

# St. John Of the Desert

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## FAST AND ABSTINENCE FOR THE GREAT LENT (2017)

### 1. Fast from Midnight to Noon (No Food)

- April 3 to April 15 on all Monday to Friday

### 2. Abstinence from specific foods

- From April 2 to April 15

### Prayers for the Great Lent (2017)

- April 5 - 7pm Presanctified Liturgy

April 8 Saturday of Lazarus 9am Divine Liturgy

April 9 Palm Sunday - 10:30am Divine Liturgy, Presentation and Procession

April 11 Great and Holy Tuesday - 7pm Bridegroom Service

April 12 Great and Holy Wednesday - 7pm Repentance & Holy Oil Anointing

April 13 Great and Holy Thursday - 7pm Crucifixion of Our Lord

April 14 Great and Holy Friday - 12pm Vespers/Descent of the Cross and Parish Soup  
7pm Office of the Burial of Christ

April 15 Great and Holy Saturday - 11am Blessing of the New Light and Triumph over death  
8pm Hajmeh/Resurrection Divine Liturgy

April 16 Holy Resurrection of our Lord - 10:30am Resurrection Divine Liturgy

*“Natural contemplation, ‘theoria physike’, is an essential category in Orthodox spiritual terminology for the relationship of man with the environment. Natural contemplation is a stage in spiritual growth wherein the soul of a person has been cleansed of the effects of the passions and has returned to the natural state of human being, of human nature as it was created to be. Thus, a person who has purified himself and been illumined with grace will have a unique perspective on how to live in the created world, one informed by his enlightened perception. This perception in a state of natural contemplation is a transcendence of conceptual categories and their inherent dualism. It is, rather, a unitary experience of the synergy of all created beings with the Creator, of which one is a part rather than a subjective observer. Not only will the spiritually mature Christian have a profoundly different perspective and experience; he will seek to live according to that vision and draw others into it.*

*In other words, the whole creation comes to be perceived as a Mystery of God, a sacramental experience of communion. In the words of St. Isaac, “The world has become mingled with God, and creation and Creator have become one! Praise to You for Your inscrutable purpose: truly this mystery is vast” (II: V, §18, p. 14). The created world itself is sanctified and must be treated as something holy because it has been recapitulated in Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:10).”*

*“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.

APRIL 2, 2017  
SUNDAY OF MARY OF EGYPT

HEBREWS 9:11-14

MARK 10:32-45

TONE 5

<b>Wednesday, April 5</b>	7:00 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
<b>Thursday, April 6</b>	7:30 pm	Internet Children Education
<b>Saturday, April 8</b>	9:00 am	Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy
<b>Sunday, April 9</b>	9:00 am	Children Religious Education
	10:20 am	Doxology
	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy followed by Children Presentation, Procession and Social
(+ Deacon Tom Hook, (+) Adeeab Khoury, (+) George Haddad		

### Today's Intention

- For the Health and Salvation of Monk Brendan
- Repose of the Soul of Adeeab Khoury by Nijoud Khoury
- Repose of the Soul of John Morgan by Dcn. Marion & Joyce Rimmer & Family
- Repose of the Soul of Anton Hattar by Milad, George, Ghassan and Bassam Ishak
- Repose of the Soul of George Haddad by Sami Haddad
- Repose of the Soul of Deacon Tom Hook 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, Elizabeth Nahhas and Mk. Brendan.

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

### Men's Group Meeting on April 9

### 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.

### Necessary Weekly offering \$ 2,174.00

Attendance: 49 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 75 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 13

Tithing: 664.00 - Bulletin Ads: 125.00 - Building Fund: 0.00 - Candles: 0.00

Coffee Collection: 29.00 - Stole Offerings: 50.00 - Memorial/Donations: 0.00 - Marked Fund: 0.00

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**

3-26-2017