


*“The two hardest tests on the spiritual road are the patience to wait for the right moment and the courage not to be disappointed with what we encounter.” (Paulo Coelho, *Veronika Decides to Die*)*



<p align="center"><b>Special Offerings</b></p> <p>. For peace in the world and in our hearts  <b><u>BLESSINGS &amp; WELLBEING of:</u></b>  . Maurice Rahal  . Camille Abdy, Albert Ghanoum, Linda Russo, George Ged, Bob Shaheen, Joe &amp; Jeanine Achaia, Gaby Zakkour, Emil Kasses, Dr. Bishara Faris, Marilyn Barbary, Anthony Antaki  <b><u>BIRTHDAY::</u></b> Franca Sama, Joselline Johnson  <b><u>WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:</u></b> George &amp; Mahida Deeb</p>	<p align="center"><b>Liturgy Memorials</b></p> <p>. Myleen Ged  . Bill Toole  . Eliza Bahi  . Louis Rahal  . Evelyn George  . Rafik Rayes  . Lorraine &amp; James Oussani, Sr.</p> <hr/> <p align="center"><b>RELIGIOUS FORMATION</b>  Sunday School – Regular class</p>
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**EPISTLE : Hebrews 7:7-17**  
**PROKIMENON:** *My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.*  
Brethren, certainly the lower is blessed by the higher. And in one case indeed mortal men receive tithes, while Scripture testifies that this man lives on. And even Levi, the receiver of tithes, was also, so to speak, through Abraham made subject to tithes (*Cf. Gn. 14 :20*), for he was still in his father’s loins when Meichisedek met him. If then perfection was by the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the Law), what further need was there that another priest should rise, according to the order of Meichisedek, and said not to be according to the order of Aaron? For when the priesthood is changed, it is necessary that a change of law be made also.  
For the one of whom these things are said is from another tribe, from which no one has ever done service at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord has sprung out of Judah (Cf. Is. 1 :2), and Moses said nothing at all about priests when referring to this tribe. And it is yet far more evident if there arises another priest, according to the likeness of Meichisedek, who has become so not according to the law of carnal commandment, but according to a life that cannot end. For it is testified of him, *Your are a priest forever, according to the order of Meichisedek (Ps. 109 :4).*



**The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the Evangelist 18: 10-14** (*The Pharisee and the Publican*)  
The Lord told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and began to pray thus within himself: ‘O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of men, robbers, dishonest, adulterers, or even like this publican. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all I possess.’ But the publican, standing far off, would not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven, but kept striking his breast, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you; this man went back to his home justified rather than the other; for anyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself shall be exalted.

**18: 10-14 فَصَلِّ مَنْ بِشَارَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ لَوْكَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ**

قال الربُّ هذا المثل: رجلان صعدا الى الهيكل ليصليا، أحدهما فرّيسيّ والأخر عشار. فالفرّيسيّ انتصب يصلي في نفسه هكذا. اللهم أني اشكرك لأنني لست كسائر الناس الظالمين الفاسقين. ولا مثل هذا العشار. إني أصوم في الاسبوع مرتين، وأعشر كلّ ما هو لي. وأمّا العشار فوقف عن بُعد ولم يُردّ حتى أن يرفع عينيه إلى السماء. بل كان يقرع صدره قائلاً: اللهم اغفر لي أنا الخاطئ. أقول لكم: إن هذا نزل إلى بيته مبشراً دون ذلك. لأن كلّ من رفع نفسه وُضع ومن وضع نفسه رُفع.

<p align="center"><b>SECOND COLLECTION</b></p> <p>St. Nicholas’ Parish Council has carefully studied the church's ongoing expenses. Many volunteers help with much work on an ongoing basis; <i>To share this collective stewardship, we find it necessary to have a: <b>2nd collection on the 1st &amp; 3rd Sundays of each month to go toward the BUILDING FUND MORTGAGE Commitment .</b></i>  <b>February 2nd Collection: 2nd &amp; 16th of the month</b>  If you wish to make arrangement to pay by Credit Card, please contact Samir Risk @ 954.561.5138 or risksamf@gmail.com</p>	<p align="center"><b>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</b></p> <p><b><u>Friday, Feb. 28:</u> 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf T day, March 6:</b> 2nd Friday of Lent  <b><u>Saturday, March 14th:</u> Mediterranean Food Festival</b>  <b><u>Sunday, April 5:</u></b> Palm Sun. Parish Showcase Bake Sale  <b><u>Holy Week &amp; Easter, April 8, 9, 10, 11, 12</u></b>  <b><u>Saturday, April 25 or May 2:</u></b> Spring Hafleh</p>
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**CHURCH FINANCIAL CORNER**

As we continue to grow as a prayerful and supportive community thanks to your presence and efforts, we want to share with you our monthly church expenses.

*Financial Summary for the month of Dec. 2019 - Total Income (Gen. Collection & Bldg Fund) \$39,531*  
Expenses: Mortgage Payment: \$12,500    Operating Expenses: \$17,795  
Total Expenses: \$30,295    Surplus: \$9,236

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen 2 Peter 3:18

**Feast of the Presentation of Jesus to the Temple**

The feast in the Byzantine Church is celebrated on *February 2nd, and is called The Presentation or The Meeting*, and refers to the meeting of Mary and her Child with Simeon the Just, “The Host of God”, and the prophetess Anna. Both were elderly and symbolize the patient waiting of Israel for the long promised Messiah, they are the representatives of the Old Testament meeting with the New Testament.  
*The Icon of the Presentation is graciously adopted by the Rahal Family.*



**SUPER BOWL POOL BOARD**

St. Nicholas Men’s Club is conducting the **5th Annual Super Bowl Pool**. All proceeds to benefit the Building Fund.  
**\$450 cash in prizes**  
Your support is greatly appreciated!



**St. Nicholas 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Mediterranean Food Festival**  
**Saturday, March 14, 2020**  
**11:30 am - 8:30 pm**

Excitement is in the air....! This Festival will put us on the map, and will help show the beauty of our heritage, culture and faith. Thank you for being always present for your church and community.  
The Food Festival presents an opportunity to showcase our community’s delicious and savory food and divine desserts...This is an event open to the public. Everyone is invited to participate in helping out in various capacities. We ask each and every one to give us a hand to bring this festival to the success we are aiming and hoping for. We will have a work schedule and a plan of action very soon. Kindly let us know how you can help. Please stop by the Festival Project table to sign-up. More details to follow soon...

**FACEBOOK**  
*us grow our parish by liking our Facebook page @melkitecatholic - Kindly Like and share our posts!*

**12th Annual Golf Tournament**

We welcome early registration and sponsorship inquiries for our **12th Annual Golf Tournament** On Feb. 28, 2020 as we return to the celebrated Boca Country Club of the Waldorf Astoria Resorts.  
**The event includes a delightful Cocktail Reception and Dinner Party which are open to non-golfers as well! BUT at this time we can only wait list the Dinner Only Reservations.**  
We greatly appreciate Ged Lawyers, LLC and the Ged Family for being our Corporate Title Sponsor since our church 1st tournament!  
Brochures are available, pick up your copy today.



**SILENT AUCTION & RAFFLE**

**We are collecting items & Certificates for the Silent Auction and the Raffle...**  
*We need your help to solicit these valuable items. (Donation Form & Solicitation Letter are available). We ask you to try to reach out to businesses you patronize or where you know somebody who can help you solicit (Restaurants Dining Certificates, Salons, Spa, Art Galleries, Hotels getaway, Travel agencies, Wine & Spirits, Jewelry & Costume Jewelry, Memorabilia of any kind, Sports, Movie or Theater Tickets, Time Share vacation, Artwork, Electronics...)*  
*Feel free to use your imagination, if you wish to put a basket together for the Raffle or the Silent Auction. Please let us know how you can help, we are counting on you! We welcome your input, suggestions and ideas!!!*  
*We need everything brought in N Later then Sunday, February 3rd. Email us - golf@stnicholasmelkite.org Your help is greatly appreciated!*

**BULLETIN ADS RENEWAL**

Courtesy reminder - Kindly renew your bulletin ads and pay your annual renewal dues.  
**Thank you for your continuous support!**

**BISHOP APPEAL**

Just in case you had misplaced the Bishop’s appeal letter, Donation slips are available for your convenience on the Liturgy books table, you can either mail them with your check to: Deacon Robert J. Shalhoub  
55 Morris Ave, Suite 218, NJ 07081  
God Bless your generosity!