



<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: <a href="mailto:abounadennis@gmail.com">abounadennis@gmail.com</a> Cell phone: 860 287 0677	<b>July 16, 2023</b> <b>Sunday of the Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils</b>

**Intentions this weekend:**

**Saturday 5:00 pm Liturgy:** For Elias Doro, Antoinette Doro, Edward Doro, and Akaber Sahyoun; the father, mother, brother, and sister, respectively, of Albert Doro. This is requested by Albert and Jamal Doro. May the memories of the deceased be eternal!

**Sunday 8:00 am Spanish/English Liturgy:** For the peace, health, and salvation of Irene McCarthy and Kathleen McCarthy, the loving mother and sister of Father Dennis; requested by Father Dennis and Lisa.

**Sunday 10:00 am Liturgy:** For the peace, health, and salvation of Rafka and Joshua Barbour and their new born baby girl Therese. May the Lord protect them and may His countenance shine upon them!

**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, Janice Carthy, Edward and Linda Zalonski, and William Brown.

**Meditation of the Day:** “My daughter, know that My Heart is mercy itself. From this sea of mercy, graces flow out upon the whole world. No soul that has approached Me has ever gone away unconsolated. All misery gets buried in the depths of My mercy, and ever saving and sanctifying grace flows from this fountain.”---Jesus’ private revelation to Saint Faustina Kowalska, taken from *The Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska*

**Quote of the Day:** “If you learn everything except Christ, you learn nothing. If you learn nothing except Christ, you learn everything.”--- Saint Bonaventure

**Bible Verse of the Day:** “Come let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become as wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and

rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”--- The Prophet Isaiah 1: 18-20

**The decision that confounded Saint Kateri’s family: While her baptism displeased her community, it did not shock them as much as the decision she announced shortly afterward.** Saint Kateri Tekakwitha’s is the first Native American saint. Her mother was a Christian Algonquin, taken captive by the Iroquois and given as wife to the chief of the Mohawk clan, the boldest and fiercest of the five Native American Nations. When she was four, Tekakwitha lost her parents and little brother in a smallpox epidemic that left her face disfigured and her vision severely injured. She was adopted by an uncle, who succeeded her father as chief. He hated the coming of the “Blackrobes”, the Jesuits missionaries, but could do nothing to them because a peace treaty with the French required their presence in villages with Christian captives. She was moved by the words of three Blackrobes who lodged with her uncle, but fear of him kept her from seeking instruction. Tekakwitha refused to marry a Mohawk brave, and at 19 finally got the courage to take the step of converting. She was baptized with the name Kateri on Easter Sunday.

Although Kateri’s tribe tolerated Catholicism, it was not much liked. Those who received baptism were considered the lowest of the low and given the most difficult work. Despite Kateri’s immediate relation to the chief, she too was treated as a type of tribe slave after she embraced the faith. One of her trials consisted of no food on Sundays, since she refused to work on that day. Her sweet acceptance of this treatment baffled everyone in the tribe, but a greater shock was coming.

Even before her baptism, Kateri had confused everyone by refusing marriage to a young brave. A woman had to marry to be able to survive without working herself to death. Kateri made it known that she would never marry. She had, in fact, consecrated her life to God forever as a virgin. She said, “I have consecrated myself entirely to Jesus, son of Mary. I have chosen Him for husband and He alone will take me for wife”.

Kateri willingly took on the hard work of her state in the tribe. To her, it was a source of joy and a chance to tell her Spouse how much she loved Him. Perhaps when her family saw her radiant face, every time she received the Eucharist, they began to understand why she gave up everything to be Jesus’ bride.

Kateri died on the afternoon before Holy Thursday in the year 1680. She was only 24 years old. Witnesses said that her emaciated face changed and became like that of a healthy child. The lines of suffering, even the pockmarks from smallpox, disappeared and the touch of a smile came upon her lips She was canonized on October 21, 2012 at Vatican City by Pope Benedict XVI.— From the Catholic Company.

**Note:** Our parishioners, John and Michelle Brodeur, named their newborn girl, Kateri, after this saint! The saint’s Feast Day is July 14.

## NOTES, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:** We will have a second collection next weekend at all Liturgies for The Pope's Charities. Please be as generous as you can.

**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 to make sure we have everyone's current home address, email address and cell phone number. We will go live on July 1, officially, and you will see some test emails and texts from me. Please open them-they are not "spam"! Thank you! Father Dennis

**Liturgy, Saturday, July 22 at 5:00pm:** In honor of Saint Elias and all of the men named Elias in the Gharios and Doro families, both living and deceased. This is requested by the loving widow of Elias Gharios, Abroze. May the deceased's memories be eternal!

**Sanctuary Light for July:** It will be illuminated for the repose of the soul of Geraldine (Halaby) Kozmon; requested by her loving daughter, Alexis Kozmon. May her memory be eternal! The Liturgy on Saturday, July 22, at 5:00 pm will be for the repose of the soul of Geraldine.

**Thursday, July 20, at 5:30 pm; Feast of Saint Elias:** We will celebrate Divine Liturgy, have the blessing of cars, and a barbeque. Hot dogs, hamburgers and soda/water will be supplied by the church! Please bring a pot luck dish. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of the church by Sunday, July 16 so that we know how much to order. Father Dennis will also bless cars on Saturday and Sunday, July 22 and 23, after Liturgy.

**Dormition Fast:** August 1-14.

**Feast of the Transfiguration:** We will celebrate the Feast on August 5 and 6 at all Liturgies.

**Enders Island:** We will observe the Dormition of the Mother of God at Enders Island at 5:00pm, Tuesday, August 15, followed by our annual picnic on the island. The cost is \$20 per person with a maximum of \$50 for a family. Please sign up by Sunday, July 16, so we can get our count into the folks at Enders Island. Please bring a pot luck dish. Thank you!

**Tuesday, July 25:** We will observe the Dormition of our patron, Saint Ann, with Divine Liturgy at 5:30 pm

**Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial:** This will occur at the end of 10:00 a.m. Liturgy on Sunday, August 6 (the Transfiguration of the Lord).

## 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. 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. 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 16, so that we can have our first drawing of the new year on Sunday, July 23, 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 formational meetings to see what works of charity we can perform. We will have our second meeting on Sunday, July 23, 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. Please come and spend 40 minutes with Jesus, Mary, and Joseph in Church! In July, we will pray on Wednesday, July 12 and Wednesday, July 26 at 5:30pm.

**Spanish/English Liturgy** We celebrated our fourth Spanish/English Liturgy Sunday, July 9 at 8:00am. We had 8 people attend.

**Financial update:**

**Bills paid this week:**

- ✓ **\$100.00** for cleaning of the Church, conference room, conference room bathrooms, Church Hall, hall kitchen, hall bathrooms, St. Jude Shrine , and entrance ways to the church, conference room foyer, and conference room bathroom.

Total bills paid this week: \$100.00. Total collected this week: \$2, 013.66.00. We had a surplus this week of \$1,913.66. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have a surplus now of \$15,224.01 in 45 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.** Almsgiving is a very serious matter to God, and a basic obligation of all Christians.

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	Thanks to all who always make up their missed envelope, including Fuel and Building Fund.
Next Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	
July 8 and 9	\$2,013.66	40 Adults and 5 children attended the Liturgies on Saturday and Sunday of last weekend.	Included in the collection: \$44.00 for candles, \$50.00 for the Building Fund,\$205.66 from the Clothing Shed, and \$240 for the 200 Club.	