

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

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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 | simone@Typicon.com

Kh. Jocelyn Abyad | jabyad@gmail.com



Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen!

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

John 20:10-20

MAY 18, 2025
SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN



PLEASE JOIN US AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY
FOR SOCIAL HOUR & LADIES' GUILD

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 25

10:20am Divine Liturgy followed by Social Hour & Forerunner Program

Commemorating: Private intentions, +Presbytera Amanda Lowe, +Ghassan Ishak, +Henne & Maysoon

Readings
of the Day

EPISTLE: ACTS 11:19-30

GOSPEL: JOHN 4:5-42

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, Nadia Hattar, Katharina Rimmer, Dcn. Marion Rimmer, Marilyn Baiad, Nicholas Baiad, Paul Davis, Leia Dingott, Betsy McClelland, Sarah Fisher, Grace Lasota, Izeyah Sayegh, Kathy Slonka, Kh. Simone Boutros, Khalil Haker, The Luke Family & Kathy Richard

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



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UPCOMING EVENTS & FINANCIAL UPDATES

Ladies Guild: June 15, 2025 Following Liturgy
Men's Group: June 8, 2025 Following Liturgy
Family Catechesis: June 1, 2025 @ 9:30 am
Forerunner Program: June 29, 2025 @12:30 pm
Byzikids & ByziTeens: Aug. 1, 2025 @ 9:00 am
Women at the Well: June 20, 2025 @ 9:30 am
Crafty Ladies: June 3, 2025 @ 10:30 am

Attendance: 131
Collection of May 11, 2025
Tithe: \$1,223.13 * Stole Offering \$36.00
Coffee Collection: \$35.00 * Candles: \$0.00
Flowers \$0.00 * Bulletin Ad: \$0.00
Building Fund: \$0.00 * Other: \$50.00
Online Giving: \$1,628.14

Income Needed Weekly: \$1,853.00

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Private intentions by Nadia Hattar

For the Health & Salvation of Father Alexei Woltornist

For the Repose of the Soul of Augustine Pax Gura by Jim & Roxanne Ferlmann

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

For the Repose of the Soul of Ghassan Ishak by Rima Ishak

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

Christ sends his disciples forth as sheep among wolves...

When the time comes, be brave and rely on the Lord to give you the words you are to say.

From Holy Scripture... "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of men; for they will deliver you up to councils, and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear testimony before them and the Gentiles. When they deliver you up, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. (Matthew 10:16-20)

In God's presence, consider... What am I worried about? Jesus promised that the spirit of my Father in heaven will be within me and will show me what I am to say.

Closing prayer... Jesus, I trust in you! Left to myself, I would be adrift in a sea of uncertainty and distress when the storms of life whip up around me. But I know that you are in the boat with me, and I know that you will see me safely through whatever tempest may come.

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

*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!

TODAY!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

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



TITHE *Here*

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



THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!

DIVINE LITURGY

for the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord

Thursday, May 29 at 7:00pm

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Your Disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through Your blessing they were confirmed in their belief that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.



PENTECOST

Sunday June 28, 2025

Wear green to the
Divine Liturgy to celebrate!

5X MATCH

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



Church Expansion

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.

**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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