

ST. ANN MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

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May 3, 2026
Sunday of The Samaritan Woman

Intentions:

- ❖ **Saturday, Divine Liturgy:** For the peace, health, and salvation of Father Edward Kakaty
- ❖ **Sunday, Divine Liturgy:** For the peace, health, and salvation of Gerry Egan and John Jeffords
- ❖ **NOTES AND UPCOMING EVENTS:**
- ❖ **Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner Fundraiser:** Date is Saturday, June 13 at 6:00 pm. Please mark your calendars.

200 Club: Winners for April:

- \$50: Amanda Hajj
- \$25: Gus Hage
- \$10: Hendrick Facas, Jr.
- \$10: Michael El Khoury
- \$10: Laura Massad

The checks will be mailed to your homes this week. The next drawing will be held on Sunday, May 24, after Liturgy.

Divine Liturgy: On May 24th, the Liturgy will be offered for the peace, health, and salvation of Thecla Abbiati, on the occasion of her birthday and also for the peace, health, and salvation of Kaien Sobanski on the occasion of his 6th birthday. Thecla is the sister of Anna Sobanski and Gerard Massad and Kaien is the grandson of Anna and Raymond Sobanski. This is offered by Anna and Raymond Sobanski.

Divine Liturgy: The Liturgy will be offered for Patrick and Joanne Moukawsher on Sunday, June 7, on the occasion of their wedding anniversary (May 25)

The Sanctuary Lamp: The Sanctuary Lamp is lighted for the month of June for Gloria Massad. This is offered by John Jeffords and his late wife Gloria. They were the best of friends. May both Gloria's memories be eternal! We miss them both. Father Dennis

Financial update: The following is a summary of income and expenses over the last week:

Income:

- Candles: \$105.00
- Hall Rental: \$255.00
- Regular Collection: \$1,382.00
- Total: \$1,742.00

Expenses:

- Our expenses for last week are listed below. For the Liturgies last weekend, we had 35 adults and 2 children attend.
- Sewer Bill: \$362.00 for the quarter
 - Water Bill: \$281.65 for the quarter
 - Palms for Palm Sunday: \$46.00
 - Eversource: \$481.19
 - Security and Fire System: \$408.00 for the year
 - Total: \$1,578.84

What does the word “*metanoia*” mean? From that time that Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand”. These lines from the Gospel of Matthew are immediately recognizable. Matthew marks this line as the beginning of Jesus’ public preaching. Opening up his public ministry, Christ calls us to repent. However, although easy to recognize, these words may be difficult to truly understand. A part of this difficulty lies in the use of the word “*repent*”. For English speakers, repentance has a connotation of sorrow, accompanied by action. However in the original Greek the first spoken word of Christ’s public ministry is “*metanoia*”. When translated literally, it means to go beyond the mind you have.

Metanoia is formed by combining the Greek words *meta* (beyond) and *nous* (mind or spirit). *Metanoia* connotes something more than what we typically mean by the word *repent*. It hints at a change occurring on a deeper level of one’s being. Rather than urging us to a single instance of sorrow, Jesus is urging us to change our way of seeing and knowing, to go beyond ourselves. Christ is calling us to go beyond our own mind, to see things from God’s perspective. Our mind is human, a flawed and sometimes weak mind. With the advent of Jesus, Who took on our nature and transformed it, everything is changed.

With Christ, we receive grace. Grace enables us to think and act beyond our fallen human mind and ways. With Jesus, we can truly repent with a spirit beyond our own. This is true conversion. This is the way Christ called us from the start of his ministry on earth! **Note:** *Metanoia* is not to be confused with *metany* (or *metonia*) which is a profound act of worship in the Eastern tradition, involving a bow or prostration, symbolizing repentance and humility.