

ST ANN CHURCH

A Parish Community of the Melkite
Greek Catholic Eparchy of Newton

THIS WEEK

TODAY

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CLASSES TODAY

WEDNESDAY . DECEMBER 31 | 9PM
NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA

NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY . JANUARY 4, 2026

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CLASSES

MONDAY . JANUARY 5 | 7PM
VESPER DIVINE LITURGY
for THEOPHANY

TUESDAY . JANUARY 6 | 7PM
ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY . JANUARY 7 | 7PM
VESPERS followed by the PARISH
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Happy
★ NEW ★
Year

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

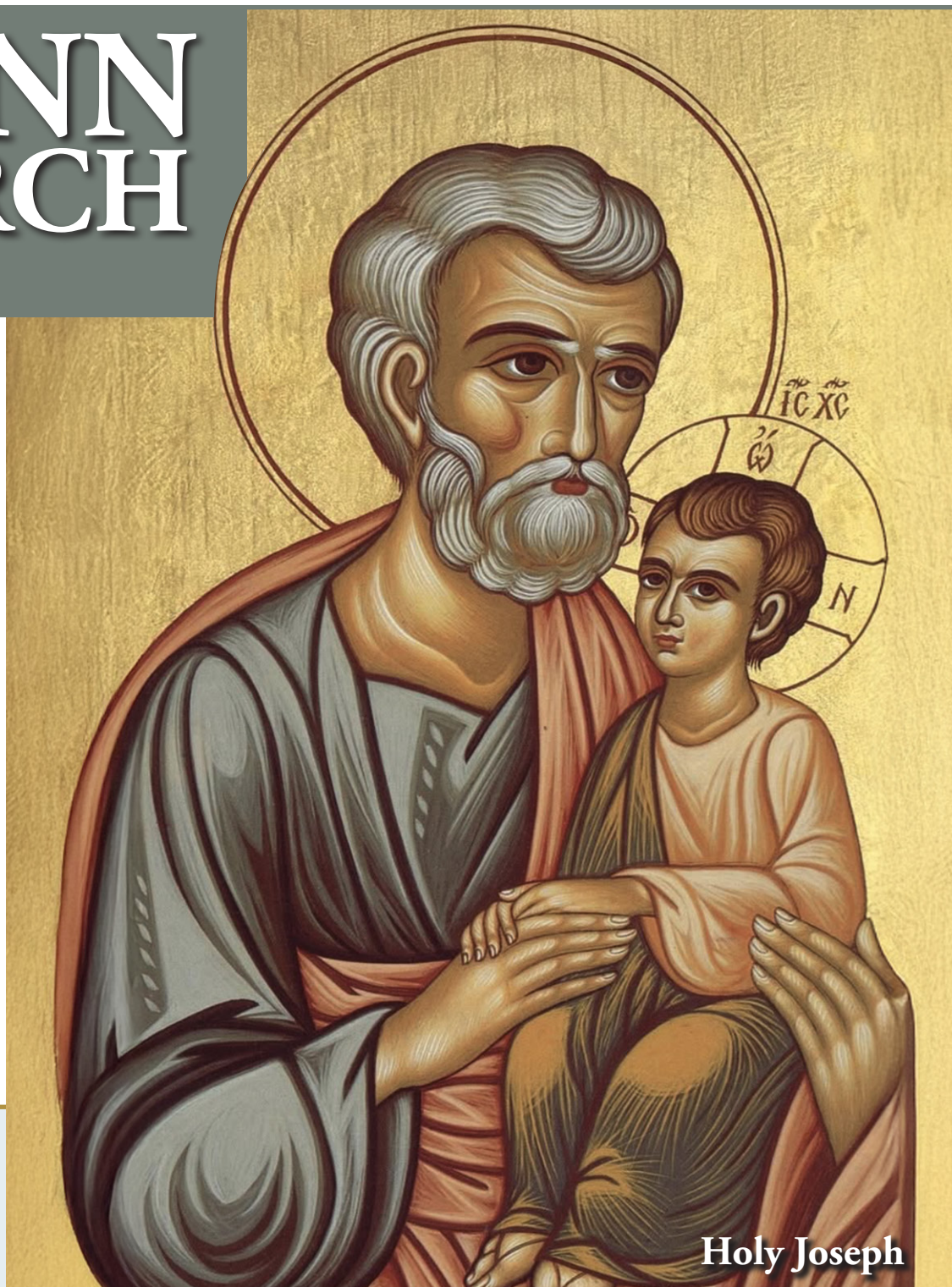
Rev Sayed Kozhaya | Parochial Vicar

Rev Choukri Sabbagh

Rev Archdeacon Edward Bsarany

Rev Deacon Roland Basinski

Rev Deacon Robert Shalhoub



Holy Joseph

O St. Joseph, guardian of the ineffable Word, veil of divine mysteries, teach us to bear the hidden pains and fearful shadows of life with the patience of heaven, and to surrender our trembling hearts to God's inscrutable love. As you led the Holy Family through exile and terror, may our souls learn that true holiness is silent fidelity, that divine providence dwells in the hidden and fragile, and that in trusting God without seeing, we hold eternity within our mortal hands.

December 28, 2025

SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

Commemoration of the Holy Joseph, Spouse of the Mother of God, James, & David

Galatians 1:11-19 | Matthew 2:13-23

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.

St. Ann Melkite Catholic Church . 802 Rifle Camp Road . Woodland Park NJ 07424
☎ 973.785.4144



StAnn.WoodlandPark@melkite.org



saintannmelkite.com

Intentions

SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 27 | 5:30PM

- †Patricia Clause Ullrich . *M/M Louis Sayad*
†Norman & Laurice Dikdan . *Their Daughters*
†Lois Lozy . *M/M Edward Dahdah*
†Louis Dahdah . *Patti Tahan*
†Michael O'Brien . *The Cathcart Family*

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 28 | 9:00AM

- †William Siouffi . *1 Year Remembrance . His Children*
†Regina Siouffi . *Her Children*
†Thomas Woods . *His Family*
†Valerie Balady . *Her Family*
†Mary Tahan . *M/M Elias Sawaf*
†Marlene Rodgers . *M/M Abboud Batikha*

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 28 | 11:30AM

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

IN OUR PRAYERS

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

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

SUNDAY BEFORE THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD

SATURDAY | JANUARY 3 | 5:30PM

- †Albert Dahab . *4 Year Remembrance . Wife Georgina & Family*
†Lois Lozy . *M/M Karim Kasper*
†Louis Dahdah . *M/M John Colaizzi*

SUNDAY | JANUARY 4 | 9:00AM

- †William Siouffi . *Samira Fakhoury*
†Mary Tahan . *M/M Joseph Rowe*
†Youssef Kozhaya . *Rev/M Edward Bsarany*
†Marlene Rodgers . *Patti Tahan*

SUNDAY | JANUARY 4 | 11:30AM

- †Sayer Sawaged . *Wife Badia & Family*
†Hani Haddad . *Wife Mary & Family*
†Naim Haddad . *Wife Nellie & Family*
†Khalil & Amira Alamir . *Their Family*
†Rana Alamir Haddad . *Alamir Family*
†John Baladi . *M/M George Jalinos*
†George & Munira Khawam . *Daughter Afaf Khawam Dayoub*
†George Dayoub . *Wife Afaf Dayoub*
†Dr. Razek Khawam . *Sister Afaf Khawam Dayoub*
†Dr. Salem Khawam . *Sister Afaf Khawam Dayoub*
†Dr. Mouine Khawam . *Sister Afaf Khawam Dayoub*
†Najah Khawam . *Sister Afaf Khawam Dayoub*
†Mayla Gabriel Sabeh . *Teta Afaf Khawam Dayoub*

DAILY READINGS . December 29, 2025 - January 3, 2026

MONDAY 12/29

HEB 8:7-13
MK 10:46-52

TUESDAY 12/30

HEB 9:8-23
MK 11:11-23

WEDNESDAY 12/31

HEB 10:1-18
MK 11:22-26

Circumcision of Our Lord

THURSDAY 1/1/26

JN 10:1-9
COL 2:8-12
LK 2:20-21; 40-52

FRIDAY 1/2

HEB 11:8-16
MK 11:27-33

SATURDAY 1/3

1 TIM 3:13-16; 4:1-5
MT 3:1-69

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 AFTER THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

ANTIPHON PRAYER

O Christ, Eternal God, by Your birth from the Virgin, You appeared on earth as a man and enlightened the whole Creation. Steady our footsteps in the way of your Commandments. Infuse in our hearts the grace of knowing You and loving You, through the intercession of Your All-pure Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary and all your Saints.

For You are our Light and our Redemption, O Christ God, and to You we render glory and to Your Eternal Father and Your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever

ANTIPHONS OF THE FEAST *pg. 156*

O Son of God who were born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You Alleluia

1. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord: he will establish himself firmly within his commandments.

O Son of God Who were born of the Virgin...

2. Powerful on earth shall be his race; the descendants of the righteous ones shall be blessed

O Son of God Who were born of the Virgin...

3. Glory and wealth shall abide in his house, and his justice shall stand from age to age

O Son of God Who were born of the Virgin...

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

SPECIAL PETITIONS

1. That the Nativity of Christ may be a realization of the hymn of the Angels, glory to God, peace on earth and joy for mankind, let us pray to the Lord.

2. That Christ may restore us to our Paradise dwelling and grant us the grace of divine adoption, let us pray to the Lord.

3. That through the salvific Nativity of Christ, the world may be enlightened by justice, reconciliation, and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

4. That we may advance in age, wisdom and grace; and that the civilization of Christian love may grow in the world, so that we may attain the full stature of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION *(Tone 4) pg. 62*

The women disciples of the Lord, having learned from the angel the joyful announcement of the resurrection, and having rejected the ancestral sentence, proudly told the apostles: "Death is despoiled. Christ God is risen, bestowing to the world great mercy."

TROPARION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD *(Tone 4) pg. 157*

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shed the light of knowledge upon the world. Through it, those who had been star-worshippers learned through a star to worship You, O Sun of Justice, and to recognize in You the One who rises and who comes from on high. O Lord glory to You!

TROPARION OF HOLY JOSEPH *(Tone 2)*

O Joseph, proclaim to David, the ancestor of Christ our God, the great miracles you have witnessed: you have seen the Virgin with child, given praise with the shepherds, adored with the wise men, and an angel of the Lord has appeared to you. Intercede with Christ God that He may save our Souls.

KONDAKION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD *(Tone 3) pg. 158*

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent in Essence; and the earth presents a cave to the Inaccessible. The angels with the shepherds sing His glory, and the Wise Men with the Star travel on their way, for to us is born a New Child, who is God from all eternity.

TRISAGION *pg. 118*

All of you who have been baptized into the Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia. *(3 times)*

EPISTLE: GALATIANS 1:11-19

Prokimenon: Awesome in His saints is God, the God of Israel.

Stichon: In the churches, bless God, the Lord out of Israel's wellsprings.

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

BRETHREN, I give you to understand that the Good News that was announced to you by me is not of man. For I did not receive it from man, nor was it taught to me [by man], but I received it by a revelation from Jesus Christ. For you have heard of the way I lived before in Judaism: how I persecuted the Church of God and ravaged it beyond measure. And I advanced in Judaism above many of my contemporaries in my nation, showing much more zeal for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased him who from my mother's womb set me apart and called me by his grace, to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the Gentiles, immediately, without taking counsel with flesh and blood and without going up to Jerusalem to those who were appointed apostles before me, I retired into Arabia and again returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went to Jerusalem to see Peter, and I remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles, except James, the Lord's brother.

Alleluia

O Lord, remember David and all his anxious care!

Stichon: The Lord has made a truthful oath to David from which He shall never depart: "Of the fruit of your loins, I will place one upon your throne."

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:13-23

(The Flight to Egypt)

When the Magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph, saying, "Arise, and take the Child and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and remain there until I tell you. For Herod will seek the Child to destroy Him." So, he arose, and took the Child and His mother by night, and withdrew into Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod; so that what the Lord said through the

prophet might be fulfilled, *"Out of Egypt I called My Son."* Then Herod, seeing that he had been tricked by the Magi, was furious; and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and all its neighborhood who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had carefully ascertained from the Magi. Then was fulfilled what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet, *"A voice was heard in Rama, weeping, moaning and a loud complaint; Rachel weeping for her children, and she would not be comforted, because they are no more."* But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, and take the Child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." So, he arose and took the Child and His mother, and went into the land of Israel. But hearing that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there; and being warned in a dream he withdrew into the region of Galilee. And he went and settled in a town called Nazareth; that there might be fulfilled what was spoken through the prophets, *"He shall be called a Nazarene."*

HIRMOS Hymn to the Theotokos (Tone 1)

Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin more glorious than the heavenly powers! Behold a strange and wonderful mystery: the cave is heaven, the Virgin a cherubic throne, the manger a noble place where reposes Christ, the Uncontainable God. Wherefore, let us praise and magnify Him!

KINONIKON The Lord has sent redemption to His people: He has established His covenant forever. Alleluia

POST-COMMUNION (pg. 157) Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shed the light of knowledge upon the world. Through it, those who had been star-worshippers learned through a star to worship You, O Sun of Justice, and to recognize in You the One who rises and who comes from on high. O Lord glory to You!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

There are no Religious Education classes December 28, 2025 and January 4, 2026. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 11, 2026.

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!

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Weekend of DECEMBER 21, 2025

5:30pm	19 Envelopes	\$1468.00
9:00am	40 Envelopes	2248.00
11:30am	32 Envelopes	1341.00
Online	41 Envelopes	1992.00
Mailed	6 Envelopes	795.00
Donation		240.00
Stole Offerings		1500.00
Candles		70.00

Weekly Total **\$9,654.00**

Total Envelopes Received: 138

GIVE YOUR SUNDAY OFFERING ONLINE!

Go to saintannmelkite.com and click on online giving.

HOLY MYSTERY OF CROWNING

Congratulations to **Kyle & Jessica (Atieh) Perez**, who were crowned in the Mystery of Marriage last week. May their life together be filled with committed love and the blessing of Christ.



HOLY MYSTERIES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist

Congratulations to **Evelyn Perez, Nicholas Perez & Theodore Perez**, children of Kyle & Jessica (Atieh) Perez, whose children received these Sacraments last week. Congratulations to **Kyle Perez**, who was sealed in the gift of the Holy Spirit through Chrismation.



UPCOMING Watch for the 2026 Events Calendar!

SATURDAY. JANUARY 10 | 12 NOON

ORTHOS followed by **SAMY BASKETBALL TOURNAY**

SUNDAY. JANUARY 18

SAMY BIBLE STUDY and BOWLING

FRIDAY. JANUARY 23 | FAMILY FUN NIGHT

SATURDAY. JANUARY 24 | YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

Topic PREPARING FOR THE GREAT FAST

FRIDAY. JANUARY 30 | SAMY DEBKE NIGHT

SUNDAY. FEBRUARY 1

VESPER DIVINE LITURGY for FEAST of the ENCOUNTER

SATURDAY. FEBRUARY 7 | FATHER-SON BREAKFAST

MELKITE PASTORAL APPEAL Update

So far our donation for the Pastoral Appeal is **\$16,308.48**. Our goal is \$50,000. Checks and online donations dated before December 31st will receive a 2025 tax letter form.