St. John Chrysostom
Melkite Catholic Church
A Parish Community of the Eparchy of Newton
Weekly Bulletin for Sunday, Jul 24, 2022 - Tone 6 - Sunday of the Healing of Two Blind Men
Community Celebration of the Feast of Prophet Elias the Thesbite

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Rev. Deacon Sami Jajeh & Rev. Deacon Elie Hanna, Parish Administrators
Celebrant: Rev. George Gage
Attached Clergy: Rev. Dr. Thomas Flynn - Bi Ritual
Parish Advisory Council Chairperson - Deacon Elie Hanna - deaconelie@stjohnmelkite.org
Finance Council Chairperson - Deacon Sami Jajeh - deaconsami@stjohnmelkite.org
Cultural Center Manager - Jerome Hagley - jerome.hagley@gmail.com

10:00 AM – ORTHROS 10:30 AM – DIVINE LITURGY
Followed by Coffee Hour Fellowship in the Cultural Center.

Parish Church Year Theme
"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men...." (Colossians 3:23)

HAPPY TO HAVE VISITORS WITH US! Please sign our Visitor’s Guest Book in the narthex (entrance) of the church. If interested in receiving news, make sure we have an email address. And join us in the Cultural Center behind the Church to introduce yourself.

INTERESTED-IN-BECOMING-CATECHUMENS/PARISHIONERS? Please fill out an information form located in the narthex (entrance) of the church or calling the church office. We ask for an ongoing attendance period before requesting to be a member.

HOLY MYSTERIES (SACRAMENTS)
Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist: By appointment only; ideally please inform us during the 5th month of pregnancy for preparation of the Mysteries of Christian Initiation, administered together in our Byzantine tradition.
Repentance/Confession/Reconciliation: Confessions normally are available towards the end of Orthros. Please inform a Deacon or Usher, in advance, that you desire Confession so that they may alert the priest. Please go and stand by the right wall of the church so he sees you. All should prepare themselves well to receive the Eucharist properly each me.
Crowning in Marriage: By advanced appointment only; please call us 1+ year in advance of an anticipated marriage, before you book a place for your reception to complete the required questionnaire/research and to confirm availability.
Anointing with Holy Oil and/or Reception of Holy Eucharist: Anytime by personal request or by family request for those who are ill at home/nursing home/hospital or by anyone anticipating a hospital stay/surgery.
Sick Calls: If you wish to receive the Eucharist, be anointed and cannot come to the church, contact a Deacon to acquire a priest.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE INFO: Email contact@stjohnmelkite.org for any change of address, phone, or e-mail information.

ASCRITION TRANSFER (CHANGE OF RITE): To formally join the Melkite Church, let us know as the procedure has been updated.

CHURCH CONTACT: The old email stjchrys@bellsouth.net is not in use. Deacons may be contacted at: contact@stjohnmelkite.org or using e-mails above. All church-related business (e.g. liturgy commemorations) should be directed to them.
As a spiritual family, we encounter heaven on earth! As Sunday comes first in a week, so does God - it is the Lord’s Day (Kyriake in Greek); attending Divine Liturgy as a priority for all family members; making up of any missed financial support/increase of giving; young adults registering & sharing in financial support; and a resolve for all to let us live a renewed life in Christ through Church!

**THIS WEEKEND, SUN., JULY 24**
- Intentions below (Send requests for commemorations to contact@sjohnmelkite.org by Thursday)
- Blessing of Cars
- Cultural Center Coffee Hour

**THIS WEEKEND’S LITURGY COMMEMORATIONS**

**REPOSE IN THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM**
+Gabriela Suarez, requested by Deacon Elie Hanna and family

**HEALTH & SALVATION**
Rt. Rev. Archimandrite John Azar, requested by Deacon Elie Hanna and Family
Michael Shikany, requested by Deacon Elie Hanna and Family
Mary Beth Smith, requested by Deacon Elie Hanna and Family
Fr. Tom Flynn, requested by the community of St. John Chrysostom
Fr. Philaret Littlefield, requested by Chancellor’s office
NAMY conference, requested by the community of St. John Chrysostom
Peace in the World, especially in the U.S., Middle East, Holy Land, Ukraine, Nigeria

**LITURGY INFORMATION**

Liturgy Cards are available for any special intentions. Donations to the church are at your discretion.

**Mask Wearing:** The decision to wear a mask is one of personal discretion. Monitor CDC guidelines to make an informed decision.

**Altar Servers:** Contact Deacon Elie if interested. Servers’ robes are blessed for Orthros (9:50) and Divine Liturgy (10:15) Be early!

**Worship Guide (Typicon)** is offered for Divine Liturgy and contains the service’s changeable parts. Pick up a copy on entering the church, along with the liturgical books, or use the weekly email PDF if viewing online. Contact us for a complimentary home copy.

**Masstimes.org:** If traveling, consider researching schedules of weekend liturgies, (Melkite, Byzantine Catholic or Roman Catholic). If there is no Catholic Church in the area, you may attend an Orthodox church when on vacation.

**Health Hygiene and Protection:** Use hand sanitizer coming into and leaving the Church.

**UPCOMING AND IMPORTANT EVENTS**

**NOW THROUGH AUGUST:** PLEASE bring in non-perishable food items for the Atlanta Community Food Bank drive. Thank you!

**SUN., JULY 24 - CELEBRATION OF FEAST OF ST. ELIAS (JULY 20)** - Fr. George Gage will be celebrating liturgy and the blessing of cars. Come to liturgy and stay afterwards for the blessing. The feast of St. Elias is also the name day for Deacon Elie and all parishioners named Eli, Elie, Elias, etc.

**SAT, AUG 6 - FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION** - Commemorates one of the pinnacles of Jesus' earthly life, when he revealed his divinity to three of his closest disciples by means of a miraculous and supernatural light; it will be celebrated Sunday, AUG 7th. If you are willing and able to bring grapes for the feast, please let the deacons know ASAP at contact@sjohnmelkite.org.

**MON, AUG 15 - FEAST OF THE DORMITION** - The Dormition of the Mother of God is a Great Feast of the Eastern Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Oriental Orthodox and Churches. It celebrates the “falling asleep” of Mary the Theotokos, and her being taken up into heaven. We will celebrate this feast on Sunday, August 14th.

**SUN, AUG 20-21 - St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Church - Centennial Celebration** - Please support our brothers and sisters at St. Elias as they will be celebrating their 100th year anniversary. Saturday Banquet and Sunday Liturgical service will be held. See their website for more information. Banquet reservation deadline is July 24, 2022.

**PARISH PICNIC** – Saturday, September 24th is the date being considered as families will be back from travel, and the weather is excellent for a picnic this time of year. How does this date work for you? Please let the deacons know. As always, we thank Vic Maloof for being such a gracious and hospitable host.
STEWARDSHIP (AL WAQF) IS A WAY OF LIFE

This is our being entrusted by God with the gifts of the earth and of our church. We are all stewards: earthly caretakers and managers for the Lord. Our return of Time, Talent and Treasure to Him is our understanding of being good stewards (caretakers) of what is already His... It is a way of life!

TIME AND TALENT: Some suggestions for your participation in parish life are below, but there are many opportunities from liturgical and ministerial to maintenance and serving. Most importantly is to give your time and talent back to God.

THANK YOU to the Fr. John Retirement/Farewell committee for all the time (several months), talent and hard work they put forth to make the event a huge success! THANK YOU to all the volunteers prior to and during the event who’s hard work and help was instrumental in making the event run smoothly on Sunday.

Volunteers Needed to be Chairs for Ladies Society & Chairs for Men’s Club. Be a leader and help re-activate both groups!

Choir: Please consider joining the Choir, learning the chants and adding to the fulness of the Liturgy.

Readers: Take turns and read the Epistle in English or Arabic. Please contact Eric Hansen or a deacon to learn the rubrics.

Ushers: Adults to welcome people and take up the collections. Please see Jerome Hagley, Joe Manguno or a deacon.

Adult Altar Servers: Adults to volunteer to assist in the Holy Place including helping the youth. We will train and assist you.

Religious Education Teachers at the same time of sharing the faith with our young, we too will grow in our own faith.

Gift Shop Salespeople: people to staff the shop for those wishing to purchase items. Please speak with a deacon.

TREASURE: Please go to our Church website, www.stjohnmelkite.org and click on the “HOW TO DONATE” tab at the top, and then click on: “CLICK HERE TO DONATE NOW” Send an email to contact@stjohnmelkite to set up recurring ACH donations. All checks should be made to “St. John Chrysostom Melkite Church” with the exception of diocesan collections, which should be made out to “Diocese of Newton.” Please identify the purpose of all donations in the memo field (e.g. Weekly/Monthly Support, Commemoration for ________, Shepherd’s Care, etc.).

WHAT ABOUT TRADITION? Yes, the Church has begun to recognize tradition as a fourth “T” of stewardship, as we have received the apostolic tradition and the Melkite Byzantine tradition as a gift from God. To be stewards of it, we must not only learn it and grow spiritually but share it - perhaps by inviting a friend to the Divine Liturgy or praying for others, including those in our Prayer Line.

God With Us ONLINE: A collaborative outreach of the Eastern Catholic Bishops and eparchies of the USA to provide educational resources for the faithful in our Eastern Christian traditions. God With Us Online has many excellent talks, the opportunity to sign up for live educational webinars and other resources! All resources are offered free of charge.

Prayer Line: please keep in your prayers...

| Those affected by the virus   | James Reichard |
| Victims of natural disasters | Father Tom Flynn |
| Fr. Philaret Littlefield     | Father John Azar |
| The Wandering Sheep of this parish | Melinda Ajmo |

May the Divine Physician of our souls and bodies extend His healing hand over His servants and handmaids. For those in need of prayer and to keep us up-to-date on everyone’s condition, please share at contact@stjohnmelkite.org.
CONCERNS? Any needs, thoughts, concerns, questions, misunderstandings, charitable suggestions in any area of parish life that you may have, please do not hesitate to immediately contact Dcn. Elie Hanna or Dcn. Sami Jajeh. Any possible explanations, corrections, discussions or changes will never be taken care of unless all bring these concerns to us, and especially to the proper person.

HAVE AN IDEA?

Have an idea for parish life?

Have an idea for the upcoming picnic?

Have an idea for the blank space below?

Share it with us, as we are on the journey together!

---------- EPARCHIAL NEWS ----------

UKRAINE CRISIS – Anyone wishing to give a donation may do so through the eparchy. Checks should be made out to the Eparchy of Newton with “Ukrainian Relief” in the memo. The Eparchy will then forward the monies to Archbishop Boris Gudziak, Ukrainian Catholic Metropolitan Archbishop of Philadelphia, who will then properly distribute them through the Ukrainian Synod to where needed most.

VOCATIONS - All inquiries about Priesthood vocations should be directed to Bp. Nicholas @ 617-323-9922.

DEACON FORMATION PROGRAM - Fr. Bryan McNeil, Director, announces that the Eparchy is accepting new applicants for the deacon program. Send application requests to Fr. Bryan at Brymc56@comcast.net. Note Pastor’s approval is an application prerequisite.

ORDER OF ST. NICHOLAS - Dr. Sherine Rabbat & husband, Mr. George Mussalli, parishioners of St. Basil the Great Church, Lincoln RI, are National Chairpersons. The order supports clergy retirement/healthcare and Melkite outreach and missions. For more information, contact Mr. Mussalli & Dr. Rabbat at 617-510-5743 or: sherineandgeorge@yahoo.com Annual Fees: $1,000. for a person, $1,500. for a couple or $5,000 for lifetime membership. Bp. Nicholas will bless, honor with a neck medallion & install new members.

MCAA - MELKITE CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S AID – a 501©(3) nonprofit organization and tax deductible.- our Diocese’s cooperation with Middle Eastern countries where our Melkite Church exists. Transform lives of children who have known only war. Suggestion is a dollar a day but any amount will help. Sign up at: www.melkite.org to assist with food, clothing, shelter, medicine & education for the children.