

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

RULE FOR FASTING AND ABSTINENCE - Three approaches to fasting and abstinence have developed. These might be called the Law, the Tradition, and the Compromise.

The Law – that which is required. **The Tradition** – that which the devout follow. **The Compromise** - The First, Middle and Last weeks of Great Lent are kept strictly. (See Previous Bulletins for details)

FAST AND ABSTINENCE FOR THE GREAT LENT (2017)

1. Fast from Midnight to Noon (No Food)

- March 20 to April 15 on all Monday to Friday

2. Abstinence from specific foods

- From March 19 to April 15

Prayers for the Great Lent (2017)

- March 22 to April 5 on all Wednesday we celebrate the Presanctified Liturgy
 - March 24 on Friday we celebrate the Acathist Hymn
 - March 30 we celebrate Thursday of Repentance
 - April 8 we celebrate Saturday of Lazarus Divine Liturgy
 - The Holy Week schedule will be announced later.

Please be sure to mark the communal prayers on your calendar and schedule time for personal prayers. Do not forget the poor and make sure this is a period of simplicity, basic living and silence.

Collection on Good Friday, marked "Holy Land"

Vatican Information Service recently stated Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, addressed a letter to all bishops worldwide in view of the collection for the Holy Land.

"Presently, there are millions of refugees fleeing Syria and Iraq, where the roar of arms does not cease and the way of dialogue and concord seems to be completely lost. Senseless hatred seems to prevail instead, along with the helpless desperation of those who have lost everything and have been expelled from the land of their ancestors. If the Christians of the Holy Land are encouraged to resist, to the degree possible, the understandable temptation to flee, the faithful throughout the world are asked to take their plight to heart."

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection offers a direct opportunity for parishioners to be witnesses of peace. Their support is a sign of Christian unity, which helps protect the Holy Places and supports Christians in the Holy Land. This annual Pontifical Good Friday Collection unites all Christians with the Holy Land.

KEEP THE PARISH DATABASE CURRENT - UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS, EMAIL, ETC.

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, ..." Mark 10:14

"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.

3-12-2017

MARCH 19, 2017 SUNDAY OF THE VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

HEBREWS 4:14-16; 5:1-6

MARK 8:34-38; 9:1

TONE 3

Wednesday, March 22	7:00 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Thursday, March 23	7:30 pm	Children Internet Religious Education
Friday, March 24	7:00 pm	Acathist Hymn
Saturday, March 25	3:00 pm	Parish Retreat followed at around 6:30 pm by the Annunciation of the Mother of God Divine Liturgy
Sunday, March 26	9:00 am	Children Religious Education
	10:20 am	Doxology
	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy followed by the Social Hour
		(+) Adeeb Khoury, (+) George Haddad, (+) Mario Venerusso

Today's Intention

- Repose of the Soul of Adeeb Khoury by Nijoud Khoury
- Repose of the Soul of Saba Khouzam by Arlette Khouzam
- Repose of the Soul of Feras Sweidan by Nijoud Sweidan
- Repose of the Soul of Gertrude Kosko by Dcn. Marion & Joyce Rimmer
- Repose of the Soul of George Haddad by Paul & Shirley Davis
- Repose of the Soul of Georgette Shalhoub by Nicholas & Maisaa Shalhoub
- Repose of the Soul of Tom Garcia by Kh. Simone

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

Pauline Hamra, Fadia Loegering, Munther Hattar, Dr. Farouk Habra, Alan Herro, Marianne Krouchian, John Davis, Rt. Rev. Charles Aboody, Jennifer Rimmer, Paul Davis, Jacques Rainis and Elizabeth Nahhas.

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

Wow! Wasn't that a great Bake Sale we had last Sunday? Ladies, you did such a tremendous job. There was barely room on the front table to display all the goodies you had baked. You all got together and raised \$622.00 to alleviate the cost of the new refrigerator. Great job! God bless you for your dedication and generosity, including all those who bought those delicious creations.

"Even under the law it was not an angel that was appointed to act as priest for human beings but a human being for human beings, with the same nature, affected by the same passions, understanding the weakness of nature, assigning pardon to the recalcitrant, offering a hand to sinners, treating what affects the neighbor as his own. This is the very reason he is appointed to offer sacrifices not for the people alone but also for himself."

THEODORET OF CYR: INTERPRETATION OF HEBREWS 5.

Necessary Weekly offering \$ 2,174.00

Attendance: 76 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 75 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 27
Tithing: 1,342.00 - Bulletin Ads: 125.00 - Building Fund: 0.00 - Candles: 0.00
Coffee Collection: 0.00 - Stole Offerings: 72.00 - Memorial/Donations: 0.00 - Marked Fund: 622.00

Thanks for your gift of thanksgiving to the Lord!

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