

January 1, 2023



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

29TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 4
CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR
JESUS CHRIST
SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY
ST. BASIL THE GREAT

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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

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From the Holy Fathers

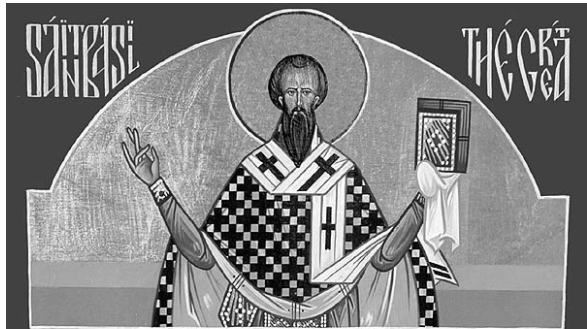
Just as a basic concern is to be careful of
anything that might be harmful to our
physical health, so our spiritual concern
should watch out for anything that might
harm our spiritual life and the work of faith
and salvation. Therefore, carefully and
attentively assess your inner impulses: are
they from God or from the spirit of evil?

St. John Maximovich of San Francisco

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

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



Icon of St. Basil the Great and the
Circumcision of our Lord & Savior
Jesus Christ

Parish Life

Youth Choir Concert Today

Our children and youth will be having a mini concert for us this morning in the church hall before our fellowship meal.

Please be sure to come and enjoy!



Blood Drive Sign-up

We are working on scheduling another blood drive here at St John's to help with the current blood shortages being reported in San Diego County. This time we will be working with the San Diego Blood Bank.

We need 35 people to sign-up before we contact them about setting a day and time.

Please consider adding your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulleting board to the right of the doors in the church hall.



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 Restarting Week of Jan 16 Topic Suggestions Welcome

Our Orthodox Christianity 101 class on Monday evenings and our next Wednesday Adult Education Class will resume the week of Jan 16.

This year our parish education classes are focusing on the gospels. Our last Wednesday evening class was "The Gospel and the Gospels"

If you have a topic you would like to suggest (Christ's Parables, Christ's Miracles, Christ's Teaching on the Kingdom, The Commandments of Christ, Christ & His Disciples, The Signs of the Messiah, etc.) please contact Fr Michael



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 4

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection; they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

Circumcision – Tone 1

Enthroned on high with the Eternal Father and Your Divine Spirit,
O Jesus, You willed to be born on earth of the unwedded handmaid, your Mother.
Therefore You were circumcised as an eight-day-old Child.
Glory to Your most gracious counsel;
glory to Your dispensation;//
glory to Your condescension, O only Lover of mankind!

St. Basil – Tone 1

Your proclamation has gone out into all the earth,
which was divinely taught by hearing your voice.
You expounded the nature of creatures and ennobled the manners of men.
Venerable Father of royal priesthood,//
entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved!

KONTAKIA

Resurrection — Tone 4

My Savior and Redeemer
as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains.
He has shattered the gates of hell,
and as Master,//
He has risen on the third day!

St. Basil — Tone 4

You were revealed as the sure foundation of the Church,
granting all mankind a lordship which cannot be taken away,//
sealing it with your precepts, O venerable Basil, revealer of heaven.

Circumcision – Tone 3

The Lord of all accepts to be circumcised, thus, as He is good, He excises the sins of mortal men.
Today He grants the world salvation, while light-bearing Basil, high priest of our Creator,//
rejoices in heaven as a divine initiate of Christ.

PROKEIMENON

Tone 6 (Circumcision) — O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! (Ps. 27:9a)

V. To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps. 27:1a)

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

Today's Worship — Epistle Readings

Epistle — 2 Timothy 4: 5-8

⁵As for you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of one who proclaims the Good News and fulfill your ministry.

⁶As for me, I am already being offered in sacrifice, and the time of my release has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight! I have finished the course! I have kept the faith!

⁸From now on, the crown of righteousness is reserved for me, which the Lord—the righteous judge—will give me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all those who have loved his appearing.

Epistle — Colossians 2: 8-12

⁸Be careful not to let anyone rob you through philosophy and vain deceit, according to human tradition and the basic things of the world, and not after Christ. ⁹For in him all the fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and in him who is the head of all principality and power, you are made full. ¹¹In him, you were also circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, by casting off the body of the sins of the flesh, in the circumcision of Christ, ¹²having been buried with him through baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

ALLELUIA

Tone 8 (Resurrection) -- V. O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Your countenance upon us, and have mercy on us. (Ps. 66:1)

V. That we may know Your way upon the earth, and Your salvation among all the nations. (Ps.66:2)

Tone 8 — V. Give ear, O shepherd of Israel, You Who lead Joseph like a flock! (Ps. 79:1)

Today's Worship — Gospel Readings

Gospel — Mark 1: 1-8

¹ The beginning of the Good News of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophets:

Behold, I send my messenger before your face,

who will prepare your way before you.

³ The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Make ready the way of the Lord!

Make his paths straight!'

⁴ John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ All the country of Judea and those from Jerusalem went out to him. They were all baptized by John in the Jordan river, confessing their sins. ⁶ John was clothed with camel's hair, and a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He preached, saying, "He who comes after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to kneel down and untie the strap of his sandals. ⁸ I baptized you in water, but he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit."

Gospel — Luke 2: 20-21; 40-52

²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things which they had heard and seen, just as it was told them.

²¹ When the eight days were fulfilled and the time came for the circumcision of the child, he was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

⁴⁰ The child was growing, and was becoming strong in spirit, being filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him. ⁴¹ His parents went every year to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover.

⁴² When Jesus was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. ⁴³ When they had fulfilled the days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. Joseph and his mother did not notice it. ⁴⁴ Supposing him to be in the company, they went a day's journey and began to look for him among their relatives and acquaintances. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, looking for him.

⁴⁶ After three days, they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.

⁴⁷ All who heard him were amazed by his understanding and answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? Behold, your father and I were anxiously looking for you."

⁴⁹ He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ After this, he went down with them, and came to Nazareth. He was obedient to them, and his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, as well as in favor with God and men.

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**

Monthly Collections

St John's is committed to support our OCA seminaries who train our future priests & leaders as well as the needs of so many who need basic things like food, shelter, etc. :

- 2nd Sunday of each Month—Seminarians
- 3rd Sunday of each 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.

Please plan on contributing as you can.



LOOKING AHEAD

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

Wed Jan 4

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

Thurs Jan 5

9:00am — Royal Hours for Theophany
6:00pm—Vigil for Theophany

Fri Jan 6

8:30am — 3rd Hour & Festal Divine Liturgy followed by the Great Blessing of Water

Jan 6-Feb 25

Annual House Blessings
Contact Fr Michael to arrange a time and place

Mon Jan 9– Fri Jan 13

Fr Michael Travels to MA to Help His Mother

Tues Jan 10

7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting

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

Russell Vasily Herbert	1/1
Caitlin (Juliana) Gannon	1/2
Edward Klavzar, Edward Lump	1/7

Birthdays

Elisabeth Koroleva	1/1
Terrance Miller, Maha Victoria Rahal, Nicholas Stone	1/6

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