



ST. ANN MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH	
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Pastor: Father Dennis McCarthy Email: abounadennis@gmail.com Cell phone: 860 287 0677	November 26, 2023 13th Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Intentions this weekend:

Saturday 5:00 pm Liturgy: For the repose of the souls of Amal Karam and Nimo Tamer, requested by Joumana Hajj. May their memories be eternal!

Sunday 8:00 am Spanish/English Liturgy: For the repose of the souls of Solomon and Thecla Massad and Afanasi and Julia Zizik, requested by Joe Zizik. May their memories be eternal!

Sunday 10:00 am Liturgy: : For the peace, health, and salvation of Irene and Kathleen McCarthy, the mother and sister, respectively, of Father Dennis. Also, for the repose of the souls of Thomas John McCarthy (father) and Matthew Brown-McCarthy (son) This is requested by Father Dennis and Lisa.

Please pray for: Peace in the Ukraine, Middle East, and anywhere in the world where there is armed conflict, hunger, and abuse. Pray that all leaders of the world have a spiritual awakening to dispose of their self-interest and, rather, care for their people, as Christ would want them to. Let them become peacemakers. As the priest prays on page 40 of our yellow booklets...”for our public servants, for the government, and for all who protect us. O Lord, grant them peaceful rule that we too, in their tranquility, may lead calm and quiet life in all virtue and honor”.

Nativity Fast: In Melkite observance, this fast begins at sundown on December 10 and continues until sundown on December 21.

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, 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 Moore and her son Karter Moore, Alexa Massad

Bible Verse of the Day: “See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us, is that it did not know Him.”---1 John 3:1

Meditation of the Day: “Essentially a soldier, the Christian is always on the lookout. She or he has sharper ears and hears an undertone that others miss. A Christian’s eyes see things in a particularly candid light, and they sense something to which others are insensible, the streaming of a vital current through all things. The Christian is never submerged in life, but keeps head and shoulders clear of it and eyes free to look upward. Consequently, the Christian has a deeper sense of responsibility than others. When this awareness and watchfulness disappear, Christian life loses its edge; it becomes dull and ponderous.” --- Father Romano Guardini

Quote of the Day: “People do not fear a powerful hostile army as the powers of hell fear the name and protection of Mary.”---Saint Bonaventure

Who was called “Bishop Boots”? We know him as the teacher and defender of Saint Thomas Aquinas. Born into German nobility in the early 1200’s, Saint Albert the Great displeased his family when he answered the call to Dominican life. The Dominicans were a fairly new and poor order, considered beneath wealthy people’s notice. Albert loved the Dominican rule, and delighted in studying and teaching. In fact, he was so uncannily brilliant that jealous people went about saying that he practiced magic.

He was appointed Bishop of Regensburg in 1260 and obediently, but a little reluctantly, accepted the appointment. He was a very active bishop. He visited all the parishes in his diocese, traveling far and frequently. He refused to ride a horse or even a donkey. He walked everywhere. His faithful affectionately called him “Bishop Boots”. Because of his great love for study, he resigned the position after two years and returned to the universities of Cologne and Paris. Though he was soon called to serve the pope and the Dominicans, he still found time to write extensively and add to his great knowledge through study.

NOTES, UPCOMING EVENTS:

53rd National Melkite Convention: Hosted by Our Lady of the Annunciation Melkite Catholic Cathedral at the Marriot Hotel in Quincy, Massachusetts from July 4-7, 2024. More information will follow, as we receive it from the Eparchy.

Divine Liturgy: Holy Feast: Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple: This important Feast Day was celebrated on Tuesday, November 21 at 5:30 PM. We had twenty parishioners attend! This was a great gathering to celebrate this important Holy Day. Thank you to all who attended. Holy Days are important for the building up of your faith. Your attendance was noticed by God and Mary, and I am sure that you will receive special graces for taking the time to honor the Mother of God. I pray that the rest of the parish will attend the next Holy Day also. Father Dennis

Sanctuary Lamp: The lamp will be illuminated during the month of November for the repose of the soul of Stephen Massad, requested by Gloria and John Jeffords. May his memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour: Many of our sister churches have a different family or individual sponsor the coffee hour on Sundays. They simply bring in some food to the coffee hour; the coffee is made by Pierre Hage. This is a great way to share food at table, as Jesus did so many times. It does not have to be elaborate-some cookies or pastry and maybe some fruit. It should not turn into a competition trying to outdo the last week’s efforts. Simple and easy is the key. I have put a sign up sheet on the table in the back of the church. The coffee hour is extremely important. It allows us to gather after the Divine Liturgy and have fellowship, which is a desire of our Lord. If you attend one of our other Divine Liturgies, this should not stop you from sponsoring the coffee hour and attending the Sunday, 10 am Liturgy that day. This is a way to serve your church and your brothers and sisters, and it is so easy. Please participate and have fun! Thanks to all who have volunteered. We have volunteers through December 31, 2023. **The schedule for the next 4 weeks is: Nov 26-Joe and Cindy Doro, Dec 3- Joumana and Gabriel Hajj; Dec 10-Dina Matar.**

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

Reader List: There is a sign-up list on the table in the back of the Church for those who would like to read the Epistle on particular days. Father Dennis will teach you how to do it, if you need a refresher.

Divine Liturgy: Monday, December 4 at 5:30 PM: Saint Barbara’s Day. We will light sparklers at the end of Liturgy outside. Saint Barbara is the patron saint of artillerymen and women, among others. This would be a fitting way to celebrate her Feast Day!

Divine Liturgy: Sunday, December 10 at 10AM: Saint Nicholas, the Wonderworker, will visit us and will give coins and gifts to the children at the end of Liturgy.

Christmas Schedule:

- ❖ **Sunday:** December 24, at 8:00 AM; regular Spanish/English Liturgy
- ❖ **Sunday:** December 24, at 10:00 AM; regular Sunday Liturgy
- ❖ **Sunday:** December 24, at 5:00 PM; Feast of The Nativity of the Lord (**Change in time**)
- ❖ **Monday: December 25, at 10:00 AM; Feast of the Nativity of the Lord**

200 Club: If you wish to participate in the October 2023 to September 2024, 200 Club year, the cost is now \$60. The prizes remain the same. If you wish to join, you still can. Our first drawing took place on Sunday, October 8 after Liturgy. Our next drawing will be on December 16 after Liturgy at Coffee Hour.

Holy Rosary: On 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 November, we will pray on Wednesday, November 8, and Wednesday, November 29, at 5:30pm. We are getting between 12-15 people at the Holy Rosary. If you are not attending, please try to come. It is beautiful!**

Financial update; bills paid last week:

- Landscaping to Joan Van Ness: \$525.00 for lawn mowing, planting, trimming, fertilizing, and weeding for the months of September and October.
- Cleaning: \$240.00 to Michael Taptick for cleaning of the Church, conference room, conference room foyer, conference room bathroom, Church hall and bathrooms, Church hall kitchen, and Church hall foyer for September, October, and November
- Parking: \$100.00 for transportation to Providence Airport and back for Father Dennis’ trip to the Clergy Conference in Detroit
- Bishop’s Dinner: \$328.81 for food and supplies.
- Serluca Dumpster:\$375.00 for cleaning out the remainder of the barn, garage, basement, and garage storage room.

Total bills paid the last week: \$1,568.61. Total collected last week \$1,767.00. We had a surplus last week of \$198.19. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2023 we have a deficit of \$2,362.55 in eleven weeks. **A bad start to the fiscal year!** 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.

Please consider tithing. That way we will not need to rely on extra events to support our church. For example, if you make \$50,000 per year, the tithe would be \$5,000. If you gave 5%, you would contribute \$2,500 per year. A \$2,362.55 deficit in 11 weeks of the new fiscal year is not sustainable! We are not a poor parish.

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: 10 AM: Sean Donkin		
November 18 & November 19	\$1,767.00	50 Adults and 5 Children attended Liturgy last weekend.	Included in the collection: \$59.00 for candles and \$120.00 for the Building Fund		