

August 1, 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

**6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 5
PROCESSION OF THE HONORABLE CROSS
MACCABEAN MARTYRS**



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.



A Word from the Holy Fathers

The gospel produces the exact opposite of
what people want and expect, but it is that
very fact which persuades them to accept it
in the end. The apostles won their case,
not simply without a sign, but by something
which appeared to go against all the known
signs. The cross seems to be a cause of
offense, but far from simply offending, it
attracts and calls believers to itself.

St John Chrysostom



Include Something in the Bulletin
E-mail info@stjohnofdamascus.org

Dear Beloved in Christ,

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

As I recuperate from my surgery, life will continue
here at St. John's. Our Saturday adult education
classes will continue as will our gathering to worship
and grow in our relationship with the Triune God in
the services of His Church. Fr Alexander Federoff
and Fr Peter Carmichael will be filling in during my
absence. Confessions will be available after Great
Vespers as usual.

If you have a pastoral concern or need please call or
email our beloved deacon, Dn George Shumaik. He
will take your information and refer your info so that
either Fr Peter or Fr Alexander can reach out to you.

Dn George's contact information is:
gshumaik@ucsd.edu
(858) 699-0897

You all have come to have a very special place in
my heart and I will miss seeing you. Please be as-
sured of my love and prayers (unworthy though they
be) for you all and I am looking forward to seeing
you all on the other side of all this.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

With love in Christ,

Parish Life

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.



Church School Volunteers Needed

Our existing church school teachers need support and help. Please consider volunteering as a teacher or helper for our church school classes next year. See Bill Moision or Fr Michael if you are interested.



Volunteer Needed to Format QUARTERLY Parish Council Newsletter

The Parish Council is preparing a quarterly newsletter to help keep parishioners up to date on the work of the Council and offering parishioners an opportunity to share things with the community. Leo Hayes is coordinating this effort soliciting and gathering the articles. ***We need someone to format the articles into a newsletter format.*** If you are interested in helping in this QUARTERLY publication please speak to Leo or myself.

Auxiliary News—Come & Get It! Cabbage Rolls & Pierogies

The Auxiliary has been hard at work and we now get to benefit from their efforts AND support their ministry which supports our church.

Stuffed cabbage rolls and pierogies (huge variety) are available for sale. Speak to someone after Liturgy to pick up dinner for this week!



Purchase Gift Cards Through Our Scrip Coordinator & Help our Parish

Scrip gift cards raise money for St. John's Auxiliary. When you buy Scrip cards, the store makes a donation with NO extra expense. Use the cards for your regular monthly purchases or gifts for loved ones and support our parish's ministry. Cards are available for gas, groceries, Amazon, restaurants and many other stores.

See Carmen Brown after Liturgy for more information or to purchase your cards.



Blessed Icons of St Anna

We have been blessed to receive more icons of St Anna, the Ancestor of the Lord from Fr John Parker. The paper icons have been blessed on the icon at the monastery and have been anointed with the myrrh from her as well as from the weeping icon of the Theotokos in PA that Fr John told us about during his visit.

If you would like an additional icon, please let me know. Please remember that, as these are blessed, they should be treated with reverence and not just a "collectable."

Today's Worship — Hymns

TROPARIA

Resurrection - Tone 5

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious Resurrection.

Cross —Tone 1

O Lord, save Thy people,
and bless Thine inheritance!
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians
over their adversaries;
and by virtue of Thy Cross,//
preserve Thy habitation!

Maccabean Martyrs —Tone 1

We beseech Thee, O Lover of mankind,
to accept in supplication
the suffering which the Saints endured for
Thee, O Lord,//
and heal all our infirmities!

KONTAKIA

Resurrection — Tone 5

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior,
shattering its gates as Almighty,
resurrecting the dead as Creator,
and destroying the sting of death.
Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O
Lover of man,//
and we cry to Thee: "O Lord, save us!"

Maccabean Martyrs — Tone 2

Seven pillars of the Wisdom of God
and seven lampstands of the divine Light,
all-wise Maccabees, greatest of the martyrs
before the time of the martyrs,//
with them ask the God of all to save those who
honor you!

Cross — Tone 4

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the
Cross for our sake,
grant mercy to those who are called by Thy
Name, O Christ God;
make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy
power,
granting them victories over their adversaries//
by bestowing on them the invincible trophy,
Thy weapon of peace!

PROKEIMENA

Tone 6 (Cross) — O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! (Ps. 27:9a)

V. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps. 27:1a)

Tone 4 (Maccabees) - The Lord has shown the wonders of His will / to the saints who
are in His land. (Ps. 15:3a)

ALLELUIA

Tone 4 — V. Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old! (Ps. 73:2)

V. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the
earth. (Ps. 73:13)

Tone 4 - V. The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from
all their afflictions. (Ps. 33:17)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

EPISTLE — ROMANS 12: 6-14

⁶We have different gifts according to the grace given to us: if it is prophecy, let us prophesy according to the measure of our faith. ⁷If it is service, let us dedicate ourselves to service! He who teaches should do his teaching; ⁸or he who exhorts his exhorting. As for the one who gives, let the giving be done with generosity. He who rules should rule with diligence and the one who shows mercy should do so with joy.

⁹Let your love be without hypocrisy. Reject with horror what is evil. Cling to what is good. ¹⁰In love for the brethren, be tenderly affectionate with one another; place the honor of others above your own. ¹¹Do not fall back in zeal; be fervent in the spirit, serving the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, endure in troubles, persevere in prayer; ¹³contribute to the needs of the saints; look for opportunities to be hospitable. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless, and do not curse!

EPISTLE — 1 COR 1 18-24

¹⁸For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are dying, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹As it is written:

*I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
I will bring the discernment of the discerning to nothing.*

²⁰Where is the wise? Where is the expert of the law? Where is the debater of this world? Has not God ridiculed the wisdom of this world? ²¹Since in God's wisdom, the world through its 'wisdom' did not know God, it was God's good pleasure (through the foolishness of this proclamation) to save those who believe. ²²Jews ask for a sign and Greeks seek after wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified; a stumbling block to Jews, and foolishness to Greeks. ²⁴However, to those who are called, (both Jews and Greeks), Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God,

EPISTLE — HEB 11:33-12:2

³³Through faith, they overpowered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became strong in weakness, grew mighty in war and caused foreign

armies to flee. ³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, by chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned, they were sawn apart, they were tempted and they were slain with the sword. They went around in sheep and goat skins, being destitute, afflicted, and ill-treated. And yet the world was not worthy of them! ³⁸They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earth. ³⁹All of them received a testimony through their faith but they did not receive the promise ⁴⁰because God had made provision for us to have something better, and they were not to reach perfection apart from us.

¹² And so, seeing that we are surrounded by such a great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us. Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross, despising its shame, and he has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

GOSPEL — MATTHEW 9: 1-8

⁹ Jesus entered into a boat, crossed over [the lake] and came into his own town. ²Behold, some people brought him a man who was paralyzed, lying on a bed. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer! Your sins are forgiven!"

³At this, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man blasphemes!"

⁴Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil [thoughts] in your hearts? ⁵Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins have been forgiven' or, 'Get up, and walk?' ⁶But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" (then he said to the paralytic), "Get up, take up your mat, and go to your house."

⁷The man got up and departed to his house. ⁸But when the crowds saw this, they were astonished and glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

GOSPEL — JOHN 19:6-11,13-20, 25-28, 30-35

⁶But when the chief priests and the officers saw Jesus, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify him!"

Pilate answered, "Take him yourselves, and crucify him, for I find no basis for a charge against him."

⁷The Jews insisted, "We have a law, and according to our law, he should die, because he made himself the Son of God."

⁸However, when Pilate heard these words, he was even more afraid. ⁹Returning into the Praetorium, he asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰Then Pilate asked him, "Are you not speaking to me? Do you not know that I have the power to crucify you, and the power to release you?"

¹¹Jesus answered, "You would have no power at all against me, unless it were given to you from above. Therefore, he who delivered me to you has a greater sin."

¹³When Pilate heard this word, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called "The Pavement," and in Hebrew, "Gabbatha." ¹⁴Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, at about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold, your King!"

¹⁵But they shouted, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"

Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?"

The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!"¹⁶ And so, Pilate delivered Jesus to them to be crucified. <Then the guards took Jesus and led him away.>

¹⁷He went out, bearing his cross, to the place called "The Place of a Skull," which is called in Hebrew, "Golgotha."

¹⁸There they crucified him, and along with him two other men, one on each side and Jesus in the middle. ¹⁹Pilate also wrote a notice and had it placed on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin.

²⁵But there were standing by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister (Mary [the wife] of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing there, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour, the disciple took her to his own home.

²⁸After this, perceiving that all things were now accomplished, and so that the Scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."

³⁰Then, after Jesus received the sour wine, he said, "It is accomplished!" And he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹Because it was the Day of Preparation, in order that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a great day), the Jews asked Pilate that the legs [of those crucified] might be broken, and that they might be removed. ³²Therefore, the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first who had been crucified with Jesus, then the legs of the other. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴However, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and immediately, blood and water came out. ³⁵He who has seen [this] has borne witness, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, so that you may believe.

GOSPEL — MATTHEW 10: 32-36, 11:1

³²Whoever confesses me before men I will also confess before my Father who is in heaven. ³³But whoever denies me in front of others I will also deny before my Father who is in heaven.

³⁴Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth! I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵Indeed, I came to set a son against his father, a daughter against her mother and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. ³⁶A man's enemies will be members of his own household.

11 When Jesus had finished giving instructions to his twelve disciples, he left that place to teach and preach in their cities.

Our Life in Christ—The Procession of the Cross on Aug 1

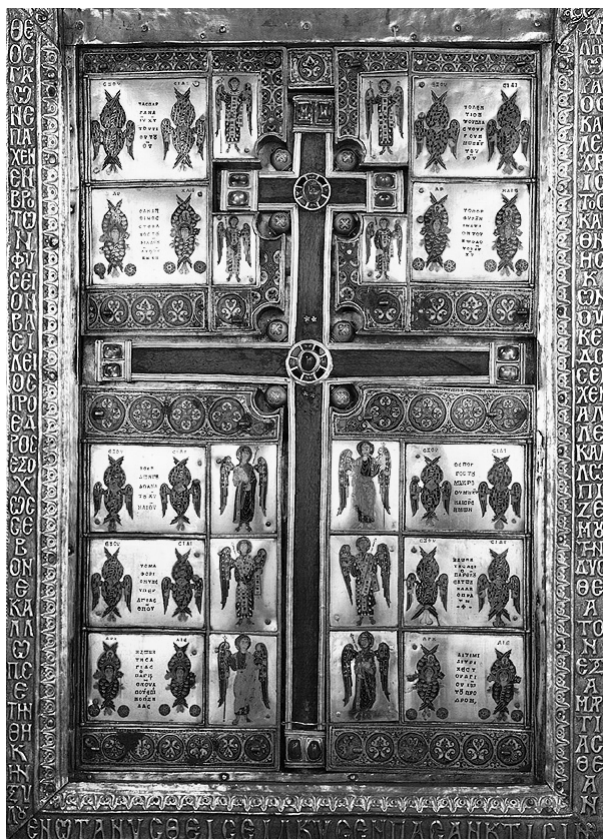
The origin of this Feast is explained in the Greek *Horologion* of 1897: "Because of the illnesses which occur during the month of August, it was customary at Constantinople to carry the Precious Wood of the Cross in procession throughout the city for its sanctification, and to deliver it from sickness."

On the eve (July 31), the Cross was removed from the imperial treasury and placed it upon the Holy Table of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia (which is dedicated to Christ, the Wisdom of God). From August 1 until the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, there was a procession throughout the entire the city, and then the Cross was placed where all the people could venerate it.

In the Russian Church this Feast is combined with the remembrance of the Baptism of Rus on August 1, 988. In the "The order of services for the holy, catholic, and apostolic Great Church of the Dormition," which was compiled in 1627 by order of Patriarch Philaret of Moscow and All Rus, there is a similar explanation of the Feast: "On the day of the Procession of the Precious Cross there is a Cross Procession with the Sanctification of Water, for the enlightenment of the people, in all the towns and places."

Knowledge of the day of the actual Baptism of Rus is preserved in the Chronicles of the XVI century: "The Baptism of the Great Prince Vladimir of Kiev and of all Rus took place on August 1."

In the current practice of the Russian Church, the service of the Lesser Sanctification of Water on August 1 takes place either before or after Liturgy. Because of the Blessing of Water, this first Feast of the Savior in August is sometimes called "the Savior of the Water." Along with the Blessing of Water, there may also be a Blessing of Honey (thus it is also called "the Savior of the Honey)," because on this day, the newly-gathered honey is blessed and tasted.



Our Life in Christ— 7 Maccabean Martyrs

They all suffered for the purity of the faith of Israel under King Antiochus, called by some "Epiphanes," the "enlightened one," and by others "Epimanes," the "insane one." Because of the great sins of Jerusalem, and especially because of the attempted dissolution of priestly authority and the crimes committed during this struggle, God allowed great misfortune to befall the Holy City. After that, Antiochus wanted to impose Hellenic idolatry upon the Jews by any means, and he did everything he could to completely replace the faith in the One Living God. Disaffected high priests and other elders of Jerusalem assisted Antiochus in his intention. King Antiochus himself came to Jerusalem and ordered that all Jews eat the meat of swine, contrary to the Law of Moses, since eating



pork was a blatant disavowal of the faith of Israel. The elder Eleazar, a priest and one of the seventy translators of the Old Testament into the Greek language [the Septuagint], would not partake of pork. Because of this, Eleazar was tortured and burned. On his return to Antioch, the king took with him the seven young men known as the Maccabees and their mother Solomon. The seven Maccabean brothers were Avim, Antonius, Eleazar, Gurius, Eusebon, Achim and Marcellus. Before the eyes of their mother, the wicked king tortured the sons, one by one—tearing the skin from their faces and then casting them into the fire. They all bravely

endured torture and death, but they did not disown their faith. Finally, when the mother saw her last son, a three-year old, cast into the flames, she leapt into the flames and was consumed, releasing her soul to God. They all suffered honorably for the faith in the One living God, in about 167 B.C [one hundred eighty years before Christ].

Dates for 2021

FAST SEASONS

Dormition Fast	Aug 1-14
Nativity Fast/Advent	Nov 15-Dec 24

FAST-FREE WEEKS

After Christmas	Dec 26-Jan 4
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LOOKING AHEAD

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

Thurs Aug 5

6:00pm — Great Vespers for Transfiguration

Fri Aug 6—Transfiguration

8:30am — 3rd Hour & Festal Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Fruit

Saturday Aug 8

1:00pm — Adult Ed: Names of Jesus (via Zoom see online calendar for link)

Saturday Aug 14

1:00pm — Adult Ed: Names of Jesus (via Zoom see online calendar for link)

6:00pm — Great Vespers w/ Litya for Dormition

Sunday Aug 15—Dormiition of Theotokos

8:30am — 3rd Hour & 6th Hour

9:00am—Festal Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Herbs & Flowers

Tuesday Aug 17

7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting

Saturday Aug 21

1:00pm — Adult Ed: Names of Jesus (via Zoom see online calendar for link)

Saturday Aug 28

1:00pm — Adult Ed: Names of Jesus (via Zoom see online calendar for link)

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

Many Years!

Birthdays

Nataša Vuskovich	8/1
Alan Martot	8/2
Igor Bishaev	8/4
Lilian Coyle, Stephanie Gammo	8/5
Alexis Rahal	8/6
Mike Pichette	8/7

Wedding Anniversaries

Joanne & Nick Spanovich	8/6
Mike & Carolyn Kapsimalis	8/7

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 Anderson, Rector

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

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

ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS CHURCH + THE DIOCESE OF THE WEST + THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA