

<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>September 22, 2024</b> <b>First Sunday After the</b> <b>Exaltation of the Holy</b> <b>Cross</b>

**Intentions this Saturday:**

- ❖ For the peace, health, and salvation of David Petercheff; on the occasion of his birthday, requested by Anna and Raymond Sobanski, his loving mother and father-in law.

**Intentions this Sunday:**

- ❖ For the peace, health, and salvation of Patricia Sylvester, who is suffering from cancer. Please Lord, provide Patricia with strength, courage, and comfort during this time of trial. Take her by the hand and guide and help her through Your love and compassion for this child of Yours. This Liturgy is requested by Kathleen Marie McCarthy, who is a long time friend of Patricia. Kathleen is Father Dennis' loving sister. Kathleen devotes her life to the care of others. May God bless her abundantly!

**NOTES AND UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Saturday Divine Liturgy:** Saturday Liturgy has resumed at 5:00 PM

**Sanctuary Lamp:** The Lamp, for the month of October, is lighted for the repose of the soul of Mary Jane Facas, as requested by Gloria and John Jeffords.

**Holy Rosary:** In September, we will pray on Wednesday, September 25, at 5:30 pm.

**200 Club:** Our new year for the 200 Club begins in October. If you wish to participate please give your money to Pierre Hage or Father Dennis. It is \$60.00 for the year. We will need 21 people to sign up to break even. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the rear of the church. Please sign up by September 30.

**Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memorial:** This will occur at the end of Liturgy on Sunday, October 6.

**Religious Education for the youth:** It will begin on Saturday, September 28, at 3:30. Please contact Joumana Hajj, if you have questions.

**Religious Education for adults:** Beginning in November, we will have religious education for adults. This will be one hour beginning at 5:30 PM, and it will be held on the Wednesdays that we do not have the Rosary. The Rosary is prayed on the second and last Wednesday of each Month at 5:30 PM. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the back of the church, if you will attend these classes.

**Parish Advisory Council:** The election will not take place this weekend, as there isn't a need for it. We have six positions on the council, and four people signed up. The members of the Parish Advisory Council are Joumana Hage, Gil Shasha, and Zach Bowman.

**Coffee Hour:** The list to provide snacks for Sunday coffee hour, after Liturgy, is on the table in the rear of the church.

**Hall Floor:** Thank you to Michael Taptick, one of our parishioners, for helping Father Dennis move the chairs, tables, and equipment in the hall and the hall kitchen to the garage and back; so that the hall floor could be stripped, waxed, and buffed. Thank you to the members of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) for contributing \$1,700.00 for the work and moving the really heavy items outside and back inside when the floor was done. Please take a minute after Liturgy to look at the beautiful job that was done by Wayne and Mary West. The AA meeting members have been a big help to Father Dennis. Members will be trimming the grass with weed trimmers and they have been weeding the gardens. They are doing this all for free, because they appreciate using our hall, even though they already pay rent. It is amazing the respect, gratitude, and love of our buildings and property that these kind people have. One person, this week, noticed that the outside water faucet was leaking badly. He fixed it, without anyone asking, and paid for the materials. The initiative that they have is amazing. If they see something that needs to be done, they just do it. God bless them all.

**Bishop's Appeal:** The 2024 Bishop's Appeal drive has begun. Our goal this year is \$7,500.00. In 2022, our goal was \$6,000.00. We exceeded our goal by giving \$6,328.00. In 2023, we never received our goal. We collected \$720.00. Our goal for 2024 is \$7,500.00. Father Dennis and Lisa have already mailed their check for \$500.00 to the Eparchy. That leaves us with needing to collect another \$7,000.00. We have 40 people in the parish who donate on the weekend on a regular or semi-regular basis. If those people donated \$175.00, we would achieve our goal. The appeal ends on December 31, 2024. If you give \$43.75 in September, October, November, and December we will reach our goal. Weekly, that would amount to \$12.50 per week over the 14 week period. You will soon receive a letter from the Bishop, which explains all. When you send money, make sure you put in the memo portion of your check: St. Ann, Waterford, CT.

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

- Eversource: \$960.00 for electricity for barn, church, hall, and rectory.
- Catholic Mutual Life Insurance: \$1,500.00 for property insurance.
- Water Bill: \$115.58 for the period 5/ 30/ 2024 to 9/2 2024 a reduction in our bill for same period last year. Father Dennis did this by watering plants less and washing and drying clothes at the commercial laundry to save the church on water and electricity.

We spent \$2,575.58 last week. Total income was \$ 2,085.00. That leaves us with a deficit for the week of \$490.58. We now have for the new fiscal, which began on September 1, 2024, a deficit of \$410.33.

**Last fiscal year, which began on 9/1/2023 and ended on 8/31/2024 left us with a deficit of \$5,931.98. We spent more money than we collected. This is not a good economic fact.**

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		
Sept 14 and 15	\$1,511.00 donated at the two Liturgies	40 adults and 2 children attended.	We also collected: \$284.00 from candles, \$280.00 from Hall Rental, and \$10.00 from the Poor box. Donations for Memorial Liturgies, Baptisms, Weddings, Priest Stole Offerings, Blessing of Homes, and Funerals are included in the collection total, as these are private matters.		