



OUR LADY OF THE CEDARS CHURCH

A MELKITE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

140 MITCHELL STREET, MANCHESTER, NH 03103

TEL # (603) 623-8944 FAX # (603) 645-6017

Email: oloc.church@comcast.net

Website: www.olocnh.org

VERY REV. THOMAS P. STEINMETZ, PASTOR

REV. THEOPHAN LEONARCZYK, Eparchial Chancellor RT. REV. ANDRE ST. GERMAIN (retired)

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)*

July 19, 2020

**The Commemoration of our Venerable Mother Macrina,
Sister of St. Basil the Great, and of our Venerable Father Dios**

THE SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

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 (6th Tone) Page 53

The Troparion of the Fathers of the First Six Councils (8th Tone)

O Christ our God, You are infinitely glorified, for You established our Fathers as radiant stars on earth. Through them You led us to the True Faith. O Merciful One, glory to You!

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

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

THE PROKIMENON:

**BE GLAD IN THE LORD AND REJOICE YOU JUST!
EXULT ALL YOU UPRIGHT OF HEART!**

Happy are those whose faults are taken away, and whose sins are covered!

Today's Readings: Titus 3: 8-15 and Matthew 5:14-19

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, (July 18) 4:30 PM:

For the repose of Edward Coriaty (35th), Julie Flamant (39th),
George Baroody, Jack Laliberte (18th), and Hassibe Elias (14th)

Sunday (July 19) 10:30 AM:

For the repose of Bishop John Elya, B.S.O.,
Fourth Bishop for the Melkites in the United States
(One Year Memorial)

Next Saturday (July 25) 4:30 PM:

For the repose of George Saffy (59th), Charles Baroody (41st),
Lucille Holt (35th), Joseph Tutudgy (9th), and John McHugh (6th)

Next Sunday (July 26) 10:30 AM:

For the repose of John Steinmetz (35 Anniversary)
By his son Fr. Tom, and Family

For the health and salvation of Sophia Thoman, by Eric Thoman



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 to 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.

The Blessing of Cars

July 20 is the feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah. Remembering that Elijah was taken up into heaven in a fiery chariot, we have the tradition of blessing all vehicles of travel. In anticipation of the feast, we will have the prayer of blessing of automobiles outside in the parking lot after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday.



MAHRAJAN 2020: WE ARE REALLY COOKING NOW!

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP!

- Sponsor a food item!
- Place a message of memorial in the Mahrajan book - \$100/page!
- Help with food preparation: Wednesday, July 29 at 6:00 PM we are skewering lamb in the church hall, and really need your help!

Livestreamed Services:

Sunday beginning at 9:45 AM, Tuesday 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: 30 Sunday 10:30 SAM: 69

Last Weekend's Collection: \$ 1,051.⁰⁰

The average Sunday envelope donation: \$40.⁰⁰

The balance on our mortgage is: \$52,319.⁹¹

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Tues., July 21	7:00 PM	Divine Liturgy: Feast f St. Mary Magdalene
Sat., July 25	4:30 PM	Divine Liturgy: The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Sun., July 26	9:45 AM	Sunday Orthros
Sun., July 26	10:30 AM	Divine Liturgy: The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils



We venerate today the Fathers of the first six Ecumenical Councils because Christ has established them as "lights upon the earth, guiding us to the true Faith." The fact that the 7th Ecumenical Council (Nicaea II in the year 787) is not commemorated today testifies to the antiquity of today's celebration. The Ecumenical Councils are the highest authority in the Church. Such Councils, guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and accepted by the Church, are infallible. The Church's conciliar definitions of dogma, based upon the preaching of the Apostles and the doctrine of the Fathers, have established one faith for the Church. Such definitions always begin with the Apostolic formula: "It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us..." (Acts 15: 28).

The Ecumenical Councils were always convened for a specific reason: to combat false opinions and heresies, and to clarify the Church's teaching. The Church, in expounding its dogmas, is dealing with the concerns of a given historical moment, "not revealing everything in haste and thoughtlessly, nor indeed, ultimately hiding something" (St Gregory the Theologian).

The Council of Nicaea in 325: The 318 Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council are spoken of in Canon I of Trullo as having: "with unanimity of faith revealed and declared to us the consubstantiality of the three Persons of the Divine nature and, ... instructing the faithful to adore the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit with one worship, they cast down and dispelled the false teaching about different degrees of Divinity."

The Council of Constantinople in 381: The 150 Holy Fathers of the Second Ecumenical Council left their mark on the theology of the Church concerning the Holy Spirit, "repudiating the teaching of Macedonius, as one who wished to divide the inseparable Unity, so that there might be no perfect mystery of our hope."

The Council of Ephesus in 431: The 200 God-bearing Fathers of the Third Ecumenical Council expounded the teaching that "Christ, the Incarnate Son of God is One." They also confessed that "she who bore Him without seed was the spotless Ever-Virgin, glorifying her as truly the Mother of God."

The Council of Chalcedon in 451: The 630 Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council decreed that "the One Christ, the Son of God... must be glorified in two natures."

II Council of Constantinople in 533: The 165 God-bearing Holy Fathers of the Fifth Ecumenical Council "in synod anathematized and repudiated Theodore of Mopsuestia (the teacher of Nestorius), and Origen, and Didymus, and Evagrius, renovators of the Hellenic teaching about the transmigration of souls and the transmutation of bodies and the impieties they raised against the resurrection of the dead."

III Council of Constantinople in 680: The 170 Holy Fathers of the Sixth Ecumenical Council "taught that we ought to confess two natural volitions, or two wills [trans. note: one divine, and the other human], and two natural operations (energies) in Him Who was incarnate for our salvation, Jesus Christ, our true God."

July 22: The Holy Myrrh-Bearer and Equal to the Apostles, Mary Magdalene

On the banks of Lake Genesaret (Galilee) was the small city of Magdala, the remains of which have survived to our day. Now only the small village of Mejhdel stands on the site. From her came the women known to us in the Gospels as Mary Magdalene.

The Gospel tells us nothing of Mary's younger years, but Tradition informs us that Mary of Magdala was young and pretty and led a sinful life. It says in the Gospels that the Lord expelled seven devils from Mary (Luke. 8:2). From the moment of her healing Mary led a new life and became a true disciple of the Savior.

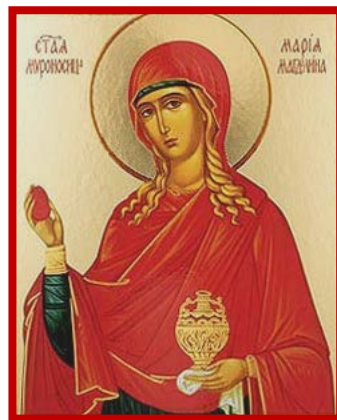
The Gospels tell us that Mary followed after the Lord when He went with the Apostles preaching in the cities and villages of Judea and Galilee. Together with the pious women Joanna, wife of Choza (steward of Herod), Susanna and others, she served Him from her own possessions (Luke 8:1-3) and shared with the Apostles the evangelic tasks in common with the other women. At the time of the Lord's crucifixion she remained fearlessly at the Cross together with the Mother of God and the Apostle John, was a witness to his burial and according to the Gospel of St. John was the first to witness the Risen Christ, and the first to be sent to tell the Good News.

When the Apostles departed from Jerusalem to preach to all the ends of the earth, Mary Magdalene also went with them. A daring woman, whose heart was full of reminiscence of the Resurrection, she went beyond her native borders and went to preach in pagan Rome. Everywhere she proclaimed to people about Christ and His teaching. When many did not believe that Christ is risen, she repeated to them what she had said to the Apostles on the radiant morning of the Resurrection: "I have seen the Lord!" With this message she went all over Italy.

It is said that in Italy, Mary Magdalene visited Emperor Tiberias (14-37 A.D.) It was the custom to present a gift when visiting the Emperor. Rich and influential people brought expensive gifts whereas the poor offered whatever they could afford. Mary Magdalene took an egg to the Emperor's palace and handed it to Tiberius Caesar with the greeting: "Christ is risen!"

Tiberius Caesar, naturally, could not believe what he heard and responded to her: "How could anyone ever rise from the dead? It is as impossible as that white egg to turn red." While Tiberius was speaking these words, the egg in the hand of Mary Magdalene began changing color until it finally became bright red. Mary Magdalene then went on to explain to Tiberius Caesar that the now-red egg symbolized life rising from a sealed chamber, a symbol that would have been understandable to a pagan Roman. Thus the Paschal greeting -- in universal Christendom, both East and West -- has ever since remained "Christ is risen!" and it became traditional for Christians throughout the world to color eggs in red.

According to Church Tradition, she remained in Rome for a number of years then moved to Ephesus where she finished her earthly life and was buried. Her holy relics were transferred in the ninth century to Constantinople, and placed in the monastery Church of St Lazarus. In the era of the Crusader campaigns they were transferred to Italy and placed at Rome under the altar of the Lateran Cathedral. Part of the relics of Mary Magdalene are said to be in Provage, France near Marseilles, where over them at the foot of a steep mountain a splendid church is built in her honor.



“Peter Has Spoken Through Leo!”



ON THREE SUNDAYS EACH YEAR Byzantine Churches commemorate the fathers of the seven great councils of the first millennium. The first ecumenical council (Nicaea I) is remembered on the Sunday after the Feast of the Ascension and the seventh (Nicaea II) on the Sunday nearest to October 11. The first six councils are recalled together on the Sunday following July 13, the feast of the fourth council (Chalcedon).

The Importance of Councils

The council – whether a local or regional synod or an ecumenical assembly – reflects a basic understanding of Church in the Christian East. The Church is the “communion in the Holy Spirit,” a community infused with the life-giving presence of the Spirit of God. Councils reflect this image of the Church as a community. The council is a true image of the Church when it is imbued with and dependent on the grace of the Holy Spirit.

The first ecumenical council, Nicaea I (AD 325) was called by the Emperor Constantine the Great to assure religious unity in the empire (the “oecumene”). All the bishops of the empire were called to participate in this and subsequent councils as successors of the Apostles, entrusted with the teaching ministry by Christ. Together the bishops speak to and for all the local Churches. The agreement of the bishops, ratified by the “Amen” of the faithful, expresses the voice of the Holy Spirit in the Church.

The seven councils we commemorate liturgically are particularly remembered for their role in clarifying the Church’s teaching on the Trinity and the Incarnation, the basis of all other doctrines, in the face of numerous controversies in the now free Churches of the Roman Empire. The councils sought to render the teachings of these mysteries scattered through the New Testament in the precise terms of Greek philosophy current in the empire. They succeeded in doing so, but were not as successful in expressing these teachings in ways accessible to those Churches outside that culture. Thus the fifth-century Councils of Ephesus and Chalcedon contributed to lasting divisions in the Churches of the East.

The Problem of Chalcedon

Like other councils, the Council of Chalcedon dealt with both theological and political issues. The main theological issue was how to express the mystery of Christ’s incarnation in the face of the Monophysitism taught by Eutyches, an influential priest in Constantinople and a disciple of St Cyril of Alexandria. At its second session the Council adopted the concept “two natures in one Person,” employed by Pope St. Leo the Great in a letter to Flavian, the archbishop of Constantinople. When the letter was read to the bishops, they replied, *“This is the faith of the fathers! This is the faith of the Apostles! So we all believe! Thus the Orthodox believe! Anathema to him who does not thus believe! Peter has spoken thus through Leo!”*



July 20: **THE HOLY PROPHET ELIJAH**

The Holy Prophet Elijah is one of the greatest of the prophets and was born in Tishba of Gilead into the Levite tribe c. 900 BC. During this time the Israelite nation had fallen away from the faith in the One God and worshipped pagan idols, under the impious king Jereboam. Jezebel, the wife of King Ahab, was devoted to idol worship. She persuaded her husband to build a temple to the pagan god Baal, which led many Israelites away from the worship of the true God.

Beholding the ruin of his nation, the Prophet Elijah began to denounce King Ahab for impiety, and exhorted him to repent and turn to the God of Israel. The king would not listen to him. The Prophet Elijah then declared to him, that as punishment there would be neither rain nor dew upon the ground, and the drought

would cease only by his prayer. The heavens were closed for three and a half years, and there was drought and famine throughout all the land.

After the end of three years of drought the Merciful Lord sent the prophet to appear before King Ahab, and promised to send rain upon the earth. The Prophet Elijah told the king to order all of Israel to gather upon Mount Carmel, and also the priests of Baal. When the nation had gathered, the Prophet Elijah proposed that two sacrificial altars be built: one for the priests of Baal, and the other for the Prophet Elijah who served the True God.

The Prophet Elijah told the pagan priests to call on their gods to consume the sacrificial animals with fire, and he would call on his. Whichever was first to send fire on the sacrifice would be acknowledged as the true God. The prophets of Baal called out to their idol from morning till evening, but the heavens were silent. Towards evening the holy Prophet Elijah built his sacrificial altar from twelve stones, the number of the tribes of Israel. He placed the sacrifice upon the wood, gave orders to dig a ditch around the altar and commanded that the sacrifice and the wood be soaked with water. When the ditch had filled with water, the prophet turned to God in prayer. Through the prayer of the prophet fire came down from heaven and consumed the sacrifice, the wood, and even the water. The people fell down to the ground, crying out: "Truly, the Lord is God!" Then the Prophet Elijah had all the pagan-priests of Baal put to death, and he began to pray for rain. Through his prayer the heavens opened and rain fell, soaking the parched earth.

King Ahab acknowledged his error and repented of his sins, but his wife Jezebel threatened to kill the prophet of God. The Prophet Elijah fled into the Kingdom of Judea and, after a 40 day journey arrived at Mount Horeb, and settled in a cave. Because of his fiery zeal for the glory of God the Prophet Elijah was taken up alive into Heaven in a fiery chariot.

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, Richard J. Palazollo II, 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>
<p>THE STEPHEN GROUP</p> <p>814 Elm Street, Suite 309 Manchester, NH 03101 Office 603.625.8825 Cell 603.419.9592</p> <p>JOHN STEPHEN <i>Managing Partner</i> jstephen@stephengroupinc.com www.stephengroupinc.com</p>		  <p>Robert Stephen, Attorney at Law 582 Chestnut Street Manchester, NH 03104 phone 603-663-1007 www.StephenLaw.com</p>
<p>Check out www.melkite.org -new educational material is posted regularly!</p>	<p>Your message here- \$300/year</p>	 <p>Your Ad Here \$300 per Year</p>

Today's Readings:

A Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to Titus (3:8-15)

My son Titus, this saying is true, and in this matter I want to insist that those who believe in God be careful to excel in good works; these are good and useful to people. But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and quarrels, and disputes about the Law, for they are useless and futile. Avoid a factious man after warning him one or twice, knowing that such a man is perverted and sins, since he is condemning himself.

When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to meet me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Help Zenas the lawyer and Apolos on their way, taking care that they lack nothing. And let our people also learn to excel in good works, in order to help cases of urgent need so that they may not be unfruitful. All my companions greet you. Greet those who love us in the faith. The grace of God be with all of you. Amen.

الرسالة (تيطس 3: 8 - 15)

يا ولدي تيطس، صادق القول، وأريد أن تُفَرِّزَ هذه الامور، حتى يكونَ الذين آمنوا بالله ذوي اهتمام في القيام بالأعمال الصالحة. فهذه هي الحسنَةُ والنافعةُ للناس. أما المباحثاتُ السخيفةُ والانساب، والخصوماتُ والمماحكاتُ على الناموسِ فأجتنبها، فانها غيرُ نافعةٍ وباطلة. ورجلُ البدعة، بعدَ الانذارِ أولاً وثانياً، أعرض عنه، عالماً ان مثلَ هذا قد زاغ، وهو في الخطيئةِ يقضي هو نفسه على نفسه. متى ارسلتُ اليكَ أرتماسَ او تيخيكسَ بادر ان تأتيني الى نيكوبولس. لأنني عَوَّلْتُ ان أَشْتَوَ هناك. اما زيناسُ معلِّمُ الناموسِ وأبْلُسُ، فجهِّزهما باعْتِئَاءٍ لئلا يُعوزَهما شيء. ولتتعلمَ ذونا ايضاً ان يقوموا بالأعمال الصالحة للحاجاتِ الضرورية، حتى لا يكونوا بدونِ ثمر. يُسَلِّمُ عليك جميعُ الذين معي. سلِّم على الذين يُحِبُّوننا في الايمان. النعمةُ معكم اجمعين. آمين.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the Evangelist (5: 14-19)

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Neither do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but upon the lamp-stand, so as to give light to all in the house. Even so let your light shine before men, in order that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Do not think I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For amen I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not one letter or one stroke shall be lost from the Law till all things have been accomplished. Therefore whoever does away with one of these least commandments, and so teaches men, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever carries them out and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

الانجيل (متى 5: 14 - 20) انجيل احد آباء المجامع المسكونية الستة الاولى

قال الرب، أنتم نور العالم، لا يمكن أن تخفى مدينة قائمة على جبل، ولا يوقد سراج ويوضع تحت المكيال، بل على المنارة فيضيء لكل من في البيت. وهكذا فليضيء نوركم قدام الناس، ليروا أعمالكم الصالحة ويمجدوا أباكم الذي في السماوات. لا تظنوا اني أتيت لأنقض الناموس والأنبياء. اني لم آت لأنقض بل لأتمم. الحق أقول لكم: إنه إلى أن تزول السماء والارض لا تزول ياء واحدة أو نقطة واحدة من الناموس حتى يتم الكل. فكل من يحل واحدة من تلك الوصايا الصغرى ويعلم الناس هكذا، فإنه يدعى صغيراً في ملكوت السماوات. وأما من يعمل بها ويعلم، فهذا يدعى عظيماً في ملكوت السماوات.