

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.

The place on the Sea of Galilee where the calling of the first disciples took place is well known to the local Christians of the area even to today and pilgrims can visit this holy site and wade in the waters where Jesus stood. There, near the shore, there is a large spring that waterfalls into the sea. The local fish come to the spot in massive schools seeking the warm fresh water of the spring. The experience of the place is quite extraordinary and allows us to meditate more deeply upon Jesus' invitation to Simon in the Gospel which is proclaimed in the Church today. "Do not be afraid; from now on you shall catch men," Jesus told Simon Peter that day and today he speaks these words to us. Do not be afraid! In the anti-Christian climate in which we live today we are told over and over again that religion is not welcome in public. "Do not speak about your faith" they tell us. And yet, commanded by Christ to "teach all nations," and to become "fishers of men," we cannot remain silent about our relationship with the Lord. We cannot remain silent about the gift of Divine Life which we have experienced. The consolation that knowing the geographical context of today's Gospel grants us is two-fold. First, the "fish" which we are invited to catch desire the Good News. Carved into every heart created by God is a deep desire for Truth and for a relationship with our Creator. The Second consolation is that of knowing that we are not the originators or source of the gift which men desire. It is the Lord himself who is the attraction. It is the Lord himself who is the warm water of the spring which falls into the sea of this world. We are called simply to lend our hands, to lend our mouths, to lend our lives to become the net by which the great Fisherman will catch his fish through us.

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 24, 2017

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS - MIRACULOUS CATCH

SECOND CORINTHIANS 6:1-10

LUKE 5:1-11

TONE 7

Thursday, September 28	7:30 pm	Children Internet Education
Saturday, September 30	6:00 am	WORK DAY
Sunday, October 1	9:00 am	Children Religious Education
	9:30 am	Confessions
	10:20 am	Doxology
	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy Followed by the Social Hour
A Suffering Person, Dunia Dababneh, Anton Hattar, (+) Alan Herro, (+) Andres Bolinaga, (+) Adeb Khoury		

Today's Intentions

- For the Health and Salvation of John Davis by Denise & Jim Hamra
- For the Health and Salvation of a Suffering Person by Denise Hamra
- For the Health and Salvation of Dunia Dababneh
- Repose of the Soul of Adeb Khoury by Nijoud Khoury
- Repose of the Soul of Andres Luis Bolinaga
- Repose of the Soul of Alan Herro

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, Sami Shakkour. (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.

The ladies of the "Ladies Guild" are looking for volunteers for the Dinner on October 14th. Please consider participating and donating a few moments of your time and talent in helping by calling Jumana Ishak.

Please Support our Food Bank - Try to bring to Church, next Sunday, something for the poor and needy who come begging at the door of our Church. Our pantry is almost empty. We need small diapers and food. May our Lord bless you!

Necessary Weekly offering \$ 2,174.00

Attendance: 62 Souls - Number of envelopes Mailed: 76 - Number of Envelopes Returned: 24

Tithing: 1,709.00 - Bulletin Ads: 0.00 - Building Fund: 0.00 - Feasts: 0.00 - Candles: 0.00

Coffee Collection: 16.00 - Stole Offerings: 10.00 - Flowers/Memorial/Donations: 72.00 - Marked Fund: 320.00

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

9-17-2017