



<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>May 5, 2024</b> <b>Sunday of the Man Born Blind</b>

### Intentions this weekend:

**Saturday 5:00 pm Liturgy:** For all the sick and suffering people of the world, requested by the parishioners of Saint Ann Church.

**Sunday 10:00 am Liturgy:** For the peace, health and salvation of Irene McCarthy and Kathleen McCarthy, the mother and sister of Father Dennis, requested by Father Dennis and Lisa

**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 for your intentions. It is a tradition in our Church. 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 EVENT:

**Divine Liturgy: Leave-taking of Easter:** Wednesday, May 8 at 5:30 pm

**Divine Liturgy: Feast of the Ascension:** Thursday, May 9, at 5:30PM

**2nd Collection:** There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection next weekend for the Home Missions. Please be as generous as you can.

**Sunday Coffee Hour After Liturgy:** The coffee hour snacks will be provided by Father Dennis and Lisa, this Sunday, May 5. There is a signup sheet on the table in the back of the church for the next 2 months

**Epistle Reader Volunteers:** There is a signup sheet on the table in the back of the church. If you would like to read the Epistle, please sign up. If you have never done it, Father Dennis will teach you how to do it.

**Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial:** This will occur at the end of 10:00 a.m. Liturgy on Sunday, May 5.

**Yard Sale and Car Wash:** This will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at our church. We are partnering with Cavalry Chapel of Uncasville, a Protestant; Christ centered church that does wonderful work in the community. Their profits from their portion of the yard sale and car wash are funding teenage missionaries to the Navajo Nation in Arizona.

**Holy Rosary:** The second and 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 60 minutes with Jesus, Mary, and Joseph in Church! In May, we will pray on Wednesday, May 29, at 5:30 pm, as May 8 is the Leave-taking of Easter.

**200 Club:** The next drawing is on Sunday, May 12, at Coffee Hour.

### 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 antidoron. 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

**Picnic at Waterford Beach:** Mark your calendars! It will be on Saturday, July 13 from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm. There will not be a Saturday Liturgy on that day. More information will be forthcoming.

**Ender’s Island:** Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God annual Divine Liturgy and Picnic on August 15. Liturgy will be at 5:00 pm, followed by the picnic. We only have room for 60 people. More information will be forthcoming.

**Financial update; bills paid last week:**

- **Integrated Security Solutions:** \$408.00 for the yearly charge for our fire alarm system for the period June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025
- **Connecticut Business Systems:** \$28.03 for paper copying exceeding our monthly allowance
- **Uncas Gas:** \$388.25 for propane to heat the hall and church

**Total bills** paid the last week: \$824.28. **Total collected** last week \$1,842.00. We had a surplus last week of \$1,017.72. For the Fiscal Year, which began September 1, 2023; **we have a deficit of \$3,192.54 in 35 weeks.**

**Donations:** We have about 40 people who give on a regular basis. If those parishioners gave just \$5.00 more than they usually do per week, we would have **another \$10,400 per year in donations.** We are not a church of poor people. Everyone can afford another \$5.00 per week. Thank you for all that you do give. For transparency, I donate \$60.00 to the collection per week, and do not take a food allowance, accept reimbursement for Social Security and Medicare Tax, my car tax, car insurance, and car registration fee which, by Eparchy Financial Regulations, should be reimbursed to me. For 4 years, I did not take a salary from the church. It is not a healthy thing when the priest is the biggest contributor to the financial security of the church. I am not a wealthy man and could certainly use this money. Lisa and I do not own a house, but we want to see this church survive. When I retire, the next priest will probably expect all reimbursement that the Eparchy allows. We have to really think about what this church means to us and to make a financial commitment to make sure it exists into the future. Many people are giving the same amount per week as when I started here in 2017. We all know how the price of living has increased. It has for this church, also. I hate asking for money, but what I am asking, I believe, is very reasonable. Father Dennis

This Weekend	Saturday Reader: Volunteer		Sunday Reader: Volunteer		Thanks to all who always make up their missed envelope, including Fuel and Building Fund.
Next Weekend	Saturday Reader: Volunteer		Sunday Reader: Volunteer		
April 27 and 28	\$1,842.00	37 Adults and 2 Child attended the Divine Liturgies last weekend	Included in the collection: \$16.00 for candles, \$450.00 for Hall Rental, and \$200.00 for the Building Fund. Donations for memorials, baptisms, marriages, priest stole offerings, house blessings, and funerals are included in the collection total.		