

<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>June 18, 2023</b>  <b>Third Sunday after Pentecost</b>

### Happy Father's Day

**Intentions this weekend:**

**Saturday Liturgy:** 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!

**Sunday Liturgy:** 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, honesty, humility, 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!

**Today's Liturgy; Proper Parts:**

**3rd Antiphon**

**Troparion of the Resurrection:** Page 68

**Troparion of Saint Ann:** Page 19

**Kondakion:** Page 20

**Prokimenon:**

**Reader:** My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my Savior.

**People:** My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my Savior.

**Reader:** The Lord has chastised me through his teaching, yet He has not delivered me to death.

**People:** My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my Savior.

**Reader:** My strength and my courage is the Lord,

**People:** and He has been my Savior.

**PERMANENT CHANGES TO LITURGY:**

- ❖ Instead of singing "A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise." we will sing "Mercy and peace, a sacrifice of praise".
- ❖ Instead of singing "Remember all men and women." we will sing "Sanctify them, Lord, and protect all the faithful".

**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, Michael McCurdy, Tommy Brown, Bill Curtis, Bobby Moutron and his sister Helen, Lisa Brown-McCarthy, Gene Crowley, Janice Carthy, Edward and Linda Zalonski

**Meditation of the Day:** "The person who is filled with the Holy Spirit speaks in different languages. These languages are different ways of witnessing to Christ, such as humility, poverty, patience, and obedience. We speak in those languages when we reveal in ourselves these virtues to others. Actions speak louder than words. It is useless for a person to flaunt knowledge of the law if it is undermined by the person's actions. The apostles spoke as the Holy Spirit gave them the gift of speech. Happy the person whose words issue from the Holy Spirit and not from herself/himself! We should speak, then, as the Holy Spirit gives us the gift of speech. Our humble and sincere request to the Holy Spirit, for ourselves, should be that we may bring the day of Pentecost to fulfillment, insofar as He infuses in us His grace, by using our bodily senses in a perfect manner and by keeping the commandments"---Saint Anthony of Padua.

**Quote of the Day:** "The spirit of humility is sweeter than honey, and those who nourish themselves with this honey produce sweet fruit."---Saint Anthony of Padua

**Bible Verse of the Day:** "But now you have been freed from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit that you have leads to sanctification, and its end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."---Romans 6: 22-23

**Did you know that there are flowers named after the Theotokos?** During medieval times, Catholics often honored the Blessed Mother by planting a "Mary Garden" at their homes or on parish grounds. These gardens would often include shrubs, herbs, and flowers that represented the Blessed Mother and events from her life. Many plants had Marian names in honor of her life

and glorious virtues. For example, Columbines were once called “Our Lady’s Shoes” because a legend held that, on her way to visit Elizabeth after the Annunciation, these flowers sprang up along Mary’s path. Bluebells were once known as “Our Lady’s Thimbles”, in honor of Mary’s role as a mother and homemaker. Violets were called “Our Lady’s Modesty”, because a story told that violets blossomed when the Blessed Mother said to the Angel Gabriel, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done to me according to thy word”. Hostas used to be called “Assumption Lilies”. In late summer, a tall, thin stalk emerges from this plant’s leaves and unfolds into a beautiful and intricate flower. This natural occurrence reminds us of Our Lady’s Assumption into Heaven, which we celebrate around the same time this flower blooms, August 15. While many of these plants have new names, some continue to bear their Marian titles. For instance, Marigold’s get their name from “Mary’s Gold”, in honor of our Blessed Mother.---From The Catholic Company’s website

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

**Feast Day of Saint Jude, Divine Liturgy, Monday, June 19 at 5:30 pm:** Father Dennis will bless people on the forehead with Holy Oil at the conclusion of Liturgy.

**Divine Liturgy:** Saturday, June 24 at 5:00pm for Peter and Samira Hajj, the loving father-in-law and mother-in-law of Joumana Hajj, requested by Joumana. May their memories be eternal!

**The Fast of the Apostles (Saints Peter and Paul Fast): Monday, June 19 to Wednesday June 28.** We will celebrate Liturgy on Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm to commemorate the Apostles Peter and Paul. This is only a ten day fast, so most people can strictly observe it. The Fast honors the sacrifices and accomplishments of the Holy Apostles. Guidelines for the Fast are in the supplement on the table in the rear of the Church!.

**NEW COMMUNICATION TOOL:** The Eparchy has initiated a new communication tool called ***Flocknote***. It allows the Eparchy and the parish to send emails and texts to everyone with just the click of “the mouse”. I will be passing around a document at Liturgy over the next 3 Sundays to make sure we have everyone’s current home address, email address and cell phone number. We will go live on July 1, officially, but you will see some test emails and texts from me before that. Please open them-they are not “spam”! Thank you! 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

**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!

**Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial:** This will occur at the end of 10:00 am Liturgy on Sunday, July 2

#### **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

**200 Club:** Our last drawing for the year occurred on June 11. The winners were: Lisa McCarthy \$50, Laura Massad \$25, Patrick Moukawsher \$10, Gerard Massad \$10, and Gail Facas \$10. If you wish to participate in the July 2023 to June 2024, 200 Club year, the cost is now \$60. The prizes remain the same. Please give your entry fee to Pierre Hage, Father Dennis, mail it to the

church, or put it in the collection basket in an envelope with your name and “200 Club” written on it. We need 21 people to break even! This past year we had 41 people participate. Let’s see if we can get more this year. It is a fund raiser for the parish and you have a chance to win money every month! The money needs to be collected by July 2, so that we can have our first drawing of the new year on Sunday, July 9, after Liturgy. Thank you, in advance, for your participation!  
 Father Dennis

**Announcement:** We are attempting to revise and revitalize the Saint Jude Women’s Club, which has served the parish and many charities and causes since its inception, through the dedication of many devout women. We are changing the name to the Saint Jude and Saint Rita Society. It will be open to both women and men and teenagers. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the Church for those who are interested. Our primary purpose will be to pray intercessory prayer for those who need prayer. However, faith without works is dead, so we will have a formational meeting to see what works of charity we can perform. A couple of ideas I have is to visit those in prison. Father Dennis visits Corrigan Correctional Prison in Montville every Wednesday. Also to visit our sick in nursing homes, hospitals, and those who are home-bound. Impossible, no it is not with Saint Jude and Saint Rita interceding on our behalf to God. Saint Rita and Saint Jude are the Patron Saints of Lost Causes and what appears to us as impossible or not practical. Please sign up and help bring our faith to the streets. Coming to Liturgy is wonderful, but Gods asks more of Christians. Our formational meeting to discuss this plan will occur on **Sunday, June 25**, after Liturgy in the Church Hall.

**Holy Rosary:** The second and 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 June, we will pray on Wednesday, June 14 **and** June 28, at 5:30 pm.

**Sunday, June 18, at 8:00 AM: We will celebrate our first Spanish/English Liturgy:** We will still have our Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 10:00 am Divine Liturgies. This is an additional Liturgy to hopefully attract our Latino brothers and sisters in the area. Come and see! Learn a little Spanish, while worshipping and thanking God for all His blessings!

**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:
- ✓ Eastern Catholic Bulletin Service: \$94.00 for weekly bulletins for the period May 28 to August 13, 2023
  - ✓ Frontier: \$251.40 for cable, internet, and telephone.
  - ✓ Paper Towels for Dispensers in Church Hall Bathrooms: \$50.20
  - ✓ Eversource: \$738.74 for electricity for church, church hall, rectory, and outside night lighting of the church and grounds.

Total bills paid this week: \$1,134.34. Total collected this week: \$2,324.00 We had a surplus this week of \$1,189.66. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have a surplus now of \$8,165.29 in 41 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 any accept money for the Sacraments!

This Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer	Sunday: Volunteer	
Next Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer	Sunday: Volunteer	

June 10 and 11	\$2,324.00	56 Adults and 5 children attended the Liturgy on Saturday and Sunday of last weekend.	Included in the collection: \$404.00 for candles and \$140.00 for Fuel.	Thanks to all who always make up their missed envelope, including Fuel and Building Fund.
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