

# St. John Of the Desert

Melkite Catholic Church  
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His Grace, Bishop NICHOLAS is pleased to announce the establishment of two new Melkite Outreaches to serve the needs of our Melkite faithful: one in Las Vegas, Nevada, and one in Palm Springs, California. At this time, we are attempting to contact all our Melkite brothers and sisters who live in these areas. If you know any Melkites in these places please send their names and contact information to Father James Babcock for Las Vegas, and Father George Bisharat for Palm Springs. Please pray for the success of these new initiatives of our Melkite Church.

Sunday of the the Healing of the Blind Man. This man, who had been "born blind," encountered Jesus. The man was, apparently, begging for money or food at the gate of the Temple and when Jesus spoke to him he listened and was obedient to the Lord's command. Unlike the other figures in the Gospel account, this man alone had never seen the miraculous works of Christ, and yet, trusted in his word. We to, who have "not seen and yet believe" trust in the word of the Lord and follow in his ways. In this way, we, who were formerly blinded by sin, have begun to see through faith.

The conversion of Saul who, blinded by anger and his persecution of the Church, discovers that he is persecuting Christ himself and is called to join in the healing ministry of the Lord. We too, baptized into Christ and have received the vision of faith, are called to do "work[s] befitting [our] repentance." We are to bring healing to those who are spiritually blind and to help those to whom God has called us to minister "to open their eyes that they may turn from darkness to light, and from the dominion of Satan to God; that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those sanctified by faith in me."

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

Fadia Loegering, Munther Hattar, Dr. Farouk Habra, Marianne Krouchian, John Davis, Rt. Rev. Charles Aboody, Jennifer Rimmer, Paul Davis, Jacques Rainis, Elizabeth Nahhas, Mk. Brendan, Mk. Basil and Samira Abou-Eid.

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

*"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.

MAY 21, 2017  
SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

ACTS 26:1; 12-20

JOHN 9:1-38

TONE 5

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS TRULY RISEN!

Thursday, May 25 7:00 pm Feast of the Ascension Divine Liturgy  
Sunday, May 28 10:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by the Social Hour  
(+) Pauline Hamra, (+) Adeeb Khoury, (+) Alan Herro

### Today's Intentions

- Health and Salvation of Rob and Pat Estes on their 40th Anniversary by Dcn. Ziad and Jocelyn Abyad
- Health and Salvation of Mona Diab by Maurice & Midia El Khoury
- Health and Salvation of Midia Hanna by Maurice & Midia El Khoury
- Health and Salvation of Helen Nakhle by Maurice & Midia El Khoury
- Health and Salvation of Samira Abdul Ahad by Maurice & Midia El Khoury
- Repose of the Soul of Pauline Hamra by John & Evelyn Davis
- Repose of the Soul of Pauline Hamra by Paul & Shirley Davis
- Repose of the Soul of Adeeb Khoury by Nijoud Khoury
- Repose of the Soul of Alan Herro by Kh. Simone
- Repose of the Soul of Anne Fitzmaurice by Nick & Mary Ganem
- Repose of the Soul of Nabeeha Ganem by Nick & Mary Ganem

## We Welcome Our Father Bishop Nicholas

Thanks to the donation of items for the raffle held two sundays ago and for the generosity of all of the parishioners who bought the tickets, we were able to raise **\$296.00** for the National Association of Melkite Women (NAMW) for helping our Seminarians.

God bless all of you for your support of our future priests.

On June 3, Saturday of the Dead, we will have a Memorial Service offered by all the Eastern Catholic Churches of Phoenix, in English, Arabic, Chaldean and Slavic languages. This Service is to pray for all our Dead Parishioners, Relatives and Friends and will take place at our Eastern Catholic Cemetery at Holy Redeemer.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

### Necessary Weekly offering \$ 2,174.00

Attendance: 69 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 75 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 23  
Tithing: 1,778.00 - Bulletin Ads: 0.00 - Building Fund: 50.00 - Feasts: 0.00 - Candles: 0.00  
Coffee Collection: 89.00 - Stole Offerings: 10.00 - Flowers/Memorial/Donations: 0.00 - 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

5-14-2017