

December 12, 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

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 8
SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS

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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

Oh, brothers and sisters, what a banquet that is! How great is the harmony and joy of those who eat at this heavenly table! They enjoy food that produces everlasting life, not that ordinary food which passes right on through the body. Who will be considered worthy to be in that group? Who is so blessed as to be called to and counted worthy of that divine feast? "Blessed is he who will eat bread in your kingdom."

—*St. Athanasius the Great*

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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.



"A certain man gave a great banquet and invited many people. ¹⁷ At supper time, he sent out his slaves to tell those who were invited, 'Come, for everything is ready now!' ¹⁸ But they all began to make excuses.

Parish Life

Auxiliary Christmas Bake Sale December 18 10am-1pm

The Auxiliary's Christmas Bake Sale is Dec 18.
Please save the date & please consider coming and helping.
We are also asking for donations of pecans.



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.

They make great Christmas gifts!

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



Use Amazon Smile & Support St John's

Amazon has a program that if you select Amazon Smile in your app settings (settings, amazon smile) or go to smile.amazon.com when you shop you can select a charity (ie, St John of Damascus Church) & a percentage of most purchases goes to the parish at no additional cost to you.

If you purchase Amazon gift cards through our scrip program the parish gets a double donation!

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!



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 .



Parish Christmas Card Be Part of the Joy

Each year St John of Damascus sends Christmas cards to friends and members (some of whom are not able to come to church very often or at all).

It is a simple way to tell people, "We remember you and love you" while sharing the joy of the feast.

It is \$10 per line to include your name.

Please see Vickie Federoff for details.

Parish Life

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**



Dec 26—Church School Christmas Youth Program

On Sunday Dec 26 our Church School will present its Christmas Youth Program after Divine Liturgy.

We will also have a POTLUCK Fellowship Meal on that day.

Plan on staying and supporting our children & youth!



Diamond Circle Christmas Gathering Dec 28, 11am-2pm

The Diamond Circle will meet December 28, 11 AM - 2 PM at Joe & Cora Ternick's home for a Christmas pot luck.

To find out more about the Diamond Circle (our Seniors group), speak to Patty or Jim Pelachik.

Ministry Coordinator Directory

Below are the people who lead various ministries in our parish. Feel free to contact them to find out how to offer your God-given time and talents to the life of our community.

Adult Ed — Fr Michael

Altar Servers — Subdeacon Ken Telles

Auxiliary President — Tanya Franchak

Candle Stand — Gene Francello

Choir — Carole Shumaik

Church School — Bill Moision

Church Sign Messages — John Thayer

Fellowship/Coffee Hour — Linda Kedroff

Diamond Circle Seniors — Jim & Patty Pelachik

Greeters — Valerie Lane

Handmaidens — Sally Menig & Desiree Geralt

Koliva — Fr Michael

Parish Council President — Patty Pelachik

Prospora — Fr Michael

Readers at Divine Liturgy — Bill Moision

Saturday Adult Ed — Dn George Shumaik

Sunday Commemoration Loaves — TBD

Consider taking part and helping this group make St John's the wonderful lively parish it is. For information on how to contact any of the above please speak with Fr Michael.

Dates for 2021

FAST SEASONS

Nativity Fast/Advent Nov 15-Dec 24

FAST-FREE WEEKS

After Christmas Dec 26-Jan 4

Today's Worship — Hymns

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!

Forefathers—Tone 2

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers, betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles.

These saints exult in glory,
for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:
she who bore Thee without seed.//

So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

KONTAKIA

Forefathers — Tone 6

You did not worship the graven image,

O thrice-blessed ones,

but armed with the immaterial Essence of God,
you were glorified in a trial by fire.

From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying:

"Hasten, O compassionate One!

Speedily come to our aid,//

for Thou art merciful and able to do as Thou dost will!"

PROKEIMENON

Tone 4 (*Forefathers*) — Blessed art 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 4 — V. Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name. (Ps. 98:6)

V. They called to the Lord and He answered them. (Ps. 98:6)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Epistle—Colossians 3:4-11

⁴ When Christ who is our life is revealed, then you will also be revealed with him in glory.
⁵ Therefore, put to death what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, depraved passions, lust and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ Because of these things, the wrath of God is coming on the children of disobedience. ⁷ You also used to live in them when you lived among these people; ⁸ but now, put them all away: anger, rage, evil, slander, and shameful language. ⁹ Do not lie to one another. You have put off the old self with his doings ¹⁰ and you have put on the new self who is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of his Creator. ¹¹ Here, there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free; but Christ is all, and in all!

Gospel — Luke 14: 16-24

¹⁶ But Jesus replied, "A certain man gave a great banquet and invited many people. ¹⁷ At supper time, he sent out his slaves to tell those who were invited, 'Come, for everything is ready now!' ¹⁸ But they all began to make excuses.

The first told him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please have me excused!'

¹⁹ Another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen and I must go try them out. Please have me excused!'

²⁰ Another said, 'I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come!'

²¹ That slave came back and reported these things to his lord. At this, the master of the house became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the city, and bring in the poor, the maimed, the lame, and the blind.'

²² The servant said, 'Lord, it is done as you commanded, and there is still room!'

²³ The lord then told the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled! ²⁴ For I tell you that none of those who were invited will taste of my supper.' "

2022 Membership/Pledge Drive

December is the time for our membership and pledge drive to help us prepare our budget for next year. Please take a moment to complete the attached membership and pledge (time, talent & financial) form (3 pages) and return it to myself (powaypadre@stjohnofdamascus.org) or our Treasurer (treasurer@stjohnofdamascus.org) before the end of the month.

**SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS
ORTHODOX CHURCH
AUXILIARY**

ETHNIC FOODS and BAKE SALE

Saturday, December 18, 2021

10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

16903 Espola Road, Poway

Pierogies, many varieties!!

Cheese • Potato/Cheese • Sauerkraut • Sweet Cabbage • Prune
Cherry • @ \$8.00 per dozen

Sausage & Cheese • Cheese Steak • Loaded Baked Potato
@ \$9.00 per dozen

Stuffed Cabbage Rolls - \$20.00 per dozen **Quiche** - \$12.00 ea.

Georgian Cheese Bread - \$15.00 ea. **Spanakopita** - \$12.00 per doz.

Walnut, Poppy Seed and Apricot rolls - \$15.00 ea.

Baklava - \$15.00 per doz. **Cannoli** - \$2.50 ea.

Brownies (Mint) - \$9.00 per doz. **Pecan Pies** - \$15.00 ea.

Cherry Strudel - \$8.00 ea. **Apple Turnovers** - \$2.00 ea.

Tea Breads (Cranberry, Pumpkin) - \$8.00 ea. **Fruit Cake** - \$25.00 ea.

Walnut Cookies - \$9.00 per doz. **Apricot Cookies** - \$7.00 per doz.

Holiday Cookies (Russian Tea Cakes, Shortbread, Thumb Print) - \$6.00 per doz.

Giant Cookies - \$2.00 ea. **Holiday Cheesecake** (8") - \$15.00

Mini Chocolate Cheesecakes - \$2.00 ea.

Advance Orders Only! Outdoor Pick-Up!

FOR ORDERS, PHONE

Tanya: 619-818-2311 or Mike: 858-344-2981

or email: auxiliary@stjohnofdamascus.org

Save the date! Saturday, April 16th is our Easter Bake Sale!

Our Life in Christ

Bible Question(s)

ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE.....

- Q. HOW DID JACOB TRY TO ESSUAGE ESAU'S ANGER?
Q. THE NIGHT BEFORE JACOB & ESAU WERE REUNITED WHAT DID
JACOB DO? WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM AFTERWARDS? WHAT
CHANGED?
Q.WHAT WAS THE RESULT OF JACOB & ESAU'S MEETING?**

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. WHEN JACOB DREAMED OF THE LADDER BETWEEN EARTH & HEAVEN
WHAT DID GOD PROMISE HIM? A. HE WOULD GIVE THE LAND THAT HE WAS
LAYING ON TO HIM AND HIS PROGENY, THAT HE WOULD BE WITH JACOB &
WOULD "KEEP" HIM, AND THAT HIS PROGENY WOULD BE AS NUMEROUS AS
THE DUST OF THE EARTH.**
- Q. WHO DID JACOB MARRY AND HOW LONG DID HE HAVE TO WAIT TO MARRY
HER? A. REBEKAH AND HE WAITED 14 YEARS**
- Q.WHAT ARE THE NAMES OF THE SONS OF JACOB? A. REUBEN, SIMON, LEVI,
JUDAH, ISSACHAR, ZEBULON, GAD, ASHER, DAN, NAPHTALI, JOSEPH &
BENJAMIN**
- Q WHAT WAS THE NAME OF JACOB & RACHEL'S FIRST SON? A. JOSEPH**
- Q. WHY DID JACOB FLEE LABAN? A. WHAT AGREEMENT DID THEY COME TO?
JACOB BECAME MORE PROSPEROUS THAN LABAN. A. A PILE OF STONES
CALLED "THE WITNESS HEAP" BORE WITNESS TO THEM AGREEING TO STAY
ON LANDS ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF IT.**



LOOKING AHEAD

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

Saturday Dec 18

10am-1:00pm — Christmas Ethnic Food & Bake Sale

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

Sunday Dec 19

After Liturgy — Monthly Memorial for Departed

Monday Dec 20

7:00pm — Adult Ed: Orthodox Christianity 101
In-person & Via Zoom (see online calendar for link)

Tuesday Dec 21

10:30am — Fathers Café (in person & via Zoom)

7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday Dec 22

4:00pm — Sacrament of Confession

6:00pm — Sacrament of Confession

Friday Dec 24—Christmas Eve

10:00am — Vespers & Divine Liturgy for Eve of Nativity

6:00pm — Vigil for Nativity

Saturday Dec 25—Christmas Day

8:30am — Hours & Festal Divine Liturgy

6:00pm — Great Vespers

Sunday Dec 26

8:30am — Hours & Divine Liturgy

Youth Christmas Program & **Potluck**

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

Many Years!

Newly Illumined Ivan Sadybekov & Luka Stewart-Barjadze

Name Day

Ken (Sbdn Herman) Telles, Hank (Herman) Cureton, Birdie (Lucia) Worth 12/13

Birthdays

Daria Kedroff 12/12

Ken (Sbdn Herman) Telles, Leo Keeling 12/13

Philip Kedroff 12/18

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