



ST. ANN MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH
 41 Cross Rd, Waterford, CT 06385
<http://www.stannmelkitechurch.org> 860-442-2211

Pastor: Father Dennis McCarthy Email: abounadennis@gmail.com Cell phone: 860 287 0677	April 1, 2023 Saturday of Lazarus April 2, 2023 Palm Sunday
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Saturday Liturgy: For the repose of the soul of Matthew Brown-McCarthy, requested by his loving grandmother, Irene McCarthy, his loving Aunt, Kathleen McCarthy, his loving mother Lisa Brown, and his loving dad, Father Dennis. May his memory be eternal!

Sunday Liturgy: For the repose of the soul of Thomas John Francis McCarthy, requested by his loving wife, Irene McCarthy, his loving daughter Kathleen McCarthy, his loving daughter-in-law, Lisa Brown, and his loving son, Father Dennis. May his memory be eternal!

This Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	Thanks to all who always make up their missed envelope, including Fuel and Building Fund.
Next Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	
March 25 and 26	\$1,979.00	62 Adults and 15 Children attended Divine Liturgy on Saturday and Sunday.	Included in the collection: \$123 for candles, \$70 for Easter Flowers, and \$450 for Hall Rental from Alcoholics Anonymous.	

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

Schedule for Holy Week:

- **Monday:** April 3, Bridegroom Service at 5:30 pm
- **Tuesday:** April 4, Anointing Service at 5:30 pm
- **Wednesday:** April 5, Last Supper Service at 5:30 pm
- **Thursday:** April 6, Passion Gospels at 5:30 pm
- **Friday:** April 7, Descent from the Cross at 12 noon
- **Friday:** April 7, Funeral Service of Christ (Epitaphios Service) at 6:00 pm (**change in time**)
- **Saturday:** April 8, Hajmet, Orthros of the Resurrection, at 7:00 pm (**change in time**)
- **Sunday:** April 9, Holy Pascha Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Financial news:

Bills paid this week:

- ✓ Uncas Gas: \$333.19 for heating oil
- ✓ U. S. Bank Equipment: \$157.43 for copier rental
- ✓ New Billboard Sign: \$425.11 for advertisements on front lawn. Delivery expected within a week.
- ✓ Maintenance: \$60.00 for trees and brush cut down and grapevines fertilized and pruned
- ✓ Church and Hall Household Products: \$58.63 for garbage bags, toilet paper, tea candles for St Jude Shrine
- ✓ Cleaning of the Church and Church Hall: \$220 for monthly cleaning
- ✓ Eversource: \$764.86 for electricity for church, hall, rectory, and outside night lighting of the grounds.
- ✓ Father Dennis’s Monthly Salary for March: \$2370.10
- ✓ Total bills paid this week: \$4,389.32. Total collected this week: \$1,979.00. We had a deficit this week of \$2,410.32. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have a surplus now of \$7,288.90 in 29 weeks. Our spectrum of donations on a regular basis runs from \$3.00 per week to \$100.00 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.

Divine Liturgy: On April 8, for the repose of the soul of Kelly Anne Jones. This would have been her 29th birthday. She passed to her eternal reward on the day after her 1st birthday on April 9, 1995. May her memory be eternal!

Memorial Service: For the repose of the soul of Richard J. Vining, at the end of Liturgy on Saturday, April 29, requested by SubDeacon Paul Zalonski. May his memory be eternal!

Quote of the Day: “Work hard everyday at increasing your purity of heart, which consists in appraising things and weighing them in the balance of God’s will.”---Saint Francis de Sales

Parish Advisory Council Meeting: The April meeting date has yet to be determined.

Meditation of the Day: “Many people seem to worry themselves a great deal more over the things they cannot help than over the things that they can. This want of proportion is doubtless observable in me. Do I think more of the accidents of birth, fortune, and personal appearance than of the self that I have created? I am responsible for myself. To be born a gentleperson is an accident; to die one is an achievement. Other things then I may not be able to help; but myself, I can. As I am at this very moment, as my character is-truthful or untruthful, pure or impure, patient or impatient, slow to wrath or quick-tempered, eager, enthusiastic, energetic, or lazy and dull and wasteful of time-I have no one to thank but myself. The fact remains that I alone am responsible for my own character, for character is a thing that is not born, but created.”---Father Bede Jarrett

Bible Verse of the Day: “I pray that our God, the Father of Glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of Him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to His call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of His great might.”---Ephesians 1:17-19

Who was the heroic Blessed Jerzy Popieluszko? This fearless priest made the Iron Curtain tremble!

Blessed Jerzy Popieluszko came from a simple yet devout Catholic farming family. He lived a quiet, normal life and then joined the seminary. The Communists, who controlled Poland at the time, had set up a special military unit for seminarians, designed to discourage and dissuade them from becoming priests. The unit had no practical duties, only useless and grueling tasks, and the seminarians were drilled in propaganda and Communist lies. Often, this method of killing vocations worked. But not on Popieluszko!

He was a natural leader, steel –strong in his faith, fearless in the face of Communism. Nothing could break him. The unit leaders punished him severely on repeated occasions, but all they accomplished was weakening his physical health.

Finally, he finished his term in the army and was ordained. From the pulpit, he condemned Communism and encouraged the Polish people not to fear it. He drew thousands of Poles from across the country to the Masses he celebrated. The Communists hated him. They hated and feared his courage. They tried undermining his reputation, they tried arresting him for disturbing the peace, they tried getting him into a fatal car accident, and finally they murdered him! However, they only succeeded in providing a heroic martyr, not just for Poland, but the world. Many reports of miracles through this holy man’s intercession are being investigated by the Vatican. Holy Jerzy, pray for us!

Bishop’s Appeal: Thank you all who donated. Our goal was \$6,000, we collected \$6,328.23. We will get a return of half of our amount over our goal. We were one of 9 parishes, missions, and outreaches of the Eparchy that met or exceeded our goal! Thank you to those listed below for their help and generosity in the annual appeal!

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. Rose and David LaFleur
26. SubDeacon Paul Zalonski
27. Joseph Hage
28. John and Michelle Brodeur
29. John Jalonski

If you donated and your name is not listed, please contact Father Dennis

YARD AND PLANT SALE: We will have our spring event on Saturday, April 29th from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm, rain or shine. If it rains, we will set up in the Church Hall and Church Barn. To rent a table it will cost \$10 per table. Please bring a plant, used or new, and donate it to the church so that we can sell it for the church building fund. We will be selling hamburgers and hot dogs and soda.

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, 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, Bobby Moutron and his sister Helen, Lisa Brown-McCarthy

200 Club: The winners for March:

\$50: Nicholas Moukawsher

\$25: Laura Massad

\$10: Betty Antipoff, John Jalonski, Paul Zalonski

Congratulations to our winners! The next drawing will be on Sunday, April 16, after Liturgy.

Holy Rosary: The last Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm, unless we have a Feast Day Liturgy on that particular day or a Lenten Service 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 April we will pray on Wednesday, April 26, at 5:30 pm.

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

- ❖ April 1: Class
- ❖ April 8: No class (**change to previous schedule**)
- ❖ April 15: Class
- ❖ April 29: Class
- ❖ May 6: Final class and Graduation Ceremony at the end of Liturgy

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 antidiron. 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

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.**