



St. John Chrysostom Melkite Catholic Church



A Parish Community of the Eparchy of Newton

Bulletin for Sunday, September 4, 2022 - Tone 4 – Community Celebration of Church New Year

13th Sunday after Pentecost

الأحد، 4 أيلول 2022 الأحد الثالث عشر بعد العنصرة

1428 Ponce de Leon Ave NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30307, Office: (404) 373-9522, Fax: (404) 373-9755, Email: contact@stjohnmelkite.org

Web: stjohnmelkite.org, FB: facebook.com/StJohnMelkite, YouTube: youtube.com/c/SaintJohnChrysostomMelkiteCatholicChurch

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

(Liturgical Year – began Sept. 1, 2022 – ends Aug. 31, 2023):

"The God of heaven will give us success. We His servants will start rebuilding." (Nehemiah 2:20)

"إِنَّ إِلَهَ السَّمَاءِ يُعْطِينَا النِّجَاحَ وَنَحْنُ عَبِيدُهُ نَقُومُ وَنَبْنِي." (نحميا ٢:٢٠)

----- 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 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 -----

EDUCATION: Catechetical Sunday is being planned for September 25, 2022 to kick off the church school year with Eastern Catholic Education classes beginning October 2nd. Parents should register their children before Oct. 2, 2022, [click here register now](#) or scan the QR code



FEAST DAY CHAIRPERSON(S): If you would like to be a co-chair or member of the committee, please see Lina Muhanna and let her know how you are able to help.

FILING CABINETS AVAILABLE: The recent cleaning sessions have made available some filing cabinets, including a two-drawer unit and a four-drawer unit. If you would like these, please let us know. First come, first serve.

FAMILY NIGHTS: Family Nights are coming back! First one is being planned for October and then once a month going forward, please watch for more details to come. See Rita Karroum or Vera Madanat for more information.

HAPPY CHURCH NEW YEAR: The new Church theme: "The God of heaven will give us success. We His servants will start rebuilding." (Nehemiah 2:20). May the Lord God bless his vineyard in Atlanta, as we continue to build up His church for His greater glory!

----- 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!

THIS WEEKEND, SUN., SEPT 4 LITURGY COMMEMORATIONS

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@sjohnmelkite.org by Thursday.

REPOSE IN THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM

+Spiridon Hanna, requested by Mrs. Rouviette Hanna and Deacon Elie Hanna and family

HEALTH & SALVATION

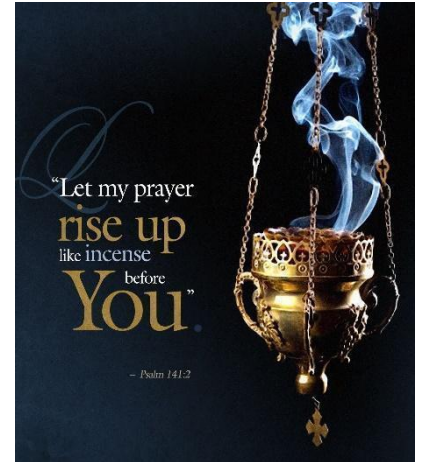
Evelyn Whalen, requested by parish community

Joseph Cirou, requested by parish community

Marie Hansen, requested by parish community

Fr. Tom Flynn, requested by parish community

Peace in the World, especially in the U.S., Middle East, Holy Land, Ukraine



LITURGY INFORMATION

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 -----

THURS, SEP 8 – NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS. Community celebration to be held on September 11th. The Nativity of the Theotokos is one of the Great Feasts of the Eastern Catholic Church. The Holy Virgin and Theotokos Mary was born to elderly and previously barren parents by the names of Joachim and Anna, in answer to their prayers.

THURS, SEP 8 – PAC MEETING. Next meeting of the Parish Advisory Council will be held on September 8, 2022, at 7:30pm virtually. If you would like to attend this meeting, please send an email requesting the virtual meeting information.

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

SUN, SEP 18 – LADIES SOCIETY MEETING. Meeting to be held after liturgy in the Cultural Center. Ladies Society officers will be selected, as well as important discussions regarding the Patronal Feast Day celebration.

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!**



----- THANK YOU -----

THANK YOU NOTE: Father John sent the community a thank you note for the thoughtful gift provided by the community. If you would like to see the note, please let one of the deacons know.

GENEROUS COMMENTS: The deacons appreciate the gratitude shown to their continued service, as we remain in transition in between pastors. Thank you for your support, prayers, and help!

THANK YOU, FR. GEORGE: A continued and ongoing thank you to Fr. George Gage for continuing to serve our community

MUCH GRATITUDE for those who have been coming out and cleaning out the residence, work office, hall and more including Lourice Jajeh, Eric and Marie Hansen, Mayy Wehbeh, Zoe Hanna, Joseph Manguno, and Patty Pharo.

----- 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 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. 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.

----- PRAYER IS A WAY OF LIFE -----

Please keep in your prayers...

Dr. Shajih Muhanna
Fr. Tom Flynn
Alber Mansour
Melinda Ajmo
John Chambers

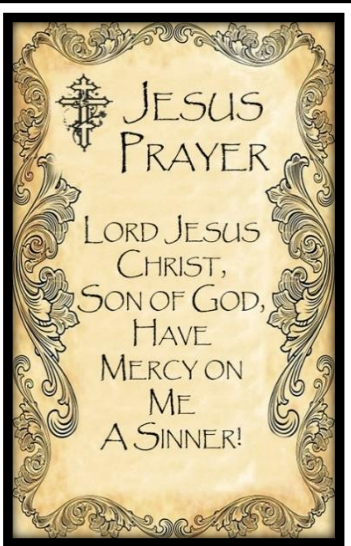
Michael Shikany
Evelyn Whalen
Souren Palanjian
Marie Hansen
Joseph Cirou

Bp-Elect Fr. Francois Beyrouti
Those affected by the virus
Those approaching matrimony

Victims of natural disasters
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.



September Birthdays Name Days, 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 so we can update our database. THANK YOU!

Name Day for Feast of Nativity of Mary:

Marie Hansen	Marie Sayour
Mary Calis	Mary Daho
Mary Shamon	Maryam Talla
Mary Ellen Hughes	

Birthday:

Greg Pharo	Ghada Muhanna
Aymen Badri	Michael Maalouf
Lourice Jajeh	Kingston Maloof
Youssef Layous	Peter Nuar
Rob Ghawi	Titus James Nuar
Andrew Hagley	

Anniversary:

Rev. Dcn. & Mrs. Elie & Zoe Hanna
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph & Aida Maalouf
Mr. & Mrs. Paul & Janice Peterson

----- 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!



----- COMMENTARY ON TODAY'S EPISTLE -----

EPISTLE: 1 CORINTHIANS 16:13 - 24

16:13 Stand Firm in Faith: STAND FIRM. AMBROSIAS: They were to be watchful, in case they were secretly attacked in their faith. They were to stand firm, being bold in confessing what they had been taught. They were to be strong in both word and deed, because it is the right combination of these which enables people to mature.

16:14 Do Everything in Love: DO ALL IN LOVE. AMBROSIAS: Where there is strife and dissension, there is no love.

16:24 Love in Christ Jesus: MY LOVE BE WITH YOU. AMBROSIAS: Because the Corinthians did not love one another, Paul gives them this teaching from himself, in order that they might learn to love each other with the same love with which they were loved by the apostle, not with carnal emotion but in Christ Jesus. COMMENTARY ON PAUL'S EPISTLES.

----- COMMENTARY ON TODAY'S GOSPEL -----

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:33 - 42

21:33 A Householder Planted a Vineyard: HEAR ANOTHER PARABLE. CHRYSOSTOM: This parable suggests many things: God's providence had been at work toward them from the outset; their disposition was murderous from the beginning; nothing had been neglected of whatever pertained to an attentive care for them. even when prophets had been slain, God had not turned away from this people but had sent them his very Son; it is now clear that the God of both the New and the Old Testaments is one and the same; we know that the Son's death will effect great blessings; we here learn that they were to endure extreme punishment for the crucifixion; here we learn of the calling of the Gentiles and the turning aside of the unbelieving Jews. He presents this parable after the previous one that he may show the charge to be even greater in this case and highly unpardonable. In what way? Although the Jews had received so much care from God, they were now found to be worse than harlots and publicans, and that by a wide margin.

HE SET A HEDGE AROUND THE VINEYARD. CHRYSOSTOM:

Observe the great care that the owner took with this place and the extraordinary recalcitrance of the people. He himself did the work the tenants should have done. It was he who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it and built a tower. He left little for them to do. All they had to do was take care of what was there and to preserve what was given to them. Nothing was left undone but all accomplished. But they made little effort to be productive, even after they had enjoyed such great blessings from him. For when they had come out of Egypt, he gave a law, and set up a city, and built a temple and prepared an altar. Then he "went into a far country." He was patient with them. He did not always keep a close account of their sins. The meaning of "going into a far country" is God's great patience. THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, HOMILY 68.1.