

October 31, 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

19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 2
MARTYR ARCHPRIEST JOHN KOCHUROV
MISSIONARY TO AMERICA & 1ST
HIEROMARTYR UNDER THE BOLSHEVIK YOKE

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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

"I kiss this Holy Cross, a gift of your brotherly love for me. Let it be my support in times of tribulation. I will utter no pathetic comments about my intention not to be separated from it even till my grave: that would have a grandiloquent sound, but would not be prudent. It does not have any place in a grave. Let it remain here on earth for my children and posterity as a family Holy Relic, and as a clear proof that brotherhood and friendship are the most sacred things on the earth...."

—*St. John Kochurov*

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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



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

Parish Life

Coordinators Needed

- Fellowship/Coffee 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.

Please speak to Fr Michael if you are interested



Handmaidens Training

In December we will be restarting our Handmaidens ministry in which our girls help during various part of the service on Sundays. We will have 2 training sessions in November to prepare those interested to participate in this ministry.

The training sessions are Sundays after Divine Liturgy and Church School on Nov 7 and Nov 21.

Be sure to attend at least one of the sessions to be put on the schedule for December. As time goes by we will have other opportunities for others to learn.



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

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.



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 Needed

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

Today's Worship — Hymns

TROPARIA

Resurrection—Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
"O Giver of life, Christ our God, 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.

St John Kochurov —Tone 1

Thou wast revealed to all as a true shepherd
O Hieromartyr John of Chicago,
for thou didst nurture thy people in the Orthodox
Faith,
guiding them by word and deed on the path of
salvation,
and defended the Faith even unto the shedding
of thy blood.
Therefore we thy spiritual children cry out in
thanksgiving:
"Glory to Him Who gave thee strength!
Glory to Him Who granted thee the Martyr's
^crown!//
Glory to Him Who through thee grants mercy to
all!"

KONTAKIA

Resurrection — Tone 2

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,
seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the
tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this
and rejoiced with Thee, //
and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

St John Kochurov— Tone 3

Now the holy Hieromartyr is glorified,
for he took up his cross and followed Christ.
In so doing, he gave us a model of true
discipleship.
Therefore, let us cry aloud to him: //
"Rejoice, O Father John, the glory of priests!"

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 2 (*Resurrection*) — The Lord is my strength and my song; / He has become my salvation. (Ps. 117:14)

V. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.
(Ps. 117:18)

Tone 7 (*St. John*) -- Let the saints exult in glory, let them sing for joy on their couches! (Ps. 149:5)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Epistle — 2 Cor 11:31-12:9

³¹The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, he who is blessed unto the ages, knows that I do not lie. ³²In Damascus, the governor of King Aretas guarded the city, desiring to arrest me. ³³But I was let down in a basket along the wall through a window, and this is how I escaped from his hands.

Without a doubt, it is not profitable for me to boast, but I will now discuss visions and revelations from the Lord. ²I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up into the third heaven (whether [it was] in the body, I do not know, or whether out of the body, I do not know; God knows). ³[Yes], I know such a man (whether in the body, or outside of the body, I do not know; God knows), ⁴how he was caught up into Paradise, and heard ineffable words, which it is not lawful for anyone to utter. ⁵On behalf of such a person, I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except in my weaknesses. ⁶If my intention is to boast, I will not be foolish: I will speak the truth. But now, I shall stop, so that no one may think more of me than what is seen in me or heard from me. ⁷Because of the tremendous greatness of these revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan that torments me, so that I would not be too exalted. ⁸Concerning this thing, I begged the Lord three times that it might depart from me, ⁹but he replied to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." And so, it is with joy that I would rather [find] glory in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest on me.

Epistle — Hebrews 13: 7-16

⁷Remember your leaders, those men who proclaimed the word of God to you. Considering the results of their conduct, imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. ⁹Do not be carried away by all sorts of strange teachings. It is good that the inner person should be strengthened by grace, not by food which is of no profit to those who have been preoccupied by it!

¹⁰We have an altar from which those who offer divine service [in] the holy tabernacle have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals (whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest as an offering for sin) are burned outside of the camp. ¹²This is why Jesus suffered outside of the gate, so that he might sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Let us therefore go out [of the city] to him who is outside of the camp and let us bear his disgrace. ¹⁴For we do not have here [on earth] an enduring city, but we seek the one that is to come. ¹⁵Therefore, through him, [Jesus], let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, the fruit of our lips which confessed his Name. ¹⁶But do not forget to do what is good and to share because God is well pleased with such sacrifices.

ALLELUIA

Tone 2 — V. May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! (Ps. 19:1)

V. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (Ps. 19:9)

Tone 2 — V. Thy priests shall be clothed in righteousness and Thy saints shall rejoice! (Ps. 131:9)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Gospel — Luke 8: 26-39

²⁶ Then they reached the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ When Jesus stepped ashore, a man from the town who had had demons for a long time came to meet him. This man wore no clothes, and he did not live in a house, but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him. With a loud voice, he said, "What do you want from me, Jesus, you Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me!" ²⁹ (For Jesus commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man). The unclean spirit had often seized the man and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and fetters. [But he had been] breaking the chains and was driven by the demon into deserted places.

³⁰ Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "Legion," for many demons had entered into him. ³¹ And he begged Jesus not to command them to go into the abyss. ³² Now there was a large herd of swine feeding on the mountain, and the demons begged him that he would allow them to enter into those [pigs]; and Jesus allowed them. ³³ The demons came out from the man and entered into the pigs. Then the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and [the swine] were drowned. ³⁴ When the people who fed the pigs saw what had happened, they fled and told the story in the city and in the countryside.

³⁵ Then people went out to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone out. He was sitting at Jesus' feet, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been delivered. ³⁷ All the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked Jesus to depart from them, because they were extremely afraid. So he got into the boat and went back. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with Jesus, but Jesus sent him away, saying: ³⁹ "Return to your house and proclaim what great things God has done for you." So the man went

on his way, proclaiming throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

Gospel — Luke 12: 32-40

³² Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the Kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give to those in need. Make for yourselves purses which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief can reach and where moth cannot destroy. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

³⁵ Be dressed in readiness and keep your lamps burning. ³⁶ Be like people waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks.

³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the lord will find watching when he comes! Amen, I tell you: he will dress himself [to serve], make them recline, and he will come to serve them! ³⁸ And if the master comes in the second or third watch and finds them doing so, blessed are those servants. ³⁹ But know this, that if the master of the house had known when the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and not allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰ Therefore, be ready also, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect him."

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.



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@stjohnofdamascus.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@stjohnofdamascus.org

Dates for 2021

FAST SEASONS

Nativity Fast/Advent Nov 15-Dec 24

FAST-FREE WEEKS

After Christmas Dec 26-Jan 4

Our Life in Christ

Bible Question(s)

ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE.....

Q. ACCORDING TO GENESIS 11, FOR WHAT PURPOSE DID PEOPLE DECIDE TO BUILD THE GREAT "TOWER OF BABEL"

Q. WHAT WERE THEY TRYING TO AVOID HAPPENING? WERE THEY SUCCESSFUL IN AVOIDING IT?

Reflection/Discussion: God gives such great gifts and blessings to people. Unfortunately, we often seek to use it in a way that is prideful rather than to give glory to the One Who gave it to us. What gifts has God given you, that you tend to treat as "your own" rather than as gifts from God? How could you use them to God's glory rather than your own?

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 THE ACCOUNT OF THE FLOOD IN THE BOOK OF GENESIS, WHEN THE RAINS STOPPED WHAT KIND OF BIRD FOUND PROOF THAT THE WATERS HAD BEGUN TO RECEDE? A. DOVE

WHAT PROOF DID HE BRING BACK? A. OLIVE BRANCH

Q. ACCORDING TO GENESIS 9 WHAT IS THE SIGN OF THE COVENANT THAT GOD MADE WITH NOAH AFTER THE FLOOD? A. RAINBOW

Reflection/Discussion: Many of the saints refer to the Church as the "Ark of Salvation." What do you think the ark that Noah built has in common with the Church?

A. As the ark saved those in it from death, so the Church offers a haven for people to learn what it means to be human, to come to know our Creator and to save us from the deadly ways of the fallen world.



LOOKING AHEAD

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

Monday Nov 1

7:00pm — Orthodox Christianity 101:
[In person & via Zoom—see online calendar]

Tuesday Nov 2

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

Wednesday Nov 3

9:00am—Auxiliary Baking Day (Nut Rolls)
7:00pm — Adult Ed: Book of Daniel—Faith in Adversity
In person & via Zoom (see online calendar for links)

Saturday Nov 6

4:30:pm — Franchak Family Baptism

Monday Nov 8

6:00pm—Akathist to Archangel Michael & the Bodiless Power
7:00pm — Orthodox Christianity 101:
[In person & via Zoom—see online calendar]

Tuesday Nov 9

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

Saturday Nov 13

4:30:pm — Sadybekov Family Baptism

Monday Nov 15—Advent Fast Begins

7:00pm — Orthodox Christianity 101:
[In person & via Zoom—see online calendar]

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

Many Years!

Birthdays

Patricia Swinehart, Therese Moision	10/31
Magnolia (Johanna) Keeling	11/1
Cheyenne Michaud	11/3
Heather Ferrari	11/5

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

PARISH CONTACT INFO:

Church: 16903 Espola Rd Poway — **Mailing Address:** PO Box 28291 San Diego, CA 92198

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