



St. John Chrysostom Melkite Catholic Church



A Parish Community of the Eparchy of Newton

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Sunday of The Samaritan Woman (Tone 4)

الأحد، 28 نيسان 2024

أحد السامرية

Christ Is Risen! He is Truly Risen! • Al Maseehu Qam! Haqqan Qam! • Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

SUNDAY: ORTHROS (9:45AM) - DIVINE LITURGY (10:30AM)

Followed by Coffee Hour and Fellowship in the Church Hall

WELCOME VISITORS! Please register on Flocknote to receive e-mails/texts and join us in the Church Hall. If you would like a tour or discussion about the Melkite Church, please let Fr. Elias know so that one can be arranged after coffee hour. Interested in being a catechumen or parishioner? Please send an email to contact@stjohnmelkite.org.



COMMUNION: If you are unable to make Divine Liturgy 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.

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.

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

HEALTH & SALVATION

Deacon Joseph Kaiser, Requested by the Eparchy of Newton

Lauren Makhoulf, Requested by the St. John Chrysostom Parish Community

Ryan & Nadia McCaffrey and Family, Requested by St. John Parish Community

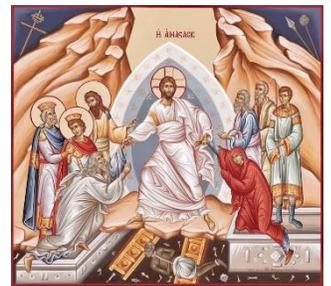
REPOSE IN THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM

+Fr. Tom Flynn, Requested by St. John Chrysostom Parish Community

+Diakonissa Joyce Rimmer, Requested by Eparchy of Newton

+Yvonne Yarid, Requested by the Ladies Society of St. John Chrysostom Parish Community

+Stephen Eble, Requested by Peter and Tyra Nuar and Family



SUN, APR 28TH – SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

- +YVONNE YARID – 40 DAY MEMORIAL AND MERCY MEAL

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42 (Sunday of the Samaritan Woman) - At that time Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sichar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there.

Jesus therefore, wearied as he was from the journey, was sitting at the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a Samaritan woman to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me to drink," for his disciples had gone away into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman therefore said to him,

"How is it that you, although you are a Jew, ask drink of me, who am a Samaritan woman?" For Jews do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you only knew the gift of God,

and who it is who says to you, 'Give me to drink,' you perhaps would have asked of him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no pail, and the well is deep. Where can you get living water from? Are you greater than our father Jacob who gave us the well, and drank from it, himself, and his sons, and his flocks?" In answer Jesus said to her, "Everyone

who drinks of this water will thirst again. He, however, who drinks of the water I will give him shall never thirst; but the water I will give him shall become in him a fountain of water, springing up unto life everlasting." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water that I may not thirst, or come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have said Well, I have no husband, for you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. In this you have spoken truly. The woman said to him, "Sir, I see you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.



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You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. For the Father also seeks such to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming (who is called Christ), and when he comes, he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak with you am he." And at this point his disciples came; and they wondered that he was speaking with a woman. Yet no one said, "What do you seek?" or "Why do you speak with her?" The woman therefore left her water-jar and went away into the town, and said to the people, "Come and see a man who has told me all I have ever done. Can he be the Christ?" They went out from the town and came to meet him. Meanwhile, his disciples begged him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." The disciples therefore said to one another, "Has someone brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest'? Well, I say to you, lift up your eyes and behold that the fields are already white for the harvest. And the one who reaps receives a wage, and gathers fruit unto life everlasting, so that the sower and the reaper may rejoice together. For herein is the proverb true, 'One sows, another reaps.' I have sent you to reap that on which you have not labored. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." Now many of the Samaritans of that town believed in him because of the word of the woman who bore witness, "He told me all I have ever done." When, therefore, the Samaritans had come to him, they begged him to stay there; and he stayed two days. And far more believed because of his word. And they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of what you have said, for we have heard for ourselves and we know this is in truth the Savior of the world," the Christ.

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

WED, MAY 1ST – VESPERS (6PM)

SAT, MAY 4TH - GREAT VESPERS (6PM)

SUN, MAY 5TH – SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

- +FR. WILLIAM HADDAD– MEMORIAL SERVICE

WED, MAY 8TH – LEAVETAKING OF PASCHA (DIVINE LITURGY – 10:30AM)

GREAT VESPERS – FEAST OF THE ASCENSION (7PM)

THURS, MAY 9TH – FEAST OF THE ASCENSION (DIVINE LITURGY – 7PM)

SAT, MAY 11TH - GREAT VESPERS (6PM)

- WOMEN DISCIPLES OF THE LORD MORNING RETREAT (9:30 AM)

SUN, MAY 12TH – SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

WED, MAY 15TH – VESPERS (6PM)

SAT, MAY 18TH - GREAT VESPERS (6PM)

SUN, MAY 19TH – THE FEAST OF PENTECOST



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

HOLY LAND COLLECTION: Every Good Friday, the Melkite Church does a special Holy Land collection for the churches in the Middle East. Unfortunately, we forgot to do such a collection, so we are following up. To give, please Scan QR Code to the right. Thank you in advance for your consideration.



FINAL PAPER BULLETIN: The paper version of the bulletin will no longer be created, issued, and printed after today, as the great majority of parishioners are satisfied receiving and reading the bulletin in electronic form. If you are not signed up on Flocknote or having any difficulty reading or receiving the Flocknote version, please let us know as soon as possible by e-mailing deaconelie@stjohnmelkite.org. You may register with Flocknote using the QR Code as well.



WOMEN DISCIPLES OF THE LORD MORNING RETREAT: There will be a morning retreat for women on Saturday, May 11th, beginning at 9:30 AM. We will begin with Divine Liturgy(Mass), followed by spiritual reflections, an opportunity for confessions and social time over lunch. Sign up by [CLICKING HERE](#).



BIBLE STUDY: BAPTISM AND RESURRECTION: Fr. Elias will continue a 2-part Online Bible Study on the topic of Baptism and Resurrection, focusing on key passages in the Gospel of John on Mon. April 29th at 8 PM EST. Please sign-up to receive Zoom information. To sign-up, [CLICK HERE](#).

SURVEY ON SYNODALITY: FROM THE EPARCHY: Please complete our online survey to share your perspectives on the common life of the Melkite Catholic Diocese of Newton and the dimensions of "communion, participation, and mission!" Complete by May 1, 2024 and we will share the results at the Melkite Convention July 4-7, 2024! [CLICK HERE FOR SURVEY](#)

MID-DAY MOMS: The next Mid-Day for Moms will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, from 10am to 1pm.

MEN'S CLUB COMING SOON: The first meeting of the Men's Club will be held on June 1, 2024. More details to come.

ADULT CATECHISM: We will resume in May with Part Two: The Mystery Celebrated, as we learn more about the liturgical life of the Church. The Light for Life Series is an overview of the faith, worship, and spiritual life of the Eastern Church. Drawing on various aspects of Holy Tradition, it expresses the historical proclamation of the Gospel. Books are available at the table in the parish hall.

----- **53RD NATIONAL MELKITE CONVENTION (JULY 4-7)** -----

Becoming Disciples, Making Disciples: The Emmaus Experience

This year's convention is hosted by Our Lady of the Annunciation Melkite Catholic Cathedral, at the Marriott Boston Quincy. Patriarch Joseph Absi will be present for the convention. Please attend this event – the conventions are wonderful experiences both spiritually and socially. It will be the first Convention for Bishop François, and to have the Melkite Patriarch present will make it even more special.

The Package Registration Form can be signed up online by [CLICKING HERE](#).



----- **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MELKITE YOUTH CONFERENCE** -----

Becoming Disciples, Making Disciples

The Beauty of Heavenly Worship and Spiritual Sacrifice

The NAMY Conference 2024 theme is part two of an exploration of the Melkite Church mission, asking questions like: Why do we go to Church? Why do we worship God? What does it mean to offer sacrifice? What do the parts of the Divine Liturgy mean?

The annual N.A.M.Y. is August 12-16, 2024 at Saint Methodios Faith and Heritage Center, 329 Camp Merrimac Road, Contoocook NH. You can visit their website at www.saintmethodios.org. The cost of the conference is \$300 per person. The deadline for registration is July 1, 2024. Please take the time to consider carefully whether you can have your children attend or attend as an advisor, so that St. John Chrysostom can have a representation at the conference. Note that Youth participants must be at least 13 years old by December 31, 2023, under 19 years of age by August 11, 2024, and not yet started college. All advisors attending the conference must be a minimum of 23 years of age by August 11, 2024, and have a criminal records check on file with the eparchy.

Please contact Father Elias or one of the deacons if you might be interested in receiving a registration package for the conference. Please contact Father Elias if you need financial assistance with this retreat.

----- **CHURCH FINANCIALS** -----

GIVING PATTERNS: If you are not giving regularly weekly or monthly, please re-consider. We have identified the main challenges of the financial health of our parish to include inconsistent giving and a mismatch between increased giving and inflation.

2024 FINANCIALS: (MONTHLY - MAR 2024 and Q1 2024):

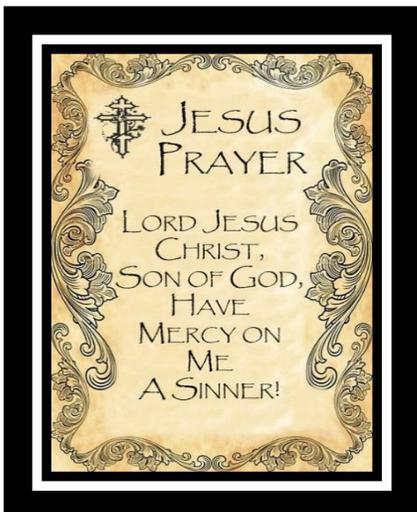
*Total Income:	\$20,674 (O.C. \$10,987)	\$44,533 (O.C. \$29,709)
**Expenses:	\$95,840	\$167,447
Net Income (Loss):	(\$75,166)	(\$122,913) * O.C. – Ordinary Collections,



** Q1 2024 RENOVATION & MAINT. EXPENSES: \$105,776 – NOTE: The high expenses are due to the roof project.

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

COMMEMORATIONS: Commemorations can be made for a community member, 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...

Lauren Makhlouf

Julian and Nadia Muhanna

The Yarid Family

Deacon Sami and Family

Those looking for employment

Victims of natural disasters

Areas of War/Violence, Including Holy Land, Ukraine, Syria, Lebanon, Nigeria

Those preparing for marriage

The homeless and poor

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.

April Birthdays & Anniversaries



Note: 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

Kareem Atalla	Aemah Badri
Nicholas Curry	Josephine Elia
Michael Incata	Elias Maalouf
Selia Madanat	Janice Peterson
Evelyn Whalen	

ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Eric & Marie Hansen
Mr. & Mrs. Sohel & Vickie Elias

--- SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN ---

The story of the Lord's encounter with the Samaritan woman contains one of the most misunderstood and misused sayings of Christ in the Gospels. The woman raises the question: which is the proper place to worship God, in Jerusalem or on Mount Gerizim? Jesus responded, "*Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father... The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him*" (John 4:23).

In order to avoid discussing her irregular marital status the woman had dredged up a controversy in which Jews and Samaritans had been engaged for over a thousand years. Since the time of Moses, the focus of Jewish worship was the Tabernacle, a moveable shrine which contained the Ark, the Tablets of the Law and other relic of the Exodus. These relics were eventually placed in the Temple built by King Solomon in Jerusalem in 957 BC. It was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BC; the Ark and its contents were lost.

On their return from exile in Babylon the Jews set about rebuilding their civilization, including the temple. The second temple, completed in 516 BC, stood as the focus of worship in Jerusalem for centuries. King Herod restored and enlarged it in at the beginning of the first century AD and it is this temple which Jesus knew. This second temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD during the Jewish revolt and has never been rebuilt. The Samaritans insisted that worship should be conducted on Mount Gerizim. According to the Torah Moses had prophesied, "Now it shall be, when the Lord your God has brought you into the land which you go to possess, that you shall put the blessing on Mount Gerizim..." (Deuteronomy 11:29). To this day Samaritans see this as the reason why this mountain was the proper place to worship God.

Worship vs. Prayer

While the Jews had only one temple in the Holy Land, they had many synagogues. Any town might have a synagogue for prayer or study of the Torah, led by a rabbi (teacher), but the sacrifices prescribed in the Torah could only be offered in the Temple at Jerusalem by the priests (the kohanim). In some cases grain, meal, wine, or incense might be offered; in other instances bulls, sheep, goats, deer or doves would have to be slaughtered and offered. Sacrifices were generally consumed by fire, at least in part. Portions of some sacrifices were consumed by the priests.

The most solemn sacrifice of the year was that offered on Yom Kippur. Two goats were offered; the high priest slew one and drove the other out of the city, "taking away the sins" of the people. Christ's response to the Samaritan woman concerned the authorized worship of God's people, not personal prayer. Moderns, invoking the Lord's saying concerning "spirit and truth," think it refers to prayer. They see it as a rebuke of ritual or of formal prayers, versus spontaneous outpourings of the heart. Often this devolves into a focus on how God affects "my life," what "I get out of the service," etc. With this mindset, churches design services to be "appealing," to "meet people's needs," and so on. This is no way relates to what the Lord was saying to the Samaritan woman.

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Email: contact@stjohnmelkite.org

Web: stjohnmelkite.org • FB: facebook.com/StJohnMelkite •

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@StJohnMelkite

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

Parish Clergy and Staff

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

Church Hall - Jerome Hagley (jerome.hagley@gmail.com)

--- DONATIONS ---

All checks should be made to "St. John Chrysostom Melkite Church" except for diocesan collections, made out to "Eparchy of Newton." Identify in memo field purpose of any Zelle donation given at donate@stjohnmelkite.org.

You may give via Flocknote. Register or update registration via QR code.



--- 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.