St. John of the Desert Melkite Catholic Church

3718 E. Greenway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85032
Office Phone: 602-787-4787 | Emergency Calls: 602-284-0040 or 623-297-2958
Text the word "DESERT" to 84576 to sign up for Parish Updates
Follow us on Facebook or Instagram @stjohnofthedesert



Very Rev. Father Peter Boutros | Pastor | FrPeter@Typicon.com Rev. Father Zyad Abyad | Associate Pastor | FrZyad@icloud.com Rev. Deacon Marion Rimmer | marionmrimmer@mail.com

Kh. Simone Boutros | simone@Typicon.com

Kh. Jocelyn Abyad | jabyad@gmail.com

Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen!



On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!

. Luke 12:1-6

MAY 4, 2025 SUNDAY OF OINTMENT-BEARING WOMEN



PLEASE JOIN US AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY FOR SOCIAL HOUR & FAMILY CATECHESIS

atural and Mary 10 A. 00 and Confessions

Saturday, May 10 4:00pm Confessions

5:00pm Vespers

Sunday, May 11 10:20am Divine Liturgy followed by Social Hour & Men's Group

Commemorating: Private intentions, +Henne & Maysoon, +John Litschauer

Readings of the Day EPISTLE: ACTS 6:1-7 GOSPEL: MARK 15:43-47; 16:1-8

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: Katharina Rimmer, Dcn. Marion Rimmer, Fadia Loegering, Kathy Slonka, Kh. Simone Boutros, Khalil Haker, Marilyn Baiad, Nicholas Baiad, Paul Davis, Maddie Carey, Wendell & Mary McGehee, Nadia Hattar, The Luke Family, Leia Dingott, Betsy McClelland, Sarah Fisher & Grace Lasota

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

UPCOMING EVENTS & FINANCIAL UPDATES

Ladies Guild: May 18, 2025 Following Liturgy Men's Group: June 8, 2025 Following Liturgy Family Catechesis: June 1, 2025 @ 9:30 am Forerunner Program: May 25, 2025 @12:30 pm Byzikids & ByziTeens: Aug. 1, 2025 @ 9:00 am Women at the Well: May 16, 2025 @ 9:30 am Crafty Ladies: June 3, 2025 @ 10:30 am Attendance: 108
Collection of April 27, 2025
Tithe: \$882.00 * Stole Offering \$0.00
Coffee Collection: \$25.00 * Candles: \$580.00
Flowers \$0.00 * Bulletin Ad: \$0.00
Building Fund: \$0.00 * Other: \$40.00
Online Giving: \$992.34

Income Needed Weekly: \$1,853.00

LITURGY INTENTIONS

For the Health & Salvation of Jim Ferlmann on the occasion of his birthday by Roxanne and James Ferlmann

For the Health & Salvation of Florence Joy Marco on the occasion of her baptism

For the Health & Salvation of Kellen Thomas

For the Health & Salvation of Tabitha Dingott

Private intentions by Nadia Hattar

For the Repose of the Soul of Henne & Maysoon by Majed & Ragheda Ziadeh

For the Repose of the Soul of Irene Virginia McCarthy

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.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

Courage and Faith of the Ointment-Bearing Women... Today, we commemorate the Ointment-Bearing Women, who, driven by profound love and courage, approached the tomb of Jesus to anoint His body. In the dim light of dawn, their devotion led them to the astonishing truth of His resurrection. Their faithfulness echoes the apostles' service, where the early Church responded to the needs of the community with wisdom and dedication. These examples call us to trust in God's transformative power and to serve His people with selfless devotion, even in the face of doubt or difficulty.

From Holy Scripture... "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here." (Mark 16:6)

In God's presence, consider... Do I approach life's challenges with the courage and love exemplified by the Ointment-Bearing Women? How can I serve others faithfully, trusting in the risen Lord to guide my actions? When confronted with the mystery of the resurrection, do I allow my heart to embrace the joy and hope of Christ's victory over death? In what ways can I bear witness to His resurrection in my daily life?

Closing prayer... O Lord, You revealed Your glory to the faithful women at the tomb, transforming their sorrow into joy. Grant us their courage, love, and steadfast faith that we may serve You with unwavering commitment. Strengthen us to proclaim Your resurrection with boldness and gratitude, crying out, "The Lord, our life, is risen!"



Offer a Divine Liturgy for a friend or family member!



- 1. Visit www.stjohnofthedesert.com
- 2. Select "Request a Divine Liturgy Intention"
- 3. Complete the form and submit your stipend!
- 4. We will send a personalized card letting them know that we're praying for them!



TITHE

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



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

ST. JOHN OF THE DESERT HAS

EXCITING NEWS!

Loadina..

We are expanding our church building! Please help support the construction and be part of creating a beautiful home for our families for years to come!

Donate here:





Baby Shower

IN HONOR OF THE

Theotokos

Sunday, May 18th during Social Hour

BRING IN NEW ITEMS FOR ANY BABY OR EXPECTING MOTHER AS A GIFT TO MOTHER MARY. SUGGESTED ITEMS INCLUDE MATERNITY CLOTHES, DIAPERS, WIPES, BOTTLES, FORMULA AND BABY CLOTHES.

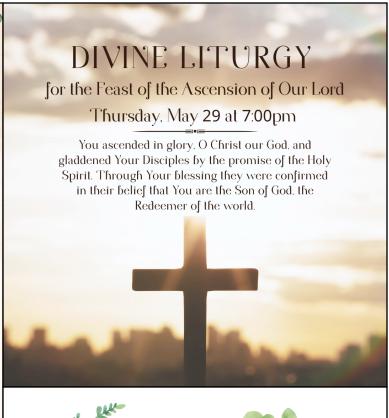
ALL DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT
AID TO WOMEN PREGNANCY CENTER

FLOCKNOTE

Keep updated on the latest parish news & events



Scan to register & join groups







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 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.



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)







Frank Isaac Owner • IsaacJewelers.com • (480) 941-9090 15044 N Scottsdale Rd #130, Scottsdale, AZ 85254 • Kierland Commons



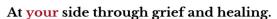
PHOENIX PRINT SHOP

Solving Your Print Marketing Needs

602-702-3480

OuttaPhx@gmail.com

www.phoenixprintshop.com 📤 420 E Bell Rd Suite 7, Phoenix, AZ 85022



Call to schedule with one of our Pre-Planning Counselors.

Desert Hills Mortuary & Cemetery 6500 E. Bell Rd Scottsdale 85254 480.991.5800

MANSEN MORTUARIES & CEMETERY



Kitchen on the Street is a locally founded community partner purposing to eliminate childhood hunger in Arizona.

Kitchen on the Street stands with children in need at the intersection of nutrition and academic excellence.

Earning 501c3 status in 2007; Tax Id 20-5723799, Kitchen on the Street is a qualifying charity for the "Dollar-for-Dollar Tax Credit" through the state of Arizona. (ARS 43-1088)

Email: info@kitchenonthestreet.net

WHITNEY & MURPHY

Funeral Home Since 1903

Since 1903

ARCADIA 4800 E. Indian School Rd. Phoenix, Arizona 85018 Phone 602.840.5600 Ed Murphy . Shawn Murphy . Al Asta



 $623.295.9301 \mid www.wecarryyoustill.org \mid wecarryyoustill@gmail.com$



5110 N. 40TH STREET SUITE 220 :: PHOENIX, AZ 85018 :: (602) 275-1000

TILE GRAPHIX, LLC

Work done old school. Better than Angie's List.

Showers, Kitchens, Flooring & Fire Places
Contact: Kurt Rimmer 480-212-2532 or kurt@tilegraphixllc.com



This space is available!

Contact jabyad@gmail.com or call 480-234-9974

to place an ad and support your church!

AZ FINE JEWELRY & REPAIR



JEWELRY REPAIR • WATCH BATTERIES • CUSTOM PIECES
 APPRAISALS • WE BUY & SELL GOLD

OWNERS-LISA & SAAD MAKDESI (& TOBI)

(480) 264-8619 • 13843 N TATUM BLVD. SUITE 35 PHOENIX, AZ 85032

MENTION THIS AD FOR A FREE JEWELRY CLEANING & INSPECTION!



BULLETIN ADS SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESS & SUPPORT OUR CHURCH

CONTACT KH. JOCELYN TO PLACE AN AD: JABYAD@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 480-234-9974

