



<b>ST. ANN MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH</b>	
41 Cross Rd, Waterford, CT 06385	
<a href="http://www.stannmelkitechurch.org">http://www.stannmelkitechurch.org</a>	860-442-2211
Pastor: Father Dennis McCarthy Email: abounadennis@gmail.com Cell phone: 860 287 0677	<b>May 28, 2023</b>  <b>Sunday of Pentecost</b>

**Intentions this weekend:**

**Saturday Liturgy:** For the repose of the souls of Thomas John Francis McCarthy and Matthew Brown- McCarthy, the loving father and son, respectively, of Father Dennis; requested by Father Dennis and Lisa. May their memories be eternal!

**Sunday Liturgy:** For the peace, health, and salvation of Irene Virginia McCarthy and Kathleen Marie McCarthy, the loving mother and sister, respectively, of Father Dennis; requested by Father Dennis and Lisa.

In addition, for healing in our Congress, the Judicial Branch, and Executive Branch of our government and that the people holding positions, in these area of our government, learn kindness, love, dignity and respect and do what is best for the country and not for themselves. May God give them the Wisdom of Solomon to be able to determine what is best!

**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, James Donkin, Janice Carthy, Richard Vining, Edward and Linda Zalonski

**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.

**Liturgy: Saturday, June 17 at 5:00pm** for the repose of the soul of Mary H. Murray, requested by Edward Weyant, her loving nephew. This will be the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mary’s falling asleep in the Lord. May her memory be eternal!

**Meditation of the Day:** “Man will not consent to drive away the money-changers from the temple of his soul until he realizes that that it is a Holy of Holies, not a house of traffic, but in very truth--- the House of God. We thus reach two striking conclusions: There cannot be entire dependence on the Holy Spirit’s guidance, which is the true meaning of living in Christ, without complete self-renunciation. There cannot be complete self-renunciation without the constant underlying spirit of faith, without the habit of interior silence, a silence where God is dwelling. Many do not see the connection between thoughts about the King and the service of the King; between the interior silence and the continual detachment. If we look closer, it will be seen that there is a strong, close, unbreakable link between the two. Find a recollected (calm, undisturbed, unshaken) person, and the person will be detached; seek one who is detached, and she or he will be recollected. To have one is to have the other. Anyone who tries, on a given day, to practice recollection (tranquility of mind) or detachment cannot ignore the fact she or he is doing a double stroke of work.”---From the book *How to Pray Always* by Raoul Plus, S. J., pages 39-40

**Quote of the Day:** “Go forth and set the world on fire!”---Saint Ignatius of Loyola

**Bible Verse of the Day:** “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”---Saint Paul’s letter to the Romans: Chapter 8, versus 38-39

**Parish Advisory Council Meeting:** Sunday, June 4 after Liturgy!

**200 Club:** Our next drawing will be on Sunday, June 11, after Liturgy.

**Sanctuary Light for June:** It will be illuminated for the repose of the soul of Gloria Massad. This is lovingly requested by Gloria Jeffords, her best friend, and Gloria’s husband, John Jeffords. May her memory be eternal!

**Home Missions Collection: We received an additional \$50 this week!** We now raised \$699.00 for the Home Missions. This additional \$50 will be sent to the Eparchy this week for distribution. \$500.00 was sent by our parish through its checking account. So, \$199.00 was collected from parishioners. Thanks to all who contributed! Father Dennis

**Altar servers for the main altar:** Only one person took and completed the requirements of the course, Brayden Harper. Congratulations to Brayden! I have modified the training and anyone who desires to serve can meet with me 15 minutes after Liturgy. I do not want to discourage servers. However, you must wear black or brown dress shoes, a shirt with a collar, and be vested. Thanks Father Dennis

**What is a “Doctor of the Church” and who are they?** The title “Doctor of the Church”, in the Catholic Faith, is officially bestowed by the Pope in recognition of the outstanding contributions a person has made to the understanding and interpretation of Sacred Scripture and the development of Christian Doctrine. The church comes to the determination that each of the following three qualifications has been met in order to merit this great title:

1. Preeminent holiness, even among the saints
2. Depth of doctrinal insight
3. Extensive writings which the Church can recommend, in any age of history, as an expression of authentic Catholic Tradition.

Some you may know. Some may be totally unfamiliar to you! Here is the list:

- ❖ Gregory the Great
- ❖ Ambrose
- ❖ Augustine of Hippo
- ❖ Jerome
- ❖ Thomas Aquinas
- ❖ John Chrysostom
- ❖ Basil the Great
- ❖ Gregory Nazianzus
- ❖ Athanasius
- ❖ Bonaventure
- ❖ Anselm of Canterbury
- ❖ Isadore of Seville
- ❖ Peter Chrysologus
- ❖ Leo the Great
- ❖ Peter Damian
- ❖ Bernard of Clairvaux
- ❖ Hilary of Poitiers
- ❖ Alphonsus Liguori
- ❖ Francis de Sales
- ❖ Cyril of Alexandria
- ❖ Cyril of Jerusalem
- ❖ John Damascene
- ❖ Bede the Venerable
- ❖ Ephrem
- ❖ Peter Canisius
- ❖ John of the Cross
- ❖ Robert Bellarmine
- ❖ Albertus Magnus
- ❖ Anthony of Padua

- ❖ Lawrence of Brindisi
- ❖ Teresa of Avila
- ❖ Catherine of Seville
- ❖ Therese of Lisieux
- ❖ John of Avila
- ❖ Hildegard of Bingen
- ❖ Gregory of Narek
- ❖ Irenaeus of Lyon

**Meet the little known “Doctor of the Church”, who formed more Doctors: Behind every great Spanish saint, there is Saint John of Avila, or so it seems!** John was the close friend and spiritual director of many saints in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, including Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint John of the Cross, and Saint Ignatius of Loyola. John was born into a wealthy family and thought that the law would be his profession. After studying at university, he became disgusted with what he saw of the court and returned home. For a few years he lived with his parents in great austerity. He eventually left for Alcala and studied to be ordained a priest.

After his ordination, he gave away all his wealth and prepared to go to Mexico as a missionary, but this was not meant to be. The Archbishop of Seville heard about his sanctity and his talent as a preacher. Sending for John, he persuaded him (with great difficulty) to give up the Mexico idea and instead re-evangelize southern Spain, beginning with Andalusia. It took one sermon to make John famous. Crowds flocked to hear him, absorbing his exhortations and admonitions. At one time he was investigated by the Spanish Inquisition due to some false accusations, but this only increased his popularity among the faithful.

In addition to preaching missions, John also helped form some of the greatest Spanish saints. He helped Saint Ignatius promote his society of Jesus (the Jesuits), he instructed young men who later helped Saint John of the Cross reform the Carmelites, and he assisted Saint Teresa of Avila with her *Autobiography*, to name a few of his many accomplishments. For years, John journeyed throughout southern Spain, stirring lukewarm faithful into fiery devotion to Christ. His last 18 years were marked with constant illnesses, but these sufferings did not stop him from preaching and instructing. At his death, John was surrounded by his friends and spiritual children, who prayed with him, as he offered his last sufferings to the crucified Christ.---From the Catholic Company website

Saint John of Avila, pray for us!

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

**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

**Announcement from the Bishop:** The Eparchy has undertaken a review of the entire Eparchy’s legally required mandates and determined that certain reforms are warranted. These reforms will include the addition of two non-voting lay members to the Eparchy’s governing body, typically called the “Board of Directors”. These individuals will be active participants in the deliberations of the governing body and will bring to it the voice of the laity. You must be over the age of 21 and 1) canonically Melkite, 2) regularly participate in the liturgical life of the parish, and 3) ready, willing, and able to serve as lay members of the governing board. This is a great opportunity. Many thanks to Rose LaFleur and Joumana Hajj, who volunteered first, yet we had an additional two people who volunteered. Thank you for your support! 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.***

**Financial update:**

Bills paid this week:

- ✓ US Bank Equipment Finance: \$157.43 for monthly copy machine rental.

Total bills paid this week: \$157.43. Total collected this week: \$1,060.00. We had a surplus this week of \$902.57. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have a surplus now of \$8,610.45 in 38 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! **“One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.” This is the word of God from Proverbs: Chapter 11, verse 24.**

All donations for memorials, baptisms, marriages, priest stole offerings, and funerals are included in the collection total. Father Dennis does not personally accept money for the Sacraments!

This Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	
Next Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	
May 20 and 21	\$1,060.00	40 Adults and 2 children attended the Liturgy on Saturday and Sunday of last weekend.	Included in the collection: \$58 for candles, and \$50 for Home Missions which is sent to the Eparchy for distribution.	Thanks to all who always make up their missed envelope, including Fuel and Building Fund.