

November 21, 2021



# THE IMAGE...

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

[www.stjohnofdamascus.org](http://www.stjohnofdamascus.org)

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

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 5  
ENTRY OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS INTO  
THE TEMPLE

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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

By "world" he means not heaven nor earth  
but the affairs of life, human praise,  
distinguished positions, reputation, wealth  
and all things that have a show of splendor.  
All such things are dead to me. Such  
should be the case for all Christians. Nor is  
he satisfied only with the former ordinary  
mode of dying, but he also introduces  
another kind of death: dying to the world  
itself.

—*St. John Chrysostom*

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**Include Something in the Bulletin or  
Be Included in our Weekly  
([NEWS@StJohnofDamascus.org](mailto:NEWS@StJohnofDamascus.org))  
E-mails**

E-mail [info@stjohnofdamascus.org](mailto:info@stjohnofdamascus.org)  
with your request.



*The Angels beheld the Entrance of the Pure One  
and were amazed.  
How has the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?  
Since she is a living Ark of God  
let no profane hand touch the Theotokos.  
But let the lips of believers unceasingly sing to her,  
praising her in joy with the Angel's song:  
"Truly, you are more exalted than all, O pure Virgin!"*

## Parish Life

### 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.



### Adopt a Poway Family

Our local Poway Unified School District is once again coordinating an "Adopt a Family" program for local families.

This year St John's is adopting two families (each with 4 children).

Information about purchasing items for these families can be found on the bulletin board in the church hall.

If you have a questions, please contact Ken Telles.



### Annual Youth Sunday—Dec 5

The purpose of Youth Sunday is to involve all the Youth of St. John of Damascus Orthodox Church on the Sunday closest to our Parish Name Day celebration. Everyone will have an opportunity to participate in various ministries during the Divine Liturgy. Children are welcome to come early to help decorate the Church with flowers.

There is a sign-up planning sheet to coordinate everything.

For more information you can speak to one of our Church School teachers.

### Bake Sale Success: Thank You Bakers, Cooks & Helpers!

We had a very successful bake sale yesterday, though our number of helpers was down. Many thanks go to everyone who came and helped not only today but who have been working over these past weeks cooking and baking.

The Auxiliary's Christmas Bake Sale is Dec 18. Please save the date & please consider coming and helping. More details to follow.



### Coordinators Needed

- Fellowship/Coffee Hour
  - 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

***Thank you, Valerie Lane for volunteering as Greeter Coordinator!***



### Church School Christmas Project Socks & Toothbrushes the Homeless

Our children and youth are collecting socks and toothbrushes for the homeless right here in San Diego County.

There is a Christmas tree in the hall which we will decorate with the items.

Please participate .

## 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.

#### Entrance of the Theotokos —Tone 4

Today is the prelude of the good will of God,  
of the preaching of the salvation of mankind.  
The Virgin appears in the Temple of God,  
in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all.  
Let us rejoice and sing to her:  
"Rejoice, O Fulfillment//  
of the Creator's dispensation!"

### 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!"

#### Entrance of the Theotokos — Tone 4

The most pure Temple of the Savior;  
the precious Chamber and Virgin;  
the sacred Treasure of the glory of God,  
is presented today to the house of the Lord.  
She brings with her the grace of the Spirit,  
therefore, the angels of God praise her://  
"Truly this woman is the abode of Heaven!"

### PROKEIMENA

**Tone 5** (*Resurrection*) — Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us / and preserve us from this generation  
forever. (Ps. 11:7)

V. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (Ps. 11:1a)

**Tone 3** (*Song of the Theotokos*) — My soul doth magnify the Lord, / and my spirit hath rejoiced in God  
my Savior. (Lk. 1:46-47)

### ALLELUIA

**Tone 5** — V. I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from  
generation to generation. (Ps. 88:1-2)

V. For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the  
heavens. (Ps. 88:3)

**Tone 8** — V Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear! (Ps. 44:9a)

## Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

### Epistle — Galatians 6: 11-18

<sup>11</sup> See with what large letters I write to you with my own hand! <sup>12</sup> Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised, only so that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh. <sup>14</sup> As for me, I shall find glory in nothing, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> In Christ Jesus, circumcision and uncircumcision mean nothing; only a new creation {matters}. <sup>16</sup> To those who live by this rule, may there be peace and mercy upon them, and on the Israel of God. <sup>17</sup> From now on, let no one cause me any trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus branded on my body.

<sup>18</sup> May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

### Epistle — Hebrews 9: 1-7

<sup>9</sup> Even the first tabernacle and covenant had ordinances of divine service and an earthly sanctuary. <sup>2</sup> A tabernacle was set up: the lampstand, the table, and the show bread were in the first part which is called the Holy Place. <sup>3</sup> Beyond the second veil was found the tabernacle, which is called the Holy of Holies. <sup>4</sup> It had a golden altar of incense and the Ark of the Covenant all covered with gold. The Ark contained a golden jar holding the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. <sup>5</sup> Above it, cherubim of glory overshadowed the mercy seat, but now we cannot speak about these things in detail. <sup>6</sup> According to this arrangement, priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle, accomplishing the rites of offering divine service. <sup>7</sup> Into the second [tabernacle], only the high priest enters, once a year and with blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins committed in ignorance by the people.

## Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

### Gospel — Luke 12: 16-21

<sup>16</sup> Then Jesus told them a parable, saying, "The ground of a certain rich man produced in abundance. <sup>17</sup> He thought to himself, 'What will I do? I do not have room to store my crops!'

<sup>18</sup> Then the man said, 'This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns, build bigger ones, and there I will store all my crops and my goods.

<sup>19</sup> Then I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods stored up for many years. Take your ease, eat, drink, and be merry!"'

<sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'You fool! Tonight your soul is demanded of you. The things which you have prepared, to whom will they belong?'

<sup>21</sup> This is how it is when someone amasses treasure for himself but is not rich toward God."

### Gospel — Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

<sup>38</sup> Now it happened that as they went, Jesus entered into a village, and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house.

<sup>39</sup> She had a sister called Mary who also sat at Jesus' feet and listened to his word. <sup>40</sup> However, Martha was distracted with much serving. She came up to Jesus, and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Ask her to help me!"

<sup>41</sup> But Jesus answered, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things! <sup>42</sup> Yet one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her."

<sup>27</sup> As Jesus was saying these things, a woman called out from the crowd and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts which nursed you!"

<sup>28</sup> But Jesus said, "Yes, and more than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it."

## **Our Life in Christ—Sermon/Prayer for Thanksgiving**

### **The Thanksgiving Day Sermon of the Right Reverend Protopresbyter Alexander Schmemmann (+1983)**

*{Originally given Thanksgiving Day 1983. Redacted and used with the gracious permission of Matushka Juliana Schmemmann; in original \*Eucharist, \*\*this school}*

Everyone capable of thanksgiving is capable of salvation and eternal joy.

Thank You, O Lord, for having accepted this thanksgiving\*, which we offer to the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and which filled our hearts with the joy, peace and righteousness of the Holy Spirit.

Thank You, O Lord, for having revealed Yourself unto us and given us the foretaste of Your Kingdom.

Thank You, O Lord, for having united us to one another in serving You and Your Holy Church.

Thank You, O Lord, for having helped us to overcome all difficulties, tensions, passions, temptations and restored peace, mutual love and joy in sharing the communion of the Holy Spirit.

Thank You, O Lord, for the sufferings You bestowed upon us, for they are purifying us from selfishness and reminding us of the "one thing needed"; Your eternal Kingdom.

Thank You, O Lord, for having given us this country where we are free to Worship You.

Thank You, O Lord, for our churches\*\*, where the name of God is proclaimed.

Thank You, O Lord, for our families: husbands, wives and, especially, children who teach us how to celebrate Your holy Name in joy, movement and holy noise.

Thank You, O Lord, for everyone and everything.

Great are You, O Lord, and marvelous are Your deeds, and no word is sufficient to celebrate Your miracles.

Lord, it is good to be here! Amen.

## **Our Life in Christ**

### **Bible Question(s)**

**ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE.....**

**Q. WHO DIED FIRST ABRAHAM OR SARAH?**

**Q. WHERE WERE ABRAHAM & SARAH BURIED?**

**Q WHO WERE THE PARENTS OF REBEKAH? WHAT "NATIONALITY" WOULD THAT HAVE MADE REBEKAH?**

**Q WHAT ARE THE NAMES OF ISAAC & REBEKAH'S SONS?**

**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. WHICH CHAPTER RECORDS THE LAST OCCURRENCE OF GOD SPEAKING TO ABRAHAM? A. CHAPTER 22**

**Q. WHAT THREE BLESSINGS DOES GOD PROMISE HIM? A. 1. HE WOULD BLESS HIM (AS HE SAID AT 12:2). 2. HE WOULD MAKE HIS OFFSPRING AS NUMEROUS AS THE STARS OF THE SKY (AS HE SAID AT 15:5) AND THE SAND ON THE SEASHORE (HE SAID DUST OF THE EARTH PREVIOUSLY AT 13:16 - WHICH SOME WOULD SAY IS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME) 3. ALL NATIONS OF THE EARTH WOULD BE BLESSED BY HIS OFFSPRING (AS HE SAID AT 12:3) HOWEVER, GOD ALSO MAKES A NEW OR FOURTH PROMISE IN VERSE 17. HE TELLS ABRAHAM THAT HIS OFFSPRING WOULD POSSESS THE GATES OF THEIR ENEMIES.**

**Q. WHOM DID ABRAHAM SEND TO FIND A WIFE FOR HIS SON, ISAAC?  
A. A TRUSTED SERVANT**

**WHY DID ABRAHAM SEND THAT PERSON TO HIS "HOME COUNTRY"?  
A. THE LORD'S PLAN WAS FOR HIS PEOPLE TO NOT BE OF THE LAND OF CANAAN (WHO WERE CONSIDERED UTTER SAVAGES) BUT FROM HIM**

**Q.HOW MANY CAMELS DID THE PERSON TAKE ON THE JOURNEY? A. 10**



## LOOKING AHEAD

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

### Monday Nov 22

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

### Tuesday Nov 23

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

### Saturday Nov 27

1:00pm— Adult Ed: The Names of Jesus via Zoom (see online calendar for link)  
4:30:pm — Sadybekov Family Baptism

### Monday Nov 29

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

### Tuesday Nov 30

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

### Friday Dec 3

6:00pm—Great Vespers for Patronal Feast Day:

### Saturday Dec 4—Patronal Feast Day

8:30am—3rd Hour & Festal Divine Liturgy  
6:00pm — Great Vespers for the Resurrection

*For more dates please visit our website: [www.stjohnofdamascus.org/calendar](http://www.stjohnofdamascus.org/calendar)*

## Many Years!

Newly-illuminated Charles Alexander Franchak

### *Birthdays*

Isabelle Tekla Griebling, Kyle Menig 11/23  
Peter Anderson 11/27

### *Wedding Anniversary*

Nicole & Janina Poullas 11/25

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

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

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