent 297 South Willow St Manchester, NH 03103 603-624-1000 www.joesthere.com</p> <p><small>Providing Insurance and Financial Services Call us for a free quote</small></p>	<p>NORTH HILLS REALTY GROUP, LLC <i>Residential Real Estate Brokers</i> Abraham Dagher, Realtor <i>814 Elm St., Suite # 302 Manchester, NH 03101</i> (603) 629-9988</p>	 <p>Chuck Stephen 814 Elm Street, Suite 503 Manchester, NH 03101 Tel # 603.606.3391 Toll Free 866.491.9675 chuck@glenwoodinvestment.com www.glenwoodinvestment.com</p>
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Sunday's Readings:

A Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (6:18-23)

BRETHREN, now that you have been freed from sin, you have come to serve justification. I speak in a human way because of the weakness of your flesh. For as you yielded your members as slaves to uncleanness and iniquity, so now yield your members as slaves of justification so as to be sanctified. For while you were the slaves of sin, you had nothing to do with justification. But what fruit did you gather then of those deeds of which you are now ashamed? For the end of such things is death.

But now, set free from sin and become slaves to God, you have your fruit resulting in sanctification, and as your end, life everlasting. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is life everlasting in Christ Jesus our Lord.

الرسالة (رومة) 6 : 18-23

يا إخوة، بعد أن أعتقنتم إلى الخطيئة استعبدتم إلى للبر، أقول كلاماً بشرياً من أجل ضعف جسدكم. فكما جعلتم أعضاءكم عبيداً للنجاسة والإثم للإثم، كذلك الآن اجعلوا أعضاءكم عبيداً للبر للقداسة. لأنكم حين كنتم عبيداً للخطيئة، كنتم أحراراً من البر، فأين ثمر حصل لكم حينئذ من الأمور التي تستحيون منها الآن؟ إنما عاقبتها الموت، وأما الآن وقد أعتقنتم من الخطيئة واستعبدتم لله، فتحوزون ثمركم للقداسة، والعاقبة حياة أبدية، لأن أجره الخطيئة موت، وأما موهبة الله فحياة أبدية في المسيح يسوع ربنا.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the Evangelist (8:5-13)

At that time when Jesus entered Caparnaum, there came to him a centurion who begged him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying sick in the house, paralyzed, and is grievously afflicted." Jesus said to him, "I will come and cure him."

But in answer the centurion said, "Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I too am a man subject to authority, and have soldiers subject to me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

And when Jesus heard this, he marveled, and said to those who were following him, "Amen I say to you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel. And I tell you that many will come from the east and from the west, and will feast with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, but the children of the kingdom will be put out into the darkness outside; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; as you have believed, so be it done to you." And the servant was healed at that hour.

لأنجيل الرابع بعد العنصرة

الانجيل (متى 8: 5-13)

في ذلك الزمان، لما جاء يسوع الى كفرناحوم، دنا اليه قائد مئة وسأله قائلاً: يا سيدي، إن غلامي ملقى في البيت مقعداً يعذبُ بعدابٍ شديد فقال له يسوع: أنا آتي واشفية. فأجاب قائد المائة وقال: يا سيدي لست أهلاً أن تدخل تحت سقفي ولكن قل كلمة لا غير فيبيراً غلامي. فإني أنا أيضاً إنسان تحت سلطان، ولي جند تحت يدي. فأقول لهذا اذهب فيذهب ولإخَرَ أنت فيأتي. ولعبدي اعمل هذا فيعمل. فلما سمع يسوع تعجب وقال: للذين يتبعونه الحق أقول لكم إنني لم أجد مثلاً هذا الايمان حتى ولا في إسرائيل وأنا أقول لكم إن كثيرين يأتون من المشارق والمغرب ويتكئون مع إبراهيم وإسحق ويعقوب في ملكوت السماوات، وأما بنو الملكوت فيلقون في الظلمة البرانية هناك يكون البكاء وصريف الأسنان. ثم قال يسوع لقائد المئة: اذهب وليكن لك كما آمنت فشفي غلامه في تلك الساعة.