

St. John of the Desert Melkite Catholic Church



3718 E. Greenway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85032
Office Phone: 602-787-4787 | Emergency Calls: 602-284-0040 or 623-297-2958
Text the word "DESERT" to 84576 to sign up for Parish Updates
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Very Rev. Father Peter Boutros | Pastor | FrPeter@Typicon.com

Rev. Father Zyad Abyad | Associate Pastor | FrZyad@icloud.com

Rev. Deacon Marion Rimmer | marionmrimmer@mail.com

Kh. Simone Boutros | simone@Typicon.com

Kh. Jocelyn Abyad | jabyad@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
CHURCH'S NEW YEAR



PLEASE JOIN US AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY
FOR SOCIAL HOUR & FAMILY CATECHESIS

LITURGY INTENTIONS

For the Health & Salvation of Alexandria Titone
For the Health & Salvation of Dominic on his birthday by Marco Family
For the Health & Salvation of Fr. George Sayegh
For the Repose of the Soul of Albert Ghanoum
For the Repose of the Soul of Gebrail & Fahda Zaydat (Memorial) by Majed & Ragidah Ziadeh
For the Repose of the Soul of George Glinos by Katherine M Koster
For the Repose of the Soul of Ghassan Ishak by Majdi & Abir Al Masri

To request a Divine Liturgy intention, go to our website: www.stjohnofthedesert.com
Requests must be submitted by Thursday to be included in the Sunday bulletin.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 4 **10:30am Crafty Ladies**
Friday, September 6 **9:00am Byzikids Homeschool Co Op**
Sunday, September 8 **10:20am Divine Liturgy** followed by Men's Group
Commemorating: +Ghassan Ishak, +Nabil Gharfeh

Readings
of the Day

EPISTLE: 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-7
GOSPEL: LUKE 4:16-22
THE EPISTLE AND GOSPEL WILL BE READ IN ENGLISH AND REPEATED IN ARABIC



PRAYER REQUESTS

May our prayers bring healing and hope to those in our community who are sick, especially: Khalil Haker, Marilyn Baiad, Nicholas Baiad, Mary Popovich, Fadia Loegering, Katharina Rimmer, Kim Fritges, Paul Davis, Maddie Carey, Samira Abou Eid, Elias Ishaq, Rick Reardon, Max Griffin, Annarose Newman & Alexandria Titone.
Names remain on the prayer list for six weeks, please call the parish office to add any names



TITHE HERE



time, talent & treasure



VOLUNTEER

UPCOMING EVENTS & FINANCIAL UPDATES

Ladies Guild: September 15, 2024 Following Liturgy
 Men's Group: October 13, 2024 Following Liturgy
 Family Catechesis: October 6, 2024 @ 9:30 am
 Forerunner Program: September 29, 2024 @12:30 pm
 Byzikids Co-Op: October 4, 2024 @ 9:00 am
 Women at the Well: September 20, 2024 @ 9:30 am
 Crafty Ladies: October 2, 2024 @ 10:30 am
 Faith Foundations: September 21, 2024 @ 5:00 pm

Attendance: 99
 Collection of August 25, 2024
 Tithes: \$1,758.00* Stole Offering \$100.00
 Coffee Collection:\$55.00 * Candles: \$0.00
 Flowers \$0.00 * Bulletin Ad: \$200.00
 Building Fund: \$0.00 * Other: \$5.00
 Online Giving: \$1,101.07
Income Needed Weekly: \$1,853.00

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION


Place your confidence in Christ...Left to yourself, you can do nothing. So trust in the Lord and in his power to accomplish in you what would otherwise be impossible for you.

From Holy Scripture...I write this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. And this is the confidence which we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of him. If any one sees his brother committing what is not a mortal sin, he will ask, and God will give him life for those whose sin is not mortal. There is sin which is mortal; I do not say that one is to pray for that. All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin which is not mortal. (1 John 5:13-17)

In God's presence, consider...How much do I really trust Jesus? Do I attempt to control everything in my life? In what ways, large and small, does my foolish pride block me from abandoning myself entirely to God's loving providence?


Closing Prayer...Jesus, I trust in you!

(Madrid, A Year with the Bible: Scriptural Wisdom for Daily Living.)



CONFESSION
Mystery of Repentance
 You may go to confession before or after most services in the church. To make an appointment for confession, please call the office. We also set aside the following regular times as well:

FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH	9:30am to 10:20am
THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH	4:00pm to 5:00pm



FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS
Saturday, September 14, 2024
Divine Liturgy 9am

It's time to register for

Family Catechesis

Check your email!

Learning our faith is a lifelong journey! We have classes for kindergarten through adult! An email was sent to all parishioners to register. See Fr. Zyad or Kh. Jocelyn with any questions!



OCTOBER 5
9AM - 12 PM
**ALL PARISH
CLEANING
DAY**



ST. JOHN CAR MAGNETS

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!

FREE! See Kh. Jocelyn to receive yours today!



HAPPY NEW YEAR

THERE ARE TWO DIMENSIONS OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR. FIRST, THE PASCHAL CYCLE IS BASED ON THE DATE OF PASCHA (EASTER), AND VARIES EACH YEAR. SECOND, OTHER COMMEMORATIONS SUCH AS CHRISTMAS, OCCUR ON THE SAME FIXED DATES EVERY YEAR.

OUR PRINCIPAL CELEBRATIONS ARE THE TWELVE GREAT FEASTS CELEBRATING THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION IN THE LIVES OF CHRIST AND THE THEOTOKOS.

IN THE BYZANTINE CHURCHES, THE CYCLE OF FIXED FEASTS BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 1. AT ONE TIME, THIS WAS A CIVIL OBSERVANCE AS WELL. THIS IS WHY THE FALL MARKS THE ACADEMIC, JUDICIAL, MUSICAL AND SOCIAL NEW YEARS.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Finding Treasure

A WOMEN'S RETREAT ON FAITHFUL FRIENDSHIP

*A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter;
he who finds one finds a treasure.*
Sirach 6:14

St. John of the Desert invites all women to join us for a day of prayer, fellowship, food, and fun.

SEPTEMBER | **28** | 10AM TO 4PM

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\$20 SUGGESTED DONATION
LUNCH PROVIDED
REGISTER HERE:

www.stjohnofthedesert.com/treasure



September is the beginning of the new Liturgical year. There are Twelve Great Feasts in the Byzantine Liturgical Calendar. In addition to these Twelve Great Feasts, all Christians also celebrate the Feast of Feasts, Holy Pascha.

Sept. 8, 2024	Nativity of the Theotokos
Sept. 14, 2024	Exaltation of the Cross
Nov. 21, 2024	Presentation of the Theotokos
Dec. 25, 2024	Nativity of Christ
Jan. 6, 2025	Theophany
Feb. 2, 2025	Presentation in the Temple
March 25, 2025	Annunciation
April 13, 2025	Palm Sunday
April 20, 2025	Pascha
May 29, 2025	Ascension
June 8, 2025	Pentecost
August 6, 2025	Transfiguration
August 15, 2025	Dormition of the Theotokos

Save The Date

St. John of the Desert
will be hosting the
National Melkite Clergy
Convention

JOIN US FOR
DIVINE LITURGY
& DINNER
THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 10, 2024

NEXT SUNDAY!
NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS



THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY, THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY IS CELEBRATED ON SEPTEMBER 8 EACH YEAR. THE FEAST COMMEMORATES THE BIRTH OF THE MOTHER OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD.

Parish Groups

Ladies Guild (Leader: Veronica Quednau, email v.e.quednau1@gmail.com)

This group plans, reviews and coordinates our celebrations and social activities, including fundraising for the maintenance and sustenance of the Body of Christ. They promote hospitality and respond to the requests of the Parish.

Men's Group (Leader: John Nasser, email johnknasser@gmail.com)

This group advises the Pastor on pastoral, spiritual, financial and maintenance matters.

Family Catechesis & Forerunner Program (Leaders: All Clergy and Educators)

We are called to guide our children on the path towards Christ. On the first and last Sunday of each month, following the Divine Liturgy, both children and parents receive religious instruction.

Byzikids Home Educators Group (Leader: Kh. Jocelyn, email jabyad@gmail.com)

This is an Eastern Christian homeschool Co-Op which seeks to provide support and encouragement to families as they live out their faith. They support each other, pray, and share crafts and activities that enrich their homeschool education.

Women at the Well (Leader: Kh. Jocelyn, email jabyad@gmail.com)

Women of all ages gather to discuss a spiritual reflection and support each other.

Crafty Ladies (Leader: Kh. Simone, email simone@typicon.com)

The Crafty Ladies work together to create beautiful blankets which are donated to various organizations throughout the state.

They conclude their gathering by going out together for lunch.

Society of Publicans (Leader: Deacon Marion, email marionmrimmer@mail.com)

This is a prayer group that dedicates themselves to pray for the intentions of our Parish, the intentions of our Diocese, and our sister Churches in the United States. A weekly email is sent to the members of this group.

**STAY UP
TO DATE**

**TEXT THE WORD "DESERT" TO 84576
OR SCAN THE QR CODE!**



Parish Guidelines

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING - Members registered at St. John of the Desert and attend the Divine Liturgy at least three weekends each month, participate in the community life of the parish and contribute generously of their time, talent and treasure. **Members over eighteen years of age must be registered separately from their families.**

MYSTERIES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (Baptism, Chrismation, Eucharist) - Expectant parents should contact the pastor prior to the birth of the child. The priest can come to pray over the baby and mother in the days after birth. After forty days, Churching Prayers welcome the baby for the first time and the mother back to Church. To request the Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism), parents must be members in good standing and attend baptism preparation with the Godparents. At least one Godparent must be a member in good standing of a Melkite Church. The other Godparent may be a Catholic or Orthodox Christian in good standing.

MYSTERY OF HOLY CROWNING - Couples who wish to be married at St. John of the Desert must be members in good standing. They should contact the pastor prior to setting the date or making any other arrangements and at least six months prior to the desired date. They will need to complete our marriage preparation program. The Byzantine wedding ceremony begins in the narthex of the Church and does not feature the father walking the daughter down the main aisle. The couple approaches the Holy Mystery together as equals. There are no vows exchanged in the Byzantine Crowning ceremony.

MYSTERY OF HOLY CONFESSION - You may go to confession before or after most services in the Church. To make an appointment for confession, please call the office.

MYSTERY OF HOLY ANOINTING - Upon the request of the ill person or his/her immediate family only.

FUNERALS - When someone passes away in your family, please contact the Pastor prior to making any arrangements with the Funeral Home. There are no eulogies given in Church. Family and friends may deliver eulogies at the mercy meal.

There is no charge for the celebration of the Holy Mysteries, however, an offering of thanksgiving is customary. For members in good standing, we suggest a donation of \$300 for Baptism, \$600 for Wedding, \$600 for Funeral, \$75 for Memorial, and \$10 for Remembrance. The use of the Davis Hall for members in good standing is \$250 and \$100 for cleaning (an extra \$100 for Insurance may be required, check with the Pastor)



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