

ST. ANN MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH 41 Cross Rd. Waterford, CT 06385

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August 20, 2023 12th Sunday After Pentecost

Intentions this weekend:

Saturday 5:00 pm Liturgy: For the repose of the soul of Joseph Yameen, the father of Yolla El Khoury. This is requested by Albert and Jamal Doro and family. May his memory be eternal.

For the repose of the soul of Emilie Suzanne Gorra, requested by her loving son Frederick Shakir. May her memory be eternal.

Sunday 8:00 am Spanish/English Liturgy: For the peace, health, and salvation of Irene McCarthy and Kathleen McCarthy. Requested by Father Dennis.

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, 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: "Without doubt, Jesus Christ could have abolished pain and suffering in a single stroke, and, by virtue of the infinite grace of Redemption, restored man to a state of complete, unmixed bliss that he enjoyed in the paradise of innocence. He did not so wish. He judged that, for some reason, suffering would be a source of merit, a gain, a source of glory, and a means of renewal and triumph; that, for the greater number, it would be a necessary expiation (the act of extinguishing the guilt incurred by something). He therefore maintained suffering, but purified, ennobled, and transfigured it by taking it upon Himself. He became a man of sorrows, *virum dolorum* (Man of Sorrows, Latin, from Isaiah 53:3), in the strict and absolute sense of these words."---Father Charles Arminjon

Quote of the Day: "Nothing seems tiresome or painful when you are working for God Who pays well; Who rewards even a cup of cold water given in love of Him."---Saint Dominic Savio

Bible Verse of the Day: "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel. It is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: for Jew first, and then Greek. For in it is revealed the righteousness of God from faith to faith; as it is written, 'the one who is righteous by faith will live.'"---Romans 1:16-17

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 address, email address, and cell phone number. Please read these messages when they arrive! They are not "spam"!

Sanctuary Light for August: It will be illuminated for the repose of the soul of David Facas. This month marks the 16th anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord. This is requested by his loving Aunt and Godmother, Gloria Jeffords, and her husband John Jeffords.. May his memory be eternal!

Enders Island: A great success with 76 people attending: 45 from St Basil's, Rhode Island, 2 from Annunciation Cathedral, West Roxbury, MA., and 29 from our parish. A big thank you to Subdeacon Paul Zalonski, who arrived at 3:00 pm to set up the church. Thanks to Subdeacon Kevin, Sean Donkin, and Gerard Massad for their help in repacking all our material. Thanks to Father Ephrem, Father Ed, and Father Joe for concelebrating the Liturgy.

40 Day Memorial: We will have a 40 Day Memorial for Joseph Yameen, who is the father of Yolla El Khoury on Sunday, August 27, at the end of Liturgy. Yolla and her husband Bechara, invite you to a meal at Filomena's on Boston Post Road.

Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial: This will occur at the end of 10:00 a.m. Liturgy on Sunday, September 3.

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!

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 August 27. 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, August 20, after Liturgy in the Church Hall

Financial update:

Thank you. A big thanks to Captain Kathleen McCarthy, Father Dennis' sister, who sent \$3,000 to pay the \$2,800 for our new zero turn lawnmower plus \$200 for a building fund. She lives in Florida and has devoted her life to taking care of our elderly mother. She did not have to do this because we are not her parish, but she is generous beyond words, and, in my opinion, a true Saint of God. Thanks Kathy, from your loving brother Dennis.

Bills paid this week:

✓ Enders Island: \$528.00 for balance due for Enders Island Picnic.

Total bills paid the last 2 weeks: \$528.00. Total collected the past 2 weeks: \$5,985.60. We had surplus this past two weeks of \$5,457.60. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2022, we have a surplus now of \$14, 153.95 in 50 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	
Next Weekend	Saturday: Reader: Volunteer		Sunday: Volunteer	
August 6	\$587.00	31 Adults and 1	Included in the	
		child attended	collection: \$0.00 for	Thanks to all
			other purposes.	who always
				make up their
				missed
August 12 & 13	\$5,398.60	66 Adults and 6	Included in the	envelope,
		Children	collection:\$643.00 for	including
		attended	candles. \$94.60 from the	Fuel and
			Clothing Shed, \$20 from	Building.
			Enders Island, \$120 for	Fund.
			the 200 Club	