

ST ANN CHURCH

A Parish Community
of the Melkite Greek Catholic
Eparchy of Newton

THIS WEEK

TODAY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GIVING TREE | During class

ANGEL GIFT AND TAG RETURN | Due by 11:30am

SAMY CHRISTMAS CAROLING | 2-4PM

TUESDAY . DECEMBER 16
ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY | 7PM
The Theology of Christmas

FRIDAY . DECEMBER 19 | 7PM
MAYA MEETING

NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY . DECEMBER 21
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CHRISTMAS PARTY

MONDAY . DECEMBER 22
ARABIC BIBLE STUDY | 7PM
Meditation and explanation of the Nativity Icon

WEDNESDAY . DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS LITURGY | 5PM & 8PM

THURSDAY . DECEMBER 25
CHRISTMAS LITURGY | 10AM

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:30PM

Sunday 9:00AM
11:30AM (Arabic/English)

Great Feast
Day Eve 7:00PM

Mystery of Holy Confession
30 minutes before each Divine Liturgy

Our Community is Served By:

Rev Musil Shihadeh | *Pastor*
Rev Sayed Kozhaya | *Parochial Vicar*
Rev Choukri Sabbagh
Rev Archdeacon Edward Bsarany
Rev Deacon Roland Basinski
Rev Deacon Robert Shalhoub

To report sexual abuse by clergy, parish personnel or volunteers in the Diocese of Newton, please call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at 1-800-479-5910.



The Eternal Master whispers our names with a longing that trembles through the universe, yet we hide behind fragile excuses that dim the glory prepared for us, leaving our spirits wandering hungry at the edge of a love too vast for words. And still, the God whose own heart broke for ours reaches out with a wounded hand burning with tenderness, drawing us toward the heavenly Banquet where every tear becomes light, every wound transforms into wonder, and every soul wakes to the mystery of everlasting Love.

December 14, 2025
SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHER
Colossians 3:4-11 | Luke 14:16-24

St. Ann Melkite Catholic Church . 802 Rifle Camp Road . Woodland Park NJ 07424

 973.785.4144

 StAnn.WoodlandPark@melkite.org

 saintannmelkite.com

Intentions

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 13 | 5:30PM

†Laurice Dikdan . *Birthday Remembrance . Her Daughters*
†Lois Lozy . *M/M Salem Alchammas*
†Louis Dahdah . *M/M Raymond Stambolie*
†Michael O'Brien . *The Cathcart Family*

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 14 | 9:00AM

†Joseph Bsarany . *32 Year Remembrance . His Family*
†Lucille Tobiy . *Birthday Remembrance . Husband Joseph & Family*
†Mary Tahan . *M/M Elias Sawaf*
†Marlene Rodgers . *M/M Abboud Batikha*
†William Siouffi . *M/M Tony Najjar*
†Joseph & Elizabeth Bsarany . *Their Family*

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 14 | 11:30AM

†Georget Barousou . *Her Family*
†Sayer Sawaged . *Wife Badia & Family*
†Hani Haddad . *Wife Mary & Family*
†Naim Haddad . *Wife Nellie & Family*
†Rana Al Amir Haddad . *M/M Khamis Khamis*
†Khalil & Amira Al Amir . *Their Family*
†Youssef Kozhaya . *Samira Fakhoury*
†John Baladi . *M/M Masoud Altris*

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD – GENEALOGY

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 20 | 5:30PM

†Norman & Laurice Dikdan . *Their Daughters*
†Lois Lozy . *M/M Gregg Kattine*
†Victor Kattak . *Wife Elizabeth Kattak*
†Ella & George Natterer . *Elizabeth Kattak*
†Brian Palestis . *Elizabeth Kattak*
†Elias Sayad . *Wife Mary & Family*

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 21 | 9:00AM

†John Tahan . *Birthday Remembrance . His Family*
†Valery Balady . *Husband Bruce & Family*
†William Siouffi . *M/M Alan Morley*
†Mary Tahan . *John Tabmoosh*
†Marlene Rodgers . *M/M Michel Gabriel*

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 21 | 11:30AM

†Fehmih AlMakhoul . *40 Day Memorial . Her Family*
†Sayer Sawaged . *Wife Badia & Family*
†Hani Haddad . *Wife Mary & Family*
†Naim Haddad . *Wife Nellie & Family*
†John Baladi . *M/M Nikola Dogum*
†Khalil Al Amir . *Samira Fakhoury*
†Youssef Kozhaya . *M/M Nabil Alain*

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers the sick and convalescing friends and members of our community, especially:

Robert Baskinger	Dolores Fritz	Charles Gleason	Mona Mardelli	Debra Payne Wierciszewski
Susan Brigida	Mark Frommer	Laurice Kayal	Joyce Neuss	

DAILY READINGS . December 15-20, 2025

MONDAY 12/15

2 TIM 2:20-26
MK 8:11-21

TUESDAY 12/16

2 TIM 3:16-17; 4:1-4
MK 8:22-26

WEDNESDAY 12/17

2 TIM 4:9-22
MK 8:30-34

THURSDAY 12/18

TI 1:5-14
MK 9:9-15

FRIDAY 12/19

TI 1:15-16; 2:1-10
MK 9:32-40

SATURDAY 12/20

GAL 3:8-12
LK 13:19-29

MYSTERY OF HOLY CONFESSION:

Available 30 minutes before each Divine Liturgy.

MYSTERIES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION:

Call the parish office three months before desired Baptism, Chrismation and First Eucharist date.

MYSTERY OF HOLY CROWNING (Marriage):

Call the parish office twelve months before desired wedding date.

MYSTERY OF HOLY ANOINTING:

Call the parish office when a family member is hospitalized or seriously ill.

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

FIRST ANTIPHON pg. 15

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

1. Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; sing praise to His name!

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

2. Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You!"

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

3. "Let all the earth worship You and sing praises to You; let it sing praises to Your name, O Most High!"

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION (Tone 2) pg. 60

When You descended to death, O immortal Life, You put Hades to death by the splendor of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from below the earth, all the heavenly powers cried out to you: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!"

TROPARION OF THE FOREFATHERS (Tone 2)

Through faith, You have justified Your Ancestors, O Christ our God, and through them You have espoused in advance the Church set apart from the Gentiles. The saints rejoice in glory because, from the seed of these Ancestors, has come forth the glorious fruit, who gave You birth without seed. Through their intercession, O Christ God, save our souls.

TROPARION OF SAINT ANN pg. 22

O divinely wise Ann, you carried in your womb the pure mother of God, who gave birth to the Life. Wherefore you now have been carried up joyfully to the inheritance of heaven, to the abode of those who rejoice in glory. O blessed one, obtain the forgiveness of sins, for those who honor you with fervor.

KONDAKION OF THE PREPARATION OF THE

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (Tone 3) pg. 103

Today the Virgin is on her way to the cave where she will give birth to the Eternal Word of God in an ineffable manner. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when you hear this news, and glorify with the angels and the shepherds Him who shall appear as a new Child, being God from all eternity.

TRISAGION pg. 25

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us. (3 times)



CHRISTMAS DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

December 24 – 5pm & 8pm

Christmas Day

December 25 – 10am

EPISTLE: COLOSSIANS 3:4-11

Prokimenon: Blessed are You, O Lord, God of our fathers, and Your name is worthy praise and glorious forever.

Stichon: For You are just in all You have done to us, and all Your works are true and Your ways right.

A Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians:

BRETHREN, when Christ, our life, appears, then you too shall appear in glory. Put to death whatever in your members is of the earth: immorality, uncleanness, lust, evil desire, covetousness, which is a form of idol-worship. Because of these passions, God's wrath comes upon the sons of disobedience and you yourselves once walked in them when they were your (way of) life. But now, you too put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, abusive language and foul-mouthed utterances. Do not lie to one another. Strip off the old man with his deeds and put on the new, one that is being renewed toward perfect knowledge *according to his creator's image* (Cf. Gn. 1:26). Here there is no Gentile and Jew, no circumcised and uncircumcised, no Barbarian and Scythian, no slave and freeman, but Christ is all things, and in all.

Alleluia

Moses and Aaron were among His priests, and Samuel among those who called upon His name.

Stichon: The just cried out, and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from all their trials.

GOSPEL: LUKE 14:16-24

(The Parable of the Great Feast)

The Lord told this parable, "A certain man gave a great supper, and he invited many. And he sent his servant at supper time to tell those invited to come, for everything is now ready. And they all with one accord began to excuse themselves. The first said to him, 'I have bought a farm, and I must go out and see it; I pray you hold me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yokes of oxen, and I am on my way to try them; I pray you hold me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' And the servant returned, and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant. 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor, and the crippled, and the lame, and the blind.' And the servant said, 'Sir, your order has been carried out, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and make them come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you that none of those who were invited shall taste of my supper.' For many are called but few are chosen."

HIRMOS *Hymn to the Theotokos* pg. 42

It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos...

KINONIKON (pg. 50) Praise the Lord from the Heavens...

POST-COMMUNION (pg. 52) We have seen the True Light...

Christmas Intentions

CHRISTMAS EVE

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 24 | 5:00PM

†Deceased Clergy of St. Ann . Community of St. Ann
†Victor Kattak 8 Year Remembrance M/M Gregg Kattine
†Deceased Members of the Kilanowski Family
M/M George Stronghilos
†Deceased Members of the Stronghilos Family
M/M George Stronghilos
†Deceased Members of the Howell Family
M/M George Stronghilos
†Deceased Members of the Davis Family
M/M George Stronghilos
†Norman & Laurice Dikdan . Their Daughters
†Lois Lozy . Husband Fred & Family
†Joseph & Emelie Agia . Their Family
†Gregory Messer . Suzie & Cammy Messer
†John & Mary Tahan . Their Family
†John & Marie Yabroudy . Their Family
†Vincent Magliarditi . Wife, Rita & Family

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 24 | 8:00PM

†Deceased Clergy of St. Ann . Community of St. Ann
†Khalil & Amira Alimir . Their Family
†Rana Alimir Haddad . Alimir Family
†Georgie Batikha . Parents, Abboud & Lena Batikha
†Mayla Gabriel Sabeh . Parents, Michel & Maha Gabriel
†Joseph & Tony Ghandour . M/M Khamis Khamis
†Gerious & Josephine Khamis . M/M Khamis Khamis
†Chehadeh & Neda Khamis . M/M Khamis Khamis

CHRISTMAS DAY

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 25 | 10:00AM

†Deceased Clergy of St. Ann . Community of St. Ann

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Weekend of DECEMBER 7, 2025

5:30pm	11 Envelopes	\$ 489.00
9:00am	25 Envelopes	1546.00
11:30am	20 Envelopes	923.00
Online	39 Envelopes	1612.00
Mailed	14 Envelopes	1465.00
Candles		59.00
Weekly Total		\$5,794.00

Total Envelopes Received: 109

GIVE YOUR SUNDAY OFFERING ONLINE!

Go to saintannmelkite.com and click on online giving.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU!!

Sincere thanks to SAMY members, Hala Homsi, Antoinette Sabbagh & Evette Habib for the Pageant and Tricky Tray. Thank you to Maha Gabriel and her committee for preparing the food for the St. Barbara Feast Day Celebration.

CHILDREN'S CRAFT CORNER

There will a Children's Craft Corner following the 9am Divine Liturgy for those children not attending Religious Ed Class.

NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY. DECEMBER 21

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CHRISTMAS PARTY

MONDAY. DECEMBER 22 | 7PM

ARABIC BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY. DECEMBER 24 | 5PM & 8PM

CHRISTMAS EVE DIVINE LITURGY

THURSDAY. DECEMBER 25 | 10AM

CHRISTMAS DAY DIVINE LITURGY

UPCOMING

SATURDAY. FEBRUARY 7

FATHER-SON BREAKFAST

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 | 9PM

NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA

Music by Ayad Atallah & Band. Tickets: \$110/adult and \$80/child ages 4-10. Includes mazza, dinner, dessert. Cash Bar (No BYOB). Reservations call Nabil Alain, 973.930.9794, Norma Bittar 973.979.9619 or Bashar Katat 480.589.8909.

MELKITE PASTORAL APPEAL *Update*

So far our donation for the Pastoral Appeal is **\$15,179.21**. Our goal is \$50,000. Checks and online donations dated before December 31st will receive a 2025 tax letter form.

ST. ANN CHARITABLE SOCIETY

For November, we distributed \$2,200 in Food Certificates to 10 families. The Secret Santa was a great success, receiving \$1110.00 in donations and purchased gifts for sixteen children. Sincere thanks to those who contributed to the program.

NOT A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?

Call the Parish Office at 973.785.4144 to register!

If you are not receiving parish envelopes, you are not registered. We encourage all families, seniors, and post-college singles attending St. Ann to register as parish members to be eligible for marriage, baptisms, and Religious Education registration.

OUR CHARITABLE SOCIETY CAN HELP

Do you or someone you know need assistance? If so, please contact Fr. Musil at 973.785.4144 or Fr. Sayed at 857.203.1034. All inquiries are confidential!