

November 16, 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

**23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - TONE 6
(8TH OF LUKE)**

APOSTLE & EVANGELIST MATTHEW

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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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A Word...

Do not regard the feelings of a person who
speaks to you about his neighbor
disparagingly, but rather say to him:
"Stop, brother! I fall into graver sins every
day, so how can I criticize him?" In this
way you will achieve two things; you will
heal yourself and your neighbor with one
plaster. This is one of the shortest ways to
the forgiveness of sins; I mean, not to
judge. "Judge not, and ye shall not be
judged."

St. John Climacus

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**Include Something in the Bulletin or
Receive our Weekly Parish E-mails**
E-mail info@stjohnofdamascus.org

THE GOOD SAMARITAN



ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS ORTHODOX CHURCH + THE DIOCESE OF THE WEST + THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

Parish Life

Next Adult Ed Classes Orthodox XCity 101 & Old Testament

Our next set of Adult Education classes will begin the week of Nov 17 in person and via Zoom.

- Mondays at 7pm — Orthodox Christianity 101
- Wednesdays at 7pm — The Prophets Proclaimed You—OT Testament Prophecies of the Incarnation

For the Zoom link see the online calendar on our website: www.stjohnofdamascus.org/calendar



Monthly Men's Breakfast Saturday Dec 13

Our next Men's Breakfast will be Saturday Dec 13 from 8-10am.

The morning begins with 30 minutes of a service project around the church followed by breakfast and then a spiritual discussion facilitated by Fr John Robinson.

See Thomas Budde for information.



Coming Soon! Mark Your Calendars Upcoming Events in the Next Few Months

Sunday December 21 — **Youth Christmas Play**

Sunday January 25—5pm: **Kick-off Event/Dinner for FOCUS** (Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United in Service) in San Diego.

February 8 — **Annual Parish Meeting**

February 14-15 — **Archpastoral Visit of His Grace Bishop Vasily** & Young Adult Summit Participants

February 23 — **Beginning of Great Lent**

Auxiliary Bake Sale Sat Nov 22—11am-2pm

Our annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale is coming up in a couple weeks!

Spread the word and get your orders in ASAP.

The "menu" of items available is on the bulletin board in the church hall.



Preparation for our Thanksgiving Bake Sale

Our St John's Auxiliary will be assembling orders on Friday after Divine Liturgy.

Please come and help!



Thriving Parishes Project Ministry Module Nurturing a Spirit of Service as a Parish Sunday Nov 16

Next Sunday we will hold our first ministry module in connection with the Thriving Parishes Project our parish is part of.

The topic will be on Nurturing a Spirit of Service as a Parish.

There will be a 20 min video followed by a short discussion.

Food Collection

Our parish collects food for the San Diego Food Bank as well as for St Innocent's Orphanage in Tijuana Mexico.

Please remember the many people who struggle with food security in our area. If we all picked up one extra item at the grocery store each time we went we would be able to fill our bins every month.

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

Holy Apostle Matthew — Tone 3

With zeal, you followed Christ the Master,
Who, in His goodness, appeared on earth to
mankind.
Summoning you from the customs house,
He revealed you as a chosen apostle:
the proclaimer to the whole world.
Therefore, divinely eloquent Matthew,
we honor your precious memory.//
Entreat merciful God that He may grant our
souls remission of transgressions!

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.

Holy Apostle Matthew — Tone 4

Casting aside the bonds of the customs house
for the yoke of justice,
You were revealed as an excellent merchant,
rich in wisdom from on high.
You proclaimed the word of truth
and roused the souls of the slothful//
by writing of the hour of Judgment.

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,
For you always protect those who honor you!

Our Parish Feast is Coming Up!
St John of Damascus
Dec 4, 2025

Our parish alter feast is approaching.

Services will be:

Dec 3 6pm — Great Vespers & Litya

Dec 4 8:30am — 3rd Hour & Festal Divine Liturgy

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Epistle — Ephesians 2:4-10

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

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

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

Epistle — 1 Cor 4:9-16

⁹ For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. ¹⁰ We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored!

¹¹ To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. ¹² And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; ¹³ being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now.

¹⁴ I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. ¹⁵ For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. ¹⁶ Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

PROKEIMENON

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 8 (St. Matthew) -- Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, / and their words to the ends of the universe. (Ps. 18:4)

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. The heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; and Your truth in the congregation of the saints. (Ps. 88:5)

Today's Worship — Scripture Readings

Gospel — Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" ²⁷ 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.'" ²⁸ And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." ²⁹ But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ 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. ³¹ Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. ³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ 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. ³⁵ 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.' ³⁶ So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" ³⁷ And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Gospel — Matt 9:9-13

⁹ As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. ¹⁰ Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, that behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples. ¹¹ And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² When Jesus heard that, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

**SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS
ORTHODOX CHURCH
AUXILIARY**

ETHNIC FOODS and BAKE SALE

Saturday November 22, 2025

12:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

16903 Espola Road, Poway, CA 92064

Pierogies

Potato/Cheese • Sauerkraut • Sweet Cabbage
Prune • Cherry • Farmers Cheese @ \$10.00 per dozen
Sausage & Cheese • The Polish • Fiesta • Cheeseburger
Thanksgiving • Loaded Baked Potato @ \$12.00 per dozen

Stuffed Cabbage Rolls - \$20.00 per dozen

Georgian Cheese Bread - \$16.00 ea.

Baklava - \$20.00 per dozen **Spanakopita** - \$20.00 per dozen

Quiche - Sausage & Cheese, Broccoli & Bacon,
Spinach & Bacon - \$15.00 ea.

Walnut, Poppy Seed, and Apricot Rolls - \$25.00 ea.

Tea Breads (Pumpkin, Banana Nut) - \$10.00 ea.

Mini Chocolate Cheesecakes - \$3.00 ea.

Pies: Pumpkin \$15.00 ea. **Pecan** - \$18.00 ea.

Apple Strudel - \$10.00 ea.

**Large Cookies: Chocolate Chip w/Nuts, Peanut Butter,
Oatmeal Raisin** - \$3.00 ea.

Order in Advance / Pick-Up in our Church Hall

TO ORDER, PHONE

Tanya: 619-818-2311 or Mike: 858-344-2981

or email: auxiliary@stjohnofdamascus.org

Save the Date! Our Christmas Bake Sale is Saturday, December 20th

SAVE THE DATE

YOUNG ADULT SUMMIT

FEBRUARY 13-15, 2026
SAN DIEGO, CA



Join us for a weekend of
connection, prayer, and service.



For more details, plan to attend one of our Zoom Information Sessions
on Tuesday, November 4 or Saturday, November 8. Links below!

I am pleased to share that our Diocese is convening an inaugural summit for young adults aged 18-30 in San Diego, CA from February 13 to 15, 2026.

At this point you may already be asking yourself a few questions, such as:

Why should I go?

This is an opportunity to create community with other young adults of our Diocese and to deepen our Orthodox Christian spiritual practices.

Who will be there?

Beyond other serious, committed Orthodox young adults such as yourself, our Hierarch, Bishop Vasily, our Chancellor, Fr. Kirill Sokolov, other diocesan leaders, and staff from the [CrossRoad Institute](#) will be in residence at the summit.

What are we going to be doing at this Summit? What is the cost to attend?

Through group discussion and brief talks led by special guests, we will address the Christian vocation and how to better live out our faith as young adults in an isolating world. We will put this into practice by partaking in fellowship with each other (beach outing, weather permitting!), engaging in a service project with a local charitable organization, and praying together throughout the weekend.

*Aside from making travel arrangements to San Diego and hotel fees, the Diocese is asking for a small **\$100 registration fee** to help offset the cost of meals.*



LOOKING AHEAD

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

Sunday — Nov 16

Fellowship Meal—Ministry Module: Service

Monday — Nov 17

7:00pm—Orthodox Christianity 101

Tuesday — Nov 18

7:00pm — Parish Council Meeting

7:00pm — Catechism Class

Wednesday — Nov 19

7pm — Adult Ed: The Prophets Proclaimed You

Thursday — Nov 20

6:00pm—Great Vespers & Litya for the Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple

Friday — Nov 21

8:30—3rd Hour & Festal Divine Liturgy

Following Liturgy—Assembling of Orders for Bake Sale

Saturday — Nov 22

11am-2pm — Thanksgiving Bake Sale

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

Many Years!

Name Day

Matthew Sladack 11/16

Diane Marie Worth 11/21

Birthday

Huyen Do (Sarah) Jollie, Elizabeth Ann Lorelli, Natalya Yershova 11/17

Sasha Sheeler 11/18

Steve Zmina, Sr. 11/20

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

ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS CHURCH + THE DIOCESE OF THE WEST + THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA