



ST. ANN MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH	
41 Cross Rd, Waterford, CT 06385	
http://www.stannmelkitechurch.org	860-442-2211
Pastor: Father Dennis McCarthy Email: abounadennis@gmail.com Cell phone: 860 287 0677	September 23, 2023 1st Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Intentions this weekend:

Saturday 5:00 pm Liturgy: For the repose of the soul of Helen Chanowsky, the loving aunt of Father Dennis, requested by Father Dennis and Lisa.

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

Sunday 10:00 am Liturgy: For the repose of the soul of Larry Jetmore, requested by his loving wife Judy. May his memory be eternal!

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, William Brown, Rebecca and her son Karter. Alexa Massad.

Meditation of the Day: “Always be impartial and just in your deeds. Put yourself into your neighbor’s place, and him in yours, and you will judge fairly. Frequently, therefore, examine your heart, whether it is so disposed towards your neighbor, as you would have his disposed towards you, were you to change places; for this is the true test.”---Saint Francis de Sales

Quote of the Day: “You must speak to Jesus, not only with your lips, but also with your heart; actually, on certain occasions, you should speak with only your heart”---Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina

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 September, we will pray on Wednesday, September 13, and Wednesday, September 27, at 5:30pm.**

Who were King Saint Louis IX’s most important dinner guests? Sitting around the King of France’s personal table were 13 of those most dear to him. He was the King of France and the founder of the Sorbonne, one of Europe’s most prestigious universities. He was friends with Saint Thomas Aquinas and Saint Bonaventure. He had plenty of important people to dine with him. Yet the ones he invited to join him for his nightly meal were not nobles, or scholars or aristocrats. They were the poor of his kingdom.

For Saint Louis, this nightly meal was not an obligation or a show, but an opportunity to serve his people with Christ-like love, a love that he experienced firsthand. As the King, Saint Louis grew up in a home influenced by the faith of his mother. His father, Louis VIII, died when Louis was 12 years old. Inspired by his mother and the Catholic history of his kingdom, Saint Louis developed a sincere and ardent love for the Catholic faith. This love grew as he led his country and initiated many reforms.

He was also brave, but not a great military strategist. Disheartened by the Islamic control of the Holy land, King Louis led his army in the 7th Crusade. His Crusade was successful in seizing Damietta in Egypt, but his army was soon weakened by disease, cut off from outside support, and captured. Louis was taken captive by Muslim forces and remained in Syria for four years, until he was ransomed for what would amount to 80 million dollars today.

Upon his return to France, Louis only grew in his devotion to his people. He founded hospitals, visited the sick, and cared personally for people with leprosy- he united France –lords and townsfolk, peasants and priests and knights-by the force of his personality and humility. For many years the nation was at peace and flourishing. With his emphasis on true beauty and belief in the importance of education, Paris grew into a powerful, cosmopolitan city and hub for the arts and education.

Rather than to live comfortably, enjoying his successful reign, he was again moved by the growing advances of Islam. At the age of 56, he led another Crusade into northern Africa, where he tragically contracted a disease and passed away.

As many humans, he did some terrible things. He imprisoned Jewish leaders and forced them to admit to anti-Christian passages in the *Talmud* and religious law. He, also, set the punishment for blasphemy to mutilation of the tongue and lips. This makes one wonder, perhaps, why he was canonized. Like us all, he was a flawed man.

Bible Verse of the Day: “O, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever.”---1 Chronicles 16:34

Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial: This will occur at the end of 10:00 a.m. Liturgy on Sunday, October 1.

NOTES, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Annual Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Grace Monastery, 11 Race Hill Road, Guilford, CT.: It will take place next Sunday, October 1 at 3:00pm. We will celebrate Vespers, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Holy Rosary, and a short procession to the Fatima Shrine. The priest will be Father Brian Mulchay, OP. Join us for the trip. The intention for this Rosary Sunday in the Roman Catholic Church has been designated by Pope Francis for peace in Ukraine. Father Dennis has room for three pilgrims in his car.

Annual Fall Yard Sale: Saturday, October 14 from 9:00am to 3:00 pm; rent a place on the lawn for a \$20 fee. We have tables available for those who may need one or two. Just set your items up and sell. You keep the profit. You would be surprised at what people will buy! Everyone in the parish has something they want to dispose of. Instead of putting it in the landfill, sell it!

200 Club: Our last drawing for the year occurred on June 11. If you wish to participate in the September 2023 to September 2024, 200 Club year, the cost is now \$60. The prizes remain the same. These are the people who have joined for this year’s drawings. If you wish to join, you still can. Our first drawing will take place on Sunday, September 30, after Liturgy.

1. John Jeffords
2. Gloria Jeffords
3. Bechara El Khoury
4. Alex Antipoff
5. Joe Doro
6. Paul Zalonski
7. Faouzi Hage
8. Katia Hage
9. George Homsey
10. Ed Najim
11. Tim Jones
12. Afif Hage
13. Joumana Hajj
14. Gabriel Hajj
15. Laura Massad
16. Gerard Massad
17. Father Dennis
18. Lisa
19. Karen Jones
20. Joe Zizik
21. Roberta Zizik
22. Ray Sobanski
23. Anna Sobanski

If you joined and your name is not on this list, please see Father Dennis.

Financial update; Bills paid last week:

- ✓ Eparchy \$6,126.30 for assessment, medical insurance, and retirement fund for August and September.
- ✓ Integrated Security Systems: \$408.00 for security/fire alarm system maintenance.
- ✓ Enders Island: \$60.00 for 3 people who were not in our original count.
- ✓ Landscaping: \$250.00 for fertilizer and mums.
- ✓ Maintenance: \$56.03 for cleaning supplies for church and church hall.
- ✓ Miscellaneous: \$70.14 for flowers for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos and toilet paper and paper towels for church and church hall.
- ✓ Saint Elijah Day: \$130.00 for food and supplies for the barbeque.
- ✓ Eastern Christian Bulletin Service: \$94.00 for weekly bulletin covers.

Total bills paid the last week: \$7,194.47 Total collected last week \$1,125.00. We had deficit last week of \$6,069.47. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2023 we have a deficit of \$3,584.47 in three 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	
September 16 & 17	\$1,125.00	34 Adults and 2 Children attended the Liturgies last weekend.	Included in the collection: \$45.00 for candles and \$60.00 for the 200 Club.
			Thanks to all who always make up their missed envelope, including Fuel and Building Fund.