

August 27, 2023



# THE IMAGE...

(Jn 12:45 & 14:9; Heb 1:3; Col 1:15)

[www.stjohnofdamascus.org](http://www.stjohnofdamascus.org)

Publication of St. John of Damascus Orthodox Church, Poway, CA

12 SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 3  
VENERABLE PIMEN THE GREAT

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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

But the young man, when he heard this, "went away sorrowful." For he put great trust in wealth. And in him we observe the rational working out of a metaphor. This was a young man. He himself said that since his youth he had obeyed the commandments that are contained in the law. Yet an arrested adolescence remains within his youth, whatever age he may be  
*St. Hilary of Poitiers*

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**Include Something in the Bulletin or  
Be Included in our Weekly  
([NEWS@StJohnofDamascus.org](mailto:NEWS@StJohnofDamascus.org))**

**E-mails**

E-mail [info@stjohnofdamascus.org](mailto:info@stjohnofdamascus.org)  
with your request.

### THE RICH YOUNG MAN



## Parish Life

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2023-2024

#### THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Each year our parish education for children, youth & adults focuses on one of four themes: The Old Covenant (Testament), The Gospels, The Life of the Church, Sp. This year we will focus on the Life of the Church. This can include the Acts of the Apostles and epistles in Holy Scripture. It can also include writings and lives of saints, parts of Church history, including our history in North America as well as an other local Orthodox Church.

Classes will begin in September. If you have any ideas or questions please speak with Fr Michael.



#### Brick Pavers Fundraiser

Looking at the needs of the parish, the Parish Council is moving to complete the brick pavers along the walkway from the lower parking lot to the steps leading up to the church. The funds collected will be for projects like youth activities, enhancement of the area by the playground and the icon frescoes in the church.

The donation is \$200 for a brick with a name or message of your choice on it.

There are 88 remaining spaces. You can view the existing bricks for ideas.

The deadline to donate towards a brick is November 1st. Forms will be in the back of the church in the narthex and in the church hall.

#### Viewing of Episode of The Chosen w/ Discussion Today

Today around 12:20pm after Fellowship Hour we will have a viewing of season 1 episode 7 "Invitations" of the TV show "The Chosen" After the episode we will have a short discussion.

All are welcome!

#### Bishop Boris Scholarships Applications Due Sept 1st

In memory of our dear Bishop Boris our parish provides scholarships for students continuing their education through academic and vocational programs past high school.

If someone received a scholarship last year and is continuing their education this year, they may complete a "returning" application.

Those who have just completed high school and beginning a program can complete their full application.

Applications are in the back of the church and in the church hall.

If you have questions please contact Ken Telles or Nino Kiria.

#### 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. Please give as you can.

## Parish Life

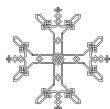
### **Auxiliary Cooking Days Thursdays—Beginning 9/21**

The Auxiliary will be recommencing cooking and baking in September on Thursdays beginning Sept 21 from 9am-12pm.

Sept 21—Pierogies

Sept 28—Pierogies

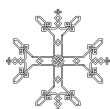
Everyone is welcome to come and help. If you have questions contact Tanya F or another member of the Auxiliary.



### **Diamond Circle Lunch at “World Famous” San Diego Chicken Pie Shop 9/19**

Our Diamond Circle will going to lunch at the “World Famous” San Diego Chicken Pie Shop! On Tuesday Sept 19. We will meet at the Church at 10:30am to carpool down.

If you have any questions please speak with Patty Pelachik



### **Monthly Memorial Service Today**

After the Divine Liturgy and the veneration of the Cross today we will celebrate our monthly service for the departed connected with the month of August.

If you have not already, be sure to submit the names of your lived ones before the service begins

### **Sunday Youth Activities to Begin in September**

With the beginning of the new Church Year our Sunday youth activities with restart in September.

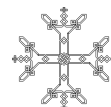
Sept 3 — Church School Teacher Meeting

Sept 10 — Youth Choir (Carole Shumaik)

Sept 17 — Church School

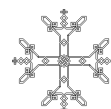
Sept 24 — Church School BBQ

If you have questions speak to Bill Moision or Sally Menig



### **Girls 7+ Welcome to Participate in Handmaidens**

If there are any girls aged 7 and up that are interested in training to be a Handmaiden, please talk to Sally Menig or Desiree Geralt



### **Support our Parish Through the Auxiliary’s Scrip Program**

Purchase gift cards for your regular expenses through St John’s Auxiliary Scrip Program (gas stations, grocery stores, retail stores, etc) & at no extra cost to you the parish will receive a percentage of your purchase.

See Carmen Brown after Liturgy to purchase gift cards.

## Today's Worship — Hymns

### TROPARIA

#### Resurrection —Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice!  
Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.  
He has trampled down death by death.  
He has become the first born of the dead.  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,  
and has granted to the world//  
great mercy.

#### 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 Pimen —Tone 8

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile,  
and your longing for God brought forth fruits in  
abundance.  
By the radiance of miracles you illuminated the  
whole universe.//  
Our holy Father Pimen, pray to Christ our God to  
save our souls!

### KONTAKIA

#### Resurrection —Tone 3

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful  
One,  
leading us from the gates of death.  
On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;  
with the Prophets and Patriarchs//  
they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of  
Your power.

#### St John of Damascus — Tone 4

Let us the faithful sing praises to John,  
worthy of great honor the composer of hymns.  
The star & teacher of the Orthodox Faith,  
the defender of its doctrine.  
Through the might of the Lord's Cross he  
overcame heretical error!  
Now he is fervent in prayer to Christ God,  
to grant forgiveness of our sins.

#### St Pimen—Tone 4

The remembrance of your illustrious struggles  
delights the souls of the devout today,//  
O Pimen, our venerable father, wise in 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 & to intercede for  
us, O Theotokos,  
For you always protect those who honor you!

### PROKEIMENON

**Tone 3** (*Resurrection*) — Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

(Ps. 46:6)

V. Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! (Ps. 46:1)

## Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

### Epistle — 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

15 Now I declare to you, brethren, the Good News which I preached to you, which also you accepted, in which you also stand. <sup>2</sup> And you are saved by it, that is if you hold firmly to the word which I preached to you. Otherwise, you believed in vain. <sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you, first of all, what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Kephas, then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup> After that, he appeared to over five hundred brethren at once, most of whom remain [alive] until now, but some have also fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, <sup>8</sup> and last of all, as to the child born at the wrong time, he appeared to me also. <sup>9</sup> Indeed, I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God, I am what I am. His grace which was bestowed on me was not in vain, but I worked more than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. <sup>11</sup> It does not matter whether is it I or they: this is what we preach, and so you believed.

### Gospel — Matthew 19: 16-26

<sup>16</sup> Behold, a man came to him and asked, "Good teacher, what good thing shall I do in order to have eternal life?"

<sup>17</sup> Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but one, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."

<sup>18</sup> The man asked him, "Which ones?" Jesus replied, "'You shall not murder.' 'You shall not commit adultery.' 'You shall not steal.' 'You shall not bear false witness.' <sup>19</sup> 'Honor your father and mother;' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' "

<sup>20</sup> The young man then said to him, "All these things I have observed from my youth! What do I still lack?"

<sup>21</sup> Jesus replied, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have, give it to the poor, and you will have [a] treasure in heaven. Then come, and follow me!" <sup>22</sup> But when the young man heard these words, he went away sad because he was a person with great possessions. <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to his disciples,

"Amen I say to you: it will be hard for someone who is rich to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven!

<sup>24</sup> Indeed, I tell you that it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God."

<sup>25</sup> When his disciples heard this, they were extremely astonished and said, "Who then can be saved?"

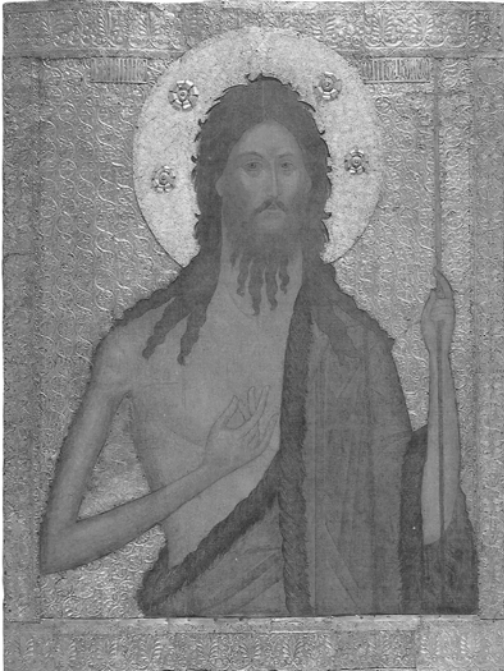
<sup>26</sup> Gazing at them, Jesus answered, "By human resources, this is impossible, but with God all things are possible!"

### ALLELUIA

**Tone 3** — V. In You, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame! (Ps. 30:1a)

V. Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me! (Ps. 30:2b)

## Our Life in Christ—The Greatest Born of Women



John the Baptist is called by various names. He is called a prophet, a friend of the Bridegroom, a lamp, an angel, a voice, Elias, baptizer of the Saviour, herald of the Judge, precursor of the King. The title of prophet denotes his prerogative of knowledge; friend of the Bridegroom, his prerogative of love; lamp, his piety; angel his virginal purity; voice, his particular humility; Elias, his ardent zeal; baptizer, the wondrous honour which was his; herald, his gift of preaching; precursor, his particular office of preparation.

The holy precursor of Christ was endowed with nine singular privileges.

1. His birth was announced by the same angel who announced the birth of Christ.
2. He leaped in the womb of his mother.
3. He was lifted from the ground by the Mother of God.
4. At his birth he loosed his father's tongue.
5. He originated baptism.
6. He proclaimed the mission of Christ.
7. He baptized Christ.
8. He was honored by being praised above all others by Christ.
9. He announced the coming of Christ to the souls in Sheol.

And by reason of these nine privileges the Lord declared him a prophet, and more than a prophet. Explaining why he was 'more than a prophet,' Chrysostom says: 'It belongs to a prophet to receive the gift from God, but does it belong to a prophet to give to God the gift of baptism? A prophet prophesies about God, but does God prophesy about him? All the prophets foretold Christ, but of them nothing was foretold; but he not only prophesied about Christ, but the other prophets prophesied about him. All were bearers of the word, but he was the voice itself; as the voice is nearer to the word, and yet is not the word, so John was nearer to Christ, and yet was not Christ.'

John's praiseworthiness is understood from the sanctity of his life, whereof Chrysostom says: 'John's conduct made the life of all others to appear blameworthy. So, if thou seest a white garment, thou sayest: This is a very white garment! But if thou layest it upon the snow, it would appear to be soiled, although, in sooth, it is not soiled; so every man appeared unclean when compared to John.' Furthermore, his sanctity is proved by a threefold testimony. His first testimony comes from above the heavens, that is, from the Blessed Trinity itself. For the Father calls him an angel, and says of him: 'Behold I send my angel, and he shall prepare the way before my face.' But angel is the name of an office and not of a nature; and therefore he is called an angel by reason of his office, because he exercised the office of all the angels. First, of the Seraphim. Seraphim is interpreted fiery because the Seraphim set us afire, and they themselves burn more ardently with the love of God; and in Ecclesiasticus it is said of John: 'Elias the prophet stood up, as a fire, and his word burnt like a torch'; for he came in the spirit

## Our Life in Christ—The Greatest Born of Women

and power of Elias. Second, of the Cherubim. Cherubim is interpreted the fulness of knowledge; and John is called the morning star, because he put an end to the night of ignorance and made a beginning to the light of grace. Third, of the Thrones, whose office is to judge; this John did when he challenged Herod, saying: 'It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife.' Fourth, of the Dominations, who teach us to rule over subject; and John was loved by his subjects, and feared by kings. Fifth, of the Principalities, who teach us to revere superiors; and John said of himself: 'He that is of the earth, of the earth he is, and of the earth he speaketh,' and of Christ, 'He that cometh from Heaven is above all,' and also, 'But there shall come one mightier than I, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to loose.' Sixth, of the Powers, by whom the harmful powers of the air are restrained. They could not harm him since he was already sanctified, but he shielded us from them when he disposed us to the baptism of penance. Seventh, of the Virtues, by whom miracles are done; and John manifested many miracles in himself. For it is a great miracle to eat wild honey and locusts, and to wear camel's-hair and such like. Eighth, of the Archangels, when he revealed greater things, such as those which regard our Redemption, as when he said: 'Behold the Lamb of God.' Ninth, of the Angels, when he announced lesser things, such as those which regard daily life, as when he said: 'Do penance,' and again, 'Do violence to no man; neither calumniate any man; and be content with your pay.'





## LOOKING AHEAD

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

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### Mon Aug 28

6:00pm — Great Vespers & Litya for the Beheading of St John the Baptist

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### Tues Aug 29—Beheading of St John the Baptist

8:30am Hours, 9:00am Divine Liturgy

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### Wed Aug 30

10:30am — Father's Café

6:00pm — Orthodox Christianity 101

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### Sat Sept 2

4:30pm — Choir Rehearsal

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### Wed Sept 6

10:30am — Father's Café

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**For more dates & links please visit our website: [www.stjohnofdamascus.org/calendar](http://www.stjohnofdamascus.org/calendar)**

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

### Many Years!

Newly Illumined Teona Mary Zhuravleva

*Wedding Anniversaries*

Erik Konstantine & Diane Marie Worth 8/26

### 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