

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@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!



APRIL 21, 2024
SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC



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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

For the Health & Salvation of Daylin Kinyon by Anthony Kinyon
For the Health & Salvation of Ehab Khoury by Nijoud Khoury
For the Repose of the Soul of Joyce Rimmer by Qardahji Family
For the Repose of the Soul of John Thomas Davis by Evelyn Adele Davis
For the Repose of the Soul of Joyce Rimmer by Amal Gharfeh
For the Repose of the Soul of Nabil Gharfeh by Amal Gharfeh

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 9:32-42

GOSPEL: JOHN 5:1-15

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



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 27

9:00am All Parish Cleaning Day

Sunday, April 28

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

Commemorating: Koral Huxford, +Joyce Rimmer

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

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: May 19, 2024 Following Liturgy
Men's Group: May 12, 2024 Following Liturgy
Family Catechesis: May 5, 2024 @ 9:30 am
Forerunner Program: May 26, 2024 @12:30 pm
Byzikids Co-Op: May 3, 2024 @ 9:00 am
Women at the Well: May 17, 2024 @ 9:30 am
Crafty Ladies: May 1, 2024 @ 10:30 am
Faith Foundations: May 11, 2024 @ 5:00 pm

Attendance: 93
Collection of April 14, 2024
Tithe: \$812.00 * Stole Offering \$30.00
Coffee Collection:\$50.00 * Candles: \$0.00
Flowers \$0.00 * Bulletin Ad: \$0.00
Building Fund: \$0.00 * Other: \$1,640.00
Online Giving: \$162.67
Income Needed Weekly: \$1,853.00

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

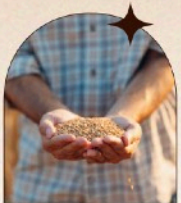
Remember the Ten Commandments of God...God gave us the Ten Commandments to help, not hinder us. As human history proves, obedience to these fundamental teachings brings happiness, peace, and fulfillment. Disobedience to them leads to anguish, strife, and chaos.

From Holy Scripture...And behold, one came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. (Matthew 19:16-22)

In God's Presence, Consider...The code of moral behavior enjoined on me by the Ten Commandments is simple but not easy. In fact, without God's grace, no one can perfectly fulfill these important duties. Do I call upon the Lord for his help as I seek to follow the Ten Commandments?

Closing Prayer...Lord, I repent of all the ways in which I have transgressed your commandments. Give me the strength of your grace to ever more faithfully live my life according to them.

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



Thank you to everyone who joined us at *Feed my Starving Children!* We helped pack 50,544 meals which will feed 139 children for a year! Glory to God!



Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. **Proverbs 3:9-10**

Online Giving Available



APRIL 27
9AM - 12 PM

**ALL PARISH
CLEANING
DAY**

SAVE
the
DATE

JULY
4-7 2024



Becoming Disciples. *The Emmaus Experience* *Making Disciples.*
(July 2013-15)

**53rd National
Melkite Convention**

hosted by
**OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION
MELKITE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL**

at the
MARRIOTT BOSTON QUINCY

PRAY : **LEARN** : **CELEBRATE**
Divine Services : Spiritual Workshops : Evening Socials

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Mention 53rd National Melkite Convention for discounted rate

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Today!*



melkiteconvention.flocknote.com/signup/148976

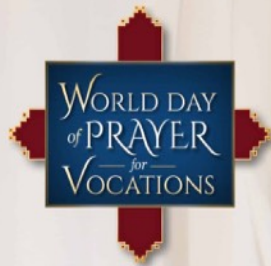
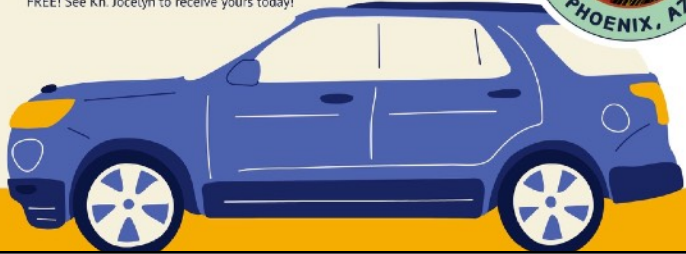
Forerunner Program
6th-12th grades



We invite all teens to join us on the last Sunday of each month following the Divine Liturgy to learn more about our Melkite faith. Middle school will meet with Kh. Jocelyn and High school will meet with Fr. Zyad.

**ST. JOHN CAR
MAGNETS**

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!
FREE! See Kh. Jocelyn to receive yours today!



**PRAY
FOR
MORE
PRIESTS**

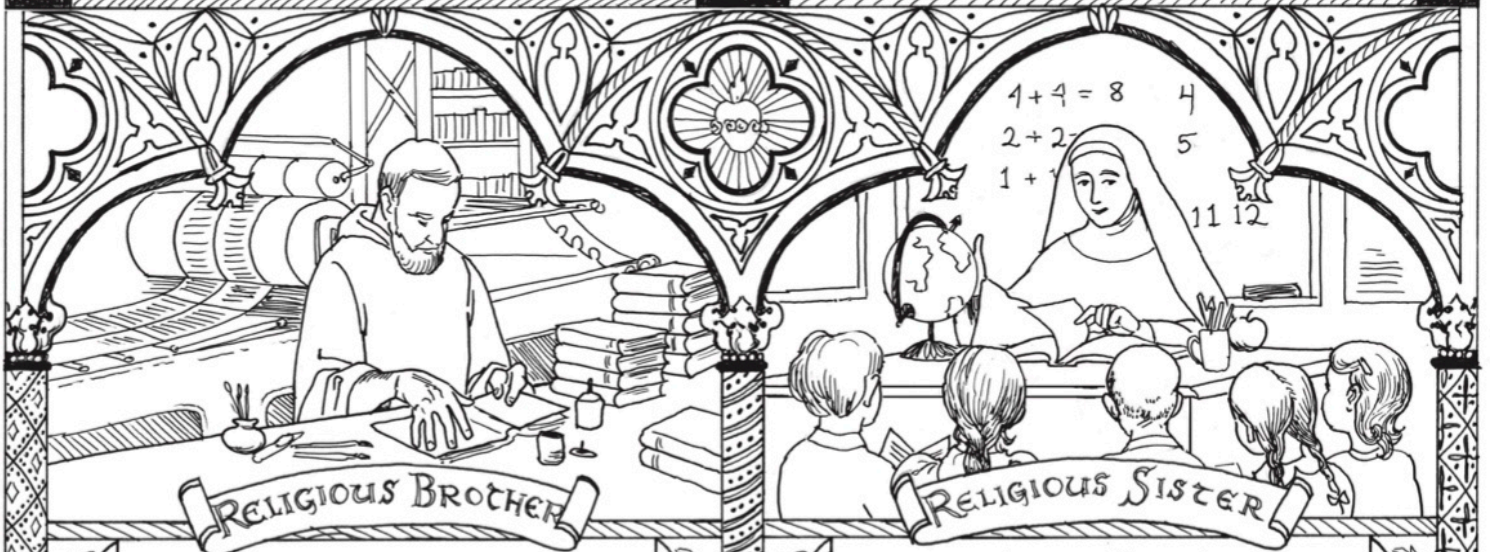
Pray for Vocations

Instructions: In the space below each picture, write the names of people in that vocation you will pray for. If you don't know any people in that vocation, write a short prayer such as, "For all sisters who work in hospitals" or "For all brothers who serve in missions." Then color the pictures.



Married people I will pray for:

Priests I will pray for:



Brothers I will pray for:

Sisters I will pray for:

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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