

November 12, 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

23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—TONE 6

ST JOHN THE MERCIFUL, PATRIARCH OF  
CONSTANTINOPLE

VENERABLE NILUS THE FASTER, OF SINAI



### 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.



### A Word from the Holy Fathers

Forget your good deeds as soon as  
possible ... Do not record your good deeds,  
for if you record them, they will soon fade.  
But if you forget them, they will be written  
in eternity.

—*St. Nicholas of Serbia*



**Include Something in the Bulletin or  
Be Included in our Weekly E-mails**

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



Ss John the Merciful &  
Nilus the Faster

## Parish Life

### 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 & Sally Menig

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.

### 2024 Pledge Forms Distributed Please Complete & Return by Dec 1

It is that time again.

It is time to pray and consider what your regular stewardship to the Church will be for 2024. This includes time & talent (ministries) as well as finances. This giving is really giving back, as all our time, talent & treasure are gifts from God.

We all know that costs have gone up recently. Please consider giving a bit more than you did last year if you can.

As always, what is most important is the spirit of our giving. It should be in the spirit of recognition, generosity, joy and thanksgiving.

Please return by Dec 1st.



### Sunday Youth & Children Classes

1st and 3rd Sundays—Church School

2nd and 4th Sundays — Youth Choir

***PLEASE ENTER HALL QUIETLY AFTER  
LITURGY TO AVOID INTERRUPTING CLASS***



### 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 Ethnic Food & Bake Sale THIS SATURDAY—Nov 18 11am-2pm**

Our Auxiliary is working hard cooking and baking for our pre-Thanksgiving Bake Sale on November 19.

Flyers/Menus have been distributed in person, in the bulletin, and via email.

Get your order in asap. Share the flyer with our friends and plan on coming to help!

Speak with Tanya, Pat, or Linda to find out where help is most needed.



### **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!

### **Keep Informed Receive Weekly E-mails About Parish Life**

We are an active community with a lot going on. These days it is especially helpful to keep up to date on things taking place in our parish.

We have an email group  
"News@stjohnofdamascus.org"

It is all those who are interested in the activities of St. John of Damascus Orthodox Church. Members receive periodic notifications of special events, parish meetings and weekly newsletters.

**To be included E-mail Fr Michael at  
info@stjohnofdamascus.org**

### **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

Visit [www.stjohnofdamascus.org](http://www.stjohnofdamascus.org) and click on DONATE or scan the QR below with your phone.



### **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.

## Today's Worship — Hymns

### TROPARIA

#### **Resurrection—Tone 6**

The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb;  
the guards became as dead men.  
Mary stood by Your grave,  
seeking Your most pure body.  
You took hell captive,  
not being tempted by it.  
You came to the Virgin, granting life.  
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

#### **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 John the Merciful—Tone 8**

By endurance you gained your reward,  
venerable Father;  
you persevered in prayer unceasingly;  
you loved the poor and provided for them in all  
things.  
Blessed John the Merciful, intercede with Christ  
God that our souls may be saved!

#### **Venerable Nilus—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 illumined the  
whole universe.  
Our Father Nilus, pray to Christ God to save our  
souls!

### KONTAKIA

#### **Resurrection—Tone 6**

When Christ God the Giver of Life,  
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery  
with His mighty hand,  
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.  
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life,  
and the God of all.

#### **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 John the Merciful—Tone 2**

You distributed your wealth to the poor  
and in return obtained wealth from heaven, John  
the Merciful.  
Therefore, we honor you and celebrate your  
memory,  
O namesake of mercy.

#### **Venerable Nilus—Tone 8**

By your vigilant prayer you cut away the  
undergrowth of the body's insurgent passions.  
As you have boldness before the Lord, free me  
from every danger so that I may cry to you:  
"Rejoice, universal father Nilus!"

#### **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,

## Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

### PROKEIMENON

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

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



### ALLELUIA

**Tone 6** — (*Resurrection*) V. He who dwells 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)



### Epistle — Ephesians 2:4-10

<sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast.

<sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

### Gospel — Luke 10:25-37

<sup>25</sup> And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>26</sup> He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" <sup>27</sup> So he answered and said, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'"

<sup>28</sup> And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." <sup>29</sup> But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

<sup>30</sup> Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side.

<sup>33</sup> But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. <sup>34</sup> So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.'

<sup>36</sup> So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?"

<sup>37</sup> And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

## Our Life in Christ

### The Proclamation of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America on the Glorification of the Righteous Servant of God Matushka Olga

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

To the beloved Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America

*God is wondrous in His Saints*

November 8, 2023

Chicago, IL

The [Holy Synod of Bishops](#) of the Orthodox Church in America has heard the petition of The Right Reverend ALEXEI, Bishop of Sitka and Alaska, expressed in his November 2, 2023 letter to His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, concerning the glorification of the Servant of God, the Righteous Matushka Olga.

In this letter, His Grace Bishop ALEXEI states: "I am writing to Your Beatitude with respect to the departed handmaiden of God and faithful Orthodox Christian, Matushka Olga Nicholai of Kwethluk, known by the pious peoples of the Kuskokwim as *Arrsamquq*. Her humility, her generosity, her piety, her patience, and her selfless love for God and neighbor were well-known in the Kuskokwim villages during her earthly life. Her care for comforting the suffering and the grieving has also been revealed after her life by grace-filled manifestations to the faithful throughout not only Alaska, but all of North America. The first peoples of Alaska are convinced of her sanctity and the great efficacy of her prayers. For this reason, after prayerful consideration, I, Alexei, Bishop of Sitka and Alaska, am hereby making the formal request to Your Beatitude as the Primate of the Orthodox Church in America to begin the process that, if it be in accord with God's will, would lead to her glorification."



The Holy Synod, having prayerfully reflected upon this petition and having observed and acknowledged the sincere devotion among the faithful of Alaska and beyond, has unanimously determined that the time for the glorification of Matushka Olga has arrived, fulfilling the hopes and prayers of pious Orthodox Christians throughout Alaska and the entire world.

THEREFORE, meeting in Solemn Assembly in Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago, Illinois, under the Presidency of The Most Blessed TIKHON, Archbishop of Washington and Metropolitan of All America and Canada, We, the Members of The Holy Synod of The Orthodox Church in America, do hereby decide and decree that the ever-memorable Servant of God MATUSHKA OLGA be numbered among the saints. With one mind and one heart, we also resolve that her honorable remains be considered

## Our Life in Christ

as holy relics; that a special service be composed in her honor; that her feast be celebrated on November 10 (October 28, old style) and the Feast of All Saints of North America, the Second Sunday after Pentecost; that holy icons be prepared to honor the newly-glorified saint in accordance with the Canons of the Sacred Ecumenical and Regional Councils; that her life be published for the edification of the Faithful, that the name of the new saint be communicated to the Primate of all Sister Churches for inclusion in their calendars; and that the date and location of the Rite of Glorification be communicated to the Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of our Church in due time.

FURTHER, we entrust to the Canonization Commission of The Orthodox Church in America, under the Chairmanship of The Most Reverend DANIEL, Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest, with the honorable task of assisting The Right Reverend ALEXEI, Bishop of Sitka and Alaska, in preparing for the celebration of the glorification by providing an authorized *Life* of Matushka Olga for the education and edification of the Faithful, with overseeing the painting of holy icons of her, in keeping with the canonical iconographical tradition of the Church, with the composition of liturgical texts to be sung at the Divine Services in which she will be commemorated, and with assisting in the uncovering and recognition of her holy relics, and in promoting her veneration among all the Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of our Church.

*We call upon the faithful to remember Matushka Olga at Memorial Services or Litanies for the Departed when appropriate until the day of her glorification.*

Through the prayers of Matushka Olga and of all the Saints who have shone forth in North America, may the Lord grant His mercies and blessings to all who seek her heavenly intercession with faith and love. Amen.

Holy Mother Olga, pray to God for us!

Given at Holy Trinity Cathedral, this 8th day of November, in the Year of Our Lord, 2023.

### PROCLAMATION OF THE HOLY SYNOD OF BISHOPS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA ON THE GLORIFICATION OF THE RIGHTEOUS SERVANT OF GOD MATUSHKA OLGA

The Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America.

- + TIKHON, Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All America and Canada
- + NATHANIEL, Archbishop of Detroit and the Romanian Episcopate
- + BENJAMIN, Archbishop of San Francisco and the West
- + MARK, Archbishop of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania
- + ALEJO, Archbishop of Mexico City and Mexico
- + MELCHISEDEK, Archbishop of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania
- + IRENEE, Archbishop of Ottawa and the Archdiocese of Canada
- + MICHAEL, Archbishop of New York and New Jersey
- + ALEXANDER, Archbishop of Dallas, the South and the Bulgarian Diocese
- + DANIEL, Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest
- + ALEXEI, Bishop of Sitka and Alaska
- + NIKODHIM, Bishop of Boston and the Albanian Archdiocese



## LOOKING AHEAD

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

### Mon Nov 13

7:00pm — Orthodox Christianity 101

### Tues Nov 14

7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting

### Wed Nov 15

FIRST DAY OF NATIVITY FAST

10:20am — Father's Café

7:00pm — Adult Ed—Lives of the Apostles

### Saturday Nov 18

10:00am-2:00pm — Auxiliary Cooking Day

### Mon Nov 20

6:00pm — Great Vespers w/ Litya for Entrance of the Theotokos

### Tues Nov 21—Entrance of the Theotokos Into the Temple

8:30am—3rd Hour & Festal Divine Ltiurgy

11am — Diamond Circile

### Wed Nov 22

10:20am— Father's Café

7:00pm — Adult Ed—Lives of the Apostles

### Mon Nov 27

7:00pm — Orthodox Christianity 101

### Wed Nov 29

10:20am— Father's Café

7:00pm — Adult Ed—NO CLASS

**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!

### *Name Days*

Reader John Klavzar	11/13
Matthew Sladack	11/16

### *Birthdays*

Shari (Helene) Henry, Amy Tarris	11/13
Huyen Do (Sarah) Jollie, Elizabeth Ann Lorelli, Natalya Yershova	11/17
Alexandra Sheeler	11/18

### PARISH CONTACT INFO:

**Church:** 16903 Espola Rd Poway — **Mailing Address:** PO Box 28291 San Diego, CA 92198

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

**Email:** [info@stjohnofdamascus.org](mailto:info@stjohnofdamascus.org) — **Phone:** (858) 674-1931

**Priest:** V. Rev. Michael Anderson, Rector

**Email:** [powaypadre@stjohnofdamascus.org](mailto: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