

# St. John Of the Desert

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The Ladies Guild are planning a delicious Middle Eastern Dinner  
**On October 14, 2017**  
Tickets and menu will be available soon. So, mark your calendar for this Fund Raising Event.

**TODAY, WE WILL HOLD THE PARENTS MEETING. PLEASE JOIN US AFTER LITURGY TO COMPLETE YOUR CHILDREN'S REGISTRATION, PAY FEES AND DISCUSS THE PLANS FOR THE YEAR!** Families with young children are a blessing to our parish community. It's our goal to help you and your children experience the blessings of Sunday worship along with the rest of the community. We know that it can be a challenge for you to bring your children to church. It's not always easy to get out of the house and make it to church on time. Children are wonderfully spontaneous and sometimes surprise you with unexpected words or actions during the Divine Liturgy. We would like to partner with you to enhance the experience of children at the Divine Liturgy. We are working on ways to be more hospitable to families with children at St. John of the Desert because we are blessed by your presence on Sunday. We would also like to offer some information that might help you prepare your children to experience the Divine Liturgy in a more positive way. All we ask you for is your active participation.

**HE DESCENDED SO THAT WE MIGHT ASCEND.** *Spiritual birth happens when human beings, being earthly, become heavenly. And this can only happen when they are made members of me. So that he may ascend who descended, since no one ascends who did not descend. Therefore everyone who needs to be changed and raised must meet together in a union with Christ so that the Christ who descended may ascend, considering his body (that is to say, his church) as nothing other than himself.* **AUGUSTINE: ON THE MERITS AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS AND ON INFANT BAPTISM 1.60.**

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. REV. R. ANDREWS - St. George Orthodox Church

*"There is nothing more precious to a parent than a child, and nothing more important to our future than the safety of all our children."*

**"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.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017  
SUNDAY BEFORE THE HOLY CROSS

GALATIANS 6:11-18

JOHN 3:13-17

TONE 4

Thursday, September 14 7:00 pm FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS  
Sunday, September 17 10:20 am Doxology  
10:30 am Divine Liturgy - Blessing of our Children, Teachers and Parents Followed by the Social Hour and the Ladies Guild meeting

(+) Alan Herro, (+) Joseph Davis, (+) Andres Bolinaga, John Davis

## Today's Intentions

- Health and Salvation of John Davis by Denise & Jim Hamra
- For Full recovery of Jumana Ishak by the Parish
- For the victims of Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma
- Repose of the Soul of Mike, Elias, Izabelle Taweh by Rosette Braidy
- Repose of the Soul of Elias Braidy by Rosette Braidy
- Repose of the Soul of Andres Luis Bolinaga
- Repose of the Soul of Alan Herro
- Repose of the Soul of Spiridon Hanna 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, Dunia Dababneh, Jumana Ishak, Fr. Philaret Littlefield. (NAMES REMAIN ON THE PRAYER LIST FOR 6 WEEKS, PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE OR EMAIL TO EXTEND.)

If you have always dreamed of making your own icon but think that you have no artistic talent, here is your opportunity: we will have an Iconography Class on Saturday, October 21st from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm here at St. John of the Desert. The class is offered by renowned artist Lisa Fitzgibbons. The cost of the class is \$75.00 which includes all supplies. This is a terrific price! If interested please call Lisa Fitzgibbons at (602) 349-5838. Check the posters on the hall door for more details.

His Grace, Bishop NICHOLAS, asks that every Melkite parish and mission take up an emergency collection today, and to send all proceeds from the collection immediately to the Diocese office. The funds collected in this one-time special appeal for Hurricane Harvey Relief will be used to support the efforts of Catholic Charities USA. Sayidna urges our faithful to be as generous as possible.

## Necessary Weekly offering \$ 2,174.00

Attendance: 50 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 76 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 20

Tithing: 1,127.00 - Bulletin Ads: 0.00 - Building Fund: 0.00 - Feasts: 0.00 - Candles: 0.00

Coffee Collection: 31.00 - Stole Offerings: 20.00 - Flowers/Memorial/Donations: 28.00 - Marked Fund: 290.00

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