

---

---

# Saint Ann Melkite Catholic Church

181 Clapboard Ridge Road, Danbury, Connecticut 06811

Telephone: 203.743.5119

Rev. Thomas Davis, Pastor [pastor@saintann.org](mailto:pastor@saintann.org)

Rev. Deacon Nicholas Bourjaili [nb4012@yahoo.com](mailto:nb4012@yahoo.com)

Community of the Mother of God of Tenderness 203.794.1486

Vespers: Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am. Confession: Sunday @ 9:15 am or by appointment

Website: [www.saintann.org](http://www.saintann.org) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/DanburyMelkite/](http://www.facebook.com/DanburyMelkite/)

---

**September 8, 2024 - Nativity of the Theotokos - Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

**Epistle: Gal 6:11-18 (Nabil Takla) + Gospel: John 3: 13-17**

*The Divine Liturgy will be offered for the repose of the soul of* ✠Raymond Antous (Rima Antous); ✠Helen Georgette Ayoub (Nabil & Hind Takla); ✠Helen (Najla) Gebran (Pamala St. Pierre); ✠Khalil Azar (Therese Brandano); ✠Rachid Chakar (Fredrick & Randa Antous)

**Antiphon Prayer of the Nativity of the Theotokos:** O Christ our God, who took flesh from the all-pure Virgin for our salvation, you adorned her soul beforehand with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, preparing her as a receptacle and throne for your divinity. Through her, Adam and his descendants obtained renewal of life. And through her birth today, the whole creation rejoices with the dawn of salvation to come. We ask you through her intercession, to renew our mind, enlighten our souls and grant us your joy and peace. For you are the King of Peace and the Savior of our souls, 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 for ages of ages.

**Antiphon:**

-The Lord swore to David a firm promise from which He will not withdraw.

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, Save us!*

- Your own offspring I will set up on your throne.

*Beshafa'ate Walidatil Eelah, ya Mukhalisu, khalisna.*

-The Lord has chosen Sion: He prefers her for His dwelling.

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, Save us!*

**The Incarnational Hymn (p. 18):** O Only-begotten Son and Word of God, immortal as you are...

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 7) (p. 26):** You destroyed Death by your cross...

**Troparion of the Nativity (125) (Sung Twice):** Your Nativity, O Mother of God, heralded joy...

**Kontakion of the Nativity of the Theotokos (p. 126):** Through your holy birth, O Immaculate One...

**Prokimenon: Psalm 27: 9, 1:** O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance!

*Stichon:* To you, O Lord, I have called: O my Rock, be not deaf to me!

**Epistle: Gal 6:11-18 (Nabil Takla):** Brethern, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand! All those who want to please in a human way are forcing you to be circumcised merely to avoid persecution because of the cross of Christ. For not even the circumcised observe the Law: but they want you to be circumcised that they may boast of your subjection to external rites. But as for me, God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision but a new creation is of any account. And whoever follow this rule, peace and mercy be upon them and on God's Israel. From now on, let no man give me trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus in my body. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

**Alleluia: Psalm 88: 20-22:** I have exalted one chosen out of my people. I have found David my servant, and anointed him with holy chrism.

*Stichon:* For my hand shall support him, and my arm shall make him strong.

**Gospel: John 3: 13-17:** The Lord said, "No one has gone up into heaven except the One Who has come down from heaven: the Son of Man Who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, even so must

the Son of Man be lifted up, that those who believe in Him may not perish, but may have life everlasting.” For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that those who believe in Him may not perish, but may have life everlasting. For God did not send His Son into the world in order to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

**Hirmos of the Feast (p. 127):** Mothers cannot be virgins, nor virgins mothers...

**Kinonikon (p. 128):** I will take the chalice of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia.

**St. Ann Prayer List:** *Please remember in your prayers the suffering handmaids and servants of God:* Carmen Balesh, Marilyn Baiad, Robert Cheble, Nicholas & Elsie Fatse, Abraham Fattouh, Karen Fattouh, Brian Frank, Michael Haddad; Daniel Jowdy; Madelyn Madkour, Mariam Marji, Stephen McGrath, George Michael, Jillian Michalenko, Josephine Nassif, William Michael, Linda Noujaim, Doreen Parrella, Tomas Ramirez, William Ramirez, Victoria Scalora, Gregory Sideleau, Claire Sirgy, and Alfonso & Laurene de la Vega.

**Icon Lamp Donations for the New Liturgical Year** are now being accepted. Please use the Icon Lamp donation form if you want reserve a lamp/icon. Copies are available in the Narthex. Icon Lamp donations are accepted only if accompanied by the form and are reserved on a first come basis.

**Donations welcome and gratefully accepted for the upcoming Annual Bazaar:** flour, unsalted butter, sugar, nuts, food items for the kitchen (grape leaves, bulgur, cooking oil, etcetera) all welcome as are donations to defer expenses.

**Fr. Tom will be in Vermont** for a wedding this Saturday, September 7, so Vespers will not be celebrated that evening. **He will be in Rome, Italy from September 10-20.** Fr. Tom Moses, chancellor of the diocese, will be at St. Ann next weekend to celebrate Vespers and Divine Liturgy. While overseas Fr. Tom can be reached via email or on WhatsApp or Signal.

### Sunday, September 15, 2024

**By Assignment, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, normally September 14, is moved to this Day**

**Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1: 18-24 (Randa Antous) + Gospel: John 19: 6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35**

*The Divine Liturgy will be offered for the repose of the soul of* ✠Raymond Antous (Nicholas & Marilyn Baiad); ✠Helen Georgette Ayoub (Effie Smith); ✠Khalil Azar (Mr. & Mrs. Bachir Abboud and Family)

**Sunday Collections:**

8/11/2024	8/18/2024	8/25/2024	9/1/2024
Reg: \$1,242	Reg: \$1,631	Reg: \$5,001	Reg: \$963
Spec Proj: \$10	Memorials: \$845	Spec Proj: \$110	Spec Proj: \$20
Clergy Ret: \$15	Clergy Ret: \$50		Spec Proj Honor roll: \$1,000
Fundraising: \$35	Spec Proj: \$5		Fuel/Elec: \$318
Memorials: \$2,250			Icon Lamps: \$200

**Special Project Honor Donors for 2024**

Nabil & Hind Takla	Selim & Linda Noujaim	Joseph & Daad Noujaim
Ted Haddad	Edward & Olympia Stoller	Robert Hennessey
Michel & Hala Hourani	Hoda Riachy & Anthony Ataya	Carol Hennessey
+ Nazha Abdella Zowine	+ Joe & Rita Stankwitz	+ George & Alice Davis
+ Jim & Helen Hennessey	+ James L. & Gail Hennessey	+ George & Mary Antous
William Hajj		

**Special Projects Honor Donors** make a one-time donation of \$1,000 or more to fund special projects.

**Upcoming Events:**

- Sept. 7 @ 8am-2pm: Red Cross Blood Drive in the church hall in memory of Clara Juliette Kane
- Sept. 8 @ 10 pm: Sunday Divine Liturgy will be for the Great Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God
- Sept. 14 @ 5 pm: Transferred Vespers and Bonfire for Feast of the Exultation of the Cross
- Sept. 15 @ 5 pm: Transferred Divine Liturgy for the Great Feast of the Exultation of the Cross