



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	May 7, 2023 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
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Intentions this weekend:

CHRIST IS RISEN!

Saturday Liturgy: For the repose of the souls of Nicholas Hage (father), Alice Hage (mother), and George Hage (brother), requested by their loving daughter and sister, Jamal Doro. May their memories be eternal!

Sunday Liturgy: For the repose of the soul Gene Crowley, Ray Sobanski's brother-in-law. May his memory be eternal! Also, for all the deceased members of the Hage and Doro families, requested by Albert and Jamal Doro. May their memories be eternal!

Please pray for: Ron and Mary Talge, Marino De La Cruz, Nick Rahal, Daniel Conigliaro, George Abbiati Jr., Sany 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, Dina Matar, Roberty Lynch, Michael Mooradian, Edward and Linda Zalonski, Michael McCurdy, Tommy Brown, Bill Curtis, Bobby Moutron and his sister Helen, Lisa Brown-McCarthy, James Donkin, Janice Carthy, Richard Vining

This Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	
Next Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	
April 29 and 30	\$1,607.00	49 Adults and 7 children attended the Liturgy on Saturday and Sunday of last weekend.	Included in the collection: \$103 for candles, \$15 for flowers, \$510 for Hall rental to AA., \$1 from Poor Box. In addition to the collection: \$43 from Shepherd's Care Mite Boxes, which goes to the Eparchy, and \$733.30 in profit from the Yard Sale	Thanks to all who always make up their missed envelope, including Fuel and Building Fund.

Financial Report: Bills paid this week:

- ✓ **Eparchy:** \$2,306.63 for monthly Assessment, Medical Insurance, and Priest's Retirement Fund
- ✓ **Property Insurance:** \$2,000. We still owe \$4,000 payable by March 2024
- ✓ **Father Dennis's Monthly Salary:** \$2,370.10
- ✓ **US Bank:** \$157.43 for copy machine rental
- ✓ **Priest Business Cards:** \$71.50
- ✓ **Miscellaneous reimbursement to Father Dennis:** \$1029.25 for Yard Sale expenses, propane, Easter flowers, flowers for yard, mulch, Communion wine, Coffee Hour expenses, gas for lawnmower, fertilizer and grub pesticide, rose water, flour for Communion bread.

Miscellaneous reimbursement to Father Dennis: \$1029.25 for Yard Sale expenses, propane, Easter flowers, flowers for yard, mulch, Communion wine, Coffee Hour **Total bills paid this week:** \$7,934.91. Total collected this week: \$2,340.30 including profit from yard sale. We had a deficit this week of \$5,594.61. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have a surplus now of \$6,861.13 in 34 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!

2nd Collection: There will be a 2nd collection this weekend for the Home Missions. Please be as generous as you can.

Shepherd's Care Boxes: Thank you to Amanda Hajj, Gerry and Cathy Egan, Tim Jones, Brayden Harper, Bryelle Harper, Cindi and Joe Doro, and an anonymous donor for contributing a total of \$43.00 in their boxes, which will be sent to the Eparchy this week. Our total for this drive, including the second collection, was \$1,052.00. Thank you to all for your generosity!

NOTES, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Parish Advisory Council Meeting: A date will be set for May.

200 Club: The next drawing will be on Sunday, May 14, after Liturgy.

Feast of the Ascension: Liturgy will be celebrated on Thursday, May 18 at 5:30 P.M.

Thank you! Thank you to David Haddad for bringing the wonderful assortment of delicious cakes to the coffee hour last Sunday. It was a generous treat!

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. For the Little and Great Entrances, please get the fans, candles, and crosses ready well before the priest comes from the altar. This prevents the last minute rush and distraction.

Thank you, in advance for your cooperation! Father Dennis

Altar servers for the main altar: Our servers have done a good job serving on the altar, despite not having formal training. As a result, at times, the priest has to alert them during the Liturgy of what they need to do and when. This should not be occurring for a regular Divine Liturgy. When I was a young altar server, I had to go through extensive training, be able to read the Mass in Latin, and then had to serve as an assistant server to a main server for 6 months. It was a lot, but we knew what to do and helped the Mass flow smoothly, without distraction. Therefore, anyone wishing to serve on the altar will be required to attend 2 instructional sessions, of two hours each session, covering proper attire (shirt with a collar-no hooded sweatshirts), proper shoes (no sneakers but rather black dress shoes), the function of the altar server, the names associated with the various parts of the church, the different objects that are used in the Liturgy, the theological meaning and significance of which the server is participating, and many other items including the proper decorum for an altar server. To serve on the altar, the individual must take this course. Once completed, the individual will be presented a certificate and be permitted to serve in the Holy Place. Additionally, to serve on the altar, one is required to be vested. The only exceptions to having to take these classes are the Subdeacons. The classes will be held on Sunday, May 14 and 21 from 11:30 to 1:30. Lunch will be provided. All interested, please sign the sheet in the back of the church. Until the classes are completed, we will have no altar servers on the altar, except the Subdeacons. Thank you! Father Dennis

Congratulations: Congratulations to the graduates of our Religious Education Program for the 2022-2023 year. They are: Brayden Harper, Jaxon Hage, Sydney Cummings, Bryelle Harper, and Kazmiera Hajj. A special thanks to Joumana Hajj, our Director of Religious Education, and to our assistant instructors Brayona Jabbour and Amanda Hajj. The students and instructors worked very diligently for the year. Thanks to Joumana for designing, organizing, and being the main instructor every Saturday afternoon!

May Pilgrimage: On Sunday, May 7, we will be going to Our Lady of Grace Monastery at 11 Race Hill Road, Guilford, CT. We will, celebrate the Annual May Crowning of the Theotokos at 3:00 p.m. There will be a Blessing of Roses, Exposition of the Holy Eucharist, Solemn Vespers, Rosary, Benediction and Procession across the street to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima. What better way to begin the Month of Mary. Please sign the sheet in the rear of the church by April 30, so that we can perhaps car pool and help those who cannot drive obtain transportation. The Homily will be given by Father Brian Mulcahy O.P. **O.P.** is an abbreviation for The Order of Preachers (Latin: Ordo Praedicatorum), also known as the Dominicans. The Dominicans are a Mendicant Order which means that they tend to live within the community and follow a lifestyle similar to the Apostolic Orders.

- ❖ Apostolic Orders work within the community, outside the convent or monastery.
- ❖ Monastic Orders will follow the contemplative lifestyle.

Holy Rosary: The last Wednesday 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 May, we will pray on Wednesday, May 31, at 5:30 pm.

Meditation of the Day: “Without doubt, Jesus Christ could have abolished pain and suffering in a single stroke, and, by virtue of the infinite grace of Redemption, restored man to a state of complete, unmixed bliss that he enjoyed in the paradise of innocence. He did not so wish. He judged that, for some reason, suffering would be a source of merit, a gain, a source of glory, and a means of renewal and triumph; that, for the greater number, it would be a necessary expiation (the act of extinguishing the guilt incurred by something). He therefore maintained suffering, but purified, ennobled, and transfigured it by taking it upon Himself. He became a man of sorrows, *virum dolorum* (Man of Sorrows, Latin, from Isaiah 53:3), in the strict and absolute sense of these words.”---Father Charles Arminjon

Quote of the Day: “Nothing seems tiresome or painful when you are working for God Who pays well; Who rewards even a cup of cold water given in love of Him.”---Saint Dominic Savio

Bible Verse of the Day: “For I am not ashamed of the Gospel. It is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: for Jew first, and then Greek. For in it is revealed the

righteousness of God from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘the one who is righteous by faith will live.’”---Romans 1:16-17

Meet the Apostle who was a member of Jesus’ extended family. What do we know of this quiet man? Saint James and his brother Jude were the only apostles related to Jesus by blood; their mother was a relative of Our Lady. Jesus called James to be His Apostle in the second year of His public ministry, but after that James fades into the background of the Gospels.

Saint Paul tells us that our Lord appeared to James after the resurrection. Before Our Lord’s Ascension, He commended the Church in Jerusalem to James’s care, while the rest of the Apostles traveled the world to spread the Faith.

James became well-beloved in Jerusalem, gaining the name “James the Just” from the faithful. Jews and Gentiles alike respected him and revered his great holiness. He was very strict with himself and spent so much time in prayer that his knees grew very hard.

From his place in Jerusalem, James supported and defended the other Apostles and disciples. The early church relied heavily on his wisdom and example, calling him, along with Peter and John, a pillar of the Church. He wrote the epistle that bears his name in the New Testament.

In 62 A.D., hostile Jews attempted to make him apostatize (an act of refusing to continue to follow, obey, or recognize a religious faith) before a huge crowd during the feast of Passover. James, instead, proclaimed his faith in Jesus Christ so that all could hear. He quoted Our Lord’s words on the cross---“Father forgive them, for they know not what they do”—as the crowd killed him.

Although James was a great man in the early Church, he is still known to us by the non-flashy name of “James the Less”, making him a good saint to look to for humility.”—From the Catholic Company website

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.***