



LOOKING AHEAD

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

Wed Oct 12

7:00am—Weekday Divine Liturgy
10:30-11:30am Father's Café (In-person & Zoom—See Online Calendar for link)
7:00-8:30pm—Adult Ed: The Gospel & the Gospels

Thurs Oct 13

9:00am—Auxiliary Cooking Day

Mon Oct 17

7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting

Tues Oct 18

11:00am — Diamond Circle: Lunch with Don Rylander

Wed Oct 19

10:30-11:30am Father's Café (In-person & Zoom—See Online Calendar for link)
7:00-8:30pm—Adult Ed: The Gospel & the Gospels

Thurs Oct 20

9:00am—Auxiliary Cooking Day

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

John Thayer 10/15

Birthdays

David Ezekiel Boyles 10/15

Wedding Anniversaries

Nicholas & Alexandria Franchak 10/12

Margie(Marie) & Bill Hicks 10/14

PARISH CONTACT INFO:

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Priest: V. Rev. Michael Anderson, Rector

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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

October 9, 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

17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 8

APOSTLE JAMES, SON OF ALPHEOUS
PATRIARCH TIKHON, CONFESSOR &
ENLIGHTENER OF NORTH AMERICA

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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

A passion which we allow to grow active within us through our own choice afterwards forces itself upon us against our will.

- St. Mark the Ascetic

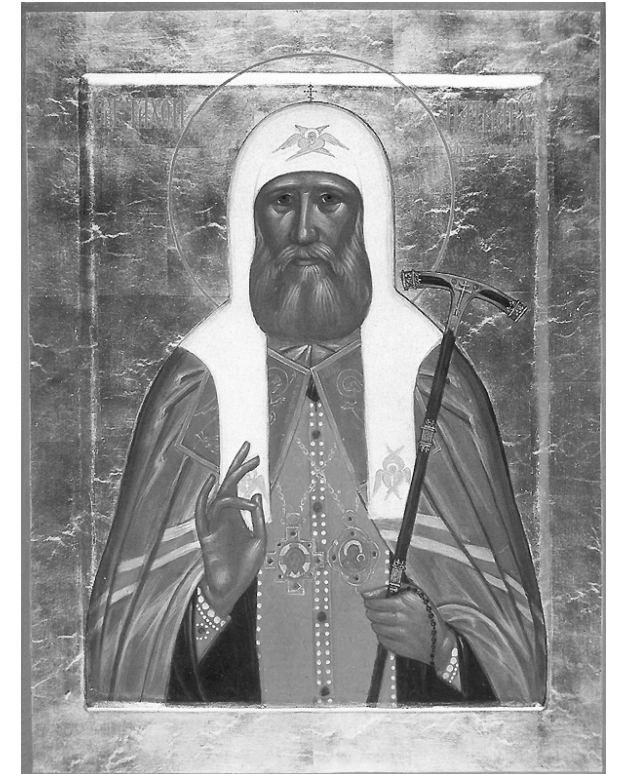
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Include Something in the Bulletin or Be Included in our Weekly

(NEWS@StJohnofDamascus.org)

E-mails

E-mail info@stjohnofdamascus.org with your request.



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

**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.



**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. While it is good to mention preferences please include as many times as possible so we can find a common time that works (even if not ideal) for everyone.



**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.

**Adult Ed—The Gospel & the Gospels
Classes Begin Wed Oct 12 7-8:30pm**

Have you ever been asked what "the Gospel" is? If you were asked today what would you say? Did you know that "gospels" were written and distributed in the ancient world before our Lord Jesus Christ's nativity?

Our 1st Adult Education class this church year will focus on exploring this and giving participants the ability to be able to speak more confidently about our Faith.

We will also use this as an opportunity to lay a foundation on the 4 Gospels of Holy Scripture to help people read them with not just more understanding but to be able to live a "Gospel-centered" life.

Classes will be offered in "hybrid style" (in person in the Church hall as well as via Zoom).

Link: <https://stjohnofdamascus.org/calendar/>

**Today's Fellowship Meal to Raise Funds
for Breast Cancer Research**

Most of us know people close to us who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Some of our own beloved church members have been diagnosed and are fighting it. Some of our beloved have died from this terrible disease. This Sunday join us for our fellowship meal after Divine Liturgy and be prepared to give to help all the work being done to try to eradicate this terrible disease and support those who are struggling with it.

The basket will be in the church hall at the end of the food table. Checks should be made out to St John's Auxiliary

1 or 2 Scrip Sales Coordinators Needed

We have 3 people who have stepped forward to offer help with coordinating our Scrip Sales on Sundays after Liturgy. Thank you!!!

We are still looking for 1 or 2 more to fill out the team.

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

Pray for our New Catechumen

Vincent Palumbo and his son Emmanuel are being installed as catechumen today. They join a group of people who have gone from inquiring about the Holy Orthodox Christian Faith to actively pursuing reception into the Church.

Please pray for them on this next stage of their journey of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ!

For a list of our current catechumen see our prayer list.



Help with our Bake Sale Costs

We all have seen prices soar at the grocery store in the past months. The cost of items such as butter, the clam shells we use as containers for bake sale items amongst others has in some cases doubled.

If you are able to help offset some of these costs, please speak to a member of the Auxiliary (Tanya Franchak, Phyllis Brown, Linda Kedroff, Pat Swinehart, etc) to see how you can help.



**Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence
Archbishop Benjamin
Nov 5-6**

His Eminence Archbishop Benjamin will be with us the weekend of Nov 5-6. Please mark your calendars, plan on attending services on both days and invite others to join us!

The fullness of the Church and its worship is always made manifest with the presence of the bishop. "Where the bishop appears, there let the people be, even as wheresoever Christ Jesus is, there is the catholic church."
St Ignatius of Antioch

Online Giving System

We have an online giving system that enables people to be able to manage their giving to our church.

You can set up automatic ongoing donations each month to cover your pledges. You can also use the system to make occasional donations for things like charities, flowers, candles, memorial donations, etc. You can even pay for your bookstore purchases.

There is an option to cover the bank processing fees if you would like to do that.

Not only is this a convenience for you it helps reduce the work required of our Counters on Sundays

<https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/StJohnofDamascusOrthodoxChurch/donations>



**Scan with your phone to be taken to our
secure online giving system.
You can set up 1-time or recurring gifts**

Monthly Collections

As we continue to restore many of the beloved practices of our parish we are reinstating our monthly Sunday collections:

- 2nd Sunday of the Month—Seminarian at St Herman's Seminary in Alaska
- 3rd Sunday of the Month—Charities (local needs, IOCC, Project Mexico, etc.)

The basket will be placed out for the veneration of the cross at the end of Liturgy.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places (Ephesians 1:3)

The greatest joy of my priesthood is to lift up a newborn infant, naked as at birth, holding him above the holy water before plunging him or her down as though in liquid burial and raising the child washed clean and given a new, spiritual birth. *“As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!”* If only it were possible to keep the child that way – without knowing sin, never being tempted by it.

The poet Wordsworth described what happens in the process of growth and the way that sin influences a person, infecting him or her so that the ideals and visions of infancy disappear in time:

*The youth who daily from the east
Must travel, still is Nature’s priest,
And by the vision splendid
Is on his way attended,
At length the man who perceives it dies away,
And fade into the light of common day.*

The baptized person goes *“daily from the east,”* where the font is located, a newborn Adam in charge of Nature, offering like a priest prayers to God, attended by angels as he or she walks in splendor with a vision of purity, innocence and light. All this because in Christ with Whom he was baptized, then in the holy Chrismation sacrament *“Blessed with every spiritual blessing,”* meaning she or he has been sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit on all the orifices of the head, on the breast, back, arms and feet. Must it: *“die away And fade into the light of common day”*? The youth matures into teenage and adulthood, never having the possibility of remaining as he or she was, but who *“Must travel”* on the journey of life, accepting, dealing with and enduring every challenge on the way to the Kingdom of heaven.

Wordsworth was among the Romantic poets who believed that infants come from heaven pure and without sin. Ours is a more realistic understanding of birth and life thereafter. Baptism restores a condition which man had originally received but then forfeited. We believe that we are born into a paradise lost because of our ancestral sin, which is why we baptize and chrismate our infants, so that they are liberated from sin from their early days. We know all too well what St. Paul means when he speaks of being *“dead in sin.”*

The initial experience of sin is that it kills our innocence. If only life were an endless attention from a loving, consistent, eternally patient parent – but it’s not. And when that ends, when what the world calls “reality” smacks us hard, we retain an eternal memory of the anguish that comes with misfortune. We adapt. Life is a continual process of adjustments; however, lost innocence can never be recovered. Purity is muddied up with mixtures of happiness and sadness, good times and bad. Whatever ideals we once dreamed of are compromised by an uncaring world. Mentally we become hybrids, allowing ourselves to imagine a perfect world, but living in a meanwhile, so-called “real world.”

The tragic irony is that while we proceed through a lifetime of adjustment to sin and suffering, seemingly with no recourse but to endure and hope for better conditions, all the while we have Christ nearby – better, within us, waiting to be called upon to guide and reinforce everything good, noble and sacred, treating us with the love of a perfect Son of the heavenly Father, and the Holy Spirit blessing our eyes to see, our ears to hear, our lips to praise and our hearts to feel the warmth of divine grace reaching out to enfold us within a sacred embrace.

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!

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. Tikhon – Tone 1

Chosen by God in a turbulent time,
you glorified God in complete holiness,
and attained greatness through humility,
showing forth the power of God through
simplicity and piety.
You laid down your life for the Church and her people,
O holy Confessor and Patriarch, Father Tikhon.
Pray to Christ God with Whom you were also crucified,
that He may save our souls!

KONTAKIA

Resurrection — Tone 8

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, and the world celebrates Thy Rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

St. Tikhon – Tone 2

A gentle manner adorned you:
you showed kindness and compassion to those who repented;
you were firm and unbending in confessing the Orthodox Faith,
and zealous in loving the Lord.
O holy Hierarchy of Christ and Confessor Tikhon,
pray for us that we may not be separated from the love of God, //
which is of Christ Jesus, our Lord!

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

2 Corinthians 6:16 - 7:1

¹⁶What agreement can there be between God's sanctuary and idols? For you are a sanctuary of the living God. Even as God said, "I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they will be my people."

¹⁷Therefore:

'Come out from among them and be separate,' says the Lord.

'Touch no unclean thing.

I will receive you.

¹⁸I will be a Father to you.

You will be to me sons and daughters,'

says the Lord Almighty."

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us purify ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, so that we may bring [our] holiness to completion in the fear of God.

Hebrews 7: 26-8:2

²⁶Indeed, such a high priest was fitting for us: holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners and made higher than the heavens.

²⁷He does not need, like those [former] high priests, to offer up sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for the sins of the people. Instead, he did this once for all, when he offered himself up. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests men who have weaknesses, but the word of the oath which came after the law appoints forever a Son who has been perfected.

⁸ The point of what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty on high, ²a servant of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord has set up, and not man.

PROKEIMENA

Tone 8 (Resurrection) — Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God! (Ps 75/76:11)

v: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel. (Ps 75/76:1)

Tone 1 (St. Tikhon) — My mouth shall speak wisdom, the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (Ps 48/49:3)

Today's Worship — Gospel Readings

Luke 7: 11-16

¹¹Soon afterwards, Jesus went to a city called Nain. Many of his disciples, along with a great multitude, went with him. ¹²Now when Jesus drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a dead person was being carried out, who was the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. Many people of the city were with her. ¹³When the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said to her, "Do not cry." ¹⁴He came near and touched the coffin, and the bearers stood still. He then said, "Young man, I tell you, arise!" ¹⁵And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. Jesus then gave him to his mother.

¹⁶They were all filled with awe and glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and, "God has visited his people!"

John 10: 9-16

⁹ I am the gate! Anyone who enters in by me will be saved, and go in and out, and will find pasture. ¹⁰The thief only comes to steal, kill, and destroy. I came so that people may have life, and have it in abundance. ¹¹I am the good shepherd! The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The one who is a hired hand, not a shepherd, and who does not own the sheep, leaves the sheep and flees when he sees the wolf coming. Then the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand flees because he is a hired hand and does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd! I know my own, and I am known by my own; ¹⁵even as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep, which are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will hear my voice. And there will be one flock—one shepherd.

ALLELUIA

Tone 8 (Resurrection) -- V. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! (Ps. 94:1)

V. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! (Ps. 94:2)

Tone 2 (St Tikhon) - V. The mouth of the righteous shall proclaim wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment. (Ps. 36:31)