

PVIRGIN MARY COMMUNITY

**Mailing address:** PO Box 1679 Temecula, CA 92593

Church Address: 42030 Avenida Alvarado Temecula CA 92590

**Sunday Prayers:** Orthros 10.15 a.m. Liturgy 11:00 a.m.

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Facebook: Virgin Mary Greek Melkite Church

Web Site: <http://virginmarymgcc.com>

Fr. Paul Al Khouri Fallouh, Administrator 909-289-2098

Protodeacon Habib Khasho, Associate.

**VIRGIN MARY COMMUNITY:** is a Melkite-Greek Catholic Community of the Eparchy of Newton headed by His Grace, Bishop Nicholas. Liturgical services are in Arabic and English. The Eparchy (Diocese) is a part of the Patriarchate of Antioch, headed by His Beatitude, Joseph. "...and in Antioch the disciples were for first time called Christians" Acts 11:26). The Melkite-Greek Catholic Church maintains communion with the Roman Catholic Church.

**LITURGY COMMEMORATIONS:** if you would like to commemorate someone at the Divine Liturgy please call the Community Office no later the Thursday at 12 noon. It is not possible to commemorate anyone once the Preparation Service on Sunday has been completed as the commemorative particles have already been cut and placed on the Patina. Thank you for your cooperation.

*you know someone in need of prayers please notify Fr. Paul so that they can added to our prayer list.*

يُرْجى تقديم أسماء الاشخاص المراد ذكرهم في القداس قبل يوم الخميس ظهرًا، لكي يتم إضافتهم إلى نشرة الأحد، أو قبل القداس مباشرة ليتّم ذكرهم أثناء تهيئة القرايين (الذبيحة).

**READ AHEAD:** Epistle Reading for next Sunday, is from St. Paul's letter to الرسالة الأولى الى كورنثوس **1 Cor 6:12-20** Chapter 6 Verses 12 Thru 20; the Gospel Reading is from the Evangelist لوقا **Luke 15: 11-32** Chapter 15, Verses 11 Thru 32.

**REGARDING INFIRM AND HOME BOUND VISITATION:** Please remember that if a member of our Community is in the hospital or confined to home because of illness or advancing age, Father very much wants to and should bring the confined person the Holy Mysteries on a regular basis. It is also recommended that one receive the Anoint of the Sick *before* and major surgery or as needed due to serious illness. Please do not hesitate to let Father Paul know that a parishioner is ill or home bound and would like a visit.

الرجاء، في حالة المرض والوفاة غير ذلك... أن يسارع المؤمنون إلى إبلاغ الأب بولس للمساهمة في إنجاز الخدمة الروحية والإنسانية والاجتماعية في الكنيسة.

**Mail & E-MAILS RETURNED:** Many Mail & e-mails are being returned to us. If you didn't receive any e-mails, please send to us the correct address

يرجى إعلامنا في حالة تغيير الإيميل أو العنوان .... لتصحيح البيانات الخاصة بكم.

Christ is in our midst! He is and always will be!

**Virgin Mary Eastern Catholic Community**

إرساليّة العذراء مريم للكاثوليك الشرقيين

**Serving Temecula Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021**



The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" (Matt. 23:5), and were hypocrites (ibid. 23: 13, 14, 15, etc.), because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what

the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy lucre's sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness.

Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of

boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights.

All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday.

في هذا الأحد العاشر قبل الفصح المجيد نصنع تذكار مثل الفريسي والعشار الوارد في الإنجيل الشريف (لوقا 18: 10-14).

إن هذا التذكار والتذكارات الخاصة بالأحاد المقبلة السابقة لبدء الصوم الأربعيني الكبير، تعتبر بمثابة مدخل إلى هذا الزمن المقدس واستعداد لجهادات الصيام.

أحد الفريسي والعشار هو أحد الإنذار المبكر. وكما ان المقدمين على حرب يبدؤون بتمرينات ومناورات ويعدون العدة ويضعون الخرائط والتصاميم... ويرشدتهم قوادهم ويضعون بين ايديهم ما يحثهم على الجهاد والجرأة والإقدام، هكذا أراد أباؤنا في الإيمان ان يعدونا لجهاد الصوم. فوضعوا أمامنا مثل الفريسي والعشار.

ان أولى درجات الفضيلة هي التواضع ترافقه الندامة. واكبر عائق للكمال هو الكبرياء والعجب الباطل والتشامخ. والعشار مثال الأول والفريسي يجسد الثاني.

هكذا تدعونا الكنيسة إلى ان نهرب من صلف الفريسي ونتعلم تواضع العشار من زفراته. لأن "الرب يقاوم المتكبرين ويعطي المتواضعين نعمة". (أمثال 3: 34) فالعشار وهو جابي الضرائب أو الأعشار، ويعتبر خاطئاً لأنه يقوم بمهمته بظلم وجشع وقسوة، "قد عاد إلى بيته مبرراً" حسب حكم السيد المسيح، لأنه تواضع مقرأً بخطيئته: "اللهم اغفر لي أنا الخاطئ". اما الفريسي العارف بالناموس والحافظ لشريعة الله وسنن الآباء بكل دقة واحتراس حتى الوسواس، فقد سقط. لأنه تعاضم امام الله قائلاً: "انني لست كسائر الناس الخطفة الظالمين الفاسقين ولا مثل هذا العشار". وحكم المسيح عليه قائلاً: "ان كل من رفع نفسه وضع وكل من وضع نفسه رفع".

وقد تشبهت الكنيسة بصوت العشار داعية إيانا لكي نكرر مراراً في صلواتنا دعاء العشار المتواضع النادم: " اللهم اغفر لي انا الخاطئ وارحمي".

فبصلوات آبائنا القديسين، اللابسي الله، أيها الرب يسوع المسيح إلهنا ارحمنا. وخلصنا.  
أمين

**VIRGIN MARY Mission, The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom** is celebrated for **the departed servant of God: ...**, also for the **health and salvation** of, Dea. Habib & Nahida Kasho, Nely Jarrous, Frank Martha, Laila Perko, Nikol Fahkouri ; Also for peace in Iraq, Syria, and Ukraine; for the release of the captive Archbishops Boulos and Yohanna, and for an increase in the number of workers in the Lord's Vineyard.

REMINDER: Attending the Divine Liturgy is never optional. Our O LORD GOD, BLESS THE SACRIFICIAL WORSHIP & STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR FAITHFUL SERVANTS

**Sunday of Jan. 17, 2021 Attendance 9**

Separate Donation 400 + 50

Sunday Collection 176

Total Tithes and sacrificial Offerings and others "Deposit" \$ 726

**Thank you for your ongoing generous donations Tithe:**  
Represents 10% of our gross income returned to God.  
Sacrificial giving represents a gift that is a true sacrifice for us to give.

Every Friday

at 7:00 pm we have Zoom meeting for the Gospel interpretation & Feast of the Saints & ... with Fr. James Bobcok & Fr. Paul Fallouh.

