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St. Dicholas Helkite Catholic Church 5715 Lake Ida Road, Delray Beach, FL 33484 Sunday Melkite Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy at 11:00 am Saturday Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy at 4:00 pm

Rt. Rev. Glen Pothier, D. TH., Pastor Aldo Lombardo & Denise Fakhoury

Choir Directors
Paul Nassif, Sexton
Nelson Morciglio, Head of Ushers



Parish Office Tel: 561.499.3161
Email: parish@stnicholasmelkite.org
Eli Khouri & Carmen Hajj
Parish Council Co-Chairs
www.stnicholasmelkite.org
Confessions: By Appointment

### Sunday, February 2, 2020

### Feast of the Presentation of Jesus to the Temple

**Entrance Hymn:** The Lord has made his Salvation known; He has revealed his justice to all nations. O Son of God, who were carried in the arms of Simeon the Just, save us who sing to you Alleluia.

**Troparion of the Feast:** Hail, O Woman full of grace, Virgin and Mother of God: from you has arisen the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, enlightening those who stand in darkness, In You too, O just Elder Simeon, rejoice, for you carried in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, our Resurrection.

## Message From Father Gabriel...

## The Spirituality of the Encounter ©

On the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus to the temple by his parents, He is received by Simeon who "was just and devout...and the Holy Spirit was upon him" (Luke 2:24). The encounter of Simeon with Jesus, not only transformed him, but gave him a sense of fulfillment and completion.

In Pope Francis' first encyclical letter, *The Light of Faith*, we find the word *encounter* woven throughout the text. The centrality of an encounter with Jesus is not some-*Thing*, but an encounter with some-*One*; the One who is encountered through living faith. The Pope said:

"Faith is born of an encounter with the living God who calls us and reveals his love, a love which precedes us and upon which we can lean for security and for building our lives. Transformed by this love, we gain fresh vision, new eyes to see; we realize that it contains a great promise of fulfillment, and that a vision of the future opens up before us" (Light of Faith, #4)

Blessed Pope John Paul II urged us to "learn to know Christ and make ourselves known to him!" That personal encounter with Jesus is a true statement of our spirituality. Where do we encounter Jesus today? ... In our daily prayers; in our outreach and reaching out to those who are in need; in the Eucharist; in being present to one another; and in seeking Him every moment, as we saw Zaccheus seeking Him and Simeon waiting for Him...

The core of the encounter with Jesus is three fold: (1) The revelation of love, (2) The calling of men to responsibility and action, and (3) The affirmation of the dignity and meaning of one's personhood.

Pope Francis has coined the theme for his Papacy as "A Culture of Encounter," which is described as encountering Christ and therefore, encountering those that Christ loves. The encounter is magnified by "Doing good," a principle that unites all humanity, beyond the diversity of ideologies and religions, and creates the "culture of encounter" that is the foundation of peace. Can we be mindful of our encounters throughout the day, and seek Christ's love in our actions of faith?

"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)

#### Special Offerings

- BLESSINGS & WELLBEING of:
- . Maurice Rahal
- . Camille Abdy, Albert Ghanoum, Linda Russo, George Ged, Bob Shaheen, Joe & Jeanine Achaia, Gaby Zakkour, Emil Kasses, Dr. Bishara Faris, Marilyn Barbary, Anthony Antaki

<u>BIRTHDAY</u>:: Franca Sama, Joselline Johnson <u>WEDDING ANNIVERSARY</u>: George & Mahida Deeb

## Liturgy Alemorials

- . Myleen Ged
- . Bill Toole
- . Eliza Bahi . Louis Rahal
- . Evelyn George
- . Rafik Rayes
- . Lorraine & James Oussani, Sr.

#### **RELIGEOUS FORMATION**

Sunday School – Regular class

**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.

## فَصْلٌ مِنْ بِشَارَةِ الْقِدِ يِسْ لوقا الإنْجلِيّ الْبَشِيرِ 14-18: 18:

قال الربُّ هذا المثل: رجلان صعدا الى الهيكل ليصليا، أحدُهما فريسيٌ والأخَرُ عشَّار. فالفريسيُ انتصب يصلي في نفسه هكذا. اللهمَّ أني اشكرُكَ لأني لستُ كسائر الناسِ الخطفةِ الظالمينَ الفاسقين. ولا مثلَ هذا العشَّار. إني أصومُ في الاسبوع مرتين، وأعشرُ كلَّ ما هو لي. وأمَّا العشَّارُ فوقفَ عن بُعدٍ ولم يُردُ حتىً أن يرفعَ عينيهِ إلى السماء. بل كان يقر غُ صدرَهُ قائلاً: أللهمَّ اغفر لي أنا الخاطئ. أقولُ لكم: إن هذا نزلُ إلى بيته مبرَّراً دونَ ذاك. لأن كلَّ من رفعَ نفسهَ وُضعُ ومن وضعَ نفسهَ رُفع.

#### SECOND COLLECTION

St. Nicholas' Parish Council has carefully studied the church's ongoing expenses. Many volunteers help with much work on an ongoing basis; To share this collective stewardship, we find it necessary to have a: 2nd collection on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month to go toward the BUILDING FUND MORTGAGE Commitment.

February 2nd Collection: 2nd & 16th of the month If you wish to make arrangement to pay by Credit Card, please contact Samir Risk @ 954.561.5138 or

risksamf@gmail.com

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS Friday, Feb. 28: 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf T

day, March 6: 2nd Friday of Lent
Saturday, March 14th: Mediterranean Food

<u>Sunday, April 5:</u> Palm Sun. Parish Showcase Bake Sale

Holy Week & Easter, April 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 Saturday, April 25 or May 2: Spring Hafleh

#### 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

## 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,

be the glory both now and forever.

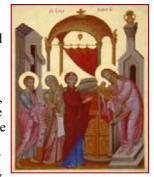
Him

To

Fri-

grace and

But grow in



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 Payel Pa

Sth 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!