



**ST. ANN MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Pastor: Father Dennis McCarthy Email: <a href="mailto:abounadennis@gmail.com">abounadennis@gmail.com</a> Cell phone: 860 287 0677	<b>February 26, 2023</b> <b>Sunday of Orthodoxy</b> <b>1st Sunday of Great Lent</b>
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**Intentions this weekend:**

**Saturday Liturgy:** For the repose of the soul of Abba Jabbour, on the anniversary of her repose. Abba is the loving mother of Joumana Hajj. Also for Joumana’s father, Elias, and her sister Jacqueline Jabbour Matta, requested by Joumana and Gabriel Hajj. May their memories be eternal!

**Sunday Liturgy:** For the repose of the loving father of Dina Matar, Georges Matar, requested by Dina Matar. May his memory be eternal! Also, for the peace, health, and salvation of Marcelle Nohra, the dear sister of Dina.

This Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	
Next Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	
February 18 and 19	\$2,638.63	43 Adults and 6 Children attended Divine Liturgy	Included in the collection was \$347 for candles, \$450 for March Hall Rental from Alcoholics Anonymous Group, \$41 from the Poor Box; \$7.22 from Long View Microwave Antennae.	

Memorial donations, funeral offerings, priest stole offerings, and baptism offerings are included in the regular collection totals.

**Financial news:**

**Bills paid this week:**

- ✓ **From Poor Box:** \$100.00 to a destitute father and daughter
- ✓ **Saint Jude Chapel:** \$87.80 for paint and sandpaper to refurbish the five candle stands
- ✓ **U. S. Post Office:** \$75.60 for stamps
- ✓ **Painting:** \$120.00 to have the five candle stands painted in the Saint Jude Chapel
- ✓ **Communion Wine:** \$17.99
- ✓ **Diocese of Newton:** \$2,256.63 for monthly Medical Insurance, Retirement Plan, and Assessment
- ✓ **Laurence Candle Supplies:** \$377.04 for votive candles
- ✓ **U.S. Bank and Equipment:** \$148.03 for monthly copier machine lease.
- ✓ **Eastern Christian Bulletin Service:** \$116.00 for bulletins for period 2/19/2023 to 5/21/2023

**Total bills paid this week:** \$3,299.09. Total collected this week: \$2638.63. We had a deficit this week of \$660.46 For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have **a surplus now of \$6119.48** in 24 weeks. **Our spectrum of donations on a regular 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, from God!**

**NOTES, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

- **Abstinence and Fasting rules are in the supplement on the table in the rear of the church.**
- **Pot Luck Farewell Lunch:** Juan and Katrina Gomez will be transferring in March to the west coast. Juan is about to complete an intensive submarine training program, and will be assigned to his new duty station in the United States Navy. It has been a joy to have them, and their wonderful children, as part of the parish community for the brief time that they have been here in Groton, so we want to wish them well and celebrate the joy that they have given us. The lunch will take place after Liturgy on Sunday, March 5. We will be churching their new baby, Elias, at the Liturgy. **Please bring a dish or dessert for the lunch!**

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:** Saturday, March 4 and Sunday, March 5 for Shepherd's Care. All money goes to the victims of the earthquake in Syria and Turkey. So far between the parish and two parishioners we have given \$620.00. Shepherd's Care Associated Charities 2023: Every Great Lent, parishes across the Diocese of Newton collect monetary donations to help charities in our local communities, the eparchy (diocese), and internationally. Please pick up a brochure in the rear of the church and a mite box. Bring your offerings during Holy Week or earlier if you prefer. This year's efforts will be given to help earthquake victims. Please be generous earlier than most years as the need is now. You may mail a donation to the address below. The check should be made out to "Diocese of Newton, not St. Ann. In the memo portion of your check, write Earthquake Relief/St Ann **Waterford** so the parish gets credit for the donation. Mail to: Diocese of Newton Shepherd's Care, 3 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132

**Schedule for Great Fast (Lent):** It begins with Forgiveness Vespers on Sunday, February 19 at 5:30 pm.

- **Every Wednesday:** Holy Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at 5:30 pm
- **Every Friday:** Compline and Akathist at 5:30 pm.
- **Feast of the Annunciation Divine Liturgy:** Saturday, March 25 at 5:00 pm
- **Lazarus Saturday:** April 1, Divine Liturgy at 5:00 pm
- **Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy:** Sunday, April 2 at 10:00 am
- **Holy Week:** Various services everyday from Monday, April 3 to Friday April 7. Details to follow.
- **Hajmet:** Saturday, April 8 at 8:00 pm
- **Holy Resurrection (Pascha/Easter):** Sunday, April 9, Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am.

**Liturgy on Sunday March 5 at 10:00 am:** For the repose of the souls of Albert, Mary, and Robert Dib, requested by Doctor William Kalosieh. May their memories be eternal!

**Liturgy on Saturday, March 25 at 5 pm:** For the repose of the soul of Sabrina Walker (one year), requested by her loving mother, Gail Facas and family. May her memory be eternal!

**Sanctuary Lamp:** The Sanctuary Lamp is sponsored in March by John and Gloria Jeffords for the repose of the soul of Charles Facas, Sr., the loving father of Gloria. May his memory be eternal!

**Meditation of the Day:** "God's delays are mysterious; sorrow is sometimes prolonged. God may abstain for the moment from healing, not because He does not love, but because He never stops loving and a greater good is to come from the woe. Heaven's clock is different from ours."--- Fulton J. Sheen, *Life of Christ*, page 357

**Quote of the Day:** "I will attempt day by day to break my will into two pieces. I want to do God's Holy Will, not my own."---Saint Gabriel Possenti

**Bible Verse of the Day:** "Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with His stripes (whip marks from the Roman soldiers) we are healed. We like sheep have gone astray; we have turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all". ---Isaiah 53:4-6

**Bishop's Appeal:** Thanks you all who donated. We surpassed our goal of \$6,000.00 by \$178.23!

1. Gerald and Cathy Egan
2. Andrea Hall
3. Father Dennis and Lisa
4. Sean and Samantha Donkin
5. Joseph and Roberta Zizik
6. Albert and Jamal Doro
7. Alex and Betty Antipoff
8. Brad Shakir
9. Marie Antipoff
10. Edmond Najim
11. Kevin Powers
12. David and Rose LaFleur
13. Paul Zalonski
14. Joseph Hage
15. Gabriel and Joumana Hajj
16. Joseph and Cindy Doro
17. Faouzi and Katia Hage
18. St. Ann Checking Account
19. James and Karen Jones
20. Gerard and Laura Massad
21. Pierre and Saide Hage
22. Anthony Donkin
23. John and Gloria Jeffords
24. Cash in second collection, not identifiable to any person or persons
- 25.

**Note:** If you gave and your name is not on the list, the list will be updated with the names that have donated after the final report from the Eparchy at the end of February.

**Parish Advisory Council Meeting:** The March meeting will take place on Sunday, March 19, after Liturgy in the Church Hall.

**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, James Donkin, Bobby Moutron and his sister Helen, Lisa Brown-McCarthy

**Church Etiquette: Below are listed some things that you should adhere to at church:**

1. Bathroom: Many people drive long distances or have little children. While not always possible, please use the conference room bathroom before Liturgy or after. It is a distraction to the Liturgy to have people walking through the sacristy. If you need to use the conference room bathroom, please use one of the church entrances/exits and enter by the church office door. The doors to the hall will be open during Liturgy, so folks can also use the hall bathrooms, if they can navigate the stairs. Also, the outside doors to the hall will be open for those who cannot navigate the stairs.
2. Please do not come into the sacristy area before Liturgy. If you need to tell something to the priest, email or call, otherwise wait until Liturgy is over. There are preparations going on for the service and people entering the sacristy causes distraction.
3. We are doing a good job of putting the booklets with the binders facing up in the pew holders. Please return all bulletins and papers that you are not taking home to the place you pick them up in the rear of the church.
4. If you are bringing bread for a memorial, please let Father Dennis know in advance so he will not have to prepare the antidoron. Also, please bring it no later than a half hour of the start of the Liturgy, so that there is not a rush to properly display it.
5. If we have a procession, it should be done silently and with reverence. There should be no talking.
6. For the Little and Great Entrances, please get the fans, candles, and crosses well before we start, so there is not a rush to get them, line up properly, and be ready when the priest comes out of the Holy Place to start.
7. When you enter the church before Liturgy, you should be silent. Socializing should take place after Liturgy. Be aware if anyone is trying to pray, and if so, please move the conversation after Liturgy outside or to the conference room.

Thank you for observing these guidelines. Father Dennis

**Holy Rosary:** During Lent, the last Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm, unless we have a Feast Day Liturgy on that particular day. We pray the Rosary with a Byzantine approach using, as our guide, a book 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! In March we will pray on Tuesday, March 29, at 5:30.

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

- ❖ Feb 25: Class (Change to original schedule)
- ❖ March 4: No Class (Change to original schedule)
- ❖ March 11: Class
- ❖ March 18: Class
- ❖ March 26: Class

**Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial:** This memorial will be conducted at the end of Divine Liturgy on Sunday, March 12.

**200 Club:** The next drawing will be on Sunday, March 19, after Liturgy.