



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	February 18, 2024 Sunday of Orthodoxy

Intentions this weekend:

Saturday 5:00 pm Liturgy: For the peace, health, and salvation Father Roger Boucher.

Sunday 10:00 am Liturgy: For the peace health and salvation of Father John Azar.

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, 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, Father John Azar, the Tillman Brown Family, Father Roger Boucher, Ron Abraham, Joseph Perry

Quote of the Day: “Be one of the small numbers who finds the way of life, and enter by the narrow gate into Heaven. Take care not to follow the majority and the common herd, so many of whom are lost. Do not be deceived; there are only two roads: one that leads to life and is narrow; the other that leads to death and is wide. There is no middle way.”--- Saint Louis de Montfort

Today’s Meditation: “When you are before the altar, where Christ reposes, you ought no longer to think that you are amongst men; but believe that there are troops of angels and archangels standing by you, and trembling with respect before the sovereign Master of Heaven and earth. Therefore, when you are in church, be there in silence, fear, and veneration”. ---Saint John Chrysostom

Bible Verse of the Day: “I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep Thy word. I do not turn aside from Thy ordinances, for Thou hast taught me. How sweet are Thy words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through Thy precepts, I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.”--- Psalm 119:101-104

“Father forgive them for they know not what they do.” The words are stunning upon impact. It wasn’t enough for Jesus to say to us, “Love your enemies”. He showed us how to do it. He forgave Peter, his friend, who betrayed Him, the chief priests who falsely accused Him, the cowardly judge, Pontius Pilate, who condemned Him, the vicious crowd that called for His crucifixion. All when He was perfectly and clearly innocent.

It doesn’t make forgiving our enemies so difficult. Though we, too, suffer hurt, betrayal, and other wounds from those who challenge our charity in this life, Christ has gone before us in all these sufferings, and we have His grace to assist us.

Jesus wasn’t just addressing the individuals responsible for His death. He was asking His Father to have mercy on all of us. On you and on me. Sure, we can say that we are not the historical Judas, or the soldiers that nailed Him to a cross. But, our sins were the reason for His Passion. It was our sin that He atoned for with His Precious Blood. Our sin tormented Him far more than any physical torture.

And strangely, paradoxically, and mysteriously-the very Blood that our sins shed was the cause of their forgiveness. The Blood of Christ, which, as Saint Paul says, “speaks more eloquently than that of Abel” (Hebrews 12:24), cries out to His Father for mercy, rather than for justice that Abel’s demanded. Not only His Blood, but His whole being, supplicate His Father on our behalf. These words encapsulate the entire purpose of His Passion, His death upon the Cross.—*From the Catholic Company as edited by Father Dennis*

Lighting candles: We have two candle stands in the front of the church. I would like to encourage everyone to light a candle before Liturgy. Please light a candle every week, if possible. A donation of \$1.00 per candle is requested to cover the cost of the pure beeswax candles and to allow the church to make a small profit on them. Thank you---Father Dennis

NOTES, UPCOMING EVENTS:

Lenten Schedule: We will celebrate Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm and Great Compline and Akathist on Fridays at 5:30 pm. **No Rosary during Lent, as we will be celebrating Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesdays.**

Coffee Hour: A new signup sheet for the next quarter is on the table in the back of the church. On Sunday, February 18, Joumana and Mindy Hajj will host.

Readers of the Epistle: A new signup sheet for the next quarter is on the table in the back of the church.

Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial: This will occur at the end of 10:00 a.m. Liturgy on Sunday, February 25 and March 3.

200 Club: Our next drawing will be on February 25, after Liturgy at Coffee Hour.

Divine Liturgy: On Saturday, March 2 it will be offered for the repose of the souls of Elias and Abla Jabbour and Jacqueline Jabbour Matta, the loving parents and sister of Joumana Hajj. This is requested by Joumana. May their memories be eternal!

Divine Liturgy: On Sunday, March 10 will be offered for the repose of the soul of Elias Gharios (10 years). This is requested by his loving wife Abroze and family. May his memory be eternal!

Divine Liturgy: On Sunday, March 10 will be offered for the peace, health, and salvation of Kristen Sobanski (her birthday). This is requested by Anna and Raymond Sobanski.

Financial update; bills paid last week:

- Eversouce: \$884.88 for electricity.
- Anytime Fuel Oil: \$875.22 for fuel oil for the rectory.

Total bills paid the last week: \$1,760.10. Total collected last week \$1,898.87. We had a surplus last week of \$138.77. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2023, we have a deficit of \$3,298.88 in 24 weeks.

This Weekend	Saturday Reader: Paul Zalonski		Sunday Reader: Joumana Hajj	Thanks to all who always make up their missed envelope, including Fuel and Building Fund.
Next Weekend	Saturday Reader: Volunteer		Sunday Reader: Joumana Hajj	
February 10 and 11	\$1,898.87	53 Adults and 8 Children attended Liturgies last week.	Included in the collection: \$34.00 for candles, \$20.00 for flowers, \$50.00 for the Building Fund, and \$80.87 for copier machine refund. Donations for memorials, baptisms, marriages, priest stole offerings, house blessings, and funerals are included in the collection total.	