

October 17, 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

17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 8

HOLY PROPHET HOSEA
HIEROMARTYR ANDREW OF CRETE

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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 and fill out a visitor card.

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A Word from the Holy Fathers

Unclean things refer to adultery and fornication *in the flesh* and to evil thoughts *in the soul*. We must be delivered from both.

—*St. John of Chrysostom*

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Include Something in the Bulletin or Be Included in our Weekly

(NEWS@StJohnofDamascus.org)

E-mails

E-mail info@stjohnofdamascus.org
with your request.



Parish Life

Father's Café Now In-Person as well as via Zoom Tuesdays 10:30-11:30 (ish)

Our weekly gathering for prayer, reflection & simple fellowship on Tuesdays at 10:30am is now be available for people to attend IN PERSON as well as via Zoom (see online calendar for the link).

This is an opportunity to sit and have a cup of coffee or tea (reg and decaf provided) and ask questions about the Faith or talk about whatever comes to mind (gardening, movies, history, etc.). We say a prayer, read a reflection and let the conversation (and coffee) flow.

Orthodox Christianity 101 Class Mondays 7pm

This 14 session class introduces people to the basic teachings and life of the Orthodox Christian Faith. It is excellent for new inquirers, those preparing for baptism and/or chrismation, as well as people who may have grown up in the Church but may desire a refresher in the basics of our Faith.

Tell your friends. All are welcome.

To register email info@stjohnofdamascus.org or call 858-674-1931

Wed Adult Ed Class The Book of Daniel: Faith in Adversity 7-8:30pm

Fr Michael and participants are reading and discussing the Book of Daniel and what it shows us about keeping our faith while living in adverse conditions. We will also touch on the prophetic elements in the books.

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.

Church School for Children & Youth 1st & 3rd Sunday of Month Youth Choir 2nd & 4th Sunday of Month

This year our Church School for children and youth on Sundays will be held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Our children's and youth choir (for those able to read) will be held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. This will allow enough time to prepare them to sing during our Youth Sunday (1st weekend of December) as well as our Christmas Program.



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 Protospesbyter 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. While the book is long, each chapter is rather short.

The book is available from multiple sources including a Kindle version at Amazon. 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.

Today's Worship — Hymns

Auxiliary Thanksgiving Ethnic Foods & Bake Sale

Save the Date—Saturday Nov 20

On Saturday Nov 20th from 11:00am—2:00pm our Auxiliary will be having its Thanksgiving Ethnic Foods & Bake Sale.

Pre-orders will be taken by phone, with drive-through pick-up and payment on the day of the event.

All our traditional ethnic foods and freshly made baked goods will be available. A menu flyer with ordering instructions will be emailed and posted soon. We encourage you to order early.

To be added to the Auxiliary's e-mail list and receive this year's menu immediately, send an email to Auxiliary@stjohnofdamascus.org or speak to Mike Wesdell.

Donations for Baking

The Auxiliary is looking for donations of:

Flour, Sugar & Shelled Walnuts

If you would like to be a part of this hospitality & cooking/baking ministry now is a great time to start. See Tanya Franchak for more info: tmfranchak@yahoo.com & (619) 818-2311



Save the Date! Retirement Celebration for Fr Alexander Federoff Jan 16, 2022

With the pandemic occurring at the time of our dear Fr Alexander's retirement, while we did our best to celebrate and thank him for his decades of loving service, we were not able to give him the celebration we would have liked.

His Eminence is coming on January 16 for a more "robust" celebration.

Mark your calendars! More details to come!

Diamond Circle News Field Trip to Julian Tuesday Oct 19 and More!

The weather is great and it's time to get outside! On Tuesday, October 19, we will meet at the church hall about 9:30 AM and carpool (leaving about 10 AM) for lunch in Julian, CA at the "Soups and Such Cafe." An attractive little shop that is known for their tasty and homemade soups. Look it up on Facebook and check out their appealing menu. After lunch, some of you may find your way to the Julian Pie Shop or Julian Cider Mill. Good times!

On Tuesday, November 16, you won't want to miss our trip to Carlsbad! Mark your calendar for "Lunch with Lena" in Carlsbad! It will be so much fun getting to see our friend Lena Strateff again and she is certainly looking forward to seeing all her friends from St. John of Damascus! Mark your calendar and be sure you are available for this one.

We are working on the plans for December and details will be available soon!

The Diamond Circle is our seniors group that gets together once a month (3rd Tuesday of the month) for fellowship and various activities.

<https://stjohnofdamascus.org/diamond-circle/>

If you would like to receive information about the Diamond Circle directly contact Patty Pelachik pelachik@sbcglobal.net

Coordinators Needed

- Fellowship Hour
- Greeters
- Commemoration Loaves Bakers

The responsibilities involve maintaining a calendar of when people are scheduled in these areas and to communicate with the group from time to time. Schedules can be made monthly or quarterly, whichever works best for the person. The Coordinator may but does not NEED to be involved in the actual ministry.

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

TROPARIA

Resurrection—Tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!

Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

St John of Damascus — Tone 4

Let us the faithful sing praises to John, worthy of great honor the composer of hymns. The star & teacher of the Orthodox Faith, the defender of its doctrine.

Through the might of the Lord's Cross he overcame heretical error!

Now he is fervent in prayer to Christ God, to grant forgiveness of our sins.

Martyr Andrew —Tone 4

Trained in asceticism on the mountain, with the weapon of the Cross thou didst destroy the spiritual assaults of the hostile powers, O all-blessed one.

Again thou didst bravely prepare for combat and didst slay Copronymus with the sword of faith;//

for both struggles thou hast been crowned by God, monk-martyr Andrew of eternal memory.

KONTAKIA

Resurrection — Tone 8

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam.

Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,// and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Prophet Hosea — Tone 4

Illumined by the Spirit, thy heart was a vessel of illustrious prophecy, seeing far-off things as though they were present.//

Therefore, we venerate thee, glorious prophet Hosea..

Steadfast Protectress—Tone 6

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, Constant advocate before the Creator:

Do not despise the cry of us sinners, But in your goodness, come speedily to help us who call on you in faith.

Hasten to hear our petitions & to intercede for us, O Theotokos,

For you always protect those who honor you!

PROKEIMENON

Tone 8 (*Resurrection*) — Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! (Ps. 75:10a)

V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)

ALLELUIA

Tone 8 — V. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! (Ps. 94:1)

V. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! (Ps. 94:2)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Epistle — 2 Cor 6: 16-7:1

¹⁶What agreement can there be between God's sanctuary and idols? For you are a sanctuary of the living God. Even as God said, "I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they will be my people." ¹⁷Therefore:

'Come out from among them and be separate,' says the Lord.

'Touch no unclean thing.

I will receive you.

¹⁸I will be a Father to you.

You will be to me sons and daughters,'

says the Lord Almighty."

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us purify ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, so that we may bring [our] holiness to completion in the fear of God.

Gospel — Luke 8: 5-15

⁵"A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was sowing, some [seed] fell along the wayside; it was trampled under foot, and the birds of the sky devoured it. ⁶Other seed fell on the rock, and as soon as it grew, it withered away because it had no moisture. ⁷Other fell among the thorns, and the thorns grew with it, and choked it. ⁸Other fell into the good ground, grew, and brought forth fruit a hundred times." As he said this, he exclaimed, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"

⁹Then his disciples asked him, "What does this parable mean?"

¹⁰Jesus replied, "To you it is given to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of God, but to the rest, [it is given] in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.'

¹¹Now this is what the parable means: The seed is the word of God. ¹²Those along the wayside are those who have heard. Then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³Those on the rock are those who receive the word with joy when they hear. But they have no root; they believe for a while, then fall away in time of temptation. ¹⁴What fell among the thorns is those who have heard, and as they go on their way, they are choked with worries, wealth, and the pleasures of life; and they bring no fruit to maturity. ¹⁵As for the seed that fell in the rich soil, this is those who have heard the word with an honest and good heart, who retain it and bring forth fruit with endurance.

Parish Life

Operation Christmas Child Now through Nov 14

Ps 96:23 says declare glory among the nations.

Our Auxiliary is participating in Operation Christmas Child. It is a long standing project that brings joy to children around the world at Christmas time. Children hear the story of Jesus' Nativity and literally receive SHOEBOXES full of little gifts. They are filled, packaged and shipped all over the world to children who are in need.

Join us this year in collecting unwrapped small toys, t-shirts, little stuffed animals, crafts, coloring books/crayons, combs, etc to give to children around the world. (See flyers in the Narthex for details).

Sun Nov 14 is the deadline to bring all the items here to the church.

Collection Boxes are in the social hall as you enter on the left.



Dates for 2021

FAST SEASONS

Nativity Fast/Advent Nov 15-Dec 24

FAST-FREE WEEKS

After Christmas Dec 26-Jan 4

Christmas Giving Opportunities this Fall & Winter

Various groups in our parish will be coordinating various charity collections and projects this Fall and Winter in connection with our preparations for Christmas.

- The Auxiliary is inviting us all to participate in Operation Christmas Child. This will end on Nov 14.
- Ken Telles is coordinating us adopting 2 families here in Poway. Details will be forthcoming. This will end Dec 5th.
- Our Church School kids are also planning a charitable project that will begin during Advent and lead up closer to Christmas.

Glory to God that we have all these groups with hearts desiring to give and not just receive during this advent & Christmas!

Keep a look out for details and plan on helping out with one or all of these efforts!



Keep Informed Receive Weekly E-mails About Parish Life

We are an active community with a lot going on. These days it is especially helpful to keep up to date on things taking place in our parish.

We have an email group
"News@stjohnofdamsacus.org"

It is all those who are interested in the activities of St. John of Damascus Orthodox Church. Members receive periodic notifications of special events, parish meetings and weekly newsletters.

**To be included E-mail Fr Michael at
info@stjohnofdamsacus.org**

Our Life in Christ

Bible Question(s)

ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE.....

**Q. IN CHAPTER 4 WHO WAS ADAM & EVE'S "FIRST BORN"?
Q. OF THE 3 SON'S OF ADAM & EVE WHO IS NOAH'S DIRECT
ANCESTOR (GENESIS CHAPTER 5)?**

Reflection/Discussion: Why do you think in the scriptures about the Fall of Mankind (Gen 3) and the Murder of Abel (Gen 4) God asks those who sinned (Adam, Eve and then Cain) what has happened? Doesn't He already know?

Answers will be included in next week's bulletin. Stay tuned!

This year every week the bulletin will have a Bible Question connected to the Old Testament. After Christmas a "test" will be included in the bulletin. Whoever completes the "test" (you can use past bulletins to help) and submits it will be entered into a raffle for a gift card to their favorite store and/or restaurant.

Bible Question(s) - Last Week's Questions

ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE.....

**Q. IN CHAPTER 3 DO ADAM & EVE TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ACTIONS? A. NO. WHO DOES EVE SAY IS RESPONSIBLE? A. THE SERPENT. WHO DOES ADAM SAY IS RESPONSIBLE? A. EVE & GOD, HIMSELF
Q. AT THE END OF CHAPTER 3 WHAT KEEPS ADAM & EVE FROM THE GARDEN & THE TREE OF LIFE? A. A CHERUBIN WITH A FIERY SWORD**

Reflection/Discussion: Why do you think it was important to God that Adam & Eve not eat of the tree of life and live forever after they had broken their relation with God?

A. According to Orthodox Christian teaching it was out of concern that their sinful state would continue forever, growing infinitely worse. The Tree of Life is now understood as the Cross and we do partake of it's "fruit" when we receive Holy Communion for "the remission of sins & life everlasting"



LOOKING AHEAD

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

Monday Oct 18

7:00pm — Orthodox Christianity 101: In-Person at church hall & via Zoom (see online calendar for link)

Tuesday Oct 19

10:30am — *Father's Café Cancelled due Diamond Circle Field Trip*
9:30am — Diamond Circle Field Trip to Julian
7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting (via Zoom)

Wednesday Oct 20

7:00pm — Adult Ed: Book of Daniel—Faith in Adversity
In person & via Zoom (see online calendar for link)

Saturday Oct 23 — St Demetrius Saturday

8:30am — 3rd Hour & Memorial Divine Liturgy
1:00pm — Adult Ed: Names of Jesus (via Zoom - see online calendar for link)

Monday Oct 25

7:00pm — Orthodox Christianity 101: In-Person at church hall & via Zoom (see online calendar for link)

Tuesday Oct 26

10:30am — Father's Café: In person & via Zoom

Wednesday Oct 27

7:00pm — Adult Ed: Book of Daniel—Faith in Adversity
In person & via Zoom (see online calendar for link)

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

Many Years!

Birthdays

Katherine Koroleva- 10/17 Metropolitan Jonah (Paffhausen), Sonia Kale (Velonis) - 10/20
Lucas Castañeda—10/22 Joseph Sheeler —10/23

Wedding Anniversaries

Terry & Susan Miller 10/19
Igor & Olga Bishaev 10/20
Dennis & Cortney Stavrou 10/22

Confessions are held on Saturdays after Great Vespers or by appointment with Fr Michael.

PARISH CONTACT INFO:

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Web: www.stjohnofdamascus.org

Email: info@stjohnofdamascus.org — **Phone:** (858) 674-1931

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