

March 13, 2022



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

FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT —TONE 5
SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

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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

What is the way leading to the real, the final, the ultimate victory of our faith? The answer comes from Christ Himself and from the whole tradition of Orthodoxy. It is *love*. Let us love one another, that with one mind we may confess . . . confess our faith, our Orthodoxy. Let us understand that even if we are divided in small parishes, in small dioceses, we first of all belong to one another. We belong together, to Christ, to His Body, to the Church. Let us feel responsible for each other. Let us understand that each one of us today has to be the apostle of Orthodoxy in a country which is not yet Orthodox

Fr. Alexander Schmemmann

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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



Triumph of Orthodoxy

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

Parish Life

Church School w/ Fr Michael About Holy Confession March 27 & April 10

On Sunday March 27 and April 10 Fr Michael will meet with the children and youth of the parish to talk about the Sacrament of Repentance (Holy Confession) after their youth choir time.

Please mark your calendars and plan on having your child participate.



Blood Drive—June 27 Make Your Appointment

As many of you may have heard there is a significant shortage of blood donations currently. We are investigating hosting a blood drive in response.

Now that we passed the 25 donors needed to schedule the blood drive we have been scheduled to have it on June 27.

People need to make appointments for the day. Please see Justin Wong



Auxiliary Cooking Days in March 22nd & 29th

Tuesday March 22nd & 29th the Auxiliary will be gathering to make pierogies and other goodies for our upcoming Spring Bake Sale (April 18).

We need your help. It is also a nice time to visit and chat with your fellow parishioners.

If you are available plan on coming and joining the fun.

Metropolitan Tikhon Appeal for Ukrainian Refugees

Our Orthodox Church in America has partnered with the Polish Orthodox Church to help support their efforts to give aid to all the Ukrainians fleeing into Poland. A collection basket will be placed in the church at the veneration of the cross.

Please give generously.



Help Needed—George Rahal's Sister

George Rahal's sister and her two boys ages 18 & 21 are looking to rent a room in the area until they are able to find a long term residence. They recently immigrated to the US from Lebanon. If you can help or know someone that can please call/text George Rahal at 858 386 3752. Thank you



Sat Adult Ed Book Club—3:00pm Growing in Christ: Shaped in His Image

Beginning Sat Mar 12 through April 16, our Saturday Adult Education Series will discuss the book "Growing in Christ" by Mother Raphaela Wilkinson !

Deacon George facilitates the discussion via the Zoom format at 3:00PM on Saturdays.

The book is available from multiple sources including a Kindle version at Amazon. Copies are also available at our parish bookstore for \$12.

You can find the Zoom link on our parish calendar: <https://stjohnofdamascus.org/calendar/>

Parish Life

Parish Council Election Results Blessed

His Eminence Archbishop Benjamin has blessed the results of this year's election of Parish Council Members. Today at the conclusion of Liturgy we will have the service of installation.

Below is the current list of Parish Council members.

Fr Michael—President

Patty Pelachik—Vice-President

Ed Lump—Treasurer

Evan Keeling—Secretary

Nino Kiria

Leo Hayes

Mike Wesdell

Dale Franchak

Pat Swinehart

May the Lord bless them and give them faith, discernment and strength as they serve our parish.

We give thanks to God for their service as well as the service of those who served on the Council this past year.



Spring Bake Sale April 16—Save the Date

The Auxiliary will have this year's Spring Bake Sale on Saturday April 16.

Please mark your calendars to come and help!

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

Electronic Sign—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 Vice-President—Patty Pelachik

Prosphora — Fr Michael

Readers at Divine Liturgy—Bill Moision

Saturday Adult Ed — Dn George Shumaik

Sunday Commemoration Loaves— Fr Michael

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.

Retirement Banquet for Fr Alexander & Vickie Nov 6—Mark Your Calendars

As everyone knows the pandemic forced us to postpone our celebration of the 42 year ministry of Fr Alexander & Vickie.

His Eminence Archbishop Benjamin is once again planning on joining us for the celebration that weekend.

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.

Triumph of Orthodoxy —Tone 2

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One;
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O
Christ our God.
Of Thine own will Thou wast pleased to ascend
the Cross in the flesh
and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the
Enemy.
Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to
Thee:
"Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Savior,//
by coming to save the world."

KONTAKIA

Triumph of Orthodoxy —Tone 8

No one could describe the Word of the Father;
but when He took flesh from thee, O Theotokos,
He accepted to be described,
and restored the fallen image to its former state
by uniting it to divine beauty.//
We confess and proclaim our salvation in words
and images.

PROKEIMENA

Tone 4 (*Song of the Fathers*) — 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. 98:7a)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Epistle — Hebrews 11:24-26;32– 12:2

²⁴ By faith, Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing to share ill-treatment with God's people rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin for a time. ²⁶ He considered the disgrace of the Anointed greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt because he had his eyes fixed on the reward.

³² What more shall I say? Time would fail me if I mentioned Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. ³³ Through faith, they overpowered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became strong in weakness, grew mighty in war and caused foreign armies to flee. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, by chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They 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! ³⁸ They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earth. ³⁹ All of them received a testimony through their faith but they did not receive the promise ⁴⁰ because 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, ² fixing 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 — John 1:43-51

⁴³ On the next day, being determined to go out into Galilee, Jesus met Philip and said to him, "Follow me!" ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathaniel and said to him, "We have found the one of whom Moses in the law and the prophets, wrote: Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph!"

⁴⁶ Nathanael asked him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

Philip replied, "Come and see!"

⁴⁷ As Jesus saw Nathaniel coming to him, he said about him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!"

⁴⁸ Nathanael asked Jesus, "How do you know me?"

Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are King of Israel!"

⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, "Because I told you, 'I saw you underneath the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these!" ⁵¹ He said to Philip, "Amen, amen, I tell you; hereafter, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Our Life in Christ

Proclamation of the 7th Ecumenical Council



"We define that the holy icons, whether in color, mosaic, or some other material, should be exhibited in the holy churches of God, on the sacred vessels and liturgical vestments, on the walls, furnishings, and in houses and along the roads, namely the icons of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, that of our Lady the Theotokos, those of the venerable angels and those of all saintly people. Whenever these representations are contemplated, they will cause those who look at them to commemorate and love their prototype. We define also that they should be kissed and that they are an object of veneration and honor (timitiki proskynisis), but not of real worship (latreia), which is reserved for Him Who is the subject of our faith and is proper for the divine nature, ... which is in effect transmitted to the prototype; he who venerates the icon, venerated in it the reality for which it stands."

Some Quotes....

For, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:14), and it is clear to everyone that flesh is matter and is created. And so, I honor matter, through which my salvation was accomplished, and I revere it, and I worship it. But I do not honor it as God, but as full of the Divine operation and grace.

Is not the thrice-happy and thrice-blessed wood of the Cross matter? Is not the honored and holy mount of Calvary matter? Is not the life-bearing rock, the holy tomb, the source of our resurrection, matter? Are not the ink and skins, on which the books of the Gospel are written, matter? Is not the Life-creating Table, which furnishes the Bread of Life to us, matter? Are not both gold and silver, from which crosses, and holy discoses and chalices are made, matter? Are not the Body and Blood of my Lord, which are preferred before all this, matter? Either eliminate the veneration and the worship of all this, or permit, in accordance with the tradition of the Church, the worship of icons, which are sanctified by the name of God and God's friends and for this reason are overshadowed by the grace of the Divine Spirit.

Venerable John Damascene

Stand before an icon of the Saviour, as before the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, Who is invisibly omnipresent and through His icon is present in that place where it is located. Stand before an icon of the Mother of God, as before the Most Holy Virgin herself, but preserve thy mind from visualization. There is the greatest difference between being in the Lord's presence and standing before the Lord, and imagining the Lord. The perception of the Lord's presence brings a saving fear to the soul, introduces a saving feeling of reverence into the soul, while imagining the Lord and His saints communicates to the mind materiality, leads it to a false, proud opinion of itself, leads the soul to a false state - the state of self-delusion.

Hierarch Ignatius (Brianchaninov)

A small image, in the presence of the warmth. of faith and reverence, in the presence of purity of mind and chastity of body, in no way differs from a large image; therefore, be attentive, render worthy honor to the saints and to their sacred countenances, whether they be small or large.

Athonite Patericon

From the Synodikon of Orthodoxy

As the Prophets saw, as the Apostles taught, as the Church has received, as the Teachers express in dogma, as the inhabited world understands together with them, as grace illumines, as the truth makes clear, as error has been banished, as wisdom makes bold to declare, as Christ has assured, so we think, so we speak, so we preach, honouring Christ our true God, and his Saints, in words, in writings, in thoughts, in sacrifices, in churches, in icons, worshipping and revering the One as God and Lord, and honouring them because of their common Lord as those who are close to him and serve him, and making to them relative veneration.

This is the faith of the Apostles; this is the faith of the Fathers; this is the faith of the Orthodox; this faith makes fast the inhabited world. These preachers of true religion, we praise as brothers and as those we long to have as our fathers, to the glory and honour of the true religion for which they struggled



LOOKING AHEAD

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

Tuesday March 15

10:30am — Father's Café (in person in church hall AND via Zoom—see online calendar for link)
7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday March 16

6:00pm — Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts followed by Lenten Potluck

Friday March 18

10:00am — Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts followed by Lenten Potluck

Saturday March 19—Memorial Saturday

8:30am— 3rd Hour & Memorial Saturday Liturgy
3:00pm — Adult Ed: Book Study: Growing in Christ—Shaped in His Image (via Zoom—see online calendar for link)

Tuesday March 22

9:00am—Auxiliary Cooking Day
10:30am — Father's Café (in person in church hall AND via Zoom—see online calendar for link)

Wednesday March 23

6:00pm — Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts followed by Lenten Potluck

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

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

Many Years!

Name Days
Patricia Swinehart 3/17
Klavdia Ivanushkina 3/18

Wedding Anniversaries
Evangelos & Anna Keeling 3/18

Birthdays

Vivian Ketz 3/13
R. Craig Carlson 3/14
Anna Hubler, Lily Neskin 3/16
Teona Darjania 3/17
Mary Caetta, Dathan (Daniel) Hubler 3/18

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

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