

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 6, 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

For the Health & Salvation of Gilbert and Patricia Herbig (70th. Anniversary) by Ken and Ghada Herbig
For the Health & Salvation of Eden Estes
For the Repose of the Soul of Marcelle Habra by Mary Habra

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 12 **4:00pm Confessions**
 5:00pm Great Vespers
Sunday, July 13 **10:20am Divine Liturgy** followed by Social Hour and Men's Group
 Commemorating: Ed and Jerriann Sivak

Readings
of the Day

EPISTLE: ROMANS 6:18-23
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 8:5-13

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, The Luke Family, Kathy Richards, Zaina Escobedo & Dennis Huling

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

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FREEDOM CONSISTS NOT IN DOING
WHAT WE LIKE, BUT IN HAVING THE
RIGHT TO DO WHAT WE OUGHT.

— St. Pope John Paul II

UPCOMING EVENTS & FINANCIAL UPDATES

Ladies Guild: July 20, 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: July 18, 2025 @ 9:30 am
Crafty Ladies: August 5, 2025 @ 10:30 am

Attendance: 103
Collection of June 29, 2025
Tithe: \$712.00 * Stole Offering \$35.00
Coffee Collection: \$35.00 * Candles: \$270.00
Flowers \$0.00 * Bulletin Ad: \$0.00
Building Fund: \$8.00 * Other: \$35.00
Online Giving: \$625.96
Income Needed Weekly: \$1,853.00

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

Seek ways to build up others... The more you forget yourself and seek the good of others, the more like Christ you will become.

From Holy Scripture... If your brother is being injured by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died. So do not let what is good to you be spoken of as evil. For the kingdom of God does not mean food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit; he who thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. (Romans 14:15 19)

In God's presence, consider... Am I self-centered and self-serving? Do I make any serious effort to help those around me with their spiritual and corporal needs? Do I put myself and my wants first and everyone else second?

Closing prayer... Lord, you know how often my actions are motivated by selfishness. Teach me to be like you, with an open and generous heart, that I may serve you by serving my neighbor.

(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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