



St. John Chrysostom Melkite Catholic Church



A Parish Community of the Eparchy of Newton

Bulletin for Sunday, October 15, 2023

Fathers of the 2nd Council of Nicea – Parable of the Sower – TONE 3

الأحد 15 تشرين الأول 2023
أحد القديسين آباء المجمع المسكوني السابع

SATURDAY: GREAT VESPERS (5pm) – CONFESSIONS (4:30-5pm)

SUNDAY: ORTHROS (10am) – DIVINE LITURGY (10:30am) – CONFESSIONS: 9:30-10:00am

Followed by Coffee Hour Fellowship in the Church Hall

WELCOME VISITORS! Please register on FlockNote to receive e-mails/texts and join us in the Church Hall. Interested in becoming catechumens or parishioners? Please send an 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.

----- **THIS SUNDAY, OCT 15th** -----

HEALTH & SALVATION

Fr. Tom Flynn, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
Rebecca Schmiedeknecht, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
Banks Thomas Davidson (AL), Requested by Fr. Justin Rose, St. George Melkite Church (AL)
Lauren Makhoul, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
Paul Peterson, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
Scott Alexander, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
Karen & Raymond Vincent and family, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
Butrus and Samira Jajeh, Requested by the Jajeh Family

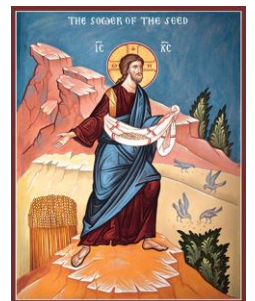
REPOSE IN THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM

+Monsignor Michael Regan, Requested by John Chambers
+Souren Palanjian, father of Zoe Hanna, Requested by Rani and Viola Ghawi
+Aznive Osko (Syria), mother of Ghada Osko Boghos, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Community
+Rouviette Hanna, Requested by Rani and Viola Ghawi
+Liv Teverino, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
+Mary Raybada, aunt of Fr. Lewis, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
+Thomas Sweeney, grandfather-in-law of Subdeacon Riley Winstead, Requested by the St. John Parish Community



SUN, OCT 15 – PARABLE OF THE SOWER – SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE SECOND COUNCIL OF NICEA

Parable of the Sower: As a rule, Jesus did not explain His parables in detail. He left His hearers to interpret their meaning for themselves. The parable of the sower (Luke 8:5-15) is an exception. The Lord assigns a meaning to each item in it: the seed is the word of God, it germinates or not according to the hearers or the circumstances of their lives. From its beginning the Church saw itself called to continue the mission of Christ the Sower to evangelize: to sow the seed of the Gospel throughout the world. “The seed,” the Lord says, “is the word of God” but just what is the core message that we are to proclaim? The New Testament suggests an answer: according to the apostolic writer it is “That which was from the beginning, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and our hands have handled concerning the Word of life...that which we have seen and heard we declare to you that you also may have fellowship with us for truly out fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ” (1 John 1:1, 3).



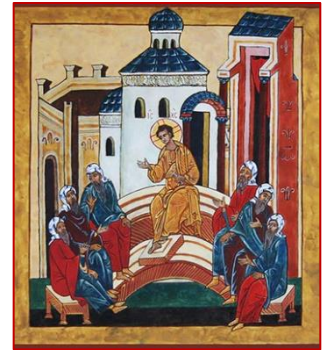
The 2nd Council of Nicea dealt with the issue of the iconoclastic controversy and iconoclasm - the teachings regarding veneration of icons came from this council. Note that the Feast of Orthodoxy, feast celebrated on the first Sunday of Lent, also commemorates the return of icons (sacred images) to the churches (843) and the end of the long iconoclastic controversy.

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

CAUGHT YOU LISTENING: New kids feature based on Kh. Sylvia's work in The ByziKids Magazine (www.byzimom.com). See last page for this week's feature for the gospel.

LADIES SOCIETY & NAMW 2024 DUES: We have started collecting dues for National Association of Melkite Women. Thank you to the thirty four (34) women who have paid their dues already – this is one more than we collected last year and it is only October! Please provide \$25 to Patty Pharo via cash, check or Zelle. Note LS & NAMW in the memo.

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS: We now have two adult educations series, both on Wednesday evenings. (1) There is a bible study program which started two weeks ago and will continue every other Wednesday. (2) We are excited to announce a new Adult Education offering - **Eastern Christianity 101**. This is designed to be an opportunity to learn about Eastern Christianity in general, and the Melkite Church in particular. This lively **online** exploration of our faith, tradition and current practices will be hosted by Father Elias and Greg Pharo every other Wednesday at 8:00 PM, **beginning on November 1**. Our first few discussions will be on +Archbishop Joseph Tawil's 1970 Christmas Pastoral Letter "The Courage to be Ourselves." An email will be sent out soon to allow you to register for this bible study.



Speaking of education, do you know what the icon is on the right of this page? If you said, "Icon of Christ the Great Teacher," who is teaching in the temple, you would be correct!

HOUSE BLESSINGS: Father Elias has started house blessings. To schedule yours, please e-mail father at pastor@stjohnmelkite.org.

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

SAT, OCT 21 – SAINT ELIAS ORTHODOX CHURCH 45th ANNUAL MIDEAST FOOD FESTIVAL

- Doors open at 11am, Vespers at 5pm and Hafleh/DJ/Dancing at 7:30pm

SUN, OCT 22 – 6th SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS – JESUS AND THE GERASENE DEMONIAK

- Ladies Society Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church Hall

FRI, OCT. 27 – COMMUNITY NIGHT: We will have a Community Night and all parishioners are invited! We will begin with prayer in the church at 7 PM and continue our time together in the Church Hall with food, activities and games for everyone.

SUN, OCT 29 – 7th SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS – THE RAISING OF JAIRUS' DAUGHTER

- +Rouviette Hanna – 40 Day Memorial Service

SAT-SUN, NOV. 11 & 12 – ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM PATRONAL FEAST DAY WEEKEND EVENTS: See details on back page.

----- THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! -----

THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS AT LEON INTERNATIONAL FOODS: David Yarid, Rabi & Susie Nasrallah, Jean Leon, Lydia Yarid, Paula Leon, Bassam Awabedah and Hadi Aiouli, for donating Friday night meal with Bishop after Vespers.



NOTE FROM ABOUNA:

Dear Members of the Ladies Society, Choir, Ushers, Readers, Altar Servers, and All Those who Contributed to this Past Weekend,

I wanted to take a moment to thank each of you for your hard work and dedication. Thanks to your efforts in providing our customary open and loving hospitality, we were able to have a very nice visit from our Father and Bishop François. I look forward to our journey in Christ together over the coming years.

In Christ,
Father Elias Dorham

----- Prayers During Pregnancy and After Childbirth -----

On the day of delivery: Please have someone call the Priest on the day you go into labor and where, so he may pray for a safe delivery and be ready in case of any complications to be at your family's side. There is an Emergency Rite of Baptism should the health of the baby be in any way under question, and if need be, you may baptize your baby yourself if time does not permit the priest to arrive by pouring on water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The day after birth: There are prayers for recovery and convalescence which are also said the day after birth.

On the Eighth day after birth: There are the naming prayers (once the day of circumcision in the Old Covenant.) Please invite your Parish Priest to come and offer them at the hospital and/or at home! It is traditional for the Priest to come and bless the child on that day, and it's a good time to discuss baptism and other concerns about raising a child as a Melkite.

Note: Melkite mothers are not expected to attend church until the 40th day after birth, a kind of liturgical maternity leave.

----- 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.

UPDATED FINANCIALS: (MONTHLY - SEP 2023 and JAN-SEP 2023):

*Total Income:	\$11,217 (O.C. \$8,416)	\$112,593 (O.C. \$82,671)
**Expenses:	<u>\$24,222</u>	<u>\$218,427</u>
Net Income:	(\$13,005)	(\$105,975)

* O.C. – Ordinary Collections

** YTD RENOVATION AND REPAIR EXPENSES: \$78,568

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.

----- 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 li

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

Volunteers Needed to help lead various ministries such as Men’s Club or Publican Society.

Liturgical Participation: Please consider chanting, being a reader (see Eric Hansen), becoming an usher (see Joe M. or Jerome H.) or an altar server (see Dcn. Elie).

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

- Adult Education** – Greg Pharo
- Altar Servers** – Deacon Elie Hanna
- Building Council Members** – Rani Ghawi, Sami Nassar
- Choir** – Sohel Elias
- Children Education** – Viola Ghawi, Tyra Nuar
- Church Hall 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)
- Readers** – Eric Hansen
- Sunshine Committee** – Matilda Ghawi
- Ushers** – Jerome Hagley, Robert Ghawi, Joseph Manguno

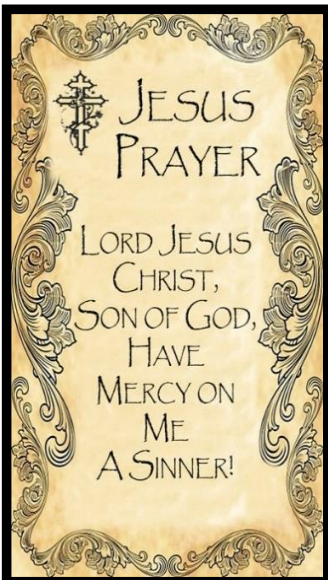
PRAYER LINE: Please keep in your prayers...

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Fr. Tom Flynn | Butrus Jajeh | Samira Jajeh |
| Serene Kadadu | Paul Peterson | Scott Alexander |
| Rebecca Schmiedeknecht | | Lauren Makhlouf |

- The Wandering Sheep of this parish
- Victims of natural disasters
- Earthquake Victims in Morocco
- Those taking care of (grand)parents
- Areas of War and Violence, Including Holy Land, Ukraine, Syria, Lebanon
- Those looking for employment
- Flooding Victims in Libya

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.



October 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

Marina Aeshaea	Angelina Badri
Ronin Curry	Sami Hagley
Fadi Layous	Rania Layous
Samer Layous	Theresa Luu
Marc Maalouf	Vera Madanat
Albert Mishu	Kennedy Nuar
Kolbe Nuar	Patricia Pharo
James Reichard	Georges Sawaya
Nazim Shadeed	Maryam Talla
Dcn. Elie Hanna	Ethan

ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Bishara & Sumaya Kadadu
Mr. & Mrs. Suleiman(John) & Vera Madana

---- "Caught You Listening" Series ----

The puzzles and questions below are for your kids, to see how much of today's gospel they remember.

October 15, 2023, Gospel: Luke 8:5-15



Match where the seed falls to what happens to it:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Path | Chokes to death. |
| Rock | Grows, produces 100 times what was planted. |
| Thorns | Gets stepped on, eaten by birds. |
| Good soil | Dries up and dies. |

Jesus names three virtues we need to be good soil. Name them.

_____, _____,
and _____

Being good soil requires three actions. Name them.

_____, _____,
and _____

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

FlockNote: <https://stjohnmelkiteat.flocknote.com/register>

Rev. Elias Dorham, Pastor
pastor@stjohnmelkite.org

Rev. Deacon Sami Jajeh, Administrator and Finance Chair
deaconsami@stjohnmelkite.org

Rev. Deacon Elie Hanna, Administrator and PAC Chair
deaconelie@stjohnmelkite.org

Rt. Rev. Archimandrite John Azar, Pastor Emeritus
+Rt. Rev. William Haddad, Founding Pastor
Rev. Dr. Thomas Flynn, Retired

Church Hall Manager - Jerome Hagley -
jerome.hagley@gmail.com

--- VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR ---

To report sexual abuse by clergy, parish personnel or volunteers of the Eparchy of Newton. please call the Victim



**SATURDAY
NOV. 11, 2023**

6:00 PM Vespers
7:00 PM Cocktail Hour
8:00 PM Dinner & Dance

Cash Bar

**St. John Chrysostom
Church Hall**
1428 Ponce de Leon Ave. NE
Atlanta, GA 30307



Entertainment
George Kouz

**Reserve
Your
Ticket**

Ticket \$100

Ticket sales: Zahi Elias 770-310-1232
Susie Hagley 404-831-8292
Rania Layous 404-784-6700

Online Reservation: www.stjohnmelkite.org