

St. John Of the Desert

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DON'T BE A SPECTATOR! If we honestly look at ourselves over the years, we find ourselves endlessly looking for parishioners to teach in our Religious Education, sing in our choir, serve our Liturgy celebrations, join the Ladies Guild, Men's group, ushers, and so on. We also look at those who respond and call them "dedicated". We are fearful of losing them or asking them for too much. Let's change our mentality! Let's change the volunteering mentality to a stewardship mentality because we are all stewards!

As stewards, we are not simply coming of our own free will to accomplish a task, but, we are taking care of St. John of the Desert Church that has been given to us by God. This is His World, His Church, His Property, and we are His Children and Stewards who have been entrusted with the care of it all. *"The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein"* (Psalm 24:1). We have an obligation to offer part of our time, talents, and resources back to God in the management and care of that which He has given to us.

There is no human being alive who has not been blessed by God with certain gifts and talents and opportunities to use them! We are called upon to give back a portion of these blessings in thanksgiving for our Church. *"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good"* (1 Corinthians 12:7).

THE PHARISAIC COMPLAINT

Now this healing especially vexed the Pharisees. They were disturbed that Jesus was being exalted above all others, not only those who are but all who had ever been. For he did what he did so easily and quickly. He cured diseases innumerable and otherwise incurable. The crowd exalted him. But the Pharisees continued to disparage his works, contradicting themselves unashamedly. Such a thing is wickedness—which finds itself desperately saying, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

What could be more absurd than this! For in the first place, as he also says later on, it is impossible for demons to cast out demons. For it is a demon's custom to clap in applause at the activities of his own kind, not oppose them. Second, not only did he himself cast out demons, but he also purified lepers, raised dead people, reined in the sea, canceled sins, proclaimed the kingdom and approached the Father. Demons would never choose to do these things and would not ever be able to accomplish them. CHRYSOSTOM: THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, HOMILY 32.2.

"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.

JULY 23, 2017

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - HEALING OF THE TWO BLIND MEN

ROMANS 15:1-7

MATTHEW 9:27-35

TONE 6

Thursday, July 27 7:30 pm Children Internet Education
Sunday, July 30 10:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by the Social Hour
(+) Andres Bolinaga, (+) Adeeb Khoury, (+) Pauline Hamra, (+) Alan Herro

Today's Intentions

- Health and Salvation of Mk. Basil for his Birthday by Mk. Brendan
- Health and Salvation of Vito Emiliano & Kh. Linda by Kh. Simone
- Health and Salvation of Gloria by Reggie Fashbaugh
- Repose of the Soul of Andres Luis Bolinaga by Arlette Khouzam
- Repose of the Soul of Alan Herro
- 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 Joseph Davis

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.)

Preschool Teaching Position Available

SJA Preschool is presently interviewing for a PT Preschool teacher for the upcoming school year. The ideal Catholic candidate will have a degree in Early Childhood Education or CDA and a minimum of 6 months experience teaching within a preschool setting. Knowledge of ECERS, NAEYC guidelines, and experience working within a Quality First preschool is a plus. If interested, please email resume to dhilliard@stjoanofarc.com or contact Debbie at (602)867-9179.

We cannot be a follower 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

When we say, **"I don't need to go to Church,"** we're also saying, **"I don't need any of you!"** This directly contradicts what St. Paul is saying.

Necessary Weekly offering \$ 2,174.00

Attendance: 78 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 75 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 19

Tithing: 862.00 - Bulletin Ads: 0.00 - Building Fund: 0.00 - Feasts: 0.00 - Candles: 0.00

Coffee Collection: 32.00 - Stole Offerings: 10.00 - 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

7-16-2017