

September 21, 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

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE
CROSS

LEAVETAKING OF THE EXALTATION OF THE
CROSS



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...

When you make the sign of the cross on
the forehead, arm yourself with a saintly
boldness, and reinstall your soul in its old
liberty; for you are not ignorant that the
cross is a prize beyond all price. Consider
what is the price given for your ransom,
and you will never more be slave to any
man on earth. This reward and ransom is
the cross.

—St. John Chrysostom



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

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



Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship,
O Master,
and Your holy Resurrection we glorify!

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.



“Crafty Creators” 1st Sunday of the Month

St John’s “Craft Creators” is a 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 next meeting will be October 5.

Along with “the bring your own” we will also have a small “class/presentation” on watercolors. Materials will be provided.

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!



Parish Family Photo “Directory”

Our bulletin board “Parish Family Directory” is in process!

Elena Stafford will be approaching people to have their pictures taken to be posted on the blue bulletin board in the church hall. The photos will also have the names of the people in them so that folks have a resource to put names to the faces” as our community continues to grow.

If you have a photo you would rather have used, please speak to Elena about sending it to her so we can have it printed in the format we will be using.



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 captured hell, not being tempted by it.
You came to the Virgin, granting life.
O Lord, Who rose from the dead,//
glory to You.

Cross—Tone 1

O Lord, save Your people,
and bless Your inheritance!
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians
over their adversaries;
and by virtue of Your Cross,//
preserve Your habitation!

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.

Cross—Tone 4

As You were voluntarily raised upon the Cross
for our sake,
grant mercy to those who are called by Your
Name, O Christ God;
make all Orthodox Christians glad by Your
power,
granting them victories over their adversaries//
by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Your
weapon of peace!

PROKEIMENA

Tone 6 - (Resurrection) 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 7 (Feast) -- Extol the Lord our God: / worship at His footstool for He is holy! (Ps. 98:5)

ALLELUIA

Tone 6 — 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)

Tone 1 - V. Remember Your congregation, which You have gotten of old! (Ps. 73:2)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Epistle — Galatians 2: 16-20

¹⁶ yet knowing that no one is justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, we believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. ¹⁷ But if, even though we desired to be justified in Christ, we were found to be sinners, does that mean that Christ is a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸ Indeed, if I build up again those things which I [once] destroyed, I show that I am breaking the law. ¹⁹ For I, through the law, died to the law, so that I might live to God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. I now live this life in the flesh, but I live [it] by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and who gave himself up for me.

Epistle — 2 Corinthians 4: 6-15

⁶ seeing that it is God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, and he has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷ However, we have this treasure in vessels of clay, so that the amazing power may be from God and not from ourselves. ⁸ We are pressed on every side, yet [we are] not crushed! We are perplexed, but not to [the point of] despair. ⁹ We are persecuted yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed; ¹⁰ and we always carry in our bodies the death of the Lord Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹ Indeed, we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be revealed in our mortal flesh. ¹² And so, death is at work in us, but life in you. ¹³ Still, we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed, and therefore I spoke." We believe, and therefore we also speak; ¹⁴ knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus, and bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵ All these things are for your benefit, so that as grace is extended to many, this may also cause thanksgiving to be multiplied to the glory of God.

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Gospel — Mark 8: 34-9:1

³⁴ Jesus called the multitude to himself with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wants to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ³⁵ Indeed, whoever wants to save his life will lose it; and whoever will lose his life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News will save it. ³⁶ What will it profit if someone gains the whole world and loses his life? ³⁷ Or what will someone give in exchange for his life? ³⁸ Whoever will be ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man also will be ashamed of when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." ⁹ Jesus said to them, "Amen, I tell you that there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Kingdom of God come with power."



Epistle — Matthew 22: 35-46

³⁵ One of them, a lawyer, then asked him a question in order to test him. ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the law?" ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹ The second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ The entire law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." ⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were assembled, Jesus asked them a question, ⁴² saying, "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They answered, "[He is the son] of David." ⁴³ Jesus said to them, "How, then, does David, in the Spirit, call him 'Lord,' saying: ⁴⁴ 'The Lord said to my Lord, sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet?' ⁴⁵ If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" ⁴⁶ No one was able to answer him a word, and from that day on, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

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 21

After Divine Liturgy — Auxiliary Meeting

Tuesday — Sept 23

7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting

7:00pm — Catechism Course (CANCELLED)

Wednesday — Sept 24

10:30am — Father's Café

7:00pm — Adult Ed: Jesus & the Temple

Saturday — Sept 27

4:00pm — Evening with an Expert (see flyer in bulletin)

Tuesday — Sept 30

7:00pm — Catechism Course

Wednesday — Oct 1

10:30am — Father's Café

7:00pm — Adult Ed: Jesus & the Temple

Saturday — Oct 4

4:30pm — Choir Rehearsal

Sunday — Oct 5

After Divine Liturgy — Church School BBQ at Community Center

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

Many Years!

Name Day

Peter Anderson, Tekle Griebing	9/24
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Birthday

Nina Stone, Makayla Kedroff Ward	9/26
Manny Castañeda	9/27

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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