

September 7, 2025



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

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE
THEOTOKOS

SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE
CROSS

MARTYR SOZÓN OF CILICIA



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



A Word...

What does our Christ instruct us to do?
Meditate on our sins, on death, on hell,
on paradise, and on our soul, which is
more precious than the entire world.

We are to eat and drink moderately,
similarly, to clothe ourselves moderately,
and to use the remaining time for our
soul—to make it a bride for our Christ.
And then we can call ourselves human
beings and earthly angels.

—St. Kosmas Aitolos



**Include Something in the Bulletin or
Receive our Weekly Parish 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

Parish Life

Church School Registration

It is time for parents to register their children for our church school programs.

We are doing registration online to have better access to information so we can keep families informed.

Please scan the QR code below and complete the online form for EACH child who will be attending church school.



Church School for Children & Youth 1st & 3rd Sunday of Month Youth Choir 2nd & 4th Sunday of Month

Our Church School for children and youth are held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month beginning SEPTEMBER 7.

Our children's and youth choir (for those able to read) are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Church School Helpers & Teachers Needed

Our new church school year will be beginning next month. We are in need of helpers and teachers. Please speak to Bill Moision, Sally Menig, Katie Jones or Fr Michael to see how you can help.

New Adult Education Class Wednesdays 7:00-8:30pm Jesus Christ & the Temple

Beginning on September 10th, Fr Michael will be offering a new adult education class in the church hall and via Zoom.

We will spend 5 sessions (weeks) discussing the Tabernacle/Temple and what it tells us about Christ and the Gospel.

Coffee & Tea as well as light snacks will be offered for those attending in person.

Those attending via Zoom can find the link on our parish website online calendar.



"Crafty Creators" 1st Sunday of the Month

St John's "Craft Creators" is a new gathering for all crafters, crocheters, knitters, jewelry makers, artists, quilters, scrap bookers, etc. to bring their projects and work alongside other crafters to be inspired, share skills, and build friendships.

Crafty Creators meets every first Sunday of the month in the Fellowship Hall in the back classrooms after church school.

Our first meet-up was well attended and participants had a wonderful time. Mark your calendars for Sept 7.



St John's Auxiliary Meeting Sunday Sept 21 — 11am

Our St John's Auxiliary will be meeting on Sunday Sept 21 at around 11am to discuss it's plans for the year.

NEWCOMERS are welcome!

Today's Worship — Hymns

TROPARIA

Resurrection—Tone 4

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

Forefeast—Tone 4

Today from the stem of Jesse and from the loins
of David,
the handmaid of God Mary is being born for us.
Therefore all creation is renewed and rejoices.
Heaven and earth rejoice together.
Praise her, you families of nations,
for Joachim rejoices and Anna celebrates crying
out://
“The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, the
Nourisher of our life!”

St Sozon—Tone 4

Your holy martyr Sozón, O Lord,
through his sufferings has received an
incorruptible crown from You, our God.
For having Your strength, he laid low his
adversaries,
and shattered the powerless boldness of
demons.//
Through his intercession, save our souls!

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 Sozon — Tone 2

Let us gather today and together sing to Sozón,
the true and divinely wise martyr,
an expert fighter for the faith,
the mystical seer of divine grace,
a generous provider of healing,//
who prays to Christ God for us all.

Forefeast—Tone 3

Today the Virgin Theotokos Mary,
the bridal chamber of the Heavenly Bridegroom,
by the will of the God is born of a barren woman,
being prepared as the chariot of God the Word.//
She was foreordained for this, since she is the
divine gate and the true Mother of Life.

PROKEIMENON

Tone 6 - (Sunday Before) 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)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Epistle — Galatians 6: 11-18

¹¹ See with what large letters I write to you with my own hand! ¹² Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised, only so that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ Even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh. ¹⁴ As for me, I shall find glory in nothing, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ In Christ Jesus, circumcision and uncircumcision mean nothing; only a new creation {matters}. ¹⁶ To those who live by this rule, may there be peace and mercy upon them, and on the Israel of God. ¹⁷ From now on, let no one cause me any trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus branded on my body.

¹⁸ May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Epistle — 1 Corinthians 16: 13-24

¹³ Watch! Stand firm in the faith! Be courageous! Be strong! ¹⁴ Let all that you do be done in love.

¹⁵ Now I beg you, brethren (you know the house of Stephanas, that it is the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to serve the saints), ¹⁶ that you also be in service to people like this, and to everyone who helps in the work and labors. ¹⁷ I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus; for what was lacking on your part, they supplied. ¹⁸ They refreshed my spirit and yours; show therefore your appreciation to such people.

¹⁹ The Churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you much in the Lord, together with the Church that is in their house. ²⁰ All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss!

²¹ This greeting is by me, Paul, with my own hand. ²² If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. Maranatha! ²³ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

²⁴ My love is with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

ALLELUIA

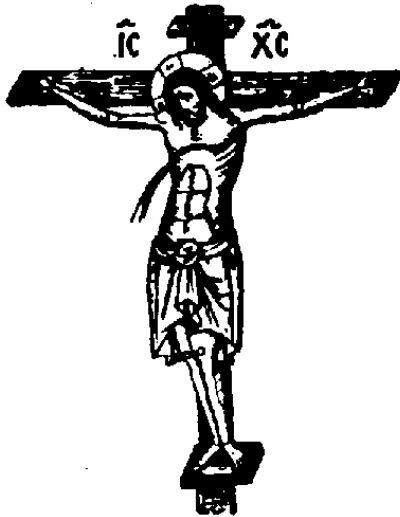
Tone 1 — V. I have exalted one chosen out of My people. (Ps. 88:18b)

V. For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him. (Ps. 88:20)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Gospel — John 3: 13-17

¹³ No one has ascended into heaven, except for the one who came down out of heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, likewise, the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ so that everyone believing in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶ Indeed, God so loved the world that he gave his uniquely-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ Certainly, God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world should be saved through him.



Gospel — Mathew 21:33-42

³³ Hear another parable. There was a man who was the owner of a household. He planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, built a tower, and leased it out to farmers. He then left for another country. ³⁴ When the season for the fruit drew near, he sent his slaves to the farmers, to receive his fruit. ³⁵ But the farmers took his slaves, beat one, killed another, and stoned yet another. ³⁶ Again, the owner sent other slaves, even more than the first time; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying: 'They will respect my son!' ³⁸ But the farmers, when they saw the son, said to each other, 'This is the heir! Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' ³⁹ And so they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Therefore, when the lord of the vineyard returns, what will he do with those farmers?"

⁴¹ They answered him, "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and he will lease out the vineyard to other farmers who will give him the fruit in its season."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

'The [very] stone which the builders rejected was made the head of the corner.

This was from the Lord and it is marvelous in our eyes?'

Evening with Expert



Saturday September 27, at 4 pm

Dear brothers and sisters, I want to take you on fascinating journey in the World of luxury and gems. My over twenty years' experience in the jewelry industry allowed me to share knowledge and expertise with you today.

1. Introduction. Gala (Galina Anatolia) Hodges GG GIA, RGA ISG
2. The World of Luxury. Jewelry in Christianity. 15 types of crosses in jewelry (and their meanings)
3. What is jewelry and accessories mean for us
4. Precious metals and stones
5. Daily wear and care
6. Questions for your expert

** All attendees will get a complimentary gift after the lecture

*** The best question for an expert will be granted with a special gift.

**** Entrance fee is \$5 per person, children are free. All funds from the lecture will be donated to St. John of Damascus Church.

Join Us October 2 – 5, 2025

To Celebrate a New Icon of Creation
at Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU):

The Transfiguration of Creation



The 4-day celebration in San Diego is free to attend and will feature:

- Lectures by renowned Orthodox Christian theologians and scholars, including the iconographer Aidan Hart
- Icon exhibit curated by icon collector Subdeacon Michael Roeder
- Blessing the new icon at Saint Gregory of Nyssa Greek Orthodox Church in El Cajon on Sunday, October 5th, 2025
- Fine art prints of the new icon for sale
- For more information and to RSVP, scan QR code or visit <https://sites.google.com/pointloma.edu/creationicon>





LOOKING AHEAD

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

Sunday — Sept 7

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

Monday — Sept 8

Nativity of the Theotokos

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

Tuesday — Sept 9

7:00pm — Catechism Course

Wednesday — Sept 10

10:30am — Father's Café

7:00pm — Adult Ed: Jesus & the Temple

Saturday — Sept 13

6:00pm — Vigil for Exaltation of the Cross

Sunday — Sept 14 Exaltation of the Cross

Fast Day

8:30am — Vigi3rd & 6th Hours

9:00am — Divine Liturgy

Tuesday — Sept 16

11:30am — Diamond Circle Lunch at Hamburger Factory, Poway

7:00pm — Catechism Course

For more dates & links please visit our website: www.stjohnofdamascus.org/calendar

Many Years!

Name Day

Ana Griebing, Anna Hubler, Anna Rahal, Anne Cooper, Annie Keeling, Kim (Anna) Klavzar,
Patricia (Anna) Pelachik 9/9

Birthday

Edward Lump, Presbyter Mary Velonis	9/9
David Martot	9/11
Caitlin (Juliana) Gannon	9/12

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, Rev. John Robinson, Retired &
Pdn. George Shumaik

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