

THE IMAGE... (Jn 12:45 & 14:9; Heb 1:3; Col 1:15)

www.stjohnofdamascus.org

Publication of St. John of Damascus Orthodox Church, Poway, CA

5th Sunday of Pascha Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

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Welcome!

...to all who have gathered to follow Jesus Christ & manifest the Kingdom of God in the Liturgy of His Church. If this is your first time with us, give us a chance to get to know you.

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A Word from the Holy Fathers

Now if a woman from Samaria is so eager to learn something profitable; if she stays with Christ though not yet knowing Him, what pardon shall we obtain?.... We know Him... yet are unable to endure anything that is said, but are jaded in our knowledge. St. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM HOMILY ON JOHN

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·THE SAMARITAN WOMAN·

May 30, 2021



St. John of Damassus Orthodox Church + The Diocess of the West + The Orthodox Shurch in America

Parish Life

Wed Adult Ed Class to Begin 6/2 Responding to a Contemporary World with an Ancient Faith 7-8:30pm

Our next Wednesday evening adult education class will begin Wed June 2. (Last week's class did not occur due to technical issues.)

Fr Michael will lead the class discussing how ancient truths relate to contemporary life and situations.

Classes which are discussion based (rather than lecture) are held weekly at 7:00-8:30pm.

People can attend via Zoom (see our parish website calendar). We are planning to have a hybrid model where people can also attend in person.

Sat Adult Ed Class to Begin 6/5 1:00pm The Names of Jesus

It is with great pleasure that we are pleased to announce the resumption of our next Saturday Adult Education Series starting on June 5 discussing the book "The Names of Jesus – Discovering the Person of Jesus Christ Through Scripture" by Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko of blessed memory. In his inimitable way of combining scholarship and pastoral guidance, Father Hopko discusses the more than 50 names and titles given within scripture to our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ – 5 of which you have just read!

Deacon George will be facilitating the discussion via the Zoom format at 1:00PM on Saturdays with modifications as the sessions evolve and as the group desires. As you will discover, the chapters although numbering more than 50 are relatively short and more than one will be included each week. The projected end of this Summer series will be August 14, the day before the Dormition Feast of the Theotokos. There will be a two-week hiatus at the end of June to early July. The specific content for each session and Zoom link will be posted in the weekly newsletter. The book is available from multiple sources including a Kindle version at Amazon. Eight copies will be available at the St John's Bookstore for \$20.

Collection for St Eugene's Youth Camp

St Eugene's Camp has been a ministry of our Diocese for over 40 years. They are in need of funds to help pay for expenses of the needed camp counselors & staff..

Today will be final day for our collection as a parish to help.

Please give generously.

For more information visit www.steugenecamp.org

Birthday Celebration Luncheon for our Beloved Choir Director Carole Shumaik—5/30

After Divine Liturgy Today we are having a luncheon to celebrate the 70th birthday of our beloved Carole Shumaik who has served our parish for the majority of those years.

Please stay and join in the celebration!

Visit of Miraculous Icon of St Anna, the Ancestor (Grandmother) of the Lord Sunday June 6—8:30pm

We were contacted by the Dean of St Tikhon's Seminary & he offered us the opportunity to host the miraculous icon of St Anna on the evening of Sunday June 6. We will greet the icon at 6:30pm, have a short service of intercession (molieben) & allow people to then venerate the icon. After the service we will have a reception & presentation by Fr John Parker (Dean of St Tikhon's) about the work & needs of the seminary.

We will also be able to enjoy a local surf b& during the reception. Mark your calendars & share the news!

> Rides for Fr Elias Next Sunday

> > John Klavzar

Today's Worship—Hymns	
TROPARIA	Κοντακία
Resurrection—Tone 4 When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!" Midfeast—Tone 8 In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety as You cried to all: "If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!" O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to You!	 Samaritan Woman—Tone 8 The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; she saw You, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly. She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified! Midfeast—Tone 4 Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law: "Come and draw the water of immortality!" We fall before You and faithfully cry: "Grant us Your mercies, for You are the Fountain of our life!"

PROKEIMENON

Tone 3 (*Resurrection*) — Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! (*Ps* 46/47:6)

v: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! (Ps 46/47:1)

ALLELUIA

Tone 4 — V. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! (Ps. 44:3b)

V. For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity. (Ps. 44:6)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Epistle — Acts 11:19-26, 29-30

¹⁹ Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. ²⁰ But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. ²¹ And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

²² Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. ²³ When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. ²⁴ For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.

²⁵ Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. ²⁶ And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

²⁹ Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. ³⁰ This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Gospel — John 4:5-42

⁵ So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. ⁶ Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷ A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her. "Give Me a drink." ⁸ For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. ⁹ Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. ¹⁰ Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? ¹² Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock? ¹³ Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.

¹⁵ The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷ The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your

Worship — Scripture Readings

husband; in that you spoke truly. ¹⁹ The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. ²³ But 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. ²⁴ God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.²⁵ The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."

²⁷ And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" ²⁸ The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, ²⁹ "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?"

³⁰ Then they went out of the city and came to Him. ³¹ In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." ³² But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." ³³ Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" ³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! ³⁶ And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. ³⁷ For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors.

³⁹ And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of His own word. ⁴² Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."



Our Life in Ghrist—The Samaritan Woman—St Photini

The Holy Martyr Photina (Svetlana) the Samaritan Woman, her sons Victor (named Photinus) and Joses; and her sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskeva, Kyriake; Nero's daughter Domnina; and the Martyr Sebastian: The holy Martyr Photina was the Samaritan Woman, with whom the Savior conversed at Jacob's Well (John. 4:5-42).

During the time of the emperor Nero (54-68), who displayed excessive cruelty against Christians, St Photina lived in Carthage with her younger son Joses and fearlessly preached the Gospel there. Her eldest son Victor fought bravely in the Roman army against barbarians, and was appointed military commander in the city of Attalia (Asia Minor). Later, Nero called him to Italy to arrest and punish Christians.

Sebastian, an official in Italy, said to St Victor, "I know that you, your mother and your brother, are followers of Christ. As a friend I advise you to submit to the will of the emperor. If you inform on any



Christians, you will receive their wealth. I shall write to your mother and brother, asking them not to preach Christ in public. Let them practice their faith in secret."

St Victor replied, "I want to be a preacher of Christianity like my mother and brother." Sebastian said, "O Victor, we all know what woes await you, your mother and brother." Then Sebastian suddenly felt a sharp pain in his eyes. He was dumbfounded, and his face was somber.

For three days he lay there blind, without uttering a word. On the fourth day he declared, "The God of the Christians is the only true God." St Victor asked why Sebastian had suddenly changed his mind. Sebastian replied, "Because Christ is calling me." Soon he was baptized, and immediately regained his sight. St Sebastian's servants, after witnessing the miracle, were also baptized.

Reports of this reached Nero, and he commanded that the Christians be brought to him at Rome. Then the Lord Himself appeared to the confessors and said, "Fear not, for I am with you. Nero, and all who serve him, will be vanquished." The Lord said to St Victor, "From this day forward, your name will be Photinus, because through you, many will be enlightened and will believe in Me." The Lord then told the Christians to strengthen and encourage St Sebastian to persevere until the end. All these things, and even future events, were revealed to St Photina. She left Carthage in the company of several Christians and joined the confessors in Rome.

At Rome the emperor ordered the saints to be brought before him and he asked them whether they truly believed in Christ. All the confessors refused to renounce the Savior. Then the emperor gave orders to smash the martyrs' finger joints. During the torments, the confessors felt no pain, and their hands remained unharmed.

Nero ordered that Sts Sebastian, Photinus and Joses be blinded and locked up in prison, and St Photina and her five sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskeva and Kyriake were sent to the imperial court under the supervision of Nero's daughter Domnina. St Photina converted both Domnina and all her servants to Christ. She also converted a sorcerer, who had brought her poisoned food to kill her.

Our Life in Ghrist—The Samaritan Woman—St Photini

Three years passed, and Nero sent to the prison for one of his servants, who had been locked up. The messengers reported to him that Sts Sebastian, Photinus and Joses, who had been blinded, had completely recovered, and that people were visiting them to hear their preaching, and indeed the whole prison had been transformed into a bright and fragrant place where God was glorified.

Nero then gave orders to crucify the saints, and to beat their naked bodies with straps. On the fourth day the emperor sent servants to see whether the martyrs were still alive. But, approaching the place of the tortures, the servants fell blind. An angel of the Lord freed the martyrs from their crosses and healed them. The saints took pity on the blinded servants, and restored their sight by their prayers to the Lord. Those who were healed came to believe in Christ and were soon baptized.

In an impotent rage Nero gave orders to flay the skin from St Photina and to throw the martyr down a well. Sebastian, Photinus and Joses had their legs cut off, and they were thrown to dogs, and then had their skin flayed off. The sisters of St Photina also suffered terrible torments. St Photina was removed from the well and locked up in prison for twenty days.

After this Nero had her brought to him and asked if she would now relent and offer sacrifice to the idols. St Photina spit in the face of the emperor, and laughing at him, said, "O most impious of the blind, you profligate and stupid man! Do you think me so deluded that I would consent to renounce my Lord Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols as blind as you?"

Hearing such words, Nero gave orders to again throw the martyr down the well, where she surrendered her soul to God (ca. 66).

PASCHAL GREETINGS

English: Christ is risen! ...Indeed/Truly He is Risen!

Albanian: Krishti U Ngjall!

...Vertet U Ngjall!

Aleutian: Khris-tusax agla-gikux!

...Agangu-lakan agla-gikux!

Arabic: El Messieh Kahm!

...Hakken kahm!

Chinese: 基督復活了!確實復活了!

Ethiopia (Amharic): Christos tenestwal! ... Ewnetem tenestwal!

French: Le Christ est ressuscite! ...En verite il est ressuscite!

Georgian: ქრისტე აღსდგა! ჭეშმარიტად აღსდგა!

German: Christus ist auferstanden! ...Er ist wahrhaftig auferstanden!

Greek: Christos anesti!

Polish:

Chrystus zmartwychwstal! ...Prawdziwie zmartwychwstal!

Russian: Hristos Voskrese!

Romanian: Hristos a inviat!

Spanish: Cristo ha resucitado!

Ukrainian: Hristos Voskres!

...Voistino Voskres!

...Voistinu Voskrese!

... Adeverat a inviat!

... En verdad ha resucitado!

...Alithos anesti!

Vietnamese: Chua Song Lai ...Qua Th

...Qua That Song Lai



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St. John of Damassus Ghursh + The Diogese of the West + The Orthodox Ghursh in America