

St. John Of the Desert

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HE ORDERED HIM SOLD WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN. "His lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children." Why? Not out of cruelty or inhumanity, for the punishment concerned the steward—his wife was already trapped like a slave to his folly. Rather, this discipline occurred in order to effect his transformation. His purpose is to frighten him by this threat so that he may come to supplication, and not merely that they all be sold. For if the lord had done this with unmitigated punishment in mind, he would not have granted his request, nor would he have bestowed upon him a special favor. He did not dismiss the debt, and he called for an accounting. Why? His teaching purpose was to show him with all justice precisely how much debt he was going to free him from! In this way at least he might in due time become more gentle toward his fellow servant. Yet, even having learned of the weight of his debt and the greatness of the forgiveness, he continued to take his fellow servant by the throat. If the master had not disciplined him beforehand with such attempted medicines, how much worse might his cruelty have been than the shocking extent that it actually turned out to be? **CHRYSOSTOM: THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, HOMILY 61.3.**

OUR CHILDREN EDUCATION AND OUR EDUCATION OF WHO WE ARE AS CHRISTIANS ARE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES!

Here is what our Parish is offering you:

1. Classes are set for children ages 3 to 18. If interested, please give your name to Jocelyn Abyad, before September 1, 2017. • Our Children Religion Education Program classes, for the School year 2017-2018, will start on Sunday, September 17, 2017 at 9:00 am and will continue for most Sundays of the School year at the same time. • There will be an Enrollment meeting for parents on Sunday, September 3, 2017, after the Divine Liturgy.
2. We will entertain possibilities for young adults (18 to 25). If interested, please give your name to Rev. Deacon Zyad Abyad, before September 1, 2017 for a start date in the Middle of September.
3. Education for Adults (25 to 45). If interested, please give your name to Fr. Peter, before September 1, 2017 for a start date in the Middle of September.
4. Bible Study for Adults (Any age). If interested, please give your name to Deacon Marion, before September 1, 2017 for a start date in the Middle of September.

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.

AUGUST 20, 2017

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

FIRST CORINTHIANS 9:2-12

MATTHEW 18:23-35

TONE 2

Thursday, August 24	7:30 pm	Children Internet Education
Sunday, August 27	10:20 am	Doxology
	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy
Followed by the Social Hour and Ladies Guild Meeting		
Rev. Dcn. Michael Sullivan (10th Anniversary), (+) Andres Bolinaga, (+) Adeeb Khoury, (+) Alan Herro		

Today's Intentions

- For Anthony Malkoon by Paul & Shirley Davis
- For Shabnam by Muna Haddad
- For Seminarians Oliver Black, Neven Pesa, Mikhael Naddaff & Christopher Davel
- Repose of the Soul of Andres Luis Bolinaga
- Repose of the Soul of Alan Herro
- Repose of the Soul of Adeeb Khoury by Nijoud Khoury
- Repose of the Soul of Joseph Davis
- Repose of the Soul of Hala Alesh 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 and Marthe Rainis, Alice Harrison.

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

TODAY, OUR LADIES GUILD WILL MEET DURING THE "SOCIAL HOUR"

I know I'm repeating myself here, but I would like to thank once again the handful of men, women and young adults who came last Saturday to work around the church, cleaning, painting and repairing to keep and maintain the church in tip top shape for our comfort now and for the future. If you consider this your church, **please don't be a spectator, get involved.**

Friday, September 1, 2017

7 to 10 pm

New year's Presentation

What is LOVE? Is goodness LOVE? Is friendship LOVE? Can LOVE exist for the sake of love? What does that have to do with God? Is God really LOVE? These questions and many more will surface in the presentation and discussions.

Necessary Weekly offering \$ 2,174.00

Attendance: 64 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 75 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 26

Tithing: 1,875.00 - Bulletin Ads: 0.00 - Building Fund: 0.00 - Feasts: 0.00 - Candles: 0.00

Coffee Collection: 23.00 - Stole Offerings: 12.00 - Flowers/Memorial/Donations: 0.00 - Marked Fund: 60.00

Thanks for your gift of thanksgiving to the Lord!

8-13-2017

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