

# St. John Of the Desert

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## Scranton on Pilgrimage to Italy, October 2 - 12, 2018

Join Father Christopher and the Eastern Churches of Scranton on an extraordinary motor-coach adventure through Italy this October! On this will trip we will visit some of the most spectacular places in the world, such as Venice, Ravenna, Florence, Siena and Rome. We'll enjoy private tours through the most celebrated of Italy's churches, squares and monuments and experience the joy of Italian cuisine. Most importantly, Father will celebrate the divine liturgy for us at the tombs of many great saints and martyrs, such as St. Peter, St. Athanasius and St. John Chrysostom!

For only \$2995.00 you can join this incredible trip. The price is based on a double occupancy room and includes round trip airfare, lodging, tours, transportation and daily breakfast and dinner. Hurry up, there are only 25 spaces available! Contact Joe Long at jlong@prorome.com or (570) 309 1346 for more information or to sign up.

Joseph Long Director, ProRome 316 North New St. Staunton, VA 24401 www.prorome.com

**SUNDAY OF SAINT THOMAS:** How has our life been changed by the truth that Jesus rose from the dead? In the Epistle appointed for today, Saint Paul reminds us that the Resurrection of Jesus was not for Jesus alone, it is for all of us who have been baptized into him! Death no longer has dominion over Christ and therefore, death no longer has dominion over us who have "put on Christ." Today, we celebrate the great gift of God's life in us. Just as the Risen Lord breathed upon his Apostles and shared his Spirit with them, so he breathes upon all of us today and gives us a new life in him. And what is that new life but the life which Jesus lived while on earth – a life and ministry of healing, of forgiveness, and of proclamation of the Good News.

Do we believe that Jesus is truly risen from the dead? If so, have we told anyone about it? Have we proclaimed boldly the truth of our faith in Christ? What does it really mean that we have "put on Christ"? Jesus invites us to proclaim boldly the truth that Christ is risen!

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.

APRIL 8, 2018  
SUNDAY OF ST. THOMAS

JOHN 20:19-31

ACTS 5:12-20

FEAST TONE

## CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS TRULY RISEN!

Thursday, April 12	7:30 pm	Children Internet weekly Class
Sunday, April 15	9:00 am	Children Religious Education
	10:20 am	Doxology
	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy Followed by the Social Hour
		Monthly "Meet and Greet"
Jennifer Ekman, Charlotte Owsiany, Rosalie Zoghby, John Davis, Paul Davis (+) Munther Hattar (+) Alan Herro, (+) Andres Bolinaga, (+) Adeb Khoury		

**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, Fr. Basil Samra, Simon Aboud, Elias Awad, Lindsey Ishak.

**(NAMES REMAIN ON THE PRAYER LIST FOR 6 WEEKS, PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE)**

### Today's Intentions

- For Vera Taliafero on her Baptism by Muna Haddad
- For Sophia & Maddie on their Birthday by Muna Haddad
- For the Health and Salvation of Rev. William Sanderson by Muna Haddad
- For the Health and Salvation of Jennifer Ekman by Denise Hamra
- For the Health and Salvation of Charlotte Owsiany by Denise Hamra
- For the Health and Salvation of Rosalie Zoghby by Denise Hamra
- For the Health and Salvation of John and Paul Davis by Denise Hamra
- For the Health and Salvation of Lindsey Ishak by Kh. Simone
- For the Repose of the Soul of Adeb Khoury by Nijoud Khoury
- For the Repose of the Soul of Munther Hattar
- For the Repose of the Soul of Alan Herro
- For the Repose of the Soul of Andres Luis Bolinaga
- For the Repose of the Soul of Jose Chacon by Kh. Simone

**TODAY MEN'S GROUP MEET DURING THE SOCIAL HOUR  
APRIL 22, LADIES GUILD MEET 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

4-1-2018

Attendance: 97 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 77 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 28  
Tithing: 2,442.00 - Bulletin Ads: 0.00 - Building Fund: 0.00 - Feasts: 820.00 - Candles: 468.00  
Coffee Collection: 44.00 - Stole Offerings: 0.00 - Flowers/Memorial/Donations: 235.00 - Marked Fund: 65.00  
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**

## **PARISH GUIDELINES**

### **MYSTERIES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (Baptism, Chrismation, Eucharist)**

One month advance notice to complete required canonical instructions

### **MYSTERY OF HOLY CROWNING (Marriage)**

Six months advance notice to complete required canonical instructions

### **HOLY CONFESSION**

Before or after all services or anytime upon request.

### **HOLY ANOINTING**

On demand upon the request of the ill person or his/her immediate family only.

### **FUNERALS**

Contact the pastor before making funeral arrangements.

### **FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

There is no charge for the celebration of the Holy Mysteries, however, an offering of thanksgiving is customary. The Parish Pastoral Council suggests for **Active Parishioners**, \$250 for Baptism, \$500 for Wedding, \$500 for Funeral, \$75 for Memorial, and \$10 for Remembrance. The use of the Davis Hall after Memorials is \$150 and (a plausible \$100 for Insurance). For **Non-Active Parishioners** check with the Pastor.

**Active parishioner means PRAYING with us, INVOLVED with the life of the community and SUPPORTING the Church (Tithing) in Thanksgiving to the Lord (The Financial support is monitored by Family envelope); however, participation in our prayers and social life is evaluated for each parishioner independently of his/her Family. A minimum participation of 30% in our prayers and our activities is required. Members over 18 years of age should be registered separately from their families.)**