



St. John Melkite Catholic Church

330 N Westmore Ave – Villa Park, Illinois 60181 www.stjohnmelkite.church

Office (708) 680-2210 / Email: stjohn.chicago@melkite.org

Prayers Hotline, <https://chat.whatsapp.com/DjekhCR0tVC5kGH3KLYBav>

Sunday, September 13, 2026, Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Preparation of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

الأحد 13 أيلول 2026 الأحد قبل رفع الصليب المقدس

Services:

Sundays 8:30 am English Divine Liturgy

9:45 am Spanish Divine Liturgy

11:00 am English/Arabic

Wednesday 8:30 am School Mass (Roman Catholic)

Fridays 7:30 pm: Arabic Divine Liturgy

(1st Friday of the month) Seton parents, students and teachers Mass (Roman Catholic)



أيها المسيح الإله، يا من غُلِقَ على الصليب خُبًّا لَنَا، طَهَّرْنَا من خطايانا. وَطَدَّنَا بِالْإِيمَانِ. تَبَيَّنَّا بِالرَّجَاءِ. وَأَحْزَمَ نَفُوسَنَا بِمَحَبَّةِ صَلِيبِكَ، لَكِي نَصْبِحَ هَيْكَلًا لِرُوحِكَ الْقُدُّوسِ. لِأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ نَوْرُنَا وَحَيَاتُنَا، وَلَكَ أَنْ نُخَلِّصْنَا، أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهَ، وَإِلَيْكَ نَرْفَعُ الْمَجْدَ وَالشُّكْرَ وَالسُّجُودَ، وَإِلَى أَبِيكَ الْأَزَلِيِّ وَرُوحِكَ الْقُدُّوسِ، الصَّالِحِ وَالْمَحْبِيِّ، الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ ..

ANTIPHON OF THE HOLY CROSS:

1-O God, why have You cast us off forever? Why does Your anger smolder against the sheep of Your pasture?

O Son of God Who were crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

2-Remember Your flock which You built up of old, Your tribe You redeemed as Your inheritance, Mount Sion where You took up Your abode.

3-Yet God is our King from all eternity: He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

الأنديفونة الثانية:

1 اللهم لماذا اقصيت الى النهاية، استقرَّ غضبك على غنم رعيتك
خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من صُلِّبَ بالجسد، نحنُ المرنمين لك هلوليا
2 - أذكرُ جماعتك التي اقتنيته منذ القديم، لقد افتديت صولجان
ميراثك

3 - اما الله فهو ملكنا قبل الدهور، أجرى الخلاص في وسط
الارض

ANTIPHON PRAYER:

Christ God, enthroned with the Father and the Holy Spirit, when You extended Your arms on the Cross, You attracted the whole world to Your knowledge. Illumine us today by its light. Sanctify us by its power. Comfort us by its Exaltation. And make us worthy to partake of Your divine glory. For You are our salvation, O Christ God, and to You we render glory and to Your Eternal Father and Your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

صلاة الأنديفونة:

ENTRANCE HYMN: Extol the Lord our God and worship at His footstool for He is Holy.

O Son of God, Who were crucified in the flesh...

ترنيمه الدخول ارفعوا الرب الهنا واسجدوا لموطئ قدميه، فانه قدوس. خالصنا يا ابن الله، يا من صُلِّبَ بالجسد، نحنُ المرنمين لك هلوليا

HYMNS

Troparion of the Feast : "O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting peace to the world. And preserve Your community by the power of Your Cross."

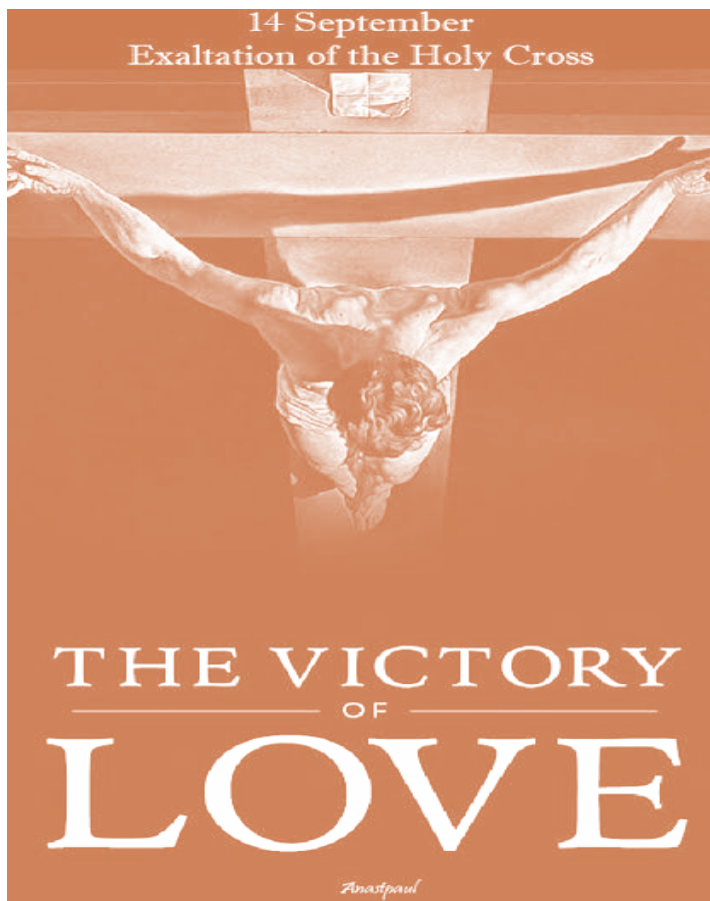
نشيد الصليب الكريم المقدس خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ وَبَارِكْ مِيراثَكَ
مانحاً العالم السلام، واحفظ بقوة صليبك رعيَّتَكَ.

Kontakion of the Feast:

O Christ God, who chose by Your free volition to be elevated upon the holy cross, grant Your mercies to Your new people who are called by Your name. In Your power gladden the hearts of our public authorities. Strengthen them in every good deed so that Your true alliance may be for them a weapon of peace and a standard of victory.

قنداق الختام لرفع الصليب

يا مَنْ رُفِعَ عَلَى الصليب طَوْعاً، ايها المسيحُ الإله، امْنَحْ رَأْفَتَكَ
لشعبِكَ الجديِّ الملقَّبَ بِاسْمِكَ. فَرِّحْ بِقُدْرَتِكَ مَلُوكَنَا الْمُؤْمِنِينَ .
مانحاً إِيَّاهُمْ الغلبة على محاربيهم. لتكن لَهُمْ نُصْرَتُكَ سلاحَ سلامٍ
وشعارَ انتصار.



Instead of the Trisagion:

We bow in worship before Your Cross, O Master, and we glorify Your Holy Resurrection.

Arabic phonetic transliteration:

li-Sa-lee-bi-ka yaa Say-yi-da-na nas-jud, wa-li-Qi-
yaa-ma-ti-kal- mu-Qad-da-sa, nu-maj-jid

لصليبك ياسيدنا نسجد، ولقيامتك المقدسة نمجد

Epistle of the Dedication: Hebrews 3:1-6

Your decrees are worthy of trust indeed; Holiness befits your house, O Lord, for length of days!

The Lord is king, in splendor robed; Robed is the Lord and girt about with strength.

READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews:

Holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider the apostle and high priest of our confession, Jesus, who is faithful to the one who made him, as was Moses also in all his house.

For he was deemed worthy of greater glory than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house he has built. For every house is built by someone – but the one who created all things is God. And Moses indeed was faithful in all his house as a servant, to testify concerning those things that were to be spoken; but Christ is faithful as the Son over his own house. We are that house, if we hold fast our trust and the hope in which we glory until the end.

ALLELUIA

On the Holy Mountain is his city cherished by the Lord. The Lord prefers the gates of Zion to all Jacob's dwellings.

Of you are told glorious things, O City of God!

الرسالة

بَيْتَكَ تَلِيْقُ الْقَدَاسَةُ يَا رَبُّ مَدَى الْأَيَّامِ

الرَّبُّ قَدْ مَلَكَ وَالْجَلالَ لَبَسَ. لِبَسَ الرَّبُّ الْقُدْرَةَ وَتَتَنَقَّى بِهَا

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الى العبرانيين 3 : 1 - 6
أيها الإخوة القديسون، المشتركون في الدعوة السماوية تأملوا
رسول اعترافنا ورئيس كهنته المسيح يسوع. الذي هو أمينٌ لمن
اقامه، كما كان موسى في جميع بيته. فإن هذا قد حُسِبَ أَهْلاً لَمَجْدِ
أَعْظَمِ مَنْ مَجْدُ مُوسَى، بِمَقْدَارِ مَا لَبَانِي الْبَيْتِ كَرَامَةً أَعْظَمُ مِنْ
كَرَامَةِ الْبَيْتِ. فَإِنَّ كُلَّ بَيْتٍ لَهُ بَنٌ أَمَّا بَنِي الْكُلِّ فَهُوَ اللَّهُ.

هَللُويا

عَظِيمِ الرَّبِّ وَمَسِيحِ جَدًّا، فِي مَدِينَةِ إلهنا، فِي جَبَلِهِ الْمُقَدَّسِ
إِنَّ الرَّبَّ اخْتَارَ صِهْيُونَ. اصْطَفَاهَا مَسْكناً لَهُ

GOSPEL: John 3:13-17 - Sunday before the Feast of the Holy Cross

The Lord said, “No one has gone up into heaven except the One Who has come down from heaven: the Son of Man Who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that those who believe in

Him may not perish, but may have life everlasting.” For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that those who believe in Him may not perish, but may have life everlasting. For God did not send His Son into the world in order to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

انجيل الأحد الذي قبل عيد الصليب يوحنا 3 : 13 – 17

قال الرب: لم يصعد أحدٌ الى السماء، إلا الذي نزل من السماء، ابنُ البشرِ الكائنُ في السماء. وكما رفع موسى الحيةَ في البرية، هكذا ينبغي ان يُرْفَعَ ابنُ البشرِ، لكيلا يهلك كلُّ من يؤمن به، بل تكونَ له الحياة الابدية. هكذا أحب الله العالم، حتى إنه بذل ابنه الوحيد، لكيلا يهلك كلُّ من يؤمن به، بل تكونَ له الحياة الابدية، لأنه لم يرسل الله ابنه الى العالم ليدين العالم، بل ليخلص به العالم.

HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS: Hirmos

O Mother of God, you became a mystical paradise when without tilling you brought forth Christ our God by Whom the life-giving tree of the Cross was planted on earth. Wherefore we deeply bow before this Cross which is exalted today, and we magnify you.

النشيد لوالدة الإله: يا والدة الإله، انتِ الفردوسُ السري، اذ انك انتبتِ المسيحَ بغيرِ قِلاحة، الذي به نُصِبتُ في الارض شجرة الصليبِ الحاملِ الحياة. فالآن نسجدُ له مرفوعاً، وإياك نعظم.

KINONIKON: Let the light of your Countenance shine on us, O Lord. Alleluia.

ترنيمة المناولة: قد ارتسم علينا نور وجهك يارب، هلوليا

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: Troparion of the Feast.

بعد المناولة: نشيد العيد

Mass intentions for Sunday 13th of September:

Annual Memorial for +Jamileh Akkawi

For good health and speedy recovery for all the sick among parishioners and friends. Denise Shehata, Antoinette Mansour, Basemah Aranki, Dolores Maalouf, Abe & Tony Baroud, Ghassan Azar, Mounir Massih, Mary and Elias Elkhoury, Magdi Rizkalla.

For the rest of the soul: +Sophia Alcheikh; +Dc Tony Shehata; +Martha Rayyan +Emile & Clotilde Harb.

THE POWER OF THE CROSS

The power of the Cross purifies us and leads us to repentance and interior peace.

The power of the Cross directs us to the Catholic confessional and the Sacrament of Penance.

The power of the Cross reminds us that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the unbloody renewal of Christ's sacrifice on Calvary.

The power of the Cross expands our contemplative concentration in prayer.

The power of the Cross helps us to understand what comes and goes in life and what really lasts and is important.

The power of the Cross gives us an active spirit of compassion and charity.

The power of the Cross helps us to see life with the eyes of Eternity.

The power of the Cross leads us to Heaven and to Eternal Life.

The power of the Cross helps us to live heroically, courageously and faithfully.

Sunday September 13th: Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. 1st year Memorial for Jamileh Akkawi.

1:00 pm Sunday School Parents and teachers Online required diocesan training “Circle of Grace” and registration for Sunday School

Sunday September 20th First Sunday School class Coffee hour sponsors: Dr Suheil & Razane Istambuly and Family.

Saturday October 3rd Saint Francis Pets Blessings in the church parking lot 12:00

Bishop Francois Beyrouti's visit to Chicago

Friday October 16th: 5:30pm Prayer service & cutting ribbon ceremony followed by the Annual Dinner at Crystal Palace

Saturday October 17th Family Retreat Day

Sunday October 18th: Blessing of Saint John's Church at 11:00am

Weekly donations September 6, 2026:

Friday: \$160; Sunday: 8:30am: \$40; 9:45am: \$30; 11am: \$1,598; Online Don: \$180; Candles: \$69; Rentals: \$1,500; Coffee hour Don: \$1,1600; Wedding Donation: \$200, Ad Book Don: \$500.

Saint John Melkite Catholic Church

330 N Westmore Ave, Villa Park, IL 60181

Administrator: Fr Imad Barakeh (708-916-2068)

Fr.Imad.Barakeh@melkite.org

Office Phone: 708-680-2210

Office hrs: Mon, Tue, Wed 9am-1pm

Email: stjohn.chicago@melkite.org

www.stjohnmelkite.church

To be added to our parish directory and receive our bulletin: Please email your full name and address to: stjohn.chicago@melkite.org

Donate online:

<https://stjohnmelkite.flocknote.com/give/25225>



COME AND SEE. TRY ALPHA!

Saint John The Baptist church cordially invites you to come to Alpha and explore life and its questions in a welcoming, friendly environment. This

ten-week series includes a shared meal, a video that looks at a different question of faith each week and leads to conversation and an opportunity to share thoughts and hear from others. The conversations are fun, open, honest and judgment free. Alpha is a seven-week build up to a “Day away retreat” with a three-week follow up. Alpha is offered free of charge.

St John’s invites you to our next session of Alpha. Come and see, even if only for one night. If you find that Alpha is not for you there is no pressure to come back.

For more information, please contact George Sahyouni at georgesahyouni7@gmail.com or Nader Sahyouni at xnader@sbcglobal.net
Begins Tuesday Sept 29, 2026 at Libanais restaurant private room in Lincolnwood.



St John Families and Business Owners!

The St John Committee for the upcoming visit of Bishop Francois has been working hard for you!!

Do you have a family business? Why not purchase an ad in our Ad book and be a part of the community our church promotes and supports!

Don’t have a business but still want to support St. John’s? Purchase a family acknowledgment! This is a great way to shine a light on your (families) especially if celebrating a special event this year like a baptism or graduation. Be the first to bring good wishes upon our new Church. Don’t miss out on your chance to “Be the Hope” and help contribute to our amazing Parish!

Examples and ideas for your advertisement in our Souvenir book.

Resignation Announcement Parish Advisory Council

We wish to inform our parish community that the chair of the PAC, Nabel Nijmeh, has submitted the resignation of the Parish Advisory Council, effective immediately. We are grateful for the dedicated service, valuable insights, and commitment to the mission of our parish.

Please join us in thanking all the members of the previous PAC for their many contributions, especially their biggest accomplishments in purchasing our new and beautiful church. We ask everyone to pray for them as they continue to serve our parish in other ways.

Electoral committee

The electoral committee consists of Albert Haddad, Inaam Bisharat, Nabeel Nijmeh.

The committee is collecting names of parishioners who are interested in joining the PAC.

New Members requirements are to Love God, SERVE our parish with enthusiasm, passion and dedication, Have the flexibility and willingness to Work with the priest and other members of the PAC to advance and success the parish.

Domingo, 13 de septiembre de 2026
Exaltación de la Santa y Vivificante Cruz

Oración de la Antífona

Cristo Dios, entronizado con el Padre y el Espíritu Santo, cuando extendiste tus brazos sobre la Cruz, atrajiste al mundo entero al conocimiento de Ti. Ilumínanos hoy con su luz. Santifícanos con su poder. Consuélanos con su Exaltación. Y haznos dignos de participar de tu gloria divina.

Porque Tú eres nuestra salvación, oh Cristo Dios, y a Ti rendimos gloria, juntamente con tu Padre eterno y tu Santísimo, Bueno y Vivificante Espíritu, ahora y siempre y por los siglos de los siglos.

Antífonas de la Santa Cruz

1. Oh Dios, ¿por qué nos has rechazado para siempre? ¿Por qué arde tu ira contra las ovejas de tu rebaño?

Oh Hijo de Dios, que fuiste crucificado en la carne, sálvanos a los que te cantamos: ¡Aleluya!

2. Acuérdate de tu rebaño, que adquiriste desde antiguo; de la tribu que redimiste como heredad tuya; del monte Sión, donde estableciste tu morada.

3. Pero Dios es nuestro Rey desde toda la eternidad: Él ha obrado la salvación en medio de la tierra.

Himno de Entrada

Exalten al Señor, nuestro Dios, y adórenlo ante el estrado de sus pies, porque Él es Santo. Oh Hijo de Dios, que fuiste crucificado en la carne...

Himnos

Tropario de la Fiesta

“Oh Señor, salva a tu pueblo y bendice tu heredad, concede la paz al mundo y protege a tu comunidad por el poder de tu Cruz.”

Kondakion de la Fiesta

Oh Cristo Dios, que por tu libre voluntad escogiste ser elevado sobre la Santa Cruz, concede tus misericordias a tu pueblo nuevo, llamado por tu

Nombre. Por tu poder, alegra los corazones de nuestras autoridades públicas. Fortalécelas en toda obra buena, para que tu verdadera alianza sea para ellas arma de paz y estandarte de victoria.

En lugar del Trisagio

Ante tu Cruz nos postramos en adoración, oh Maestro, y glorificamos tu Santa Resurrección.

Epístola de la Fiesta 1 Corintios 1:18-24

EXALTACIÓN DE LA PRECIOSA Y VIVIFICANTE CRUZ

Exalten al Señor, nuestro Dios, y adórenlo ante el estrado de sus pies, porque Él es Santo.

El Señor reina: que se estremezcan los pueblos. Está entronizado sobre los Querubines: que tiemble la tierra.

Lectura de la Primera Carta del Santo Apóstol Pablo a los Corintios

HERMANOS: La doctrina de la Cruz es necesidad para los que se pierden, pero para los que se salvan, es decir, para nosotros, es poder de Dios. Porque está escrito: “Destruiré la sabiduría de los sabios y rechazaré la prudencia de los prudentes.” ¿Dónde está el sabio? ¿Dónde está el escriba? ¿Dónde está el disputador de este mundo? ¿Acaso Dios no ha convertido en necedad la sabiduría de este mundo? Pues ya que, en la sabiduría de Dios, el mundo no llegó a conocer a Dios mediante su propia sabiduría, quiso Dios salvar a los creyentes por la necedad de nuestra predicación. Porque los judíos piden signos y los griegos buscan sabiduría; pero nosotros predicamos a Cristo crucificado: escándalo para los judíos y necedad para los gentiles; pero para los llamados, tanto judíos como griegos, Cristo es poder de Dios y sabiduría de Dios.

ALELUYA

Acuérdate de tu congregación, que adquiriste desde el principio; Tú redimiste el cetro de tu heredad.

Dios es nuestro Rey desde siempre; Él obró la salvación en medio de la tierra.

Evangelio de la Fiesta Juan 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35

Lectura del Santo Evangelio según San Juan Evangelista

En aquel tiempo, los sumos sacerdotes y los ancianos conspiraron entre ellos contra Jesús para darle muerte. Y fueron a Pilato diciendo: “¡Crucifícalo! ¡Crucifícalo!” Pilato les dijo: “Tómenlo ustedes y crucifíquenlo, porque yo no encuentro culpa alguna en Él.” Los judíos le respondieron: “Nosotros tenemos una Ley, y según esa Ley debe morir, porque se ha hecho a sí mismo Hijo de Dios.”

Cuando Pilato oyó estas palabras, tuvo aún más miedo. Entró nuevamente en el pretorio y preguntó a Jesús: “¿De dónde eres Tú?” Pero Jesús no le dio respuesta. Entonces Pilato le dijo: “¿No me hablas? ¿No sabes que tengo poder para soltarte?” Jesús respondió: “No tendrías poder alguno sobre Mí si no te hubiera sido dado de lo alto.” Pilato, al oír estas palabras, sacó a Jesús afuera y se sentó en el tribunal, en el lugar llamado Litóstrotos, y en hebreo, Gábbata. Era el día de la Preparación para la Pascua, alrededor de la hora sexta. Y dijo a los judíos: “¡He aquí a su Rey!” Pero ellos gritaron: “¡Fuera con Él! ¡Fuera con Él! ¡Crucifícalo!” Pilato les dijo: “¿He de crucificar a su Rey?” Los sumos sacerdotes respondieron: “No tenemos más rey que el César.” Entonces se lo entregó para que fuera crucificado.

Tomaron, pues, a Jesús y se lo llevaron. Y cargando Él mismo con la Cruz, salió hacia el lugar llamado de la Calavera, que en hebreo se llama Gólgota. Allí lo crucificaron, y con Él a otros dos, uno a cada lado, y Jesús en medio. Pilato escribió también una inscripción y la colocó sobre la Cruz. Estaba escrito: JESÚS DE NAZARET, EL REY DE LOS JUDÍOS. Muchos judíos leyeron esta inscripción, porque el lugar donde Jesús fue crucificado estaba cerca de la ciudad, y estaba escrita en hebreo, griego y latín.

Junto a la Cruz de Jesús estaban su Madre, la hermana de su Madre, María de Cleofás, y María Magdalena. Cuando Jesús vio a su Madre y junto a ella al discípulo a quien amaba, dijo a su Madre:

“Mujer, he ahí a tu hijo.” Luego dijo al discípulo: “He ahí a tu Madre.” Y desde aquella hora el discípulo la recibió en su casa. Después de esto, Jesús, sabiendo que todo se había cumplido, inclinó la cabeza y entregó su espíritu.

Los judíos, como era el día de la Preparación, para que los cuerpos no permanecieran en la cruz durante el sábado —porque aquel sábado era un día solemne—, pidieron a Pilato que les quebraran las piernas y fueran retirados. Vinieron, pues, los soldados y quebraron las piernas del primero y también las del otro que había sido crucificado con Él. Pero cuando llegaron a Jesús y vieron que ya estaba muerto, no le quebraron las piernas. Sin embargo, uno de los soldados le abrió el costado con una lanza, y al instante brotaron sangre y agua. Y el que lo vio da testimonio, y su testimonio es verdadero.

Himno a la Theotokos

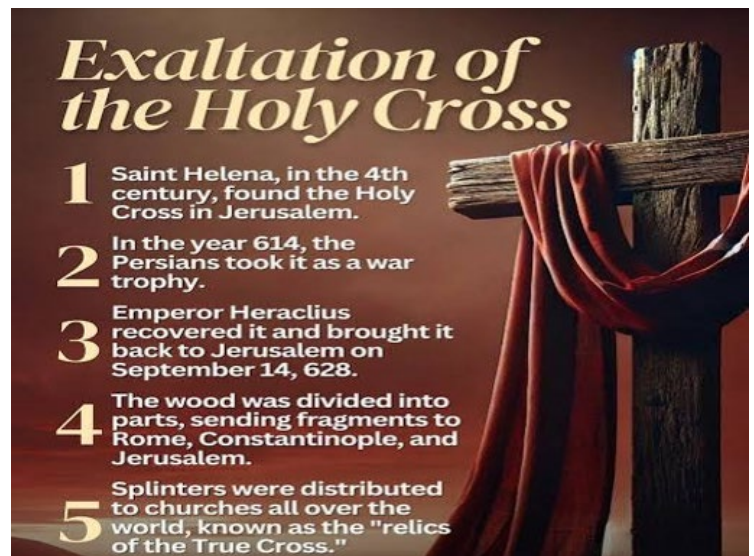
Hirmos de la Novena Oda de la Fiesta (Tono 8)

Oh Madre de Dios, te convertiste en un paraíso místico cuando, sin cultivo alguno, hiciste brotar a Cristo nuestro Dios, por quien fue plantado sobre la tierra el árbol vivificante de la Cruz. Por eso nos postramos profundamente ante esta Cruz, que hoy es exaltada, y te magnificamos.

Kinonikon

Haz brillar sobre nosotros la luz de tu rostro, oh Señor. Aleluya.

Himno después de la Comunión: Tropario de la Fiesta.



“Circle of Grace”

September 13, 1:00 pm

The USCCB’s Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People mandates that every Catholic diocese/eparchy in the country provide age-appropriate sexual abuse prevention training to kids enrolled in religious education. This training must be repeated every year. (See the “Parish Compliance with the USCCB Charter” video below for more information.)

The Eparchy of Newton uses the “Circle of Grace” program. “Circle of Grace” is NOT sex education; it teaches children and youth about personal boundaries, how to recognize when boundaries are being violated, and what to do if this happens. (See the “What is ‘Circle of Grace?’” video below for more information.)

The “Circle of Grace” content is available for free to parents, catechists, and clergy – both the Standard Lessons used to teach the kids and the Parents First newsletter which is an educational resource for parents. You can access “Circle of Grace” content using this link.

Children and youth enrolled in religious education must be trained using the “Circle of Grace” program before June 30, 2026 to satisfy the Charter. The training is usually given by a catechist during one class meeting. No prior experience with the “Circle of Grace” program is necessary because each Standard Lesson provides easy to follow directions.

Please do not begin the training until you have

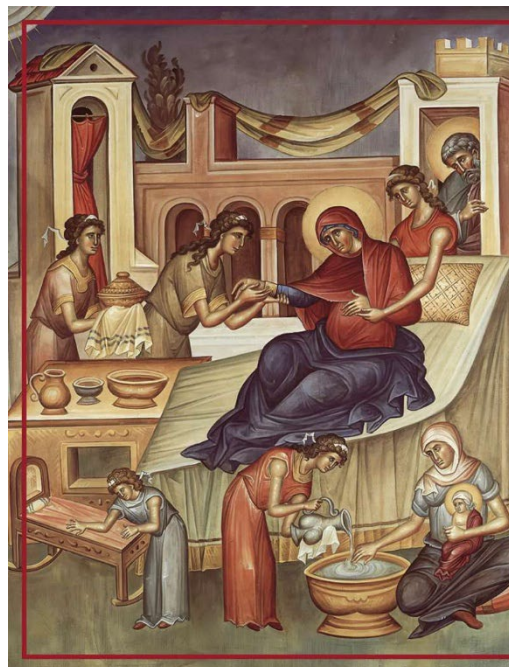
communicated the following information to parents of children and youth enrolled in religious education.

Children and youth enrolled in religious education must be trained using the “Circle of Grace” program before June 30, 2026 to satisfy the USCCB’s Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

“Circle of Grace” is NOT sex education; it teaches children and youth about personal boundaries, how to recognize when boundaries are being violated, and what to do if this happens.

The “Circle of Grace” content is available for free to parents, catechists, and clergy – both the Standard Lessons used to teach the kids and the Parents First newsletter which is an educational resource for parents. Contact the Safe Environment Coordinator (sean.mclaughlin@melkite.org) for access to “Circle of Grace.”

Parents have the right to opt out their children from the training. The Eparchy simply asks that the opt-out form be submitted which is available on the Eparchy website. Go to Safe Environment > Key Links > Parent Opt-out Form for “Circle of Grace” Training.



“Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

Luke 1:45

Today we celebrate with great joy the birth of the Mother of God.

Mary’s life reminds us of what can happen when we place our trust in God. She did not know everything that was ahead of her, but she trusted Him, and through her faith and obedience, Christ came into the world.

On this beautiful feast, I pray that we may follow her example. May we trust the Lord more deeply, especially when the road ahead is not clear, and may we always be ready to say “yes” when He calls us.

I ask the Mother of God to watch over you and your families, our clergy and parishes, and our entire Melkite Catholic Church. May she lead us always closer to her Son.

Most Holy Theotokos, pray for us!

+ François

Most Reverend François Beyrouti, Ph.D./D.Th.

Eparchial Bishop of Newton

For the Melkite Catholic Church in the United States of America

Samaritan's Purse Seasonal Job Openings

Greetings,

My name is Olga, and I am with Samaritan's Purse Human Resources, hiring for Operation Christmas Child. We are currently seeking to hire approximately 150 Christian men and women for paid positions on a four-week project with Operation Christmas Child, and we need your help to spread the word!

Partnering with like-minded churches and organizations is the most effective way to identify candidates who are passionate about spreading the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and working in our processing centers.

Our seasonal positions include a wide variety of customer service roles, such as team coaches, greeters, and floor coordinators. There are also a variety of warehouse positions - including dockworkers, quality/inventory control, class A CDL drivers, and forklift drivers. The ideal candidates for these positions will have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ, align with the mission of Samaritan's Purse, work well with volunteers, be flexible, and function well in a fast-paced environment.

If you know anyone in your congregation who would be interested and match this description, please feel free to share this information with them.

- Seasonal Employment (mid-November through mid-December) at the Operation Christmas Child facility in Aurora, IL
- 40+ hours per week, Monday – Saturday (Thanksgiving Day off)
- Customer Service Team Member Job Description: Customer Service Team Member in Aurora, IL.
- Warehouse Team Member Job Description: Warehouse Team Member in Aurora, IL.
- Hourly pay rate of \$20 per hour for Customer Service and Warehouse Workers

- The joy of being part of a community of believers whose efforts are making a difference around the world

God is so amazing. Last year, we packed around 12.4 million shoeboxes, and each shoebox can impact around 10 people for Jesus. We can't accomplish this without your help and that of our seasonal associates! If you have packed a shoebox, volunteered in our processing center, worked on our seasonal teams, or prayed for the children who will receive the gospel opportunities... Thank you!!!

We ask that you would spread the word about these temporary job opportunities to help us continue to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Would you post the attached information in your bulletin, on your job board, in your social media, or send this in an email blast to your congregation? Would you send this to anyone who matched this description and is looking for a seasonal job? We are grateful for any way that you can help us spread the word to fill these seasonal jobs with an eternal purpose!

Questions and more information – We would love to answer any questions you may have or send you more information about our hiring. Please reply to this email with any questions or information requests or contact me directly at the number below.

Blessings,

Olga Becker

SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Recruiter | HUMAN RESOURCES

331-342-1782

obecker@samaritan.org

800 N Commerce St. | Aurora, IL 60504

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org>

**ONE CHURCH.
ONE COMMUNITY.
ONE FUTURE IN FAITH.**

*Celebrating the Opening of
Our New Church Home*

Welcoming
**DINNER
RECEPTION**

FEATURING MUSICAL ARTIST
TONY MERCHO
— AND BAND —



5:30 PM

**RIBBON CUTTING
CEREMONY**

7:00 PM

**DINNER RECEPTION
& CELEBRATION**

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

330 N. Westmore Ave.
Villa Park, IL 60181

CRYSTAL PALACE BANQUETS

1070 S. Elmhurst Road
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026

FOR TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT

INAAM BISHARAT (630) 709-8790
JOANN FAKHOURI (708) 691-4461
ISSA BISHARAT (630) 709-2471

MAY MANSOUR (312) 493-3897
SARY HADDAD (630) 229-3585

TICKETS:

\$125

**VIP
\$150**

**12 AND UNDER
\$60**

133rd Anniversary Celebration & Re-Dedication

Saint John The Baptist Melkite Catholic Church



BECOME A SPONSOR

For our Souvenir Book



Support the restoration costs of our New Location Church Facility
through an advertisement or a greeting.

Promote your business, remember loved ones or send a family greeting!



Full Page (Color) - \$500

Half Page (Color) - \$250



Full-2 pages center spread ad (Color) - \$2,000

Back cover ad (Color) - \$1,500

Souvenir Book

Sponsors Banner: Silver \$2000 ; Gold \$5000

Sponsorship deadline: September 30th, 2026

Checks made payable to Saint John's Church can be mailed to
Saint John's Church (330 N Westmore Ave, Villa Park, IL 60181)
Send your advertisement via email to Stjohn.chicago@melkite.org

For general questions, ad questions, ad assistance, please contact our office manager, during office hours (708) 680-2210 ext. 2 / Email: stjohn.chicago@melkite.org

If possible, please forward your message, artwork, photos or graphics via email to Stjohn.chicago@melkite.org. Please submit your artwork in a jpg format. Call Norma-Jean with questions



*Delicious homemade
food from the heart!*
Karolin Sarban
847-401-1037



(224)470-1515
www.libanaischicago.com



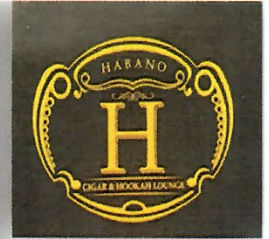
Dr. Jeries Jreisat
Chiropractic Physician

47 E. Chicago Ave., Suite 332B
Naperville, IL 60540
312-763-6542
info@chirostretch.net

GOLD CREATIONS

F 342 Woodfield Mall
Schaumburg, IL 60173

Tel: (847) 240-9505
gcreations08@gmail.com



AJ JREISAT
708.904.4180



(708) 562-4169
www.MannyFlowers.com
42 E. North Ave., Northlake, IL 60164
f @MannysFlowerDesign

LOVE DELIVERED



*Family, Maternity, Couple,
and Headshot Photography*
monikaimages.com
224-659-9756

**ADVERTISE
YOUR
BUSINESS
HERE**



We'd love to be your family's dentist



ELEVATE YOUR SMILE

224-532-5380

282 McHenry Rd
Wheeling, IL 60090
altodentalcare.com

Flexible payment plan available

Implant

Single tooth - includes crown

\$2,700

Invisalign®

Full treatment - most cases

\$3,800



Scan here to
self-schedule appointment



**FAMILY
DENTISTRY**
— OF CRYSTAL LAKE —



GEORGE RAYAN
MANAGER

(815) 444-6444



DR. ADRIAN RAYAN
DENTIST



CARE FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY



COMPREHENSIVE
DENTAL CARE



COMPASSIONATE,
FAITH-INSPIRED CARE



(815) 444-6444



149 N. Virginia St. Ste 100
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

NORTHLAKE

FUNERAL HOME

140 E. North Ave, Northlake

Chicago and Suburban Chapels Available

www.northlakefuneral.com

*Personal,
Professional
Service*

(708)562-0044



Len Zielinski
Funeral Director



3208 N. PULASKI RD. CHICAGO, IL 60641

773-545-3505

JOHN RAYYAN



ST. JOHN
THE BAPTIST

Faith. Community. Giving.

Great finds
for a great
cause!

RUMMAGE Sale!

 **OCTOBER 23 – 25, 2026**

FRIDAY, OCT. 23
10AM – 4PM

SATURDAY, OCT. 24
10AM – 4PM

SUNDAY, OCT. 25
10AM – 4PM

♥ Clothing • Housewares • Books • Toys • Furniture
And so much more!



Your donations and purchases help support
OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY.



St. John the Baptist
330 N Westmore Ave
Villa Park, IL 60181



All are
welcome!

SHOP • GIVE • SUPPORT ♥ TOGETHER IN FAITH