

**Holy Transfiguration  
Melkite Greek-Catholic Church**

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703-734-9566

Rt. Rev. Joseph Francavilla, Pastor 703-734-9198                      Rev. Ephrem Handal 240-631-1318  
Protodeacon David Baroody 703-729-6785      Deacon David Black 202-577-3235  
Deacon Joseph Olt 240-651-0103

Website: [www.holytransfiguration.org](http://www.holytransfiguration.org)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HolyTransfigurationMelkiteMcLeanVA>

**Church Services:** Saturday-6:00 PM Vespers (Confessions available) Sunday-9:15 AM Orthros (Confessions available)  
10:30 AM Divine Liturgy (Coffee Hour following)

**December 16, 2018**

- H & S Presbyter Christopher Manuele
- H & S Fakhouri Family, who offer the Holy Incense
- H & S Toni Fakhouri - Family
- H & S Megan Fakhouri - Family
- H & S Chad Fakhouri- Family
- H & S George Lawson Hamilton - Family
- H & S Mathilde Adjodha - Family
- H & S Adele Metta - Joseph & Sheryl Gangi
- H & S Elsie & Elizabeth Ashooh – Family
- H & S Philip Benedicto
- + Antoinette Fakhouri **MEMORIAL** - Family
- + Anne Gallagher - Family
- + Caynaan Saah- Family
- + Ellen Klump- Family
- + George Tabash - Family
- + Jennifer Horte- Family
- + Laurice Jagganathan - Family
- + Reema Samaha - Family
- + Francis Patrick Haley - Mariana Barillas
- + Mona Liliane Samman - Family
- + Elena Hajjar - Michael Hajjar
- + George Hajjar- Michael Hajjar
- + Julia Bichera - Michael Hajjar
- + Maria Bichera Baker - Michael Hajjar

**Schedule at a Glance**

- Sunday, Dec. 16              Sunday School/Orthros,  
9:15 AM  
Divine Liturgy, 10:30  
AM
- Wednesday, Dec. 19      Paraklesis, 7:30 PM
- Friday, Dec. 21              Paraklesis, 7:30 PM
- Saturday, Dec. 22              Vespers, 6:00 PM
- Sunday, Dec. 23              Sunday School/Orthros,  
9:15 AM  
Divine Liturgy, 10:30  
AM
- Monday, Dec. 24              Divine Liturgy, 10:30  
AM  
  
Orthros, 10:00 PM  
  
Divine Liturgy, 11:00  
PM followed by  
Christmas Agape

*There will be no Divine Liturgy during the  
daylight hours of Christmas.*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** would like to thank everyone for the toys that were donated to the Toys for Tots Campaign. Because of you, many children will be smiling this Christmas.

**THE BISHOP’S APPEAL:** As we prepare our hearts and our homes to receive the Eternal Word of God let us remember our Melkite Church by which Christ comes to our families and loved ones. **Please give a special end-of-year, tax-deductible gift to the Melkite Eparchy of Newton** to support all the vital works of our Church in America.

**REMEMBER THE MELKITE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL:** Give the lasting gift of the Melkite Faith to your children's children and help to ensure that our beautiful Melkite heritage continues to flourish for generations to come. Simply add the following statement to your last will and testament: *I hereby bequeath to the Melkite Eparchy of Newton the following sum: \$\_\_\_\_\_.* Contact Bishop Nicholas personally to inform him of your generous bequest: 3 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132.

**IF YOU HAVE NAMES OF THE LIVING** (baptismal names only, please) that you would like commemorated during the Paraklesis services chanted during the Nativity Fast, please give them to Deaconess Melissa Olt during coffee hour. Please see the Schedule at a Glance section in this bulletin for the schedule of services.

**THE NATIVITY FAST** (also called the Fast of St. Philip, whose feast day is on November 14) traditionally begins on November 15. During this period, we abstain from meat and meat products as well as from dairy products. On December 13, the fast becomes stricter and in addition to abstinence of meat and dairy, we also abstain from fish, wine and olive oil. We may have wine and olive oil on Saturdays and Sundays.

**CHRISTMAS EVE AGAPE MEAL: Rejoice and Be Glad!** Please join us in the Church Hall after the 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy for an agape meal to celebrate the birth of Our Lord. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for set-up, serving & clean-up.** To offer your help, to let us know what you will bring, and/or for general information, contact Courtney Byrum at [quixote2030@gmail.com](mailto:quixote2030@gmail.com)

The meal will be a potluck affair. We ask that each person or family bring food for sharing in a disposable container and deliver it to the kitchen before Divine Liturgy. Please help us by making sure that your food item is in a disposable dish, ready to serve (i.e., already cooked and/or pre-sliced). If that is not possible, then please tape detailed cooking/warming instructions to the item.

**ARABIC SWEET SALES: LAST CHANCE THIS SUNDAY!** Remember, these beautifully packaged Sweets make wonderful gifts for teachers, neighbors, coworkers, family, friends, and business contacts. If you missed placing your order for our delicious Arabic Sweets (or if you find that you need more than ordered), then you are in luck because we still have a nice selection of sweets available for sale. However, Sunday Dec. 16 is the LAST day for Post Sales, so please visit us in the Church Hall (12:00-1:00pm) on Sunday to make your purchases. For more information, contact Lani at 703-200-6416 or [kanakry@cox.net](mailto:kanakry@cox.net).

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN D.C.** The City Singers of the City Choir of Washington will perform FREE concerts of Christmas carols in the lobby of the historic Willard (Intercontinental) Hotel in downtown D. C. This year, the performances will take place on **Saturday, December 22**, with two "repeat concerts" at **5:30 PM and 6:45 PM**. We warmly invite you to attend this wonderful annual event. For more information, contact Lani Kanakry at [kanakry@cox.net](mailto:kanakry@cox.net)

**THE ST. GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN CATECHETICAL SCHOOL** presents: *Lift Up Your Eyes to the Heavens: Seeking the Face of the Lord*. The next session will be:

- Dec. 16 – He Will Make Clay and Transform It: The Mystery of the Incarnation

**DEACON HELPERS** Here is the schedule of deacon helpers for the remainder of the year:

- December 16- Anthony Sauer
- December 23- Julian Poynton
- December 30- John Khoury