

June 13, 2021



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

7TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA

FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

AFTERFEAST OF ASCENSION

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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 the Word, who had never before been clothed in human nature, has ascended as a man to show himself in a strange and unfamiliar fashion. ... For since he became man it is as one of us that he sits at the right hand of God the Father, even though he is above all creation and one in substance with his Father, having truly come forth from him as God from God and Light from Light.

—*St. Cyril of Alexandria*

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For sacraments, services,
instruction, home/office/hospital visits
please contact **Fr. Michael Anderson**
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ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS ORTHODOX CHURCH + THE DIOCESE OF THE WEST + THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

Parish Life

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

Fr Michael and participants are 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.

We will announce if we are able to do the hybrid version in this week's Tuesday e-mail.



Sat Adult Ed Class 1:00pm The Names of Jesus

Our Saturday Adult Education Series is discussing the book "The Names of Jesus – Discovering the Person of Jesus Christ Through Scripture" by Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko. 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 facilitates the discussion via the Zoom format at 1:00PM on Saturdays The book is long, but each chapter is rather short. This coming week's "Names" are:

The book is available from multiple sources including a Kindle version at Amazon. Eight copies are also available at the St John's Bookstore for \$20.

You can also listen to the original podcasts at: <https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/namesofjesus>

Filter from "Old to New" to see the episodes as listed in the book.

Visit of Miraculous Icon of St Anna, the Ancestor (Grandmother) of the Lord



Last Sunday we were blessed not only to host the miraculous icon of St Anna but also many faithful visitors from other parishes in the county.

Once again, the Lord continues to give us blessings in response to our faith in these challenging times.

It was also a joy to celebrate Fr John Parker's 50th birthday with him for a wonderfully joyful evening of fellowship and music.

Many years, Fr John!



Parish Life

DECORATING FOR HOLY PENTECOST BRING IN YOUR HOUSE PLANTS & CUTTINGS!

SATURDAY JUNE 19, 5PM

For our celebration of the great feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost we decorate our temple in green. The temple is adorned with branches & other greenery.

Please consider whether you have any house plants at home (also small trees & bushes in containers 3-5 ft tall) that you would be willing to lend to the church for a few weeks. We will make sure they are watered. Also, we will be filling the church vases and decorating with cuttings from plants, trees, etc. from people's yards.

The goal is to make our temple a glimpse of the garden in paradise where Adam & Eve walked with God in Communion with Him and His creation. God comes and dwells with us offering us paradise.

Plants can be brought in during the week or on Saturday. Cuttings should be brought on Saturday. We will begin decorating at 5pm.



Rides for Fr Elias Next Sunday—6/20

Joe Ternick

Auxiliary News

Meeting **TODAY** after Liturgy—Discuss Fathers' Day Luncheon

Cooking Day—Mon 6/14 9am-12pm—Pierogies



Travel Blessings

With Summer upon us, it is a time when many travel for vacations, family visits, etc.

If you are travelling please let Fr Michael know so you can receive a travel blessing after Divine Liturgy.

Dates for 2021

Pentecost June 20

FAST SEASONS

Apostles Fast June 28

Dormition Fast Aug 1-14

Nativity Fast/Advent Nov 15-Dec 24

FAST-FREE WEEKS

Week after Pentecost June 21-25

After Christmas Dec 26-Jan 4

Today's Worship — Hymns

TROPARIA

Resurrection — Tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee!

Ascension — Tone 4

O Christ God, Thou hast ascended in glory, granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world!

Fathers — Tone 8

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God! Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them Thou didst guide us to the true Faith. O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

KONTAKIA

Fathers — Tone 8

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one Faith for the Church. Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology, It defines and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

Ascension — Tone 6

When Thou hadst fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, and united earth to heaven: Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love Thee, but remaining with them and crying: "I am with you and no one will be against you!"

PROKEIMENON

Tone 4 — Blessed are Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever! (Song of the three Holy Children, v. 3)

v: For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us! (v. 4)

ALLELUIA

Tone 1 — V. The Lord, the God of gods, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. (Ps. 49:1)

V. Gather to Me My venerable ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice! (Ps. 49:6)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Epistle — Acts 20: 16-18, 28-36

¹⁶ For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost.

¹⁷ And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. ¹⁸ And when they came to him, he said to them:

“You yourselves know how I lived among you all the time from the first day that I set foot in Asia,

²⁸ Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. ³² And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. ³⁵ In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

³⁶ And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Gospel — John 17: 1-13

¹ When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee, ² since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. ⁴ I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do; ⁵ and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made.

⁶ “I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. ⁷ Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; ⁸ for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. ⁹ I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; ¹⁰ all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

CLEAN-UP DAY AT ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS

Come help trim bushes and
clean up the church grounds!

Items to bring:

- heavy-weight trash bags
- electric trimmers
- extension cords
- hand tools
- rakes and brooms
- work gloves
- your own water bottle
- sunscreen

Check with John Klavzar or
Patty Pelachik for more
detailed information

JUNE 26, 2021
8:30AM - 1:00PM
LIGHT LUNCH AT 1:00PM



Our Life in Christ



THE ASCENSION OF LORD

The Ascension is the token of Pentecost, the sign of its coming, "The Lord has ascended to heaven and will send the Comforter to the world'

For the Holy Spirit was not yet in the world, until Jesus was glorified. And the Lord Himself told the disciples, "If I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you" (John 16:7). The gifts of the Spirit are "gifts of reconciliation," a seal of an accomplished salvation and of the ultimate reunion of the world with God. And this was accomplished only in the Ascension. "And one saw miracles follow miracles," says St John Chrysostom, "ten days prior to this our nature ascended to the King's throne, while today the Holy Ghost has descended on to our nature." The joy of the Ascension lies in the promise of the Spirit. "Thou didst give joy to Thy disciples by a promise of the Holy Spirit." The victory of Christ is wrought in us by the power of the Holy Spirit.

"On high is His body, here below with us is His Spirit. And so we have His token on high, that is His body, which He received from us, and here below we have His Spirit with us. Heaven received the Holy Body, and the earth accepted the Holy Spirit. Christ came and sent the Spirit. He ascended, and with Him our body ascended also" (St John Chrysostom). The revelation of the Holy Trinity was completed. Now the Spirit Comforter is poured forth on all flesh. "Hence comes foreknowledge of the future, understanding of mysteries, apprehension of what is hidden, distribution of good gifts, the heavenly citizenship, a place in the chorus of angels, joy without end, abiding in God, the being made like to God, and, highest of all, the being made God!" (St Basil, On the Holy Spirit, IX). Beginning with the Apostles, and through communion with them - by an unbroken succession - Grace is spread to all believers. Through renewal and glorification in the Ascended Christ, man's nature became receptive of the spirit. "And unto the world He gives quickening forces through His human body," says Bishop Theophanes. "He holds it completely in Himself and penetrates it with His strength, out of Himself; and He likewise draws the angels to Himself through the spirit of man, giving them space for action and thus making them blessed." All this is done through the Church, which is "the Body of Christ;" that is, His "fullness" (Ephesians 1:23). "The Church is the fulfillment of Christ," continues Bishop Theophanes, "perhaps in the same way as the tree is the fulfillment of the seed. That which is contained in the seed in a contracted form receives its development in the tree."

The very existence of the Church is the fruit of the Ascension. It is in the Church that man's nature is truly ascended to the Divine heights. "And gave Him to be Head over all things" (Ephesians 1:22). St John Chrysostom comments: "Amazing! Look again, whither He has raised the Church. As though He were lifting it up by some engine, He has raised it up to a vast height, and set it on yonder throne; for where the Head is, there is the body also. There is no interval of separation between the Head and the body; for were there a separation, then would the one no longer be a body, nor would the other any longer be a Head." The whole race of men is to follow Christ, even in His ultimate exaltation, "to follow in His train." Within the Church, through an acquisition of the Spirit in the fellowship of Sacraments, the Ascension continues still, and will continue until the measure is full. "Only then shall the Head be filled up, when the body is rendered perfect, when we are knit together and united," concludes St John Chrysostom.

Fr Georges Florovsky



LOOKING AHEAD

*The following are services & parish events **IN ADDITION** to the usual weekend services (Sat 6pm & Sun 8:30am).*

Monday June 14

9am-12pm — Auxiliary Cooking Day—Pierogies

Tuesday June 15

10:30am — Father's Virtual Café (via Zoom—see website calendar)

Wednesday June 16

7:00pm — Adult Ed: Topic Responding to a Contemporary World with an Ancient Faith (hybrid Zoom & in person, hopefully)

Saturday June 19

1:00-2:30pm — Adult Ed: The Names of Jesus (via Zoom—see online calendar)

5:00pm — Decorate Temple for Holy Pentecost

Tuesday June 22

10:30am — Father's Virtual Café (via Zoom—see website calendar)

Wednesday June 23

7:00pm — Adult Ed: Topic Responding to a Contemporary World with an Ancient Faith (hybrid Zoom & in person)

Saturday June 26

8:30am-1:00pm — Parish Landscaping Clean-up Day

1:00-2:30pm — Adult Ed: The Names of Jesus (via Zoom—see online calendar)

Monday June 28—Start of Apostles Fast

6:00pm — Great Vespers for Apostles Peter & Paul

For more dates please visit our website: www.stjohnofdamascus.org/calendar

Many Years!

Birthdays

Annie Keeling	6/13
David Ray Boyles, Jr	6/14
Anna Rahal	6/16
Anastasia Michaud	6/17
Katherine Gammo	6/18

Wedding Anniversaries

Konstantine & Birdie (Lucia) Worth	6/17
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Confessions are held on Saturdays after Great Vespers or by appointment with Fr Michael.

PARISH CONTACT INFO:

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Priest: V. Rev. Michael &erson, Rector

Email: powaypadre@stjohnofdamascus.org — **Phone:** (858) 717-2172

Attached Clergy: V. Rev. Alexander Federoff, Retired & Dn. George Shumaik

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