

St. John of the Desert Melkite Catholic Church

3718 E. Greenway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85032
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Text the word "DESERT" to 84576 to sign up for Parish Updates
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Very Rev. Father Peter Boutros | Pastor | FrPeter@stjohnofthedesert.com
Rev. Father Zyad Abyad | Associate Pastor | FrZyad@stjohnofthedesert.com
Rev. Deacon Marion Rimmer | marionmrimmer@mail.com
Kh. Simone Boutros | khsimone@stjohnofthedesert.com
Kh. Jocelyn Abyad | khjocelyn@stjohnofthedesert.com

JULY 13, 2025
SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX
ECUMENICAL COUNCILS



PLEASE JOIN US AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY
FOR SOCIAL HOUR & MEN'S GROUP

LITURGY INTENTIONS

For the Health & Salvation of Ed and Jerriann Sivak by Paul and Grace Lasota
For the Health & Salvation of Ann Perko by Jim & Roxanne Ferlmann
For the Repose of the Soul of Patricia Cummings

To request a Divine Liturgy intention, go to our website: www.stjohnofthedesert.com
Requests must be submitted by Thursday to be included in the Sunday bulletin.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 19 **4:00pm Confessions**
 5:00pm Great Vespers
Sunday, July 20 **10:20am Divine Liturgy** followed by Social Hour and Ladies' Guild
 Commemorating: Drew Ferlmann

Readings
of the Day

EPISTLE: TITUS 3:8-15
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:14-19
THE EPISTLE AND GOSPEL WILL BE READ IN ENGLISH AND REPEATED IN ARABIC



PRAYER REQUESTS

May our prayers bring healing and hope to those in our community who are sick, especially: Fadia Loegering, Katharina Rimmer, Dcn. Marion Rimmer, Marilyn Baiad, Nicholas Baiad, Paul Davis, Leia Dingott, Betsy McClelland, Sarah Fisher, Grace Lasota, Izeyah Sayegh, Fr. Peter Boutros, Kh. Simone Boutros, Khalil Haker, Kathy Richards, Zaina Escobedo, Dennis Huling, & Joan Daly

(Names remain on the prayer list for six weeks, please call the parish office to add any names)

"THE FAITH OF ALL IN THE CHURCH OF GOD HATH BEEN GLORIFIED
BY MEN, WHICH WERE LUMINARIES IN THE WORLD, CLEAVING TO
THE WORD OF LIFE, SO THAT IT BE OBSERVED FIRMLY, AND THAT
IT DWELL UNSHAKABLY UNTIL THE END OF THE AGES, CONJOINTLY
WITH THEIR GOD-BESTOWN WRITINGS AND DOGMAS."

Council of Trullo

UPCOMING EVENTS & FINANCIAL UPDATES

Ladies Guild: Aug. 17, 2025 Following Liturgy
 Men's Group: Aug. 10, 2025 Following Liturgy
 Family Catechesis: August 3, 2025 @ 9:30 am
 Forerunner Program: July 27, 2025 @12:30 pm
 Byzikids & ByziTeens: Aug. 8, 2025 @ 9:00 am
 Women at the Well: Aug. 15, 2025 @ 9:30 am
 Crafty Ladies: August 5, 2025 @ 10:30 am

Attendance: 94
 Collection of July 6, 2025
 Tithe: \$841.00 * Stole Offering \$0.00
 Coffee Collection: \$30.00 * Candles: \$0.00
 Flowers \$0.00 * Bulletin Ad: \$0.00
 Building Fund: \$40.00 * Other: \$7.00
 Online Giving: \$1,362.04
Income Needed Weekly: \$1,853.00

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

To attain eternal life, feed upon the Bread of Life... In the first part of his Bread of Life Discourse, Jesus emphasizes that the first step we must take is coming to him and believing in him. Everything else follows from there.

From Holy Scripture... Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me; and him who comes to me I will not cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me; and this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up at the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that every one who sees the Son and believes in him should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. (John 6:35 40)

In God's presence, consider... Jesus wants me to draw near to him in faith. What aspects of my life do not conform with that? Do I just go through the motions of being a follower of Christ?

Closing prayer... Lord, I believe that you are the true bread that came down from heaven for my salvation. Feed me with the Holy Eucharist the heavenly manna of your truth.

(Madrid, A Year with the Bible: Scriptural Wisdom for Daily Living.)

TITHE

Here

SCAN BELOW OR LEAVE
 YOUR DONATION IN THE
 BASKET IN THE NARTHEX.



5X MATCH

PLEASE HELP OUR CHURCH TO EXPAND BY DONATING TO OUR
 BUILDING FUND-OUR MATCHING DONATION IS STILL AVAILABLE!



Parish Groups

Ladies Guild (Leader: Veronica Quednau, email v.e.quednau1@gmail.com)

This group plans, reviews and coordinates our celebrations and social activities, including fundraising for the maintenance and sustenance of the Body of Christ. They promote hospitality and respond to the requests of the Parish.

Men's Group (Leader: John Nasser, email johnknasser@gmail.com)

This group advises the Pastor on pastoral, spiritual, financial and maintenance matters.

Family Catechesis & Forerunner Program (Leaders: All Clergy and Educators)

We are called to guide our children on the path towards Christ. On the first and last Sunday of each month, following the Divine Liturgy, both children and parents receive religious instruction.

Byzikids & ByziTeens Home Educators Group (Leader: Kh. Jocelyn, email jabyad@gmail.com)

This is an Eastern Christian homeschool Co-Op which seeks to provide support and encouragement to families as they live out their faith. They support each other, pray, and share crafts and activities that enrich their homeschool education.

Women at the Well (Leader: Kh. Jocelyn, email jabyad@gmail.com)

Women of all ages gather to discuss a spiritual reflection and support each other.

Crafty Ladies (Leader: Kh. Simone, email simone@typicon.com)

The Crafty Ladies work together to create beautiful blankets which are donated to various organizations throughout the state.

They conclude their gathering by going out together for lunch.

Society of Publicans (Leader: Deacon Marion, email marionmrimmer@mail.com)

This is a prayer group that dedicates themselves to pray for the intentions of our Parish, the intentions of our Diocese, and our sister Churches in the United States. A weekly email is sent to the members of this group.

**STAY UP
TO DATE**

**TEXT THE WORD "DESERT" TO 84576
OR SCAN THE QR CODE!**



Parish Guidelines

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING - Members registered at St. John of the Desert and attend the Divine Liturgy at least three weekends each month, participate in the community life of the parish and contribute generously of their time, talent and treasure. **Members over eighteen years of age must be registered separately from their families.**

MYSTERIES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (Baptism, Chrismation, Eucharist) - Expectant parents should contact the pastor prior to the birth of the child. The priest can come to pray over the baby and mother in the days after birth. After forty days, Churching Prayers welcome the baby for the first time and the mother back to Church. To request the Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism), parents must be members in good standing and attend baptism preparation with the Godparents. At least one Godparent must be a member in good standing of a Melkite Church. The other Godparent may be a Catholic or Orthodox Christian in good standing.

MYSTERY OF HOLY CROWNING - Couples who wish to be married at St. John of the Desert must be members in good standing. They should contact the pastor prior to setting the date or making any other arrangements and at least six months prior to the desired date. They will need to complete our marriage preparation program. The Byzantine wedding ceremony begins in the narthex of the Church and does not feature the father walking the daughter down the main aisle. The couple approaches the Holy Mystery together as equals. There are no vows exchanged in the Byzantine Crowning ceremony.

MYSTERY OF HOLY CONFESSION - You may go to confession before or after most services in the Church. To make an appointment for confession, please call the office.

MYSTERY OF HOLY ANOINTING - Upon the request of the ill person or his/her immediate family only.

FUNERALS - When someone passes away in your family, please contact the Pastor prior to making any arrangements with the Funeral Home. There are no eulogies given in Church. Family and friends may deliver eulogies at the mercy meal.

There is no charge for the celebration of the Holy Mysteries, however, an offering of thanksgiving is customary. For members in good standing, we suggest a donation of \$300 for Baptism, \$600 for Wedding, \$600 for Funeral, \$75 for Memorial, and \$10 for Remembrance. The use of the Davis Hall for members in good standing is \$250 and \$100 for cleaning (an extra \$100 for Insurance may be required, check with the Pastor)



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