



St. John Chrysostom Melkite Catholic Church



A Parish Community of the Eparchy of Newton

Bulletin for Sunday, November 12, 2023

8th Sunday After the Holy Cross - The Good Samaritan - Patronal Feast Day Weekend – TONE 7

Community Celebration of the Commemoration of
our Father among the Saint John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople

الأحد، 12 تشرين الثاني 2023

الأحد الثامن بعد الصليب - تذكّار ابينا في القديسين يوحنا الذهبي الفم رئيس اساقفة القسطنطينية

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

SUNDAY: ORTHROS (9:45am) – 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. 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.



----- DIVINE LITURGY COMMEMORATIONS -----

HEALTH & SALVATION

Fr. Tom Flynn, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
Banks Thomas Davidson (AL), Requested by Fr. Justin Rose, St. George Melkite Church (AL)
Lauren Makhlof, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community
Scott Alexander, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community

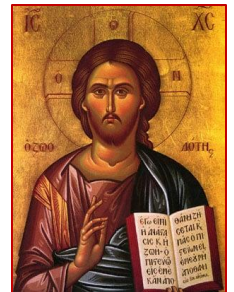
REPOSE IN THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM

+Rouviette Hanna, Requested by Robert & Jo Ann Azar
+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
+Butrus Jajeh, Father of Dcn. Sami Jajeh, Requested by the Jajeh Family
+Michael Shikany, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community



SUN, NOV 12 – EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS – THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Luke 10: 25-37: At that time, behold, a certain lawyer got up to test Jesus, saying, “Master, what must I do to gain eternal life?” But he said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read?” He answered and said, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole strength, and with thy whole mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.” And he said to him, “You have answered rightly; do this and you shall live.” But he, wishing to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus answered, “A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell in with robbers, who after both stripping him and beating him went their way, leaving him half-dead. But, as it happened, a certain priest was going down the same way, and when he saw him, he passed by. And likewise a Levite also, when he was near the place and saw him, passed by. But a certain Samaritan as he journeyed came upon him, and seeing him, was moved with compassion. And he went up to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. And setting him on his own beast, he brought him to an inn and took care of him. And as he was leaving the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you send, I, on my way back, will repay you.’ Which of these three, in your opinion, proved himself neighbor to the man who fell among the robber?” And he said, “The one who took pity on him!” And Jesus said to him, “Go and do as he did.”



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

HOMELESS CARE PACKAGE DRIVE: The Good Samaritan Society is sponsoring a drive to collect items to distribute to men who are homeless. We hope to collect enough before Christmas to be able to hand them out during the Christmas season. A large bin will be set up in the Church Hall to collect donations. We plan to set aside a time one Sunday after Liturgy when the Sunday school teachers and students (and anyone else interested in helping) can get together to assemble these packs. A sample of items needed will be provided. Please watch out for the e-mail.

SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM SMALL GROUP MEETINGS: Our first meeting will be on November 16th at the home of Eric and Marie Hansen in Doraville, GA. Although all are welcome, this particular gathering is intended primarily for those who live in the North East Atlanta area. We will begin with a brief prayer/potluck vegetarian meal at 6PM. At 6:45 PM, Father will offer a brief reflection on fasting in general and the Nativity Fast in particular. We will close at 7:30 PM with Little Compline, a brief but beautiful prayer service that is the traditional bedtime prayer of the Church. Please send email to contact@sjohnmelkite.org to RSVP.

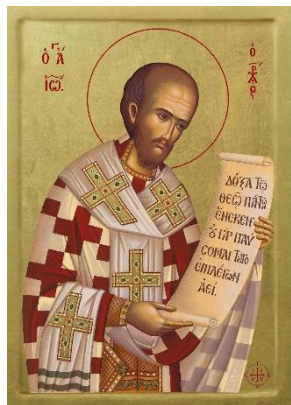
THE NATIVITY FAST: (also called the Fast of St. Philip, whose feast day is on November 14) traditionally begins on November 15. During this period, we abstain from meat and meat products as well as from dairy products. On December 13, the fast becomes stricter and in addition to abstinence from meat and dairy, we also abstain from fish, wine, and olive oil. We may have wine and olive oil on Saturdays and Sundays. **IF YOU HAVE NAMES OF THE LIVING** (baptismal names only, please) that you would like commemorated during the Paraklesis services chanted during the Nativity Fast, please give them to Deacons or email them to contact@stjohnmelkite.org.



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

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

SAT-SUN, NOV. 11 & 12 – ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM PATRONAL FEAST DAY WEEKEND EVENTS:



SAT, NOV 11th – PRAYER SERVICE AND LASAGNA DINNER (UPDATED PLANS)

We will be having a simple prayer service followed by dinner to pray for peace, healing, and love to prevail in the current war, as well as protection for those who are in harm's way. As such, the new program is as follows:

- 5pm – Great Vespers Prayer Service, with special intention for the current conflict
- 6pm – Lasagna Dinner and Fellowship, where we can share our time together as a community with each other.

SUN, NOV 12 – 8th SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS – THE MERCIFUL SAMARITAN

- 10am – Orthros and 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Celebration of our Patron Feast Day)
- Luncheon – Celebration of our patron saint Feast Day weekend

MON, NOV 13th – ACTUAL FEAST DAY FOR OUR PATRON, SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

TUES, NOV 14th – 7:30PM: PAC MEETING

WED & FRI, NOV 15/17 – 7PM: PARAKLESIS SERVICE FOR NATIVITY FAST

MON, NOV 20th – 7PM: GREAT VESPERS FOR FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE

TUES, NOV 21st – 7PM: DIVINE LITURGY FOR FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE

WED & FRI, NOV 22/24 – 7PM PARAKLESIS SERVICE FOR NATIVITY FAST

----- WE PRAY FOR PEACE -----

Dear Parish Family, Shortly after hostilities broke out between Russia and Ukraine, I came across the words below from Elder Zacharias of Essex. Given more recent events in the Middle East, I hope you find them spiritually beneficial. **Father Elias**

When asked what we should keep in mind and do in the current political situation, Father Zacharias responded: "We do not know everything about the conflicts of this world, nor is it necessary to know. We just pray with a compassionate heart for the peace of the world and for all. We do not take sides, because each side will be responsible for crimes, and we do not want to share in these crimes and be condemned. If we pray for those who are more wrong than right, well, we perform the commandment to love even enemies. And if we pray for those who are more right than wrong, we do well. Therefore, we cannot go wrong if we pray that God save all and grant peace to the world. Especially for us, priests and monks, it is very important not to be political at all because we offer our sacrifice to God, the Holy Liturgy, for the whole world; and if we are for some and against others, our sacrifice is annulled. I think that when there is a war, the best is not to be judgmental, but to have compassion and pray that the Lord may spare all from suffering. If my Liturgy is to have any value, no one should be missing from my heart when I stand before the altar of God and say to Him, 'Thine own of thine own, we offer unto thee, in all and for all.'"



----- 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 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." Identify purpose of any Zelle donation donate@stjohnmelkite.org in memo field. You may also give via Flocknote if that is easier for you.

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

*Total Income:	\$17,793 (O.C. \$10,350)	\$130,416 (O.C. \$93,022)
**Expenses:	\$32,927	\$251,355
Net Income:	(\$15,105)	(\$121,080)

* O.C. – Ordinary Collections

** YTD RENOVATION AND REPAIR EXPENSES: **\$91,028**

FLOCKNOTE REGISTRATION AND TRAINING:

Demystifying FlockNote – Open Office Hours at Coffee Hour by Dcn. Elie Hanna. Bring all your questions/comments and concerns. **REGISTER OR UPDATE YOUR REGISTRATION:** Scan the QR on the right to do that.



----- 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

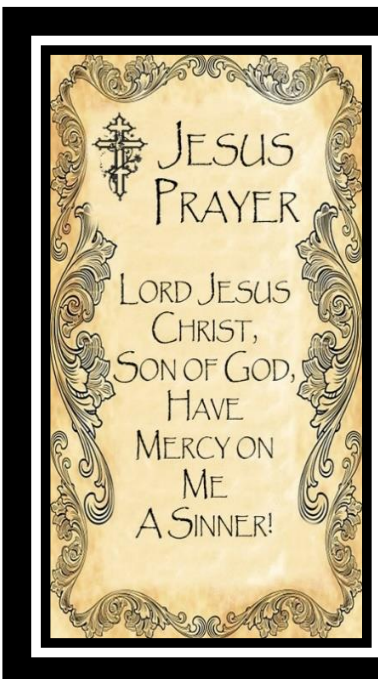
----- Middle East Emergency Relief Collection -----



All donations given to the Diocese of Newton for the Melkite Catholic Church in the United States of America will be collected and shared with the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), or other local Catholic organizations, that provide emergency relief to all who suffer from the effects of the war between Israel and Hamas. Please see on the melkite.org website a link for those who wish to provide emergency relief: [DONATE HERE](#)

----- 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.



PRAYER LINE: Please keep in your prayers...

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Fr. Tom Flynn | Samira Jajeh | Lauren Makhoulouf |
| Serene Kadadu | Scott Alexander | Lina Muhanna |
| Shajih & Ghada Muhanna | | Dcn. Sami Jajeh and Family |

- 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.

November 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

Joseph Cirou	Marilyn Doolan
Rani Ghawi	David Haddad
Adalyn Hall	Basil Kirma
Bob Law	Sammora Madanat
Sammy Madanat	Aida Malouf
Amaya Oukheira	Evelina Shalymoon

ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Moez and Christine Hasni

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://stjohnmelkiteatl.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 Assistance Coordinator at 1-800-479-5910.

---- WALKING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS ----

WHEN THE LORD JESUS WAS ASKED: which commandment was the first, He replied that the first is to love God with your whole being. But He immediately added a second – inseparable from the first – to love your neighbor as yourself. His questioner agreed, adding that to live this way “is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices” (Mark 12:28-34).

In this Jesus was saying nothing new –He was expressing the teaching of the Torah –but legalists often tried to restrict the meaning of neighbor to mean people like us. Jesus’ response was the parable of the Good Samaritan where the true neighbor turns out to be, not the priest or the Levite, but the despised heretic. We are to love all those whom God loves: in short, everyone.

Inevitably touched by the spirit of our age, we may see Jesus’ insistence on love in the light of 1960’s “flower power.” The Scriptures’ picture of love calls for much more than good feelings. In his epistle to the Romans, for example, St Paul outlines some concrete ways to love, giving us his image of a righteous believer:

“Let love be sincere. Hate what is evil, hold on to what is good. Love one another with mutual affection and anticipate one another in showing honor. Do not grow slack in zeal but be fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, and persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the saints; exercise hospitality. “Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same regard for one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Do not repay anyone evil for evil; be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all. If possible, on your part, live at peace with all. ... Do not be overcome by evil but conquer evil with good.” (Romans 12:9-21)

St Paul continues by urging support for the state “Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs are due, obedience to whom obedience is due, honor to whom honor is due” (Romans 13:7). He urges that we go beyond correct behavior in concern for the weak. “We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please our neighbor for his good, that he may be edified.” (Romans 15:1-2)

**Thank You to Aroma Ridge Coffee
for sponsoring the many years
of Great Coffee for our Coffee Hour**

