

*Forefeast Elevation
Sunday before the
Cross*

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*Galatians 6:11-18  
John 3:13-17*

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*Homily by
Dn. Joseph Ray*

*Epistle Reader:
Steve Templeton*

*Coffee Hour Hosts:
Burton / Lowry*

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

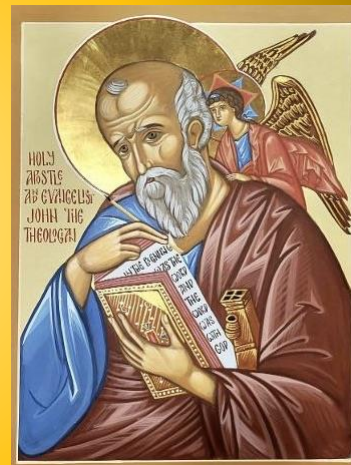
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## *Weekly Bulletin*

*Sunday, September 13, 2026*

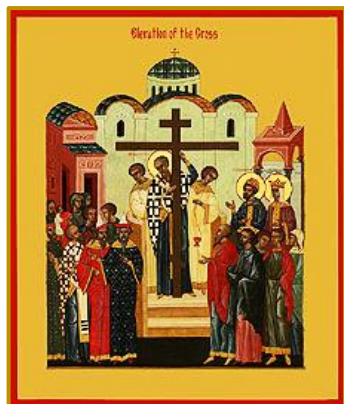
*And the Days Following*

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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.

Feast Days and Services



September 14 – Strict Fast Day...

Elevation of the Cross Feast Day is Sept. 14

Sunday, Sep 13, Great Vespers at 6:15pm

Monday, Sep 14, Divine Liturgy at 6:15pm

Parish Events and News

“Opening the Door to Orthodox Christianity”

A series of classes beginning Thursday, October 1

6pm-7:30pm in the Church Basement

These classes will aim to open the door to knowing the real God as He is revealed through Jesus Christ and known in the Scriptures and the Orthodox way. They are for seekers, inquirers and catechumens, “nones” and Churchgoers, non-Orthodox and Orthodox, young and old, and any who want to understand the Christian faith better.

One important change this year is that we plan to hold our gatherings in the Church basement. This is to accommodate more people and to facilitate streaming sessions for those who miss a class. For current church members, attending the classes can be a good way to refresh your basic knowledge of the Orthodox faith, and a way to get to know some of our new catechumens and inquirers.

Here are some other important things to note:

1. Please respond using the sign-up form in the link below to confirm that you plan to attend. This will help us arrange our meeting area.

2. We will have childcare available during the classes for children (ages 1+). If you plan to use this, include the names and ages of your children. Saint John's will pay the babysitters, but parents are encouraged to offer a tip.

3. Finally, we will not make paper copies of the material we read in class. Instead, documents will be posted online through a link provided on the home page of our Cathedral website (stjohnalaska.org). So, bring a laptop, tablet, or mobile phone to access these online.

Please respond to the link below by September 24.

[Sign-up Form for Classes](#)

[Schedule of Classes 2026/27](#)

Sisters of Mary and Martha

Sisters of Mary and Martha are recruiting for several positions that will be opening on the Leadership Board. If you'd like to have a direct impact on how the Sisters of Mary and Martha care for our church and community, please contact Katy Arvidson or Hannah Hanna.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Atrium)

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd begins on
Sunday, September 13, 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm.**



The registration forms and calendars with highlighted dates that Atrium will meet are located on the Narthex table. Please fill out registration (one per family) and leave in the box face side down and take a calendar home. All level 1 Atrium children, returning or new, (ages 3–6-year-olds) need to be oriented to the Atrium. There will be time slots to sign up with Jennifer Saur and Jennifer Gillquist. If you have any questions, you may contact Rhonda Clodfelter (907) 727-5604. Thank you.



Coffee Hour This Sunday - September 13, 2026 Group Luke (2) - Second Sunday of the Month

Hosts Families: Burton / Lowry

Snacks: Agnew, Arnold, Bower, Davisson, Drennan, Dunham, Fisher, Hanna, Hoyt, J. Jenkins, M & M Jones, D & M Kendall, Komar, Lindblom, K Medders, L & M Mellor, G. Moses, Peters, Saur, Snider, Sturdevant, N. Temple, Tysver, Villafanna, Wells

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***Next Sunday – Group Mark (3) – September 20 - Hosts: Cooley / Haley***

***Snacks:*** Alexander, Artz, Cook, Doss, B & D Dunaway, Dyal, Fletes, P. Gillquist, Griffith, Hattenburg, Hunter, E & H Johnson, Justus, Labrecque, Lowry, Marcus, O Medders, T & L Mellor, Northey, Palmer, Polson, Scherer, Sorensen, J & A Stiehr, A & J Temple, Unser, Wasile, Wolkoff



## Be Sure to See This Video by Nicole Unser

Nicole Unser made a beautiful video about the installation of the new cupola on Saint Sergius Chapel. You can see the video here: [St. Sergius of Radonezh Chapel - Cupola Restoration & Installation](#). Thank you, Nicole, and thanks again to all who worked to make, repair and restore our Chapel cupolas.

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## *St. James House Weekly News*



**St. James House Café**  
**Come Sit and Enjoy a Cup of Coffee and**  
**Catch Up with Friends**  
**Tuesdays and Thursdays 8am to 9am**

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## *News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese*



Writings by Metropolitan Saba: [The Suffering Church](#)  
[The WORD Online](#). The WORD magazine is a publication of the Archdiocese. Now you can read it online.

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## *Notes and Pictures from Parishioners*

### **“Checking In” with Each Other**

Is there something you'd like to share? Please email: [cathedral@stjohnalaska.org](mailto:cathedral@stjohnalaska.org)

### ***Note from Nicole Unser....***

“It's Inkwell time again! **When:** Sunday, September 20th at 2pm. **Where:** St. James House and **childcare will be provided.** **What:** Inkwell gatherings are meant to spur each other along in our creative endeavors and find community in our creative callings. **Who:** Inkwell is for both men and women - similar to the Inklings group of C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. We have creators ranging from those who knit, paint, write, draw, to those who press flowers, play musical instruments, and edit videos, etc. Whether you are highly trained or simply love creating as a hobby, you are welcome! If you're wondering if this group is for you, feel free to chat with me at church, shoot me an email at [nicole@nicoleunser.com](mailto:nicole@nicoleunser.com), or text/call me at [509-362-1685](tel:509-362-1685). We'd love to have you there. -Nicole Unser”

**Bridal Shower for Taylor Wilson  
At the St. James House**

**THIS Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am**

Ladies, please join us for Taylor Wilson's bridal shower. This will be a potluck get together so please bring a brunch dish to share. Additional details are on the invitation.



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*Dates to Remember*

*Birthdays This Week*

September 15 - Davy Griffith

September 15 - Kasey Medders

September 17 - Hannah Johnson

September 18 - Melinda Kendall

September 18 - Stan Snider

*M A N Y Y E A R S !*



*'Moms with Little Ones' Reading Group  
Wednesdays 10am*

We will meet at the St. James House If you have any questions, contact Natasha Haines at 907-351-4942.





## *Men's Book Club - Wednesdays 7-8pm*

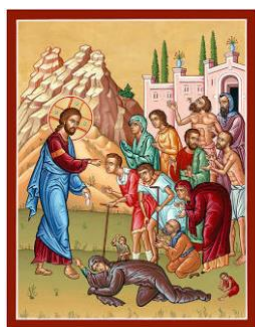
We will meet at the St. James House. If you have any questions, you can text Sam Lowry at 616-928-5181.

*On the Apostolic Preaching* by St. Irenaeus. We will do all the reading together during our meeting time, with discussion interspersed throughout. Ten copies of the text will be available at our meetings for purchase, but you can also purchase your own if you would like. We are using the SVS Press Fr. John Behr edition.



## *Women's Reading Group - Thursdays at 10am*

We meet at 10am at the Senior Center Meeting Room, in the HUD building on the second floor. Hope to see you there! —Ann Patras



## *Remembering in Prayer...*

*Oksana Artz*

*Ben Polson*

*Maris Kelly*

*Travis Cook*

*Lily and baby Moses*

*For those suffering from the devastation of war*

## *Remembering Those Who Have Fallen Asleep This Month*



- \* Priest Thomas Moffatt - September 2, 2008
- \* Dorothy Calberg Keating - September 11, 2012
- \* Alan John Zink - September 12, 2023
- \* Laura Bell Scott - September 13, 2014
- \* Agileen Lund - September 17 - 1983
- \* Mary Elizabeth Dunaway - September 20, 1984
- \* Russell Raoul Labrecque - September 30, 1986

*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 **September** – our scheduled meal that we provide Clare House is:  
**Saturday, September 26, 2026.** Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



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## THE SYNAXARION

### Consecration Church in Jerusalem – September 13 FOREFEAST ELEVATION



On September 13, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Forefeast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross and commemorate the Consecration of the Church of the Holy Resurrection of Christ our God.

#### *Verses*

*New Israel, fulfilling a law that is ancient,  
Honors Your tomb, O Word, with this dedication.  
On the thirteenth the temple of the holy Resurrection was consecrated.*

The Church of the Holy Resurrection in Jerusalem, also known as the Church of the Holy Sepulcher is honored above all others. Under the supervision of Constantine the Great's blessed mother Helen, the very great and magnificent temple was built. It was constructed at the place of Golgatha, where our Savior was crucified, buried and then arose. For a long time, this place had been purposely buried beneath the earth by the Jews and heathen. Furthermore, during the reign of Hadrian, in the second century, a temple dedicated to Aphrodite was built over the site so that this sacred place might be even further desecrated and fall into utter oblivion. However, when the Emperor Constantine converted the empire to Christianity, he had the pagan temple dismantled, the earth removed and the holy church was built. It was here that the sacred Cross was hidden along with other artifacts of the saving Passion. This took place while Macarius was Archbishop of Jerusalem. Macarius exalted the venerable Cross and consecrated this temple in the year 336.

On this day, we also commemorate the Hieromartyr Cornelius the centurion; Venerable Hierotheos the Younger of Iviron monastery on Athos; Great-martyr Ketevan, queen of Georgia; and the Six Martyrs at Tomi in Romania. By the intercessions of Your Saints, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.

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#### **Bulletin Announcement Guidelines**

Send announcements to church email address: [cathedral@stjohnalaska.org](mailto:cathedral@stjohnalaska.org) Have announcements submitted by Thursday or at very latest Friday 9am. If you have any questions regarding announcements – contact Maris Kelly at the church office. 907-696-2002.

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#### **Saint John Orthodox Cathedral**

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Parish Council Email [parishcouncil@stjohnalaska.org](mailto:parishcouncil@stjohnalaska.org) • Website: [stjohnalaska.org](http://stjohnalaska.org)  
• Diocesan Website: <http://www.antiochianladiocese.org>  
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway • Assistant Priest: Fr. Robert Polson