

<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 2, 2023</b>  <b>Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b>

**Intentions this weekend:**

**Saturday 5:00 pm Liturgy:** For the repose of the soul of Stephen Wright. May the Lord send his angels to encamp around his loving wife, Theresa, and deliver to her God’s comfort during this difficult time. This Liturgy is requested by Kathleen McCarthy, a good friend of the family and Father Dennis’ sister. May Stephen’s memory 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 Michelle Brodeur, who delivered 7lbs, 20.5” baby Kateri Marie. Michelle is recovering from labor and recent tooth extractions; requested by Michelle’s loving husband, John.

**Today’s Liturgy; Proper Parts:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Antiphon**

**Troparion of the Resurrection:** Page 70

**Troparion of Saint Ann:** Page 19

**Kondakion:** Page 20

**Prokimenon:**

- **Reader:** How great are Your works, O Lord! In wisdom You have wrought them all!
- **People:** How great are Your works, O Lord! In wisdom You have wrought them all!
- **Reader:** Bless the Lord, O my soul! You are very great indeed, O Lord, my God!
- **People:** How great are Your works, O Lord! In wisdom You have wrought them all!
- **Reader:** How great are Your works, O Lord!

- **People:** In wisdom You have wrought them all!
- **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:** “We will never be free of trials and temptations as long as our earthly life lasts. For Job has said: ‘Is not the life of human beings on earth drudgery?’ (Job 7:1). Therefore, we should always be on our guard against temptations, always praying that our enemy, the devil, ‘who never sleeps but constantly looks for someone to devour,’ (1 Peter 5:8), will not catch us off guard. No one in this world is so perfect or holy as to not have temptations sometimes. We can never be entirely free from them. Sometimes, these temptations can be very severe and troublesome, but if we resist them, they will be very useful to us; for by experiencing them we are humbled, cleansed, and instructed. All the Saints endured tribulations and temptations and profited by them, while those who did not resist and overcome them fell away and were lost. There is no place so holy or remote where you will not meet temptation, nor is there anyone completely free from it in life; for in our body, we bear the wounds of sin---the weakness of our human nature in which we are born.’---Thomas a Kempis

**Quote of the Day:** “Never will we understand the value of time better than when our last hour is at hand.”---Saint Arnold Janssen

**Bible Verse of the Day:** “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord’, will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but only the one who does the will of My Father in heaven.”---Matthew 7:21

**Angels:** Our world is filled with their presence and activity. Anything we know about angels, outside of Sacred Scripture, is taken from the Church Fathers, Mothers, and Doctors of the

Church, as well as from the lives of the saints. (some of whom were privileged to interact with angels). Here are some interesting facts:

1. **Angels aren't male or female:** They are purely spiritual beings. However, since the dawn of time, angels have chosen to present themselves in the masculine form, likely in honor of God.
2. **Angels have intellect and will, just like us.** Unlike us, angels have made a permanent choice to serve God and, now that they see God face to face, they can never sin.
3. **The angel who was originally created with the highest natural intelligence is Lucifer (Satan).**
4. **God created a vast number of angels in a single instant.** The angels are ordered into nine "choirs" and are ranked according to their natural intelligence, which exceeds human intelligence.
5. **Each angel has its own unique essence:** It is therefore distinct species, as different from one another as trees, cows, and bees.
6. **Angels have different personalities that differ from one another, just like us.** No two angels are the same!
7. **Angels are infused with perfect knowledge of all created things, including human nature.**
8. **Angels cannot predict the future, unless God wills that knowledge for a particular angel.**
9. **Angels do not know what graces God will give to certain human beings:** They can only infer it by observing the effects.
10. **Each angel was created for a specific task or mission:** They received instantaneous knowledge of this mission at the moment of their creation.
11. **Each human being, from the moment of their conception, has a Guardian Angel assigned to them by God to lead them to salvation.** Your guardian angel freely chose to accept you into his charge.
12. **Human beings do not become angels when they die.**
13. **Angels communicate to each other by passing concepts from mind to mind.**

14. **Angels do not have emotions in the same way that we do.** They do experience intense movements in their will that are similar to human emotions.

15. **Angels are active in our lives:** So are demons, which is why we need to stay close to the Sacraments, maintain a consistent prayer life, and foster devotion to our guardian angel.

16. **God determines when and how angels can communicate with humans.**

17. **Good angels help us to act in accord with our created nature as rational human beings.** Fallen angels do the opposite.

18. **Angels don't move from location to location.** Angels do not "move" as we do, since they are not material beings with material boundaries and limitations. Better than physically running from place to place, as we must, they are present wherever their will is acting. Their presence, then, can be instantaneous.

19. **Angels can prompt and guide our thoughts.** However, they cannot violate our will.

20. **Angels can take information from your memory and bring an image into your mind in order to influence you.** Remember that they would only do this in accordance with God's will. He would have a particular reason for allowing this, and it is not going to happen every day. Good angels bring to mind imagery that helps us do the right thing according to God's will.

21. **The degree and kind of temptation from fallen angels is determined by God , according to what is necessary for our salvation.** As the Bible tells us, "God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation, He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it". 1 Corinthians 10:13

22. **Angels don't know what is happening in your intellect and will, but they can surmise it by watching our reactions, behavior, etc.** Saint Thomas and Saint Augustine tell us that angels can "sometimes, with the greatest faculty learn man's dispositions, not only when expressed in speech, but even when conceived in thought, when the soul expresses them by certain signs of the body".

Scripture tells us that we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses (Hebrews 12:1) and suggests that we may be unaware of how angels are interacting with us at times (Hebrews 13:2). Knowing these facts about the angels and how they work can help us be more aware of their influence in our lives! Make friends with your Guardian Angel!

## NOTES, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND IMPORANT INFORMATION: 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

**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.

**Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial:** This will occur at the end of 10:00 a.m. 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 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. 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 9, so that we can have our first drawing of the new year on Sunday, July 16, 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 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 had 11 parishioners attend on June 28! 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.

**Sunday, June 25, at 8:00 AM:** We celebrated our second Spanish/English Liturgy Sunday, June 25 at 8:00am. Although only two people attended, I am praying for God to send more. Father Dennis

### **Financial update:**

#### **Bills paid this week:**

- ✓ **Father Dennis Salary for June:** \$2,383.22. Father Dennis completed 6 years on June 10 as a priest, so his salary increased by \$13.00 per month.
- ✓ **Water Bill for the Quarter:** \$109.06

Total bills paid this week: \$2,492.28. Total collected this week: \$2,349.00. We had a deficit this week of \$143.28. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have a surplus now of \$11,625.35 in 43 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.

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	
June 24 and 25	\$2,349.00	49 Adults and 5 children attended the Liturgies on Saturday and Sunday of last weekend.	Included in the collection: \$81 for candles, \$450 for rent of the Hall by Alcoholics Anonymous, and \$300 for the \$200 Club.	

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!