

Hieromartyr
Dionysios

15th Sunday after
Pentecost

Tone 6

2 Cor. 4:6-15
Luke 6:31-36

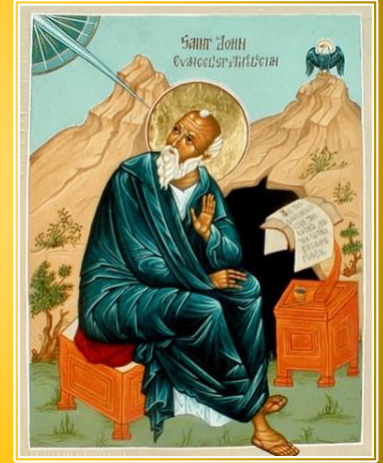
Homily by
Dn. Joseph Ray
Epistle Reader:
Stan Snider

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, October 4, 2021

And the Days Following



O Apostle John, speaker of Deity, the beloved of Christ our God, hasten to deliver your people powerless in speech, for He on Whose bosom you lean accepts you as an intercessor. Beseech Him, therefore, to disperse the darkness of ignorance and pray for peace and great mercies to be shown upon us.

Parish Events and News

Please Read "Encyclical" from Metropolitan Joseph

His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph has sent out an important paper to all parishes of our Archdiocese. He has called it: **"The Encyclical for the Year of Youth."** Below is an excerpt from the cover letter to this paper, explaining its significance and purpose. You can read the Encyclical on the Resources page of Cathedral website: [Encyclical](#). The Metropolitan is also asking that every member of our parish participate in a survey which can be found here: [Survey](#). Our Parish Council began a discussion of this paper this past week and I encourage you to read it as well. We will look for other opportunities to discuss this in our parish in the coming weeks. - Fr. Marc (*There are also a few copies of the letter on the Narthex Table*)

Excerpt from Metropolitan Joseph's cover letter to his "Encyclical"

"The attached "Encyclical for the Year of Youth" is a call for all of us together to confront the growing alienation between our youth and our parish communities. It is time for us to ask questions of ourselves and one another, in repentance, seeking genuine understanding. Instead of casting blame, we must accept responsibility to be the living examples and spiritual mentors our youth need. This is the duty not just of priests and youth workers but also of parents and every adult in our communities. And we also need our youth to open their hearts to us, to be honest with us, and to trust us to be partners with them in seeking Christ.

"This is a critical concern across our land, and we must all rise to the challenge. Please read the encyclical with care and share it with your parishes. Since addressing this challenge is among the highest priorities of our ministry, I expect that every parish council will have a discussion on it and that our Sunday School teachers, parents, men's and ladies' groups, youth, college students, and young adults will likewise meet to discuss it and begin the dialogue it calls for.

"In order to promote this dialogue at the archdiocesan level, our Youth and Young Adult Ministry Task Force (chaired by Fr. Nicholas Belcher) is launching an online survey for clergy, teens, young adults, youth workers, parents, and teachers. Please complete the survey yourselves and encourage all of your parishioners to do the same. I would love to see full participation of all these groups in this survey, since we urgently need to get a deeper understanding of the current state of our relationship with our youth.

"The survey can be found on the Task Force's new website: antiochianyouth.org. There you will also find the encyclical and more information and resources from the Task Force. Please encourage your parishes to visit this website and learn more about how we are revitalizing these important ministries.

Thank you for joining me in tackling this great crisis of our time. Pooling all our knowledge and skills, with the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit, I know that we can restore our youth to their rightful place in our parishes."



September 26 - Repose of Saint John the Evangelist

Despite snow from an early winter storm, the parishioners of Saint John's celebrated their patronal feast day with a procession at the end of Liturgy, stopping at each side, reading the Gospel, praying for our community and blessing the Cathedral. Here the clergy and people are standing along the north side. The procession ended on the front porch and singing 'Memory eternal' for the founders of

our parish. O God, save this holy Cathedral and visit it with Your mercy.

Photos from the Procession



Parish Council Meeting Summary and Coffee Hour Update

The Parish Council meets regularly on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Below is a summary of items we discussed this past week. - Fr. Marc

Coffee Hour: One of the main topics was how to resume indoor Coffee Hour. It was decided that while we are taking extra Covid precautions for the next two weeks in support of our hospitals we would have outdoor Coffee for two more Sundays. (So let's hope for cooperative weather. 🙏) If all goes well, we aim to begin Coffee Hour in the basement on October 17. Fr. Tom and Jennifer Medders will be working together along with Atrium organizers to come up with an organized plan for snacks, setup and cleanup. If you have ideas to pass on to them or want to help organize, please contact one of them. The initial plan is to have families bring simple food for snacks. We will continue to purchase coffee from Eagle River coffee shops while two Parish Council members research various kinds of coffee makers.

OCMC Missionaries Update: Josef and Effy Candelario have decided that their plans to work with the Greek Orthodox Church in Sweden have to be suspended. Our Parish Council had decided we would offer them two years of support for this effort. We will correspond with them and at our next meeting consider how our support should continue.

Eagle River Institute: The expenses of the ERI were more this year because we had three speakers. We also spent more money on meals provided for all attendees and babysitting during sessions. Additionally we hired a local videographer to help with the new effort to create IOTA Talks, short 15-minute videos. Finally, the ERI budget helped Fr. Marc accompany our instructors to Kodiak for the St. Herman Pilgrimage. The total expenses this year for the ERI was \$11,900. This is about twice what expenses were in previous years. Donations received for the Institute were about \$900. The Parish Council has affirmed in the past that the ERI is an important ministry of our Parish and so we set aside money for this expense in our annual budget. There is now no required registration fee. Overall these changes were deemed very successful in increasing the attendance and participation in this past summer's Institute.

Covid Protocols: Fr. Marc expressed his gratitude that most people wore face coverings at services the last two Sundays, in response to urgings that we heed the pleas of our local hospitals during the sharp rise of Covid in our community at this time. The Parish Council was also supportive of this effort.

"Encyclical on Youth": We discussed Metropolitan Joseph's recent letter. More about this can be found elsewhere in the Bulletin.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - Atrium

We are slated to start Atrium this year on Sunday, October 10th between 12:30 - 2:00 pm.

What we would like from parents:

1. Please register each participating child within the next two weeks BEFORE WE START.
2. Provide each of your children with a nutritious lunch before they enter the Atrium for participation and learning.

Please note - in order for your child to benefit from the Atrium lessons, please start them on October 10th and not later. If you have further questions, please contact Rhonda Clodfelter (907)-696-2128.

Good Works Basket – Thanksgiving Offering



Love INC of Eagle River and its member churches are once again coordinating this year's Thanksgiving Blessing Project. A complete (uncooked) turkey dinner with all the fixings will be provided to an anticipated 300 local families in need. As is our custom, St John will collect 350 (*individual*) boxes of stuffing. Scheduled delivery of our stuffing to Joy Lutheran is set for Sunday, November 21 when the Thanksgiving food boxes will be assembled for distribution the following day. Anyone wishing to volunteer with the assembly or distribution should contact Dn Kevin.

Music Team News

The Music Team will be making a few changes starting this coming weekend - one being reintroducing some "old" familiar music back for the Praises which is sung at the end of Matins. If you have any questions please contact Joe Dunham or Deb Stallman.



Upcoming Classes: Inquirer/Catechism & Theology Reading Group

More information about these Fall/Winter Classes will be in the Bulletin next Sunday.

Notes and Pictures from Parishioners

“Checking In” with Each Other

Is there something you'd like to share about what your family is up to? Please email stjohnalaska@aol.com

An Excerpt from a Letter from Samia Habib: Full Letter is on the Narthex Bulletin Board

A joyous feast of St. Sergius and St. John the Evangelist to your parish this past weekend. Two special feast days together, and I know that you all had a blessed weekend, hiking to the Chapel and filling the church and reliving this wonderful time for your Patron Saints. While I have been inside the chapel once, and of course spent many services inside the Cathedral, I have never been there on this joyous feast weekend. Perhaps someday I will – God willing. May St. Sergius and St. John watch over all of you and keep you safe and well.

Dates to Remember



Wednesday Reading Group

The Wednesday readers will meet at JoAnn Webster's home at 10am We will watch the movie of the life of St Therese of Lisieux. It's a 2 hour movie, so please be on time.

Birthdays This Week



October 5 - Richard Peters

October 5 - Linda Peters

October 9 - Caleb Lindblom

October 10 - Subdn. Steven Alvarez

October 10 - Kh. Betsy Dunaway

October 10 - Catherine Jones

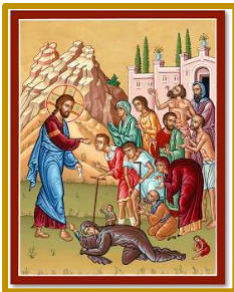
M A N Y Y E A R S !



Anniversaries This Week

Chris & Allison Lineer - October 3, 1981

M A N Y Y E A R S !



Remembering in Prayer...

Tisha Dunham

Eloise Lamb

Tom Johnson

Katie Jones

Those Suffering with Covid

Jennifer Medders

Preston Collier

Mother Galina

Teri Van Dyke

Remembering Those Who Have Fallen Asleep This Month



* Helen Grace Peters - October 23, 1998

* Isabella Joy Fletes - October 24, 2019

* Kh. Nancy Downing - October 19, 2002

M E M O R Y E T E R N A L !

Clare House Meal - 4th Saturday of Each Month

For the Month of **OCTOBER** – our scheduled meal that we provide Clare House is:
Saturday, October 23. Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



THE SYNAXARION

Dionysios the Areopagite – October 3



On October 3, in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy Hieromartyr Dionysios the Areopagite.

Verses

*He Who said to the Paralytic: Take up your bed and walk,
Said: Take up your head and run, O Dionysios.
On the third, O Dionysios, you took your severed head and ran.*

He is counted among the original Seventy apostles. Dionysios was studying in Egypt when Lord Christ breathed His last on the Cross, and when the whole world was darkened for three hours, Dionysios cried out: ‘Either God the Creator of the world is suffering, or the world is ending.’ He returned to Athens and married a woman called Damaris and had sons by her. He was a member of the highest court in Greece, known as the Areopagus, and because of this was thereafter known as the Areopagite. As mentioned in the Book of Acts, when the Apostle Paul preached the Gospel in Athens, Dionysios was baptized with his whole household. Paul later consecrated Dionysios bishop of Athens and he travelled widely with Paul, coming to know all the other apostles. He travelled to Jerusalem to see the most holy Mother of God, and wrote of his meeting with her in one of his works, being present at her burial. After Paul suffered martyrdom, Dionysios went off to Gaul to preach the Gospel among the barbarians, accompanied by Rustikos, a priest, and Eleutherios a deacon, whom we also commemorate today. By their labors, many were turned to the Christian faith and Dionysios built a small chapel in Paris where he celebrated the divine service. When he was ninety years old, Dionysios was seized and tortured for Christ, together with Rustikos and Eleutherios, until they were all beheaded in the year 96. His famous writings include: *On the Divine Names*, *On the Heavenly Hierarchies*, *On the Ecclesiastical Hierarchies*, and *The Mystical Theology*.

By the intercessions of Your Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Saint John Orthodox Cathedral

P.O. Box 771108 • 18936 Monastery Drive • Eagle River, Alaska, 99577
(907) 696-2002 • Fax: (907) 696-5555 • Website: stjohnalaska.org
• Diocesan Website: <http://www.antiochianladiocese.org>
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese • Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway
Assistant Priests: Fr. Robert Polson / Fr. Thomas Frizelle