



# St. John Chrysostom Melkite Catholic Church



## A Parish Community of the Eparchy of Newton

Weekly Bulletin for Sunday, August 21, 2022 - Tone 2 – Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

الأحد، 21 آب 2022

الأحد الحادي عشر بعد العنصرة

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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](mailto:deaconelie@stjohnmelkite.org)

Finance Council Chairperson - Deacon Sami Jajeh - [deaconsami@stjohnmelkite.org](mailto:deaconsami@stjohnmelkite.org)

Cultural Center Manager - Jerome Hagley - [jerome.hagley@gmail.com](mailto: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

(Liturgical Year – began Sept. 1, 2021 – ends Aug. 31, 2022):

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men...” (Colossians 3:23)

السنة الكنسية لِرَعِيَّتِنَا

(٢٠٢٢ تبدأ في ١ أيلول/سبتمبر ٢٠٢١ وتنتهي في ٣١ آب/أغسطس)

”مَهْمَا فَعَلْتُمْ فَأَفْعَلُوهُ مِنْ صَمِيمِ قُلُوبِكُمْ

(٢٣: ٣ الكولسيين) “...فَعَلْكُمْ لِلرَّبِّ لَا لِلنَّاسِ

----- A WARM WELCOME TO ALL -----

**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 send email to [contact@stjohnmelkite.org](mailto:contact@stjohnmelkite.org) or leave your contact information in the guest book in Narthex. We ask for an ongoing attendance period before requesting to be a member.

### ----- PARISH LIFE UPDATE -----

**PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL:** A successful PAC meeting was held on August 18, 2022. The following parishioners were formally nominated for the newly reformulated Parish Advisory Council: Greg Pharo and Rani Ghawi. The PAC is seeking additional qualified members for consideration.

**FEAST DAY CHAIRPERSON(S):** It is never too early to start the planning of our Feast Day in November. If you would like to be on the committee or a chairperson, please let the deacons know.

**SPRING CLEANING IN FALL? Office & residence cleaning/organization on Aug 27, 2022.** We look forward to your participation!

**LADIES SOCIETY** – A successful Ladies Society meeting was held Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. Please see Lina Muhanna if you would like to be more involved or know more.

## ----- SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY -----

As a spiritual family, we encounter heaven on earth through the Divine Liturgy - the Lord's Day (*Kyriake* in Greek) as a priority for all families; making up of any missed financial support; and a resolve for all to let us live a renewed life in Christ through Church!

**Gospel Theme for this week: Forgiveness.** What is the hardest thing to accept in Christianity? Is it the doctrine of the Trinity? The idea that God became man? Or that the Eucharist is the body and blood of Christ? While these teachings may meet with obstacles in our minds, the hardest thing for us to accept in practice is the absolute need to forgive others. In our broken humanity we are much more at home with seeking vengeance. Forgiveness is required, not an option, in the Christian life. We see this from the Lord's words in the Sermon on the Mount. Christ would come back to this theme again and again, doubtlessly more often than the Gospels record: "Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you" (Lk 6:37-38).

### THIS WEEKEND, SUN., AUG 21

GIVE THE GIFT OF PRAYER! Below are the commemorations received from parishioners for this week. If you would like one said for you, your family members, or friends, please send requests for commemorations to [contact@sjohmelkite.org](mailto:contact@sjohmelkite.org) by Thursday.

### THIS WEEKEND'S LITURGY COMMEMORATIONS

#### REPOSE IN THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM

+Fr. Michel Zammar, BSO, requested by the Chancellor's Office

#### HEALTH & SALVATION

Souren Palanjian, requested by Deacon Elie Hanna and family  
For Unity and Forgiveness in Families, Communities, Country and World  
Peace in the World, especially in the U.S., Middle East, Holy Land, Ukraine

### LITURGY INFORMATION

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

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

**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.

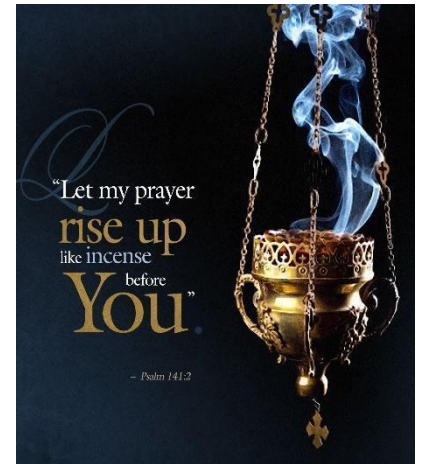
## ----- UPCOMING AND IMPORTANT EVENTS -----

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

**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.

**THURS, SEP 1 – CHURCH NEW YEAR:** Beginning of the new liturgical Church year – a new church theme is in the works!

**WED, SEP 14 – Exaltation of the Holy Cross** – The feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is September 14<sup>th</sup>, but will be celebrated Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Please get your crosses ready to bring for this celebration so that you can carry it in procession!



**SAT, SEPT 24 - PARISH PICNIC** – [Click here or scan QR code](#) to RSVP, get more information and sign-up to bring items to the picnic. As always, we thank Vic Maloof for being such a gracious and hospitable host. **DEADLINE to RSVP is September 18, 2022!**



----- 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:**

**Volunteers Needed** for Chairs for Ladies Society or for Men’s Club.

**Liturgical Participation:** Please consider joining the Choir and learning the chants, taking turns to be a reader (contact Eric Hansen), becoming an usher (contact Joe M. or Jerome H.) or an adult altar server (contact Deacon. Elie).

**Religious Education Teachers** at the same time of sharing the faith with our young, we too will grow in our own faith. **Gift Shop:** staff the shop for those wishing to purchase items.



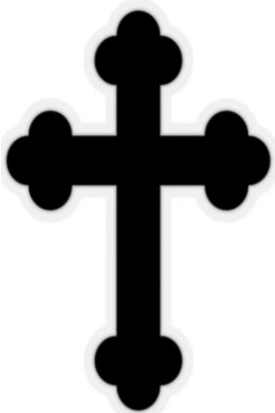
**TREASURE:** [CLICK HERE TO DONATE NOW](#), or scan QR Code or send an email to [contact@stjohnmelkite.org](mailto:contact@stjohnmelkite.org) to set up recurring ACH donations. All manual checks should be made to “St. John Chrysostom Melkite Church” with the exception of diocesan collections, which 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.).



ZELLE! ZELLE! ZELLE! St. John Chrysostom can now receive donations via Zelle. Our “handle” (donation id) is [donate@stjohnmelkite.org](mailto:donate@stjohnmelkite.org). Please put a note in the memo of any Zelle donation, such as “Weekly Support” or “Commemoration.” As this is new to the parish, please let us know if this is more convenient or if you prefer Venmo.

**TREASURE ACCOUNTING:** Since July 1, 2022, the church has been using software to track donations, providing us with financial reporting to Eparchy and for Tax reporting requirements. If you give via cash, PLEASE use a donation envelope (found in narthex) with your name to record your family’s donation properly. We have many options (Bill pay, credit card, ACH and Zelle), so please contact us to help you setup what is most convenient.

**WHAT ABOUT TRADITION?** Yes, the 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.



**Please keep in your prayers...**

Dr. Shajih Muhanna

Rouviette Hanna

Alber Mansour

Melinda Ajmo

Victims of natural disasters

Michael Shikany

Father Tom Flynn

Souren Palanjian

Those affected by the virus

The Wandering Sheep of this parish

*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](mailto:contact@stjohnmelkite.org).

## August Birthdays and Anniversaries



Note: The information below is from our Parishioner database. We apologize IN ADVANCE for anyone who is missing or any information which is mistaken. Please send corrections to [contact@stjohnmelkite.org](mailto:contact@stjohnmelkite.org) so we can update our database. THANK YOU!

### Birthday:

Sandra Madanat  
Shadi Jaraysi  
Margaret Alexander  
Claire Nuar

### Anniversary:

Mr. & Mrs. Tony and Matilda Ghawi  
Mr. & Mrs. Kam and Judy Nassar  
Mr. & Mrs. Basil and Nidhal Kirma  
Rev. Deacon Elie Hanna

## ----- FEEDBACK -----

**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?

For parish life?

For the upcoming picnic?

Share it with us!



## ----- SACRAMENTAL LIFE -----

### HOLY MYSTERIES (SACRAMENTS)

**Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist:** Ideally inform us during the 5th month of pregnancy for preparation of the Mysteries of Christian Initiation, administered together in our tradition.

**Repentance/Confession/Reconciliation:** Confessions normally are available towards end of Orthros. Please inform a Deacon or Usher, in advance, that you desire such. All should prepare themselves well to receive the Eucharist properly each time.

**Crowning in Marriage:** Please call us 1+ year in advance of an anticipated marriage, before you book a place for reception to complete the questionnaire/research and confirm availability.

**Anointing with Holy Oil and/or Reception of Holy Eucharist and/or Sick Calls:** By personal or family request for those who are ill at home/nursing home/hospital or by anyone anticipating a hospital stay/surgery. Contact a Deacon to acquire a priest.

**CHANGE OF CONTACT INFO:** Email [contact@stjohnmelkite.org](mailto:contact@stjohnmelkite.org) for any change of address, phone, or e-mail information.

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

**CHURCH CONTACT-** The old email [stjchrys@bellsouth.net](mailto:stjchrys@bellsouth.net) is not in use. Deacons may be contacted at: [contact@stjohnmelkite.org](mailto:contact@stjohnmelkite.org) or using e-mails above. All church-related business should be directed to them.

## ----- EPARCHIAL NEWS -----

**VOCATIONS** - All Priesthood inquiries should be directed to Bp. Nicholas (617-323-9922). For deacon formation program, Fr. Bryan McNeil, Director ([Brymc56@comcast.net](mailto:Brymc56@comcast.net)) is accepting new applicants at. Pastor's approval is an application prerequisite.

**ORDER OF ST. NICHOLAS** - Dr. Sherine Rabbat & husband, Mr. George Mussalli are the chairpersons. Contact at 617-510-5743 or [sherineandgeorge@yahoo.com](mailto:sherineandgeorge@yahoo.com). The order supports clergy retirement/healthcare, Melkite outreach, and missions. Annual Fees: \$1,000/person, \$1,500/couple or \$5,000 for lifetime.

**MCAA - MELKITE CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S AID** - a nonprofit organization - our Diocese's cooperation with Middle Eastern countries where our church exists. Transform lives of children who have known only war. Sign up at: [www.melkite.org](http://www.melkite.org).

**God With Us ONLINE:** A collaborative outreach 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.

**Victim Assistance Coordinator (VAC)** - To report sexual abuse by clergy, parish personnel or volunteers of the Eparchy of Newton, please call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at 1-800-479-5910.