

# St. John Of the Desert

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Our **Epistle Readers' schedule** will come to an end on Sunday, June 25th. If you wish to continue to read the Epistle for the next six months, or if you wish to join the group of readers, please put your name on the list that you will find on the table in the Narthex and we will make a new schedule for the next six months, starting in July 2nd. There will be a brief training for all new readers.

The wisdom that comes by the Holy Spirit is perhaps best described as the knowledge of God through the love of God. As the Orthodox saint and elder Silouan the Athonite put it, "The Holy Spirit, sweet and gracious, draws the soul to the love of the Lord, and in the sweetness of the Holy Spirit the soul loses her hear of suffering." This is the wisdom of the humble yet bold fishermen who, by living out, preaching, and suffering for the Gospel of Jesus Christ, "caught in their nets the whole world" (troparion of Pentecost). This is the wisdom given by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, who "grants wisdom to the illiterate [and] makes simple fishermen to become wise theologians" (stichera of Pentecost); it is the wisdom that destroys the "webs of vain philosophers" (kontakion of St. Gregory Nazianzen). But it is not a wisdom that puffs up or is attained by those who are puffed up. Rather, it is God's gift to the lowly in heart: "The humble are accounted worthy of receiving in themselves this Spirit of revelations Who teaches mysteries" (St. Isaac the Syrian).

**PENTECOST AND OUR BAPTISM. CHRYSOSTOM:** *For in the case of the apostles too, there was a "sound of a mighty wind," and visions of fiery tongues appeared, but not for the apostles' sake, but because of the Jews who were then present. Nevertheless, even though no sensible signs take place, we receive the things that have been once manifested by them. Since the dove itself at that time therefore appeared, that as in place of a finger (so to say) it might point out to them that were present, and to John, the Son of God. Not however merely on this account, but to teach you also, that upon you no less at your baptism the Spirit comes. But since then we have no need of sensible vision, faith sufficing instead of all. For signs are "not for them that believe but for them that believe not."* **CHRYSOSTOM: HOMILIES ON THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 12.3.**

**HOW WE SHOULD PRAY -** *"When an occasion calls us to prayer, it is fitting for us to pray for that which increases God's glory before we pray for that which concerns ourselves.... The Savior indeed spoke these words to show how very necessary his own glory was to the Father so that he might be known to be consubstantial with him ... for the Father is glorified in the glory of his offspring."* **CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA: COMMENTARY ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN 11.3.**

**"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.

**JUNE 4, 2017**  
**SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

ACTS 2:1-11

JOHN 7:37-52; 8:12

TONE 7

**Thursday, June 8** 7:30 pm Children Internet Education  
**Sunday, June 11** 10:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by the Social Hour  
**Men's Meeting during the Social Hour**  
(+) Pauline Hamra, (+) Alan Herro, (+) Adeeb Khoury

### Today's Intentions

- Health and Salvation of Rev. Thomas Burke by Kh. Simone
- Repose of the Soul of Rt. Rev. Father Charles Aboody
- Repose of the Soul of Anton Hattar by Milad, George, Ghassan and Bassam Ishak
- Repose of the Soul of Saba Khouzam by Arlette Khouzam
- Repose of the Soul of Ketty & Gabriel Khordoc by Arlette Khouzam
- Repose of the Soul of Rosa Khordoc by Arlette Khouzam
- 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 Claire Chababi by Kh. Simone
- Repose of the Soul of Alan Herro 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:

Fadia Loegering, Munther Hattar, Dr. Farouk Habra, Marianne Krouchian, John Davis, 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.)

It is necessary for all young people who reach 18 years of age to register, separately from their families, as parishioners with their own entity. The status of the parents as active or non-active parishioners does not apply to children over 18 years of age. Registering separately gives them responsibility for their own spirituality and prayers, keep them active in their own ministry and reinforces in them the sense of potential leaders.

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.

### Necessary Weekly offering \$ 2,174.00

Attendance: 72 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 75 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 17

Tithing: 511.00 - Bulletin Ads: 0.00 - Building Fund: 0.00 - Feasts: 0.00 - Candles: 215.00

Coffee Collection: 27.00 - Stole Offerings: 140.00 - Flowers/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**

5-28-2017