

December 18, 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

27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 2
SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY



Welcome!

...to all who have gathered to follow Jesus Christ and 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.

Please join us for our fellowship meal following the service



From the Holy Fathers

It was as if the angel were saying to Joseph, "Do not imagine that, because he is conceived of the Holy Spirit, that you have no part in the ministry of this new dispensation. In the conception you had no part. You never touched the virgin. Nevertheless I am giving you what pertains to a father. I give you the honor of giving a name to the One who is to be born. For you, Joseph, shall name him. For though the offspring is not your own, yet you are called to exhibit a father's care toward him. So on this occasion, at this moment of giving him a name, you stand in significant relation with the one who is born."

St. John Chrysostom



**Include Something in the Bulletin or
Receive our Weekly
Parish E-mails**

E-mail info@stjohnofdamascus.org



Prophet Daniel & the Holy 3 Youths

Parish Life

Parish Christmas Card Be Part of the Joy—Final Day 12/18

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 Carole Shumaik for details.



Diamond Circle Christmas Luncheon Dec 27—Home of Joe & Cora Temnick

Mark your calendar—Tuesday, December 27—for the Diamond Circle Christmas Potluck Luncheon. Joe and Cora Temnick have again graciously offered their home to host this event. Please gather at the Temnick home (**12276 Casero Court, San Diego 92128**) by **11 AM** and prayer will be at 11:30 AM. This is a Christmas potluck lunch, so wear your most festive holiday outfit and bring your favorite main or side dish to share with your church family. Please be on time--arrive before our prayer at 11:30 AM.



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.

Auxiliary Christmas Ethnic Foods & Bake Sale Pick-up Your Orders Today

We had another successful bake sale on Saturday. Not only did our "regulars" make orders, but a number of new folks as well (including some walk-ins from our sign on the street).

A number of people took the opportunity to also come in and see our church temple and ask questions about our Faith.

We are truly grateful to our Lord for the faith and hard work of all our bakers, organizers and helpers as well as our supporters.

Glory to God!



Dates for 2023

MOVABLE FEASTS

Palm Sunday	April 9
Pascha	April 16
Ascension	May 25
Pentecost	June 4

FASTS

Great Lent	Feb 27-April 17
Holy Week	April 10-15
Apostles Fast	June 12-28
Dormition Fast	August 1-14
Nativity Fast/Advent	Nov 15-Dec 24

FAST-FREE WEEKS

Publican & Pharisee	Feb 5-11
Bright Week	April 16-22
After Pentecost	June 4-10
After Christmas	Dec 25-Jan 4

Parish Life

TROPARIA

Resurrection — Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

Fathers — Tone 2

Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the three Holy Youths rejoice in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of rest; and the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep.//

So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

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 You are merciful and able to do as You will!"

PROKEIMENON

Tone 4 (Resurrection) — Blessed are 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)

Today's Worship — Epistle Reading

Epistle — Heb 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

⁹ By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your descendants be named." ¹⁹ He considered that God was able to raise men even from the dead; hence, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. ²⁰ By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. ²² By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his burial.

²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

³² And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³ who through faith conquered

kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

³⁹ And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

ALLELUIA

Tone 4 (Resurrection) -- V. *We have heard with our ears, O God, for our fathers have told us. (Ps. 43:1a)*

V. *For You have saved us from them that oppose us, and hast put to shame them that hate us. (Ps. 43:8)*

Today's Worship — Gospel Reading

Gospel — Matt 1: 1-25

¹ The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

² Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, ³ and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, ⁴ and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, ⁵ and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶ and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, ⁷ and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, ⁸ and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, ⁹ and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, ¹⁰ and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, ¹¹ and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

¹² And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of She-alti-el, and She-alti-el the father of Zerubbabel, ¹³ and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, ¹⁴ and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, ¹⁵ and Eliud the father of

Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, ¹⁶ and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

¹⁷ So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; ¹⁹ and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; ²¹ she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

Our Life in Christ

Member information and pledge forms are available in the back of the church. Please take this time to pray about your situation and what an appropriate pledge of time & talent as well as financial offerings would be as good stewards of the gifts the Lord has given you

The Ministry Directory to the right as well as the Financial Offering information below are offered as resources to aid you as you prayerfully make your decisions.

Please submit your form by Jan 1. Thank you!

Often people ask, "How much should I give to the Church?" We remember the full tithe, or 10%, that was due to God under the old covenant. But under grace in Christ, we understand that everything (100%) we have is His given to us from Him and we are mere stewards of it in this life. Such there is no fixed percentage commanded of us. It is up to each of us to consult God in prayer, to seek His will for us in this regard. In truth, what is most important is the spirit with which our gift is given.

- *He [Jesus] looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury; and he saw a poor widow put in two copper coins. And he said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all the living that she had." (Luke 21:1-4)*
- *Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. (2 Corinthians 9: 7-8)*

The table below is offered as a resource:

Percentage Giving—Approximate Proportionate Gift Per Week

If Annual Income is:	3%	4%	5%	8%	10%	12%
\$25,000	\$14	\$19	\$24	\$38	\$48	\$58
\$30,000	\$17	\$23	\$29	\$46	\$58	\$69
\$35,000	\$20	\$27	\$34	\$54	\$67	\$81
\$40,000	\$23	\$31	\$38	\$62	\$77	\$92
\$45,000	\$26	\$35	\$43	\$69	\$87	\$104
\$50,000	\$29	\$38	\$48	\$77	\$96	\$115
\$55,000	\$32	\$42	\$53	\$85	\$106	\$127
\$60,000	\$35	\$46	\$58	\$92	\$115	\$138
\$65,000	\$38	\$50	\$63	\$100	\$125	\$150
\$70,000	\$40	\$54	\$67	\$108	\$135	\$162
\$75,000	\$43	\$58	\$72	\$115	\$144	\$173
\$80,000	\$46	\$62	\$77	\$123	\$154	\$185
\$85,000	\$49	\$65	\$82	\$131	\$163	\$196
\$90,000	\$52	\$69	\$87	\$138	\$173	\$208
\$95,000	\$55	\$73	\$91	\$146	\$183	\$219
\$100,000	\$58	\$77	\$96	\$154	\$192	\$231

REGARDLESS OF HOW MUCH YOU GIVE, THE PARISH IS GRATEFUL FOR WHAT YOU OFFER!

Our Life in Christ

Ministry 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 — Fr Michael

Diamond Circle Seniors — Jim & Patty Pelachik

Electric Church Sign Messages—John Thayer

Fellowship/Coffee Hour — Linda Kedroff

Flowers/Decorating—Diane Worth

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

Security Committee — Parish Council

Scrip Sales—Gene Francello, Valerie Lane

Social Media —Evan Keeling & Iryna Thayer

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.

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](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**



LOOKING AHEAD

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

Wed Dec 21

10:30am — Father's Café (In person & via Zoom—see website calendar for link)

Fri Dec 23

11:30am — Sacrament of Confession
4:30pm—Sacrament of Confession
6:30pm—Sacrament of Confession

Sat Dec 24—Christmas Eve

9:00am — Divine Liturgy followed immediately by festal vespers
6:00pm—Christmas Vigil

Sun Dec 25—Christmas

8:30am — 3rd & 6th Hours
9:00am — Festal Divine Liturgy

Mon Dec 26-Fri Dec 30

Fr Michael traveling to visit family

Tues Dec 27

11:00am—Diamond Circle Christmas Luncheon at Ternick Home
(see inside of bulletin for details)

Mon Jan 2

6:00pm—Orthodox Christianity 101 (In person & via Zoom—see website calendar for link)

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

Philip Kedroff	12/18
Irene Stone	12/19
Vera Klavzar, Abigail Lorelli	12/20
Nick Spanovich	12/22
Kyra Federoff Toth	12/23
Matushka Victoria (Vickie) Anderson, Fadwa Harb	12/24

Wedding Anniversaries

Mark & Katrina Griebing	12/21
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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 & Pdcn. George Shumaik

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