

St. John Of the Desert

Melkite Catholic Church
3718 E. Greenway Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85032
Phone: (602) 787-4787 Fax: (602) 795-4752
Emergency: (602) 284-0040
WWW.StJohnOfTheDesert.com

Rev. Peter Boutros - Pastor
FrPeter@StJohnOfTheDesert.com
Rev. Deacon Marion Rimmer (480)-275-4143
DcnMarion@StJohnOfTheDesert.com
Rev. Deacon Ziad Abyad (623) 297-2958
DcnZiad@stjohnofthedesert.com
Kh. Simone - Secretary@stjohnofthedesert.com
Jocelyn Abyad - Education@stjohnofthedesert.com
Jumana Ishak - LadiesGuild@stjohnofthedesert.com
Loretta Curfman (602) 363-GIFT / Gifts@stjohnofthedesert.com

On Saturday, January 27, 2018, from 2 to 4 pm, our church has volunteered once again at FMSC (Feed My Starving Children), an organization that packs food and sends it all over the world to feed children in need. This will be the third year we join this organization for half a day. To register, go to <http://volunteer.fmssc.org/Register/Group/JoinGroup.aspx?gid=1200600> or, you can just go to the FMSC website and type 1200600 to join in.

Please register, lets all participate in this great endeavor!

THE BISHOP'S APPEAL: Today Our Lord teaches us that the Publican's cry—O God be merciful to me a sinner!—is the model of humble, heartfelt, God-pleasing prayer that is always accepted by the Lord. "Whoever humbles himself shall be exalted!" Giving generously to support our Melkite Church is an important way of expressing our humility before God. Giving back to God for all that He has given us is a sign of our complete dependence upon Him. If you have not already done so, please make your humble, heartfelt offering to God in support of our Melkite Eparchy in the US, and give a generous gift to the Bishop's Appeal. If you have already given, please consider making an additional gift to your Church in imitation of God's the never-ending self-giving love to us. God bless your kind generosity! Bishop's Appeal donation slips are available in the narthex.

THE DANGERS OF PRIDE. *Whoever offers to God sacrifices of praise, the rational fruits of the lips that confess his name, should be very alert for the ambushes of the evil one. Satan lies in ambush ready to catch you by surprise at the very time of thanksgiving. He will get up and accuse you before God, just as he did with your fellow Pharisee in the temple. This time, he will not be puffing you up with pride over good works, as he did with the Pharisee, but he will be making you drunk with a different kind of pride. He makes you drunk on pride in the lovely and sweet sound of your own voice, the beauty of your chants that are sweeter than honey and the honey-comb. The result is that you do not realize that these belong to God, and not to yourself.* **MARTYRIUS: BOOK OF PERFECTION 78.**

We cannot be followers of Christ in isolation. We must be connected to THE community of Faith; The Church (the Ecclesia), the Body of Christ.

"For just as the body is one has many members, and all the members of the body, though many are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body-Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, and all were made to drink on one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many." 1Cor 12:12-14

"To convert somebody go and take them by the hand and guide them."

St. Thomas Aquinas

Do not forget the hungry!

(Collection Basket in the Narthex)
Please bring Peanut butter, Soups, Jelly, breakfast cereals (not the ones with lots of sugar, please), Canned meats and vegetables, disposable diapers & detergent, etc. Put your donations in the Narthex.

JANUARY 21, 2018 SUNDAY OF THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN

SECOND TIMOTHY 3:10-15

LUKE 18:10-14

TONE 8

Thursday, January 25	7:30 pm	Children Internet Education
Saturday, January 27	2:00 pm	Feed My Starving Children, Mesa, AZ
Sunday, January 28	9:00 am	Children Religious Education
	10:20 am	Doxology
	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy Followed by the Social Hour Ladies Guild Meeting

(+) Munther Hattar (+) Alan Herro, (+) Andres Bolinaga, Denise and Jim Hamra

Today's Intentions

- For the Health and Salvation of Denise and Jim Hamra by Paul & Shirley Davis
- For the Health and Salvation of Rt. Rev. Frank Milienewicz & Rev. Philaret Littlefield
- For the Repose of the Soul of Munther Hattar by Nahil A. Hattar, Uncle Sam, Atied, Emad, Joy, Khalil, Iraz, Izz Family
- For the Repose of the Soul of Eric Rimmer by Dcn. Marion & Joyce Rimmer
- For the Repose of the Soul of Alan Herro
- For the Repose of the Soul of Andres Luis Bolinaga

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: MAY OUR PRAYERS BRING HEALTH, HEALING AND HOPE TO THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO ARE SICK, ESPECIALLY:

Fadia Loegering, Dr. Farouk Habra, Marianne Krouchian, John Davis, Jacques Rainis, Alice Harrison, Dunia Dababneh, Fr. Frank Milienewicz, Fr. Philaret Littlefield, Sami Shakkour, Mk Bredan, Mk Basil, Simon Abboud, Elias Awad.

(NAMES REMAIN ON THE PRAYER LIST FOR 6 WEEKS, PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE OR EMAIL TO EXTEND.)

It is not only in our liturgical life that we live in the heavenly realm. It affects our daily life as well. We live in two worlds, as it were. One we share with every other member of the human race. The other, the heavenly realm, is ours because of our union with God in Christ: and our daily life is means to reflect this share we have in God's kingdom. This is why religious expression in Eastern Christianity is part and parcel of our everyday behavior. We look to the heavenly realm in the standards we are called to live by, the standards of the gospel, for we believe in and direct our lives by realities unseen in this world: "Since you have been raised up on company with Christ, set your heart on what pertains to higher realms where Christ is seated at God's right hand. Be intent on things above rather than on things of earth" (Colossians 3:1, 2).

LADIES GUILD MEETS ON JANUARY 28, DURING THE SOCIAL HOUR

Please Support our Food Bank - Try to bring to Church, next Sunday, something for the poor and needy who come begging at the door of our Church. Our pantry is almost empty. We need small diapers and food. May our Lord bless you!

Necessary Weekly offering \$ 2,170.00

Attendance: 64 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 77 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 20

Tithing: 1,527.00 - Bulletin Ads: 0.00 - Building Fund: 0.00 - Feasts: 0.00 - Candles: 0.00

Coffee Collection: 47.00 - Stole Offerings: 20.00 - Flowers/Memorial/Donations: 0.00 - Marked Fund: 220.00

Thanks for your gift of thanksgiving to the Lord!

1-14-2018

WHILE SHOPPING, PLEASE REMEMBER THE POOR

Canned Fruits, Canned Roast Beef, Granola Bars, Jelly, Protein Bars, Tomato Paste, Tomato Sauce, Water Bottles, Spaghetti, Rice, Dry Foods, Canned Vegetables, etc.

For all your Gifts, please call St. John of the Desert Gifts at (602) 363-GIFT