



ST. ANN MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Pastor: Father Dennis McCarthy Email: abounadennis@gmail.com Cell phone: 860 287 0677	January 8, 2023 Sunday After Theophany
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Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Intentions this week:

- **Saturday Liturgy:** For the repose of the soul of Pope *Emeritus* Benedict XVI. May his memory be eternal!
- **Sunday Liturgy:** On Sunday, January 1, for the peace, health, and salvation of Marcelle Nohra, the loving sister of Dina Matar, requested by Dina and by the parishioners of St. Ann. Also, for the repose of the soul of Pope *Emeritus* Benedict XVI. May his memory be eternal!

This Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer	Sunday: Volunteer	
Next Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer	Sunday: Volunteer	
December 31 and January 1	\$5,555..00	43 adults and 8 children attended Divine Liturgy last weekend.	Included in the collection: \$101 for candles, a \$200 donation thanking St. Jude, \$461 for Hall Rental by Alcoholics Anonymous, and a \$3,000 donation from a parishioner, who wishes to remain anonymous, to help pay for the heat exchanger that was fixed. We thank this parishioner for the absolute generosity in donating this amount of money.

Thanks to all who always make up their missed envelope, including fuel and building. Fund.

Financial news:

Bills paid this week:

- ✓ **U. S. Bank Equipment Finance:** \$383.66 for two months for the copier. We had a dispute with their bill and held off paying one month. We are now current.
- ✓ **Staples:** \$48.88 for copy paper
- ✓ **Stop and Shop:** \$7.19 for yeast for baking communion bread.
- ✓ **Erika Sobanski:** \$220.00 for monthly cleaning of the St. Jude Shrine, entry way to the church, the Church Hall entryway and entire hall including floors, the Church Hall kitchen, the Church Hall bathrooms, the Church itself, the conference room, the coffee station in the conference room, the conference room foyer next to the bathroom, and the conference room bathroom.
- ✓ **The Eparchy:** \$250 for monthly assessment
- ✓ **The Eparchy:** \$1,356.63 for monthly Medical Insurance for Father Dennis and Lisa
- ✓ **The Eparchy:** \$650 for monthly charge for the all priests retirement fund.
- ✓ **Total bills paid this week: \$2916.36.** Total collected this week: \$5,550.00. We had a surplus this week of \$2,638.64. If it were not for the anonymous parishioner who donated \$3,000, we would have lost \$361.36. As you can see, it is very costly to run and maintain the Church. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have **a surplus now of \$6,341.68** in 17 weeks. **Our spectrum of donations on a regular parishioner donor basis runs from \$3.00 per week to \$160.00 per week. The parishioners giving toward the higher end of the range are not necessarily the wealthiest, but they have made a commitment to God to give back a larger portion of their finances. It all belongs to God anyway. God says in Proverbs; Chapter 3, verse 9: “Honor the Lord with thy substance, of all thine increase, and with your first fruits”. This is a command, not a request!**

Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial: This memorial will be conducted at the end of Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 5.

House Blessings: If you would like your house blessed, please contact Father Dennis.

Parish Advisory Council Meeting: This meeting will be held on Sunday, January 8, after Liturgy.

200 Club: The next drawing will be after Liturgy on Sunday, January 8. It was postponed last weekend.

NOTES, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

DONATION ENVELOPES: The 2023 envelopes are on the table in the rear of the church. I was not able to complete every parishioner's envelope package, as they arrived on Thursday. The rest will be ready by next weekend. Please use the envelopes on the usher's table, if you do not have a package on the table. Be sure to write your name on the envelope, so that you get credit for it for tax purposes!

Bishop's Appeal: Our parish has donated **\$1,786.23** to the appeal. Apparently, if you donate electronically, there is no easy place to indicate your parish. If possible make a note on your electronic submission that it is from St. Ann, **WATERFORD**, as there are four St. Ann parishes in the Eparchy. The enclosed paper submission form has a place for the parish name, but again, make sure you write St. Ann, **WATERFORD!** If we surpass our goal, the parish receives money back. **Our goal is \$6,000.00.** You can contribute until January 31, 2023. Please do! I have, and will continue, to enclose in the bulletin a donation form. Please make your check out to the Diocese of Newton, and mail it to the address on the bottom of the form: Diocese of Newton, P.O. Box 630, Woodland Park, NJ 07424. Thanks for your generosity as this appeal funds the Eparchy, the Sophia Magazine, our clerical formation programs, and many other good deeds

Please pray for: Ron and Mary Talge, Marino De La Cruz, Nick Rahal, Daniel Conigliaro, George Abbiati, Jr, Sandy Flaherty, Tanios Karam, Anna Villani, Dee Porlidis, Marcelle Nohra, Joyce Whelan, Father Ed Kakaty, John and Gloria Jeffords, Betty and Alex Antipoff, Marie Antipoff, Irene McCarthy, Kathleen McCarthy, Sheila Burke, Billy Brown, Marcy Davis, Abroze Gharios, Lisa Brown, Dina Matar, Robert Lynch, Michael Mooradian, Edward Zalonski, Michael McCurdy, Tommy Brown, Bill Curtis

Food Drive: Subdeacon Paul Zalonski, working with Saint Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church in New Haven, Connecticut, is organizing a food drive for the people of Ukraine. Items needed are limited to the following only: **dried soups, dried oatmeal like Quaker's High Protein Oatmeal, and high protein milkshakes like Carnation Breakfast Essentials. Please drop off your donations inside the entrance way to our Church in the food collection bin. Thank you!**

Meditation of the Day: "While other martyrs sacrificed by sacrificing their own lives, the Blessed Virgin(Theotokos) suffered by sacrificing her Son's life—a life that she loved far more than her own. So she not only suffered in her soul all that her Son endured in His Body in addition, the sight of her Son's torments brought more grief to her heart than if she had endured them all in her own person. No one can doubt that Mary suffered in her heart all the outrages that she saw inflicted on her beloved Jesus. Anyone can understand that the sufferings of children are also those of their mothers who witness them."---Saint Alphonsus Liguori

Quote of the Day: "I know that true charity consists in bearing all of our neighbor's defects and not being surprised by their weakness, but edified at their smallest virtues."---Saint Therese of Lisieux

Bible Verse of the Day: "But as for me, I will look to the Lord. I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me."---From the Prophet Micah; Chapter 7, verse 7

Holy Rosary: The last Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm, unless we have a Feast Day Liturgy on that particular day. In January, it will take place on Wednesday, January 25, at 5:30 pm. We pray the Rosary with a Byzantine approach using, as our guide, a pamphlet by Kenneth Chrusch. We currently have only 2 to 6 people participate. Please come and spend 40 minutes with Jesus, Mary, and Joseph in Church!

"And when He cometh unto His disciples, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, `What, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak'. Again, a second time, He went away, and prayed, saying: `My Father, if this cannot pass away, except I drink it, thy will be done'. And He came again and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. And He left them again and went away and prayed a third time, saying again the same words. Then cometh He to the disciples, and saith unto them, `Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners'. ---Matthew: Chapter 26; verses 40 to 45, American Standard Version (ASV) of the Holy Bible

A few weeks ago, we heard the Gospel about the rich man who prepared a great banquet, yet the invited guests all had excuses as to why they could not attend. Don't allow yourself to be like them. Make the effort and come and pray with us for the reason Jesus states above! You have plenty of time to put it on your calendar! We are constantly in spiritual warfare. Use the tools that God gave us to fight and win the battle against the evil one!

Children's Religious Education Class Schedule for January. Classes will be conducted on Saturdays at 3:30 pm. If you have questions, please contact Joumana Hajj. The schedule for January is:

- ❖ Christmas break. Class resumes on January 7, 2023
- ❖ Jan 14: No class
- ❖ Jan 21: Class
- ❖ Jan 28: Class

From SubDeacon Paul: Keep up with the faith, parish news, and each other! There are several ways to connect to the Saint Ann Melkite Community:

- **E-Blasts:** They keep the community informed about what is coming up in the parish or the Eparchy, and sometimes the One, Holy, Catholic Church at large. The **E-blast** is intended to be a quick look at the activities and events in the near term. If you are not receiving the **E-blasts**, please email Father Dennis at abounadennis@gmail.com.
- **Our Parish Website:** This is a great place to see what is happening at our parish. Our site, which is maintained by SubDeacon Paul Zalonski, is the best Church Website in the entire Eparchy. It should win an award. There is much information here. You can access it at <https://stannmelkitechurch.org>
- **Our Facebook Page:** This is an online community you can join on Facebook, where parishioners can share photos, news, and ideas. You can like the page at <https://www.facebook.com/StAnnWaterfordCT> (@STAnnWaterfordCT)

Announcement from the Eparchy: The Victim Assistance private toll-free line for reporting of sexual abuse in the Eparchy of Newton has been established. This phone rings to and is answered only by the Eparchial Victim Assistance Coordinator. To report sexual abuse by clergy, parish personnel, or volunteers of the Eparchy of Newton, please call the coordinator of the Victim Assistance Office (1 800 479 5910). **From Father Dennis: You should also report this immediately to your local Police Department.**