



<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 23, 2023</b> <b>Eighth Sunday After Pentecost</b>

**Intentions this weekend:**

**Saturday 5:00 pm Liturgy:** 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!

Also, for the repose of the souls of Kelly Dora and her daughter Aralye McKeever, who tragically drowned. Our condolences go out to Rob McKeever, the father. May their memories be eternal! This is requested by Rob’s friend John Jalonski.

**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 repose of the soul of Father Basil Samra, who fell asleep in the Lord, on the evening of Sunday, July 16, 2023. May God grant peace and rest to this wonderful priest. May his memory be eternal! Father Basil is the brother of Bishop Nicholas Samra, our great former Bishop.

**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.

**Liturgy, Saturday, July 29 at 5:00 pm:** For the repose of Geraldine (Halaby) Kozmon, requested by her loving daughter Alexis. May her memory 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!

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

**Feast of the Transfiguration:** We will celebrate the Feast on Sunday, August 6 at 10 am.

**Meditation of the Day:** “Strong passions are the precious raw material of sanctity. Individuals who have carried their sinning to extremes should not despair or say, ‘I am too great a sinner to change’, or ‘God would not want me’. God will take anyone who is willing to love, not with an occasional gesture, but with a ‘passionless passion’ and a ‘wild tranquility’. A sinner, unrepentant, cannot love God, any more than someone on dry land can swim; but as soon as a person takes her/his errant energies to God and asks for their redirection, she/he will become happy, as never before. It is not the wrong things one has already done that keep one from God. It is the present persistence in that wrong. Someone who turns back to God, as Mary Magdalene and Saint Paul, welcomes the discipline that will enable them to change their former tendencies. Mortifications (the subjection and denial of bodily passions and appetites by abstinence) of the right sort perfect our human nature. The gardener cuts the green shoots from the root of the bush, not to kill the rose, but to make it bloom more beautifully.”---From Venerable Fulton Sheen, page 185, of his book, *Peace of Soul*

**Quote of the Day:** “I have seen the Lord!”--- Saint Mary Magdalene

**Bible Verse of the Day:** “Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had laid, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him’. Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?’ Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, ‘Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away’. Jesus said to her, ‘Mary’. She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, Ra-bo’ni!’ (Which means teacher)... Mary Magdalene went and said to His disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord!’ --- 1 Peter 5:8-11

**Some terms you should know:**

- Blessed: The title bestowed on a person who has been beatified and accorded limited liturgical veneration.
- Beatification: The second stage in the process of proclaiming a person a saint.
- Saint: The title given to someone who has been formally canonized by the Church as sharing eternal life with God, and therefore offered for public veneration and imitation.
- Venerable: The title given to a candidate for sainthood whose cause has not reached the beatification stage, but whose heroic virtue has been declared by the Pope.

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

**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).

## NOTES, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

**Missionary Work:** Gregory Bliss, one of our parishioners, is devoting himself to missionary work on college campuses. He needs to self fund his 2 year commitment, which costs \$25,000 per year. He is trying to raise money from different sources. Please contact Father Dennis or Greg on how to help fund him as he works for FOCUS Ministries.

**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, email address and cell number. We went live on July 1, officially, and you will see some test emails and texts from me. Please open them-they are not “spam”!

**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. We may have a few spots left but will not know until July 31, as Saint Basil’s, RI is bringing 29 people by bus.

**NOTE CHANGE IN SCHEDULE: Monday, July 24 at 5: 30pm:** We will observe the Dormition of our patron, Saint Ann, with Divine Liturgy at 5:30 pm. This was changed from the 25<sup>th</sup>, as Father Dennis is going to the funeral of Father Basil Samra in New Jersey on Tuesday, July 25.

**NOTE: There will not be a Saturday Liturgy at 5:00 pm on August 5 nor a Sunday 8am Liturgy on August 6. There will be a Sunday 10 am Liturgy celebrated by Father Thomas Moses on August 6. This is due to Father Dennis being on vacation from August 5 to August 12, and having no priest to cover those times. Father Elias Dorham will celebrate Liturgy on Saturday, August 12 at 5:00 pm and will concelebrate, with Father Dennis, the baptism of Kateri Brodeur prior to Liturgy on August 13. Father Dennis and Father Elias will celebrate the Liturgy together at 10am on Sunday, August 13.**

**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.

**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 August 1. Thank you, in advance, for your participation! Father Dennis

## 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

**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

**Spanish/English Liturgy** We celebrated our fifth Spanish/English Liturgy Sunday, July 16 at 8:00am. We had 4 people attend.

**Financial update:**

**Bills paid this week:**

- ✓ **Eversource:** \$984.15 for electricity for the church, Church hall, and rectory. We need to go to solar panels and I am looking for a committee of three to investigate, get quotes, and present to the parish council. Please contact Father Dennis this weekend.
- ✓ **Connecticut Business Systems:** \$56.83 for copies from 4/11/2023 to 7/10/2023
- ✓ **Laurence Candles:** \$1,146.60. This is our cost, we make a profit on candles so this will be paid back with a profit!

Total bills paid this week: \$12,187.58. Total collected this week: \$2,005.00. We had a deficit this week of \$182.58. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have a surplus now of \$15,041.43 in 46 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 15 and 16	\$2,005.00	56 Adults and 7 children attended the Liturgies on Saturday and Sunday of last weekend.	Included in the collection: \$76.00 for candles, \$50.00 for the Building Fund, \$50 for Enders Island, and \$120.00 for 200 Club.	