

September 25, 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

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 6

REPOSE OF VEN SERGIUS ABBOT &
WONDERWORKER OF RADONEZH

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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

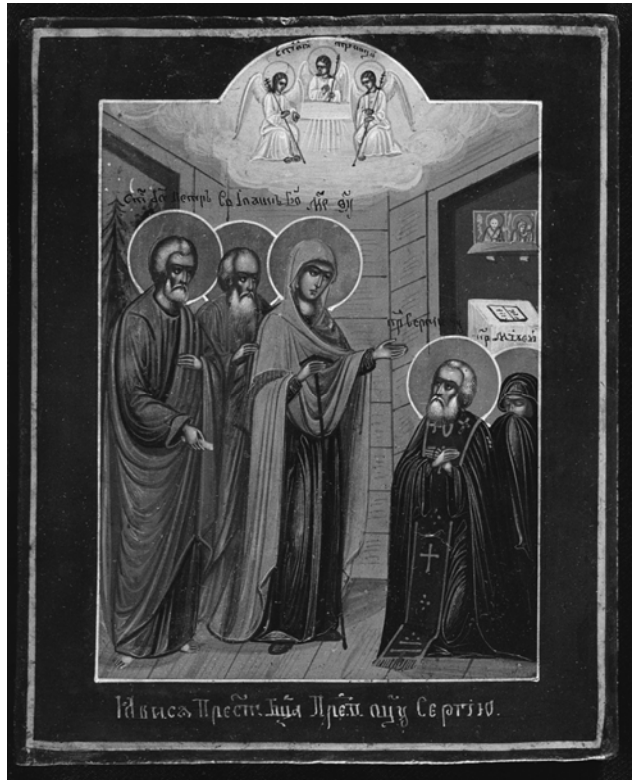
Unexpected trials are sent by God to teach
us to practice the ascetic life; and they lead
us to repentance even when we are
reluctant.

- *St. Mark the Ascetic*

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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



**Appearance of the Theotokos to St. Sergius
& his cell attendant St. Michael**

Parish Life

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

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.



Scrip Sales Coordinators Needed

We need 2-3 people to sell scrip gift cards.

Please consider helping with this substantial fund raiser and speak to Carmen Brown, Tanya Franchak of Fr Michael if you are interested.



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.

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

Church School Family BBQ Today

Today is our BBQ to kick-up the Church School Year.

Note: Parents this is NOT a drop off event. Be prepared to stay with and supervise your child/children.

A map with directions can be found in the narthex and in the church hall.



Adult Ed Topic Search Classes Begin Wed Oct 12 7-8:30pm

All our parish education efforts this year will focus on the Gospel & the Gospels.

If you have a specific topic you would like to discuss and learn more about within the 4 Gospels please share it with Fr Michael.



Orthodox Christianity 101 Class Day/Time Search

We will be offering our "101 Class" on the Faith beginning the week of Oct 10. If you are interested in participating and have a preferred day and time please speak with Fr Michael.

Options include things like: Saturdays 4-5:30pm, Mondays 7-8:30pm

Today's Worship—Hymns

TROPARIA

Resurrection — Tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee!

St John of Damascus —Tone 8

Teacher of Orthodoxy, piety, & purity!
Enlightener of the universe!
& divine inspiration to monastics
by your teachings we are all enlightened,
& by your spiritual music, O all-wise John of Damascus,
pray to Christ our God for the salvation of our souls!

St. Sergius – Tone 4

A zealot of good deeds
and a true warrior of Christ our God,
you struggled greatly against the passions in this passing life;
in songs and vigils and fasting you were an image and example to your disciples,
thus the most Holy Spirit lived within you,
and you were made beautiful by His working.
Since you have great boldness before the Holy Trinity,
remember the flock which you have wisely gathered,//
and do not forget to visit your children as your promised, venerable Sergius, our father!

KONTAKIA

Resurrection — Tone 6

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 all cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

St. Sergius – Tone 8

Bound by the love of Christ, O venerable one, and following Him with unwavering desire, you despised all carnal pleasures, and you shone like the sun in your land.
Therefore, Christ has enriched you with the gift of miracles.
Remember us, who venerate your most holy memory//
and who call out to you: "Rejoice, Sergius, made wise by God!"

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 and to intercede for us, O Theotokos,
For you always protect those who honor you!

Today's Worship — Epistle Readings

Epistle—2 Cor 4: 6-15

⁶ For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us.

⁸ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. ¹¹ For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death is at work in us, but life in you.

¹³ Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴ knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵ For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Galatians 5:22-6:2

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another.

¹ Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

PROKEIMENA

Tone 6 (Resurrection) — O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! (*Ps 27/28:9*)

v: To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps 27/28:1)

Tone 7 (St. Sergius) — Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.
(*Ps 115/116:15*)

ALLELUIA

Tone 6 (Resurrection) -- V. He who dwelleth in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God. (*Ps. 90:1*)

V. He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust." (*Ps. 90:2*)

Tone 6 (Saint Sergius) -- V. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments. (*Ps. 111:1*)

Today's Worship — Gospel Readings

Gospel — Luke 5: 1-11

¹ While the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. ² And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴ And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." ⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, ⁷ they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." ⁹ For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." ¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

Luke 6: 17-23

¹⁷ And he came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; ¹⁸ and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came forth from him and healed them all.

²⁰ And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: "Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you that hunger now, for you shall be satisfied. "Blessed are you that weep now, for you shall laugh.

²² "Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, on account of the Son of man! ²³ Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

Orthodox Christians & Death - Section 7

(See previous week's bulletin for Parts 1—6)

Autopsy & Organ Donors

- The priest should be sufficiently informed to help guide the faithful in this area of medical procedure. Some people think that they cannot refuse an autopsy to be performed on a loved one. No one is obliged to give approval for this procedure.
- Unless there is a specific legal reason, such as determining the cause of death, an autopsy ought to be avoided. The desire for scientific information through experimentation is not enough reason to merit an autopsy. Nevertheless, this is a decision that the family itself must make. The Church is concerned that respect for the body as a temple of the Holy Spirit be maintained.
- Donation of body organ or organs after death may be allowed as long as respectful care is exercised toward the body before, during, and after the extraction operation. Care must be taken that the organ or organs are given as a gesture of altruism, free of any commercial overtones.
- The Church does not consider the sharing of organs as a lessening of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the deceased, or as a transmigration of part of the donor to the recipient. A healthy person not in expectation of imminent death may donate non-vital organs as long as his or her quality and integrity of life is not diminished or endangered.

(Taken from the Holy Synod of Bishops Guidelines for Funerals)

Addition items from the Holy Synod of Bishop's Guidelines for Funerals

- The Church has no specific rules determining the length of time between death and the burial. Interment varies according to the climate, civil ordinances, customs, and circumstances, and may be held immediately following death, or after a number of days.
- The hour of interment is also not fixed; it may be at any time during the day to accord with cemetery regulations and parish needs.
- The Service for the Departed (panikhida) is sung on the eve of the burial whether the body is in the temple, funeral home, or elsewhere.
- The body of the departed may be brought into the temple at any time prior to the time of the Funeral Service, whether days before or on the day thereof.
- According to traditional practice, the casket is open from the first Service for the Departed (panikhida, trisagion, etc.) until the conclusion of the funeral service. The body is not to be shunned or rejected because it is in an altered state. To view the body at the funeral home but not in the church is illogical.
- The casket is positioned so that the feet of the departed are toward the iconostasis. Thus, the person, if alive, would be standing facing the Holy Altar.
- The Funeral Service is usually served in the temple on the day of the burial (see notes about lapsed Orthodox or non-Orthodox).
- The Divine Liturgy may be celebrated on the day of the Funeral Service. This takes place before the Funeral Service. Celebration of the Divine Liturgy is precluded during the Great Fast when the weekday liturgy is not celebrated.
- The Funeral Service and burial are generally not officiated on Sunday or Pascha. If the Funeral Service is scheduled for Monday, the body may be brought into the temple only after the service of Vespers on Sunday evening. There may be circumstances for which immediate burial may be necessary, and in this case pastoral discretion is to be used.

Parish Life

Ministry Coordinator Directory

Below are the people who coordinate 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

Counters — TBD

Social Media—Evan Keeling & Iryna Thayer

Electric 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 Vice-President—Patty Pelachik

Prospora — Fr Michael

Readers at Divine Liturgy—Bill Moision

Saturday Adult Ed — Dn George Shumaik

Security Committee — Parish Council

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.

OCA Parish Development Webinars

Thursday September 29 7:30 PM (EDT) - Father Justin Patterson, pastor at Saint Athanasius Church, Nicholasville, KY will review seeming 'failures' that eventually led to future ministry progress in his segment titled "*Hopes and Hurdles: Three Stories of Challenges in Growing Parish Ministry*".

Attendees must register for each webinar separately. (No series registration.) Each webinar is available without charge. More information about each webinar and the links for registration can be found at <https://www.ocadwpa.org/2022parishdevforumencorewebinarseries>



Join a Parish Ministry!

With the new Church year, now is wonderful time to pray and consider joining one of our parish ministries.

While people are welcome to inquire about any ministry, the FOLLOWING MINISTRIES ARE SEEKING MORE HELP:

Church School (Teachers & Helpers)
Greeters
Candle Stand
Koliva Makers
Commemoration Loaves Bakers
Security Committee
Auxiliary Bakers
Scrip Card Coordinators/Sellers

We are also looking to begin a **NEW** ministry: **Flowers/Decorating of the Church Temple**
This group of people will work together to beautify our church for all the major feast days.

If you have an interest in helping with this or any of the ministries please see the person listed in the ministry directory or contact Fr Michael.



LOOKING AHEAD

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

Sept 23-Oct 6

Fr Michael Vacation

Fr John Robinson will cover services 9/24-25

Fr Alexander Federoff will cover services 10/1-2

October 10-14

Day & Time TBD—Orthodox Christianity 101

Wed Oct 12

10:30-11:30am Father's Café (In-person & Zoom—See Online

Calendar for link)

7:00-8:30pm—Adult Ed: Topic TBD

October 17-22

Day & Time TBD—Orthodox Christianity 101

Mon Oct 17

7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting

Tues Oct 18

11:00am — Diamond Circle

Wed Oct 19

10:30-11:30am Father's Café (In-person & Zoom—See Online

Calendar for link)

7:00-8:30pm—Adult Ed: Topic TBD

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!

Birthdays

Nina Stone, Makayla Kedroff Ward

9/26

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