



St. John Chrysostom Melkite Catholic Church



A Parish Community of the Eparchy of Newton

Bulletin for Sunday, August 6, 2023

10th Sunday after Pentecost - HOLY TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD – Tone: Festal

ألاحد 6 آب 2023

تجلي ربنا والهنا ومخلصنا يسوع المسيح المقدس

ألاحد العاشر بعد العنصرة

10:00 AM – ORTHROS

10:30 AM – SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY

Followed by Coffee Hour Fellowship in the Cultural Center.

COMMUNION: If you are unable to make Divine Liturgy on Sunday due to health reasons, and you would like to receive the Holy Eucharist, please e-mail contact@stjohnmelkite.org by Saturday so that clergy may visit you with Communion.

THIS WEEK'S DIVINE LITURGY COMMEMORATIONS

REPOSE IN THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM

- +Rev. Basil Samra, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
- +Widad Zarour (Canada), Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
- +Fred Ray Mallick (TX), Father of Fr. Marc Mallick, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
- +Souren Palanjian, Father of Zoe Hanna, Requested by Dcn. Elie Hanna and Family
- +Mary Elise Maloof, Mother of Chris Maloof, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community

HEALTH & SALVATION

- Fr. Tom Flynn, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
- Fr. James Babcock, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
- Victims of Violence in Palestine
- Peace in the World, especially in the U.S., Middle East, Holy Land, Ukraine



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

THANK YOU, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS: Our luncheon to show our gratitude to Father George and Presbyteria Juliana is this Sunday, August 6th, after the celebration of the Feast of Transfiguration. Fr. George has served faithfully since our pastor emeritus retired last July, without missing a single Sunday! And, Presbyteria Juliana has been by his side, faithfully praying with us. They have become a true part of our spiritual family, and we will miss them dearly. On behalf of the community, we wish Fr. George and Presbyteria all the best as they relocate to Southern Georgia. Please thank them for their faithful service and for being a model of great faith. May they enjoy a blessed retirement closer to family members and happy, healthy years with their (grand)children.



THANK YOU: Thank you to **Jennie Bauarschi** for providing the grapes for the Feast of the Transfiguration. Much appreciated!

BACK TO CHURCH SCHOOL BASH: Your family is invited to a Back to Church School Bash on **Aug. 12, 2023 (11am-1pm) at East Cobb Park** (3322 Roswell Road, Marietta, GA 30068). Faith, family, friends, and lots of games. Look for the red and gold balloons. Lunch is provided. Please bring dessert to share. **RSVP by Aug. 9th to Viola Ghawi @ viola.ghawi@gmail.com.** We look forward to seeing you.

VESPER SERVICES: We will have two vespers in August, one on the Feast of the Dormition (Tues, Aug 15th), and one with Fr. Elias Dorham, who will be serving our parish on August 19-20th. He will also provide confessions that weekend. More detail to come.

AUGUST PAC MEETING NEW DATE: The next PAC meeting will be held on Thursday, August 17th (Date Changed). The PAC meeting is open to all parishioners and is held by Video Conference. If you would like to attend, please e-mail contact@stjohnmelkite.org.

GREAT CATHOLIC PARISHES: Due to unforeseen circumstances, we will delay (again) the discussion for the book, Great Catholic Parishes. 😞 An email will be sent to help you prepare. Please review it in advance and thank you for your patience.

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

WELCOME VISITORS! Please register on FlockNote to receive e-mails/texts and join us in the Church Hall 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.

COMMUNION: If you are unable to make Divine Liturgy on Sunday due to health reasons, and you would like to receive the Holy Eucharist, please e-mail contact@stjohnmelkite.org by Saturday so that clergy may visit you with Communion.

----- **UPCOMING AND IMPORTANT EVENTS** -----

AUG 1 – 14 – DORMITION FAST: The Feast of the Dormition is preceded by a two-week fast, referred to as the Dormition Fast. From August 1 to August 14 (inclusive) Orthodox and Eastern Catholics fast from red meat, poultry, meat products, dairy products (eggs and milk products), fish, oil, and wine.

SUN, AUG 6 – THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION: The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on August 6. The feast commemorates the transfiguration or metamorphosis of Christ on Mount Tabor, when our Lord appeared in His divine glory before the Apostles Peter, James, and John. In the icon, Christ is the central figure, appearing in a dominant position within a circular mandorla. His right hand is raised in blessing, and his left hand contains a scroll. The mandorla with its brilliant colors of white, gold, and blue represent the divine glory and light. The halo around the head of Christ is inscribed with Greek words meaning "The One Who is". Elijah and Moses stand at the top of separate mountain peaks to the left and right of Christ, bowing toward Christ with their right hands raised in a gesture of intercession towards Him. Saint John Chrysostom explains the presence of these two fathers of the faith from the Old Testament in three ways. He states that they represent the Law and the Prophets (Moses received the Law from God, and Elijah was a great prophet); they both experienced visions of God (Moses on Mount Sinai and Elijah on Mount Carmel); and they represent the living and the dead (Elijah, the living, because he was taken up into heaven by a chariot of fire, and Moses, the dead, because he did experience death). Below Christ are the three Apostles, who by their posture in the icon show their response to the transfiguration of Christ. James has fallen over backwards with his hands over his eyes. John in the center has fallen prostrate. Peter is kneeling and raises his right hand toward Christ in a gesture expressing his desire to build the three booths. The garments of the Apostles are in a state of disarray as to indicate the dramatic impact the vision has had on them. The icon of the feast directs our attention toward the event of the Transfiguration and specifically to the glory of God as revealed in Christ. This event came at a critical point in the ministry of our Lord, just as He was setting out on His journey to Jerusalem. He would soon experience the humiliation, suffering, and death of the Cross. However, the glorious light of the Resurrection was revealed to strengthen His disciples for the trials that they would soon experience. The feast points to the great Second Coming of our Lord and the fulfillment of the Kingdom of God when all of creation will be transfigured and filled with light.

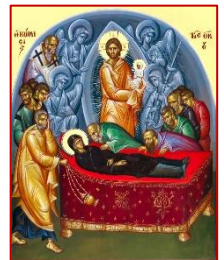


COFFEE HOUR: We wish Father George and Presbytera Juliana health and happiness at their farewell luncheon. Per Matthew 25:23, "**Well done, you good and faithful servant.**" (The Good and Faithful Servant icon is to the right.) God Grant You Many Years! God Grant You Many Years! God Grant You Many Years!



SUN, AUG 13 – LEAVE-TAKING OF THE FEAST OF TRANSFIGURATION – THE PARABLE OF THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

TUES, AUG 15 – THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD – Vespers will be held Tuesday, Aug 15th at 7:30pm. The Feast of the Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on August 15 each year. The Feast commemorates the repose (dormition and in the Greek kinesis) or "falling-asleep" of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Feast also commemorates the translation or assumption into heaven of the body of the Theotokos. The Holy Scriptures tell us that when our Lord was dying on the Cross, He saw His mother and His disciple John and said to the Virgin Mary, "Woman, behold your son!" and to John, "Behold your mother!" (John 19:25-27). From that hour, the Apostle took care of the Theotokos in his own home. Along with the biblical reference in Acts 1:14 that confirms that the Virgin Mary was with the Holy Apostles on the day of Pentecost, the tradition of the Church holds that she remained in the home of the Apostle John in Jerusalem, continuing a ministry in word and deed. At the time of her death, the disciples of our Lord who were preaching throughout the world returned to Jerusalem to see the Theotokos. Except for the Apostle Thomas, all of them including the Apostle Paul were gathered together at her bedside. At the moment of her death, Jesus Christ himself descended and carried her soul into heaven. Following her repose, the body of the Theotokos was taken in procession and laid in a tomb near the Garden of Gethsemane. When the Apostle Thomas arrived three days after her repose and desired to see her body, the tomb was found to be empty. The bodily assumption of the Theotokos was confirmed by the message of an angel and by her appearance to the Apostles.



SAT-SUN, AUG 19-20 – Great Vespers will be served by Fr. Elias Dorham on **Saturday, Aug. 19 at 5pm** and he will hear CONFESSIONS from 4:30-5pm. Fr. Elias will also celebrate Divine Liturgy for us on Sunday with CONFESSIONS from 9:30am-10am.

----- STEWARDSHIP IS A WAY OF LIFE -----

God entrust us with the gifts of the earth and of our church. Through Stewardship, we return it to Him. It is a way of life!

TREASURE: [CLICK HERE TO DONATE NOW](#), or scan QR Code or send an email to contact@stjohnmelkite.org to set up ACH donations. All checks should be made to "St. John Chrysostom Melkite Church" except for diocesan collections, which are to be made out to "Diocese of Newton." We receive Zelle donations at donate@stjohnmelkite.org. Identify donation purpose of donations in memo field. We appreciate those who have made the ongoing commitment to St. John Chrysostom. Please consider a regular giving plan if not already on one.

FINANCIALS: (MONTHLY - JULY 2023 and JAN-JULY 2023):

*Total Income:	\$11,738 (O.C. \$10,209)	\$89,491 (O.C. \$64,653)
**Expenses:	\$27,366	\$178,706
Net Income:	(\$15,628)	(\$89,356)

* O.C. – Ordinary Collections

** YTD RENOVATION AND REPAIR EXPENSES: \$76,650

GIVING IN FLOCKNOTE: With Flocknote, we can raise funds quickly, and you have the convenience of paying via your computer (e-mail) or phone (text)! Some parishioners have set up regular giving using Flocknote, improving their tithing convenience, and the church's cash flow. The process is easy, safe, and secure. Also note that every Sunday's bulletin includes a link to this powerful capability.

----- NEW ALTAR SERVER ROBES -----

During last Sunday's Divine Liturgy, the Altar Servers were wearing new robes. We are very blessed to be able to grow this ministry and with your help we can do more. If you would like to donate toward the new altar server robes, please include the memo "Altar Server Robes" in your Zelle, Check, Square, or **TEXT "ROBES" to 84576**. We will be donating our previously used robes to a mission within the diocese. Thank you for your consideration.

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

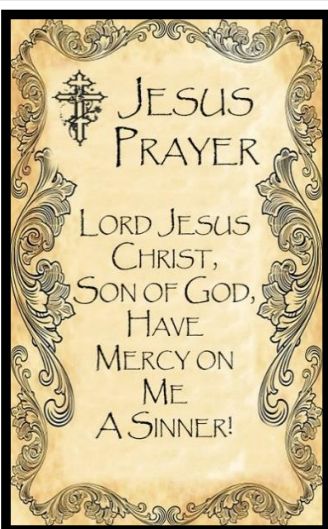
COMMEMORATIONS: Send a commemoration request to contact@stjohnmelkite.org for a family member, friend, or colleague such as: (a) Repose of their soul, (b) health and wellness, (c) commemorate a special event in their life.

----- TIME AND TALENT-----

Volunteers Needed to help lead various ministries.
Liturgical Participation: Please consider joining the Choir, being a reader (see Eric Hansen), becoming an usher (see Joe M. or Jerome H.) or an altar server (contact Dcn. Elie).

----- MINISTRY LEADERS -----

- Adult Education** – Greg Pharo
- Altar Servers** – Deacon Elie Hanna
- Choir** – Sohel Elias
- Children Education** – Viola Ghawi, Tyra Nuar
- Cultural Center Rental** – Jerome Hagley
- Friday Fellowship** – Rita Karroum, Vera Madanat
- Gift Shop** – Joseph Manguno, Patty Pharo
- Good Samaritan Society** – Suely Elias, Marie Hansen
- Ladies Society** – Susie Hagley, Lina Muhanna (co-presidents)
- Men's Club** -- OPEN
- Publican Society** – OPEN
- Readers** – Eric Hansen
- Sunshine Committee** – Matilda Ghawi
- Ushers** – Jerome Hagley, Robert Ghawi, Joseph Manguno



Please keep in your prayers...

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Fr. James Babcock | Fr. Tom Flynn | Butrus Jajeh |
| Samira Jajeh | Serene Kadadu | |
| Rouviette Hanna | Ricky Shahid, Jr | |

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Those purchasing a new home
Palestine, Syria, and Turkey | The Wandering Sheep of this parish |
| Those starting studies this Fall | Victims of natural disasters |
| | Those taking care of (grand)parents |

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.

August Birthdays & 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.

BIRTHDAYS

Margaret Alexander	Gabriel Faraj
Marie Hansen	Shadi Jaraysi
Sandra Madanat	Claire Nuar
Martina Talla	

ANNIVERSARIES

Walid & Monera Al-zaraaneh
Aemah & Aymen Badri
Tony & Matilda Ghawi
Basil & Nidhal Kirma

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: www.youtube.com/@StJohnMelkite

Rev. Deacon Sami Jajeh & Rev. Deacon Elie Hanna,
Parish Administrators

Rt. Rev. Archimandrite John Azar, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. George Gage, Celebrant

Rev. Dr. Thomas Flynn, Retired

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

Parish Church Year Theme

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

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

﴿٢٠﴾ إِنَّ إِلَهَ السَّمَاءِ يُعْطِينَا النِّجَاحَ وَنَحْنُ عَبِيدُهُ نَقُومُ وَنَبْنِي. " (نحميا

--- VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR ---

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.

Please join us for the 11th annual

ST. JUDE Magic Carpet Ride

Taste of the Middle East

Saturday, September 16, 2023

6:00 – 11:00 PM

The Fox Theatre
Egyptian Ballroom
660 Peachtree St. NE
Atlanta, GA

Cocktails • Middle Eastern Cuisine •
Live Entertainment • Patient Speaker •
Silent Auction • Live Auction • Give to Live

SPONSORSHIPS & INFORMATION

Ashley.Todd@alsac.stjude.org • 404.764.0063

stjude.org/magiccarpetride



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