

ST. ANN MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH 41 Cross Rd, Waterford, CT 06385 http://www.stannmelkitechurch.org860-442-2211	
Pastor: Father Dennis McCarthy Email: abounadennis@gmail.com Cell phone: 860 287 0677	May 25, 2025 Sunday of the Man Born Blind

Intentions:

Saturday, Divine Liturgy: For the repose of the souls of Jamal Doro’s father, Nicholas Hage; her mother, Alice, her brother, George, and all the members of the Hage family that are deceased May their memories be eternal! This is requested by Jamal and Albert Doro.

Sunday, Divine Liturgy: For the repose of the soul Irene V. McCarthy, requested by Kathleen and Father Dennis McCarthy. May our dear mother’s memory be eternal!

NOTES AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

Feast of the Ascension Divine Liturgy: Thursday, May 29, at 5:30 pm

Sanctuary Lamp: It is lighted for June by Gloria and Jeff Jeffords for the repose of Gloria’s best friend, Gloria Massad. May her memory be eternal!

Financial update; bills paid this week:

We had 33 adults and 2 children at the two Liturgies last weekend. We collected, in the regular collection, \$705.00. In addition, we collected \$87.00 for candles; \$150.00 for memorials, \$200.00 for hall rental, \$50.00 for fuel, and \$13.00 from the Poor Box. We spent:

- Household: \$80.74 for food and cleaning supplies for one month
- Altar: \$142.32 for incense and charcoal
- Catholic Directory: \$20.00-being registered in this gives us proof of tax exemption from federal and state taxes.
- Anytime Oil: \$459.83 for fuel oil for heat in rectory
- Background check: \$28.00 for background check on Father Dennis. This is to make sure we have a safe environment and is a requirement of the Eparchy every year.
- Integrated Security Systems: \$\$408.00. This is a yearly charge for the security and fire alarm systems in the church, which are monitored 24 hours a day
- Catholic Mutual Insurance: \$900.00 on the first installment for property insurance for the year, which begins in March. Our bill for the year is \$9,614.00
- Weekly Donation Envelopes for 2026: \$358.81

Our total spending was \$2,397.70. Our total collection was \$1,205.00. Our weekly deficit was \$1,192.70. **The deficit for the fiscal year is now \$13,985.85 in 8 months. At this rate of loss, I predict we will have an \$18,832 deficit or loss for the fiscal tear. Coupled with last year’s loss of \$5,931.98, we are averaging about a \$10,000 loss per year. We have about 36 parishioners who give regularly. If they would increase their weekly donation by just \$5.00 per week, we would gain another \$9,100.00 in income. Please pray on it. Father Dennis**

Pope Francis’s Top Ten Guides To a More Positive Life:

- ❖ **Live and let live:** Everyone should be guided by this principle, he said, which has a similar expression in Rome with the saying” Move forward and let others do the same”.
- ❖ **Be giving of yourself to others:** People need to be open and generous to others, he said, because if you withdraw within yourself, you run the risk of becoming egocentric. And stagnant water becomes foul.
- ❖ **Proceed calmly:** The pope, who used to teach high school literature, used an image from an Argentine novel by Ricardo Guiraldes, in which the protagonist, Don Segundo Sombra, looks back on his life and how he lived it. He says that in his youth, he was a stream full of rocks that he carried with him; as an adult, a rushing river; and in old age, he was still moving, but slowly, like a pool of water. Francis liked the idea of the image of a pool of water—to have the ability to move with kindness and humility, calmness in life.
- ❖ **A healthy sense of leisure:** The pleasures of art, literature, and playing have been lost, Francis stated. Consumerism has brought us anxiety and stress, causing people to lose a healthy “culture of leisure”. Their time is swallowed up so people cannot share it with anyone. Even though many parents work long hours, they must set aside time to play with their children; work schedules make it complicated, but you must do it, he said. Families must also turn off the TV, when they sit down to eat, because having it on during mealtime does not let you communicate.
- ❖ **Sundays should be holidays:** Workers should have Sundays off. Sunday is for God and family.
- ❖ **Find innovative ways to create dignified jobs for young people:** If they have no opportunities, they may get into alcohol and drugs, and be more prone to suicide.
- ❖ **Respect and take care of nature:** Environmental degradation is one of the biggest challenges we have.
- ❖ **Stop being negative:** Talking badly about someone indicates low self esteem.
- ❖ **Don’t proselytize, respect other’s beliefs:** We can inspire others through witness and action.
- ❖ **Work for peace:** The call for peace must be shouted. Peace sometimes gives the impression of being quiet, but it is never quiet, peace is proactive and dynamic.