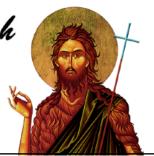
# St. John of the Desert Melkite Catholic Church

3718 E. Greenway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85032
Office Phone: 602-787-4787 | Emergency Calls: 602-284-0040 or 623-297-2958
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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



MAY 5, 2024 SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



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

### LITURGY INTENTIONS

For the Health & Salvation of Jim Ferlmann on His Birthday by Roxanne Ferlmann

For the Health & Salvation of Drew & Grainne Ferlmann on the occasion of their wedding by Jim & Roxanne Ferlmann

For the Health & Salvation of Lori Hagel by The Kinyon Family

For the Health & Salvation of Ana Maria Escobedo by Jose and Zaina Escobedo

For the Protection of the Shalhoub family

For the Repose of the Soul of Dunia Dababneh (Memorial) by Issa Dababneh & Family

For the Repose of the Soul of Jamil Adel Koussa by Dunia Bittar & Family

For the Repose of the Soul of Lamis Obeid, Dunia Hattar, Kamal Ishak, Bishara & Najeb Alhouch, and Jamileh Ibrahim by Rima & George Ishak

For the Repose of the Soul of Jamil Koussa, Father of Adel & Lara Koussa by John & Mary Nasser

For the Repose of the Soul of Jamil Koussa by Deema & Youssef Kardouh

For the Repose of the Soul of Jacques Rainis by Kh. Simone

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.

Readings of the Day EPISTLE: ACTS 16:16-34 GOSPEL: JOHN 9:1-38

THE EPISTLE AND GOSPEL WILL BE READ IN ENGLISH AND REPEATED IN ARABIC



## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 9 7:00pm Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension

Saturday, May 11 5:00pm Faith Foundations- Vespers followed by potluck & Bible Study

Sunday, May 12 10:20am Divine Liturgy followed by Social Hour & Men's Group

Commemorating: +Jamil Koussa and +Jacques Rainis

# UPCOMING EVENTS & FINANCIAL UPDATES

Ladies Guild: May 19, 2024 Following Liturgy
Men's Group: June 9, 2024 Following Liturgy
Family Catechesis: June 2, 2024 @ 9:30 am
Forerunner Program: May 26, 2024 @12:30 pm
Byzikids Co-Op: Aug. 2, 2024 @ 9:00 am
Women at the Well: May 17, 2024 @ 9:30 am
Crafty Ladies: June 5, 2024 @ 10:30 am
Faith Foundations: May 11, 2024 @ 5:00 pm

Attendance: 93
Collection of April 28, 2024
Tithe: \$1,420.00 \* Stole Offering \$75.00
Coffee Collection:\$15.00 \* Candles: \$245.00
Flowers \$0.00 \* Bulletin Ad: \$0.00
Building Fund: \$0.00 \* Other: \$60.00
Online Giving: \$766.47

Income Needed Weekly: \$1,853.00

## PRAYER REQUESTS

May our prayers bring healing and hope to those in our community who are sick, especially: Marilyn Baiad, Nicholas Baiad, Mary Popovich, Maureen Doyle, Patricia Cummings, Monk Basil, Fr. Peter, Dcn. Rob Estes, Fadia Loegering & Katharina Rimmer

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

### SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

**Let the peace of Christ reign in your heart...** Just as you will draw more flies with honey than with vinegar, you will draw innumerably more souls to God by kindness and compassion than by sternness and severity.

From Holy Scripture... Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Colossians 3:12-17)

**In God's presence, consider...**Am I kind, compassionate, and considerate of others, or am I harsh and judgmental? Am I quick to forgive, or do I hold grudges? Does Christ's teaching to "love one another" truly dwell in my heart, or is it just a slogan for me?

**Closing Prayer...**Lord, how unworthy I am of the countless kindnesses and blessings you have bestowed on me. Though I often neglect you and forget you, you never cease to foster my physical and spiritual well-being. Teach me to show love to others as you have shown it to me.

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



**Online Giving Available** 





VESPERS

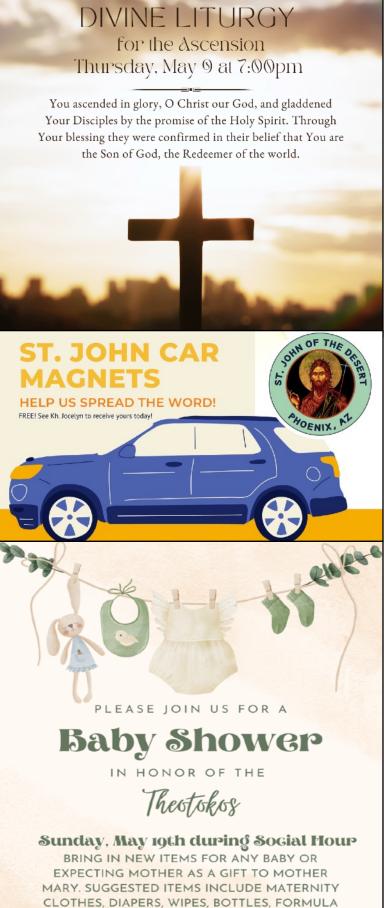
ST. JOHN OF THE DESERT

Begins at 5pm

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POTLUCK DINNER

BIBLE STUDY



AND BABY CLOTHES.

ALL DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT AID TO WOMEN PREGNANCY CENTER

## 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)



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