

**BELIEVERS EASTERN CHURCH
ORTHODOX**

LECTIONARY

Scripture Readings for Sundays
and other Special Days 2021–2022

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and other Special Days 2021–2022

Approved by the Synod Liturgical Commission
Authorised by the Metropolitan.

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PREFACE

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, One True God. Amen.✠

A foundational principle of the Believers Eastern Church is the priority we give to the reading, studying and teaching of God's Word. This is not only because it is a pattern given to us to follow by the Apostles and Church Fathers, but also because God's Word is powerful and is the means to change and transform our lives.

The Word of God has the power to change lives inside out. "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

The Holy Bible provides us divine principles to live by, and it gives us hope and faith. "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). It is important that we read and study the Word and teach it regularly in our parishes.

Designed to achieve that end, the lectionary is a compilation of Scripture portions arranged for our Sunday worship and other special days of the year. It thus becomes a guide for us to systematically read and study God's Word.

My prayer is that this lectionary will help all of our parishes to become healthy, strong and vibrant in our knowledge and walk with God.

Blessings of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you. Amen.✠

✠ Moran Mor Athanasius Yohan I
Metropolitan

St. Thomas Community
31 October 2021

Sanctification of the Church (<i>Koodhosh Eetho</i>)—1st Sunday	
<p>31 October 2021</p> <p>First Reading : Isaiah 6:1–8</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 43</p> <p>Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 3:16,17; 6:15–20</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 16:13–23</p>	<p>Theme: Sanctify yourselves</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Realizing our unworthiness (Isa.) 2. God’s truth and light will lead us (Ps.) 3. Live as God’s holy temples (1 Cor.) 4. Be mindful of the things of God (Matt.)
Dedication of the Church (<i>Hoodosh Eetho</i>)—2nd Sunday	
<p>7 November 2021</p> <p>First Reading : 1 Kings 8:22–40</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 78:1–7</p> <p>Second Reading : Hebrews 9:1–14</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. John 10:22–38</p>	<p>Theme: Renew your dedication to follow Christ</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God will hear our prayers for mercy (1 Kin.) 2. Pass on faith to the next generation (Ps.) 3. Cleansed to serve God anew (Heb.) 4. Hear God’s voice and follow Him (John)
Annunciation to Zachariah (<i>Suboreh Dazkharyo</i>)—3rd Sunday	
<p>14 November 2021</p> <p>Parents’ Sunday—<i>Special Offering</i></p> <p>First Reading : Genesis 17:15–22</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 123</p> <p>Second Reading : 2 Peter 1:1–15</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Luke 1:5–25</p>	<p>Theme: Trust in God’s promises</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God always keeps His covenant (Gen.) 2. Keep looking upward for mercy (Ps.) 3. Keep growing in faith and godliness (2 Pet.) 4. Keep believing in God’s promises (Luke)
FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS—4th Sunday	
<p>21 November 2021</p> <p>First Reading : Genesis 28:10–22</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 40:5–10</p> <p>Second Reading : Hebrews 2:14–18</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Luke 1:26–38</p>	<p>Theme: The unveiling of the mystery of salvation</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Heaven coming down to earth (Gen.) 2. Our purpose is to fulfill God’s will (Ps.) 3. Why God became man (Heb.) 4. God’s salvation plan announced (Luke)

St. Mary's Visit to Elizabeth (*Mezalto*)—5th Sunday**28 November 2021****Women's Sunday**—*Special Offering*

First Reading : Proverbs 31:10–31
 Psalm Reading : Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19
 Second Reading : 1 Peter 3:1–7
 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 1:39–56

Theme: Blessed to be a blessing**Outline:**

1. The wise women (Prov.)
2. God is the restorer of His people (Ps.)
3. Christian families must be united in love (1 Pet.)
4. Blessed are those who believe in God's promises (Luke)

Birth of St. John the Baptist (*Mawlodeb-d-yubanon Mamdono*)—6th Sunday**5 December 2021****Children's Sunday**—*Special Offering*

First Reading : 1 Samuel 1:20–28
 Psalm Reading : Psalm 127:1–5
 Second Reading : Ephesians 6:1–4
 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 1:57–80

Theme: Children are a gift from the Lord**Outline:**

1. Dedicate your children to the Lord (1 Sam.)
2. None of our endeavors will succeed without God (Ps.)
3. Obedience brings blessings (Eph.)
4. Called to bring people to the knowledge of God (Luke)

Annunciation to St. Joseph—7th Sunday**12 December 2021**

First Reading : Isaiah 45:18–25
 Psalm Reading : Psalm 126
 Second Reading : 1 Peter 2:11–17
 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 1:18–25

Theme: Seeing God's plan**Outline:**

1. Only God can save (Isa.)
2. The Lord does great things for His people (Ps.)
3. Live an honourable life (1 Pet.)
4. Our obedience and God's plans fulfilled (Matt.)

8th Sunday**19 December 2021**

Sunday before Christmas

First Reading : Isaiah 11:1–9
 Psalm Reading : Psalm 89:1–4, 19–26
 Second Reading : Acts 3:16–26
 Gospel Reading : St. John 1:1–14

Theme: God fulfills His promise of salvation**Outline:**

1. The promise of the Saviour (Isa.)
2. The Lord will exalt His servant (Ps.)
3. God raises the promised prophet (Acts)
4. The Word became Flesh and dwelt among us (John)

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST—CHRISTMAS (<i>Yeldo</i>)	
25 December 2021, Saturday	
First Reading : Isaiah 9:1–7 Psalm Reading : Psalm 96 Second Reading : Hebrews 1:1–12 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 2:1–12	
9th Sunday	
26 December 2021 First Sunday after Christmas First Reading : Genesis 37:12–28 Psalm Reading : Psalm 148 Second Reading : I Corinthians 10:1–13 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 2:9–15, 19–23	Theme: Our Obedience is pleasing to God Outline: 1. God is present even in adversity (Gen.) 2. A song of praise to the Creator (Ps.) 3. Listen to the warnings (I Cor.) 4. Follow as God leads (Matt.)
10th Sunday	
2 January 2022 Second Sunday after Christmas First Reading : 1 Samuel 2:18–21 Psalm Reading : Psalm 73:21–28 Second Reading : 1 John 3: 21–24 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 2:40–52	Theme: Growing spiritually Outline: 1. Grow in the Lord (I Sam.) 2. Desire Him alone (Ps.) 3. Abide in Him by keeping His commands (1 Jn.) 4. Grow in favor with God and man (Luke)
FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD (<i>Denho</i>)	
6 January 2022, Thursday	
First Reading : Isaiah 12:1–6 Psalm Reading : Psalm 29 Second Reading : Hebrews 10:15–25 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 3:1–17	

11th Sunday	
<p>9 January 2022 First Sunday after Theophany</p> <p>First Reading : Isaiah 49:7–13 Psalm Reading : Psalm 91 Second Reading : Ephesians 1:3–14 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 4:1–22</p>	<p>Theme: God's promise of restoration—body, soul and spirit</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restoration of God's people (Isa.) 2. God protects His people (Ps.) 3. Blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ (Eph.) 4. The proclamation of the Gospel (Matt.)
12th Sunday	
<p>16 January 2022 Second Sunday after Theophany</p> <p>First Reading : Isaiah 51:1–8 Psalm Reading : Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18 Second Reading : Hebrews 1:1-2; 2:1–4 Gospel Reading : St. John 1:43–51</p>	<p>Theme: Listening and responding to God's call</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God's everlasting salvation for His people (Isa.) 2. God who knows all about me (Ps.) 3. Warning, not to drift away from what we have heard (Heb.) 4. He knows us before He called us (John)
13th Sunday	
<p>23 January 2022 Third Sunday after Theophany</p> <p>First Reading : Jeremiah 31:1–12 Psalm Reading : Psalm 62:5–12 Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 3:16–4:5 Gospel Reading : St. John 3:1–12</p>	<p>Theme: The promise of new birth</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God's unfailing kindness and everlasting love (Jere.) 2. Hope comes from God alone (Ps.) 3. You are the temple of God (1 Cor.) 4. Being born again (John)
14th Sunday	
<p>30 January 2022 Fourth Sunday after Theophany</p> <p>First Reading : Genesis 2: 4–17 Psalm Reading : Psalm 90 Second Reading : James 5:1–14 Gospel Reading : St Mark 6:1–6</p>	<p>Theme: Called to work hard</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Man appointed to work and take care of the Garden (Gen.) 2. May God establish the work of your hands (Ps.) 3. Be patient and hardworking like the farmer (James) 4. Keep working even in midst of rejection (Mark)

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST (<i>Mayaltho</i>)	
2 February 2022, Wednesday	
First Reading : Isaiah 11:1–10	
Second Reading : Hebrews 7:7–17	
Third Reading : Ephesians 3:13–21	
Gospel Reading : St. Luke 2:22–40	
15th Sunday	
6 February 2022 Fifth Sunday after Theophany First Reading : Isaiah 41:8–20 Psalm Reading : Psalm 29:1–11 Second Reading : Acts 9:10–21 Gospel Reading : St Mark 1:1–20	Theme: We are chosen by God Outline: 1. God will stand by His chosen ones (Isa.) 2. Heed the voice of God (Ps.) 3. God chooses whom He wills (Acts) 4. Called to be fishers of men (Mark)
All Departed Priests (<i>Kohne Sunday</i>)—16th Sunday	
13 February 2022 Sixth Sunday after Theophany Clergy Sunday—<i>Special offering</i> First Reading : Isaiah 65:13–20 Psalm Reading : Psalm 111 Second Reading : 1 Thessalonians 4:13–5:11 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 24:42–51	Theme: We look for the life of the world to come (Nicene Creed) Outline: 1. Promise of new Heaven and Earth (Isa.) 2. Give thanks for His great works (Ps.) 3. The coming of the Lord (1 Thess.) 4. Be ready for Jesus' return (Matt.)
All the Departed Faithful (<i>Ancedé Sunday</i>)—17th Sunday	
20 February 2022 Seventh Sunday after Theophany First Reading : Isaiah 38:10–20 Psalm Reading : Psalm 150 Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 15:20–28 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 25:31–46	Theme: He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead (Nicene Creed) Outline: 1. Death is not final (Isa.) 2. Praise God with our lives (Ps.) 3. The last enemy (death) will also be destroyed (1 Cor.) 4. The final judgement awaits all (Matt.)

18th Sunday	
<p>27 February 2022</p> <p>First Sunday of the the Great Lent</p> <p>First Reading : Isaiah 58:5–14</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 50:1–6</p> <p>Second Reading : Colossians 3:1–17</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. John 2:1–11</p>	<p>Theme: The blessings of seeking the Lord</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The kind of fast God delights in (Isa.) 2. Seeking the Lord in the right way (Ps.) 3. Set your hearts and minds on things above (Col.) 4. Do whatever He tells you (John)
19th Sunday	
<p>6 March 2022</p> <p>Second Sunday of the Great Lent</p> <p>First Reading : 2 Kings 5:1–14</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 51:1–17</p> <p>Second Reading : Romans 3:27–4:5</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Luke 4:40–41, 5:12–16</p>	<p>Theme: The way to healing and restoration</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Healing comes through obedience (2 Kin.) 2. Brokenness and confession heals the soul and body (Ps.) 3. He who puts his faith in God will be saved (Rom.) 4. God is always willing to heal us (Luke)
20th Sunday	
<p>13 March 2022</p> <p>Third Sunday of the Great Lent</p> <p>First Reading : 2 Kings 2:1–11</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 22:23–31</p> <p>Second Reading : Romans 5:1–11</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Mark 2:1–12</p>	<p>Theme: Holistic healing</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God the source of our power (2 Kin.) 2. God does not disregard our suffering (Ps.) 3. Reconciled to God through Jesus (Rom.) 4. Forgiveness is necessary for healing (Mark)
21st Sunday	
<p>20 March 2022</p> <p>Fourth Sunday of the Great Lent</p> <p>First Reading : Isaiah 56:1–7</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 19</p> <p>Second Reading : Romans 7:14–25</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 15:21–28</p>	<p>Theme: Salvation excludes no one</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God's salvation is for all (Isa.) 2. The Law of the Lord is precious (Ps.) 3. Our struggle with sin (Rom.) 4. Faith that pleased Jesus (Matt.)

FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION TO THE THEOTOKOS (<i>Suboro</i>)	
25 March 2022, Friday	
First Reading	: Isaiah 63:14–64:5
Second Reading	: Hebrews 2:11–18
Third Reading	: 1 John 3:2–17
Gospel Reading	: St. Luke 1:24–38
22nd Sunday	
27 March 2022 Fifth Sunday of the Great Lent	Theme: Forsake pride and pursue humility Outline:
First Reading	: Isaiah 50:1–5
Psalm Reading	: Psalm 107:1–3, 17–22
Second Reading	: 1 Peter 3:8–16
Gospel Reading	: St. Luke 13:10–17
	1. The servant of the Lord is not rebellious (Isa.)
	2. The dangers of rebellion (Ps.)
	3. Be compassionate and humble (1 Pet.)
	4. Pride hinders deliverance (Luke)
23rd Sunday	
3 April 2022 Sixth Sunday of the Great Lent	Theme: Called to be the light of the world Outline:
First Reading	: Deuteronomy 25:13–16; 26:1–13
Psalm Reading	: Psalm 119:9–16
Second Reading	: Ephesians 5:1–14
Gospel Reading	: St. John 9:1–41
	1. God’s expectations of His children (Deut.)
	2. God’s Word can keep us pure (Ps.)
	3. Walk as the children of light (Eph.)
	4. Led from darkness into light (John)
FEAST OF THE PALM SUNDAY—24th Sunday	
10 April 2022 Hosanna/Palm Sunday	Theme: Our King and His glorious Kingdom Outline:
First Reading	: Micah 4:1–5
Psalm Reading	: Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29
Second Reading	: Romans 8:18–25
Gospel Reading	: St. John 12:12–19
	1. A glimpse of our glorious future (Mic.)
	2. Give thanks and rejoice in the Lord’s coming (Ps.)
	3. Our present sufferings are nothing compared to the future glory (Rom.)
	4. The servant King (John)

THE FEAST OF FEASTS: EASTER—25th Sunday	
<p>17 April 2022 Easter Sunday (<i>Kymtho</i>) First Reading : Acts 2:22–43 Psalm Reading : Psalm 16 Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 15:1–19 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 28:1–20</p>	<p>Theme: The hope of resurrection Outline: 1. Witnesses of the resurrection (Acts) 2. God will not abandon His chosen One (Ps.) 3. Our hope is in the risen Lord (1 Cor.) 4. He is risen! (Matt.)</p>
26th Sunday	
<p>24 April 2022 New Sunday after Easter Youth Sunday—<i>Special offering</i> First Reading : Isaiah 40:9–15 Psalm Reading : Psalm 133 Second Reading : 2 Timothy 2:1–13 Gospel Reading : St. John 20:19–31</p>	<p>Theme: Following and testifying about the Risen Saviour Outline: 1. Share the Good News (Isa.) 2. Called to live in unity (Ps.) 3. Be a good soldier of Christ Jesus (2 Tim.) 4. The profession of faith (John)</p>
27th Sunday	
<p>1 May 2022 First Sunday after New Sunday First Reading : Joshua 6:9–21 Psalm Reading : Psalm 4 Second Reading : Ephesians 6:10–24 Gospel Reading : St. John 21:1–14</p>	<p>Theme: The blessing of following God's instructions Outline: 1. Obedience brings victory (Josh.) 2. Safety and rest assured (Ps.) 3. Victory over the devil's schemes (Eph.) 4. The impossible can happen when we follow His instructions (John)</p>
28th Sunday	
<p>8 May 2022 Second Sunday after New Sunday First Reading : Acts 4:8–21 Psalm Reading : Psalm 100 Second Reading : Hebrews 3:1–13 Gospel Reading : St. John 21:15–22</p>	<p>Theme: Called with a higher calling Outline: 1. Bold witnesses to Christ (Acts) 2. We are the sheep of His pasture (Ps.) 3. Christ our High Priest (Heb.) 4. Don't look at others, follow Christ (John)</p>

29th Sunday	
<p>15 May 2022</p> <p>Third Sunday after New Sunday</p> <p>First Reading : Exodus 34:4–12</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 22:25–31</p> <p>Second Reading : 1 John 5:13–21</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Luke 24:13–35</p>	<p>Theme: Draw near to God</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God's nature is revealed in His Name (Exod.) 2. Praise the Lord from one generation to the next (Ps.) 3. Pray according to His will (1 Jn.) 4. More of God is revealed when we walk with Him (Luke)
30th Sunday	
<p>22 May 2022</p> <p>Fourth Sunday after New Sunday</p> <p>First Reading : Isaiah 54:1–8</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 98</p> <p>Second Reading : 1 Peter 3:17–22</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Luke 9:51–62</p>	<p>Theme: Proclaim the Kingdom of God</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Called to expand the Kingdom (Isa.) 2. Sing praises to the King, the Lord (Ps.) 3. Suffering is part of proclaiming His Kingdom (1 Pet.) 4. The cost of following Christ (Luke)
FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD	
<p>26 May 2022, Thursday</p> <p>First Reading : Acts 1:1–11</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 47</p> <p>Second Reading : Ephesians 1:15–23</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Luke 24:44–53</p>	
31st Sunday	
<p>29 May 2022</p> <p>Sunday before Pentecost</p> <p>First Reading : Joshua 1:5–9</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 1</p> <p>Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 7:1–2, 25–34, 9:1–10</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. John 17:13–26</p>	<p>Theme: Live in the light of eternity</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be careful to obey the Law of God (Josh.) 2. The way of the blessed man (Ps.) 3. Be not tied down by worldly cares (1 Cor.) 4. We are not of this world (John)

FEAST OF THE PENTECOST—32nd Sunday

5 June 2022

Pentecost (Fiftieth day after Easter)

First Reading : Acts 2:1–21

Psalm Reading : Psalm 104:24–34, 35b

Second Reading : Galatians 5:16–26

Gospel Reading : St. John 16:1–15

Theme: The Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life (Nicene Creed)

Outline:

1. The Holy Spirit births the Church (Acts)
2. God's Spirit in creation (Ps.)
3. The fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal.)
4. The work of the Holy Spirit (John)

33rd Sunday

12 June 2022

First Sunday after the Pentecost

Feast of All Saints

First Reading : Jeremiah 29:10–16

Second Reading : Acts 17:10–15

Third Reading : 2 Corinthians 5:14–6:10

Gospel Reading : St. John 6:26–35

Theme: Whose Kingdom shall have no end (Nicene Creed)

Outline:

1. Seek the Lord with all your heart (Jer.)
2. Study the scriptures diligently (Acts)
3. In all things, approve yourselves as the ministers of God (2 Cor.)
4. Work for that which endures eternally (John)

34th Sunday

19 June 2022

Second Sunday after the Pentecost

First Reading : Daniel 6:25–28

Second Reading : Acts 4:23–31

Third Reading : Ephesians 2:11–22

Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 10:5–16

Theme: Witness in word and deed

Outline:

1. Witness of the true living God (Dan.)
2. The Holy Spirit grants boldness to witness (Acts)
3. The Gospel reconciles all people to God (Eph.)
4. Commissioned to preach the Gospel (Matt.)

35th Sunday

26 June 2022

Third Sunday after the Pentecost

Missions Sunday—*Special offering*

First Reading : Jeremiah 3:1–5

Second Reading : Acts 13:26–39

Third Reading : Galatians 6:10–18

Gospel Reading : St. John 6:35–46

Theme: The promise of eternal life

Outline:

1. Return to God to be renewed (Jere.)
2. Good News – God has raised Jesus from the dead (Acts)
3. Glory only in the Cross of Christ (Gal.)
4. Eternal life by partaking in Christ (John)

St. Thomas Day—36th Sunday	
<p>3 July 2022 Fourth Sunday after the Pentecost First Reading : Isaiah 65:8–12 Second Reading : Acts 6:1–7 Third Reading : 1 Corinthians 16:14–22 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 10:1–16</p>	<p>Theme: A wholesome mission of the church Outline: 1. God preserves His faithful (Isa.) 2. Elders chosen to meet physical needs of church members (Acts) 3. The blessing of ministering to the saints (1 Cor.) 4. Stay focused in mission (Luke)</p>
37th Sunday	
<p>10 July 2022 Fifth Sunday after the Pentecost First Reading : Isaiah 40:27–31 Second Reading : Acts 9:10–18 Third Reading : 2 Corinthians 5:14–20 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 9:10–17</p>	<p>Theme: God’s power in our inadequacy Outline: 1. Renewing your strength (Isa.) 2. Follow as God leads (Acts) 3. We are Christ’s ambassadors (2 Cor.) 4. Surrender our inadequacies to God (Luke)</p>
38th Sunday	
<p>17 July 2022 Sixth Sunday after the Pentecost Seminary Sunday—<i>Special offering</i> First Reading : Isaiah 14:22–27 Second Reading : Acts 1:15–20 Third Reading : 1 Corinthians 8:1–6 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 15:32–39</p>	<p>Theme: Trust in the Lord Outline: 1. Trust in God’s plan (Isa.) 2. Trust God’s selection (Acts) 3. Trust not our knowledge (1 Cor.) 4. Trust God with all that you have (Matt.)</p>
39th Sunday	
<p>24 July 2022 Seventh Sunday after the Pentecost First Reading : Isaiah 57:15–19 Second Reading : Acts 4:32–37 Third Reading : Ephesians 2:11–22 Gospel Reading : St. Mark 3:20–30</p>	<p>Theme: The family of God Outline: 1. God’s peace and comfort to those who are His (Isa.) 2. A community of testimony (Acts) 3. A new and united community (Eph.) 4. Relations and friends alone do not make a community (Mark)</p>

40th Sunday	
<p>31 July 2022 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>First Reading : Isaiah 52:1–6 Psalm Reading : Psalm 23 Second Reading : 1 Peter 2:4–10 Gospel Reading : St. John 6:47–59</p>	<p>Theme: The chosen people</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know that God is our Redeemer (Isa.) 2. Know that God is our Shepherd (Ps.) 3. Know that you are chosen by God (1 Pet.) 4. We are chosen for life eternal (John)
FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD	
6 August 2022, Saturday	
<p>First Reading : Deuteronomy 16:13–17 Psalm Reading : Psalm 24 Second Reading : 1 John 2:23–3:1 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 9:27–36</p>	
41st Sunday	
<p>7 August 2022 First Sunday after Transfiguration</p> <p>First Reading : Deuteronomy 25:13–16 Psalm Reading : Psalm 27 Second Reading : James 4:7–5:6 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 21:28–32</p>	<p>Theme: Shun evil and follow after good</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God hates dishonesty (Deut.) 2. Live in the light of God (Ps.) 3. Not doing good is sin (James) 4. Repent and do the will of God (Matt.)
42nd Sunday	
<p>14 August 2022 Second Sunday after Transfiguration</p> <p>First Reading : Exodus 23:20–27 Psalm Reading : Psalm 29 Second Reading : 1 Peter 5:1–11 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 12:13–21, 35–44</p>	<p>Theme: Be watchful</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Heed carefully to God's ways (Ex.) 2. Heed God's voice (Ps.) 3. Be alert and resist evil (1 Pet.) 4. Be watchful for the Lord's coming (Luke)

FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS (<i>Shoonoyo</i>)	
15 August 2022, Monday	
First Reading : Exodus 3:1–6; 19:16–23 Second Reading : Ezekiel 44:1–3 Third Reading : Hebrews 9:3–12; 2:14–18 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 11:22–28	
43rd Sunday	
21 August 2022 First Sunday after the Dormition First Reading : 1 Samuel 8:4–9 Psalm Reading : Psalm 34:15–22 Second Reading : Ephesians 6:10–17 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 6:39–45	Theme: The way of the righteous Outline: 1. Always seek the will of God (1 Sam.) 2. The Lord will save the righteous (Ps.) 3. Put on the full armor of God (Eph.) 4. Bear good fruit (Luke)
44th Sunday	
28 August 2022 Second Sunday after the Dormition First Reading : Genesis 6:3–12 Psalm Reading : Psalm 12:1–7 Second Reading : 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 11:9–20	Theme: Walk uprightly before the Lord Outline: 1. God is grieved at human sinfulness (Gen.) 2. God preserves the godly (Ps.) 3. Watch soberly and motivate one another (1 Thess.) 4. Keep asking, seeking and knocking (Luke)
45th Sunday	
4 September 2022 Third Sunday after the Dormition First Reading : Ezekiel 18:21–24 Psalm Reading : Psalm 146 Second Reading : 2 Corinthians 10:1–7 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 17:22–27	Theme: Walk with integrity Outline: 1. God will reward us according to our works (Ezek.) 2. Trust in God alone (Ps.) 3. Make every thought captive to Christ (2 Cor.) 4. Be faithful in all things (Matt.)

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

8 September 2022, Thursday

First Reading : Genesis 28:10–17
 Second Reading : Ezekiel 43:27–44:4
 Third Reading : Philippians 2:5–11
 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 1:39–49, 56; 11:27–28

46th Sunday

11 September 2022

Fourth Sunday after the Dormition

First Reading : Isaiah 1:15–20
 Psalm Reading : Psalm 116:1–9
 Second Reading : 1 Peter 2:1–5
 Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 5:38–48

Theme: Responding to God's patient mercy

Outline:

1. God is willing to cleanse us from sin (Isa.)
2. Love the Lord for His deliverance (Ps.)
3. Lay aside all evil and desire God's Word (1 Pet.)
4. Love and forgive one another (Matt.)

FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS

14 September 2022, Wednesday

First Reading : Numbers 21:4–9
 Psalm Reading : Psalm 98:1–5
 Second Reading : Galatians 2:17–3:14
 Gospel Reading : St. Luke 21:5–28

47th Sunday

18 September 2022

First Sunday after Feast of the Holy Cross

First Reading : Isaiah 1:10–20
 Psalm Reading : Psalm 34
 Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 2:10–16
 Gospel Reading : St. Mark 13:28–37

Theme: Being a people of prayer and worship

Outline:

1. Offer worship that pleases God (Isa.)
2. Always seek the Lord and His favor (Ps.)
3. Walk in the Spirit (1 Cor.)
4. Watch and be ready (Mark)

48th Sunday	
<p>25 September 2022</p> <p>Second Sunday after Feast of the Holy Cross</p> <p>First Reading : 1 Kings 3:5-9</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 19:7-14</p> <p>Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 2:14-3:9</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 16:5-12</p>	<p>Theme: Understand the ways of God</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The need of discernment (1 Kin.) 2. God's Word alone can transform us (Ps.) 3. Have the mind of Christ (1 Cor.) 4. Guard against the influence of false teachers (Matt.)
49th Sunday	
<p>2 October 2022</p> <p>Third Sunday after Feast of the Holy Cross</p> <p>SOC Sunday—<i>Special offering</i></p> <p>First Reading : Proverbs 1:2-9</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 8</p> <p>Second Reading : Romans 8:1-11</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Mark 2:23-28</p>	<p>Theme: God longs only to bless us</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fearing God is beginning of blessings (Pro.) 2. Our value in God's eyes (Ps.) 3. Freedom from law of sin and death (Rom.) 4. God's laws are for our benefit (Mark)
50th Sunday	
<p>9 October 2022</p> <p>Fourth Sunday after Feast of the Holy Cross</p> <p>First Reading : 1 Kings 8:22-30</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 42</p> <p>Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 1:21-29</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Luke 16:9-18</p>	<p>Theme: God is looking for faithful servants</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Always approach the Lord in humility (1 Kin.) 2. Hope and wait earnestly for the Lord (Ps.) 3. Glory only in what God has done (1 Cor.) 4. Be faithful and trustworthy (Luke)
51st Sunday	
<p>16 October 2022</p> <p>Fifth Sunday after Feast of the Holy Cross</p> <p>First Reading : Leviticus 2:1-3</p> <p>Psalm Reading : Psalm 46</p> <p>Second Reading : 1 Timothy 6:13-21</p> <p>Gospel Reading : St. Matthew 23:1-12</p>	<p>Theme: Serve God with all sincerity</p> <p>Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Worship is not to be done as we wish (Lev.) 2. God is the refuge and strength of His people (Ps.) 3. Preserve the holy commandments and traditions (1 Tim.) 4. Practice what you preach (Matt.)

52nd Sunday**23 October 2022**

Sixth Sunday after Feast of the Holy Cross

First Reading : Isaiah 43:16–25

Psalm Reading : Psalm 84

Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 5:6–13

Gospel Reading : St. Luke 18:18–27

Theme: Our reason for hope**Outline:**

1. God forgives and restores us anew (Isa.)
2. Being in God's presence is bliss (Ps.)
3. Keep away from immorality (1 Cor.)
4. The path to eternal life (Luke)

CHURCH CALENDAR OF BEC -2021-2022

Date/Day	Feasts	Description
31 October, Sunday	Sanctification of the Church <i>(Koodbosb Eetho)</i>	Beginning of liturgical calendar year. Sanctification of Church.
7 November, Sunday	Dedication of the Church <i>(Hoodosb Eetho)</i>	Dedication of Church Sunday/Renewal of the Church.
14 November, Sunday	Annunciation to Zachariah <i>(Suboreb Daꝛkhabryo)</i>	This Sunday is commemorated as the day when John the Baptist's birth was announced to Zechariah by Angel Gabriel.
21 November, Sunday	FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS	The Feast commemorates the Virgin Mary entering the Temple in Jerusalem as a young child.
28 November, Sunday	St. Mary's Visit to Elizabeth <i>(Meꝛꝗalto)</i>	Day commemorating the visit of St. Mary to Elizabeth.
1 December, Wednesday	Fast of the Nativity (25 days fast)	Period of abstinence and penance in preparation for the nativity of Jesus.
5 December, Sunday	Birth of John the Baptist <i>(Mamlodeb-d-yubanon Mamdono)</i>	Day celebrating the birth of John the Baptist.
12 December, Sunday	Annunciation to St. Joseph	Announcement by the Angel Gabriel about the birth of Jesus through St. Mary.
21 December, Tuesday	Dukhrono of St. Thomas the Apostle	Day to commemorate the martyrdom of St. Thomas.
25 December, Saturday	FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST <i>(Yeldo)</i>	Nativity of our Lord/ Incarnation of the Lord.

Date/Day	Feasts	Description
26 December, Sunday	Feast of Glorification of the Theotokos	Day on which the faithful gather to give glory and thanksgiving to the Most-Holy Theotokos, who gave birth to our God and Savior Jesus Christ.
27 December, Monday	Martyrdom of the Infants	This feast commemorates the massacre of the children of Bethlehem by King Herod as he was attempting to kill the infant Jesus. These children have been regarded as the first martyrs of the early church.
1 January, Saturday	Feast of the Circumcision of our Lord	To celebrate, the circumcision of our Lord and His receiving the name Jesus, according to Jewish tradition.
6 January, Thursday	FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD (<i>Denbo</i>)	This feast commemorates the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan by St. John the Baptist.
7 January, Friday	St. John the Baptist's Day	Feast commemorating the beheading of St. John the Baptist.
8 January, Saturday	St. Stephan's Day	Feast commemorating the martyrdom of St. Stephen, the head of the Deacons and the first among martyrs.
18 January, Tuesday	Feast of St. Athanasius the Great, the Patriarch of Alexandria	This is the feast day of St. Athanasius the Great, the Patriarch of Alexandria in the 4th century, who is considered a Doctor of the Church and called as 'the father of orthodoxy'.
2 February, Wednesday	FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST (<i>Mayaltho</i>)	Celebrating the day when infant Jesus was presented in the temple.
7 February, Monday	Nineveh Lent/Three-day Lent	This fast is practiced following the example of the people of Nineveh of old times who listened to the warning of God through Prophet Jonah and proclaimed a fast for all, seeking God's mercy.

Date/Day	Feasts	Description
13 February, Sunday	All Departed Priests <i>(Kohne Sunday)</i>	Day to remember the faithful departed priests of their true faith and service in the Holy Church.
20 February, Sunday	All the Departed Faithful <i>(Aneedé Sunday)</i>	Day to commemorate all the departed faithful.
27 February, Sunday	First Sunday of the Great Lent (Pethurtha of the Great Lent) <i>(Kothine Sunday)</i>	Great Lent starts by commemorating the first miracle performed by Jesus at Cana. Pethurtha- returning, ceasing.
28 February, Monday	First Monday of the Great Lent	The service of reconciliation is done on the First Monday of the Great Lent to help prepare the faithful to enter into the season of Great Lent.
6 March, Sunday	Second Sunday of the Great Lent <i>(Garbo Sunday)</i>	Day to commemorate the miracle of the Healing of the Leper.
13 March, Sunday	Third Sunday of the Great Lent <i>(M'haryo Sunday)</i>	Day to commemorate the Healing of the Paralytic.
20 March, Sunday	Fourth Sunday of the Great Lent <i>(kena'naito Sunday)</i>	Day to commemorate the Healing of the Canaanite's Daughter.
23 March, Wednesday	Mid Lent	25 th day of the Great Lent
25 March, Friday	FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION TO THE THEOTOKOS <i>(Subora)</i>	The feast commemorates the announcement about the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ by the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary.
27 March, Sunday	Fifth Sunday of the Great Lent <i>(kpiptbo Sunday)</i>	Day to commemorate the Healing of the Hunched-back Woman.

Date/Day	Feasts	Description
3 April, Sunday	Sixth Sunday of the Great Lent (<i>Samyo Sunday</i>)	Day to commemorate the Healing of the Blind man.
9 April, Saturday	Lazarus Saturday	This is the Saturday before Palm Sunday, and the beginning of the Holy Week, where the Church celebrates the raising of Lazarus from the dead, which is a prelude to the resurrection of Christ.
10 April, Sunday	FEAST OF THE PALM SUNDAY	The feast commemorates the triumphal entry of our Lord into Jerusalem.
14 April, Thursday	Holy Thursday	This is the Thursday of the Holy Week, where the Church commemorates the Mystery Supper of Christ, wherein He established the Sacrament of the Divine Eucharist to be observed forever in His remembrance.
15 April, Friday	Good Friday (<i>Hasho</i>)	Day to commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.
16 April, Saturday	Holy Saturday	This is the last day of the Holy Week and the end of the Lent season. The Church remembers this as the day when, as the mortal body of Christ lay in the tomb, His soul descended into Hades to plunder it and preach the Good News to its inhabitants.
17 April, Sunday	FEAST OF THE FEASTS Easter Sunday (<i>Kymtha</i>)	Easter: Celebration of the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Date/Day	Feasts	Description
24 April, Sunday	New Sunday	The first Sunday after Easter, when the Church commemorates the appearance of Christ to St. Thomas and the other disciples, where He showed them His wounds, thus dispelling the doubts of St. Thomas.
26 May, Thursday	FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD (<i>Sulogo</i>)	The Feast commemorates the ascension of Jesus to heaven, 40 days after His resurrection.
5 June, Sunday	FEAST OF THE PENTECOST	The Feast commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles on the day of Pentecost, resulting in the establishing of the Church.
12 June, Sunday	First Sunday after Pentecost Feast of All Saints	This day has been designated as a commemoration of all of the Saints, from the time of Adam who glorified God by their holy lives.
16 June, Thursday	Apostles Lent	Fast begins on June 16 and ends on June 29. The practice of this fast is to follow in Apostle's footsteps (Heb. 13:7) who fasted in fulfillment of Lord Jesus' words in St. Matthew 9:15.
3 July, Sunday	St. Thomas Day (<i>Dukbrano</i>)	Remembering the life and works of St. Thomas
5 July, Tuesday	Feast of the seventy-two evangelists	Memory of the 72 disciples
1 August, Monday	15-day Lent	From the 1st to 15th of August, this is the time for the faithful to prepare themselves for their death because the death of the Mother of God is a desirable and exemplary death for all.

Date/Day	Feasts	Description
6 August, Saturday	FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD	The feast commemorates the transfiguration of Christ on Mount Tabor.
15 August, Monday	FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS (<i>Shoonyo</i>)	The Feast commemorates the dormition or “falling-asleep” of the Mother of Jesus Christ our Lord.
8 September, Thursday	FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS	The Feast commemorates the birth of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
14 September, Tuesday	FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS	The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.
23 October, Sunday	Feast of St. James the Apostle	Remembering the life of St. James, the brother of our Lord Jesus and the first Bishop of Jerusalem.

SPECIAL DAYS

Special Days	Week	Date
Parents' Sunday	3 rd Sunday	14 November 2021
Women Sunday	5 th Sunday	28 th November 2021
Children Sunday	6 th Sunday	5 th December 2021
Workers' Sunday	16 th Sunday	13 th February 2022
Youth Sunday	26 th Sunday	24 th April 2022
Missions Sunday	35 th Sunday	26 th June 2022
Seminary Sunday	38 th Sunday	27 th July 2022
SOC Sunday	49 th Sunday	2 nd October 2022