

Parable of the
Talents
Tone 3
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2 Corinthians 6:1-10  
Matthew 25:14-30,  
Luke 8:8  
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Homily by
Fr. Marc Dunaway

Epistle Reader:
Steve Templeton

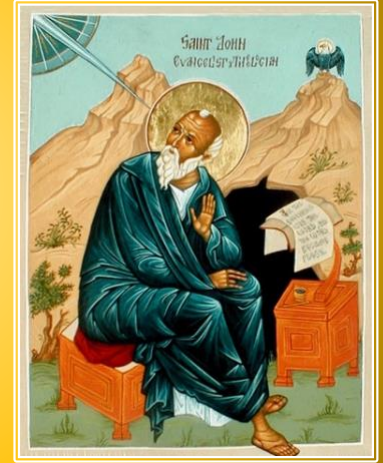
Coffee Hour Hosts:
Komar / Drennan

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, February 11, 2024

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

Important Church Family Meeting on Saturday Evening March 2 at 7:15pm after Early Vespers at 6:15pm

This will be an important meeting to discuss various parish issues. Note that we will start Vespers at 6:15pm that Saturday night and have the Church Family meeting immediately afterward at 7:15pm. More information will be coming.

New Parish Council Members Needed / Church Family Meeting

Saint John's will have its annual Parish Family Meeting in on Saturday, March 2. We need at this time to fill two positions on the Parish Council. This is an important way to serve our Parish Community. Please see the qualifications below:

If you are willing to serve in this role, please submit your name to the Church office by phone (907) 696-2002 or by email (stjohnalaska@aol.com).

"The Church is a community, the 'body of Christ.' As such all members of the Parish need to use their talents to contribute to the health and well-being of the whole. Those on the Parish Council assume a special role of leadership to help make important decisions and guide the parish in its ministries and good works. Offering a positive contribution with a spirit of commitment is the essential work for a healthy governing body. We need our Parish Council members to be examples of committed effort and willingness to serve.

Qualifications: 25 years or older; Member of parish for two years, demonstrate membership "by regularly participating in the parish's sacramental life and by regularly contributing to its temporal maintenance through the payment of dues, pledges, assessments (tithes)."

The Parish Council regularly meets on the 4th Tuesday evening of each month, about 10 times a year, with allowances for Feast Days or other scheduling conflicts considered.

Saint John's is Seeking to Hire a Full-Time "Parish Administrator"

Saint John Orthodox Cathedral is looking to hire a Parish Administrator to assist the Pastor in coordinating and managing the properties, ministries, and activities of our Cathedral parish in a way that serves our mission and vision, especially in the areas of community, education, and hospitality. Please share this announcement with anyone who might be interested and qualified. You can see the job description and application here: [Parish Administrator Job Description and Application](#) Printed copies are also available on the Narthex table. Applications are due February 23, 2024.

Thursday Night Talks This Week - February 15, St. James House – 6:30pm Thursday Night Talks - A Social Ethos for the Orthodox Church

The article for this coming week will be a "meaty" dive into theology as we discuss the opening sections of an important document published in 2019, "[For the Life of the World: Toward a Social Ethos of the Orthodox Church.](#)" But don't let this scare you away. The basic questions we will examine are: How are we to behave in this world? And, how is the Church supposed to interact with society and governments. Our goal in reading this will be to not leave any paragraph behind until we feel we have all understood it together. Here are two excerpts to whet your appetite: "*It would be irrational and uncharitable of Christians not to feel a genuine gratitude for the special democratic genius of the modern age.*" And, "*...the poisonous notion of race remains a part of the conceptual world of late modernity. There could be no greater contradiction of the Gospel. There is only one human race, to which all are called...*" These articles and more information about Thursday Night Talks can be found online [here](#). Note that we do not provide printed copies of articles, so please come prepared to view them on your own device or print your own copy.

The Wedding Wall Plastic Bin is Missing

The wedding wall plastic bin is not in the back church closet where it usually is. It has a petite hammer, small nails, special paper, mats, tape, and other items inside. Please keep your eyes open for it and return it to the closet. —Thank you, Anna Haley



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Atrium)

12:30pm – 2:00pm

Parents – please provide your children with a lunch.

Atrium Classes Cancelled Next Sunday, February 18

Because of the School Fundraiser Dinner on Sunday evening, both Coffee Hour and Atrium Classes will be cancelled next Sunday. Get your ticket and help to support our School.



Coffee Hour This Sunday - February 11, 2024 Group B - Second Sunday of the Month

Hosts Families: Komar / Drennan

Snacks: Agnew, Alvarez, Betson, Davison, Davisson, Drennan, B & D Dunaway, J & B Dunaway, Finkler, Grasse, Hoyt, Ihde, Keener, Klatt, Komar, Lineer, Lowry, Moffatt, Peters, Ray, Schlicting, Stevens, Sturdevant, Villafana

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**NO COFFEE HOUR FEBRUARY 18TH – DUE TO SCHOOL DINNER**

## *St. John's School Weekly News*

### **Hawaiian Themed Fundraiser Dinner Next Weekend - February 18 at 5:30pm**

Get your tickets now!

We still have some tickets for the Hawaiian Fundraiser extravaganza!

Don't miss out!

We'll have a table downstairs at coffee hour this Sunday,  
or you can call the school office at 907-696-3920  
to reserve your spot.

We hope to see you there! Mahalo.





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## *News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese*



- A short article from Metropolitan Saba will be published each week. These can be found in our Sunday Bulletin each week with a link to the new articles.

**Writings by Metropolitan Saba:** ["The One Gospel."](#)

- **The Department of Sacred Music** welcomes all church singers and music directors to the annual [Winter Sacred Music Institute](#) at St. George Cathedral of Coral Gables, Florida, from Feb. 22-25. The Department is also hosting a one-day retreat on March 16 at St. Luke Church of Garden Grove, California (see the attached flier). Please share these great opportunities with your church musicians to improve their ministries and encourage them to attend.
- Last week, His Eminence took part in a pair of important media programs. In "The Orthodox Deaconess" on Ancient Faith Radio, Sayidna Saba addressed questions like: When did the office exist? What was its function? Should it be restored? In a live show with Apostles4Jesus, Sayidna Saba also took calls and comments from listeners about Orthodox parochial schools, improving outreach without sacrificing proven tradition, and how Orthodox Christians can discern their callings in life and in ministry through the Church. You can read this story [HERE](#).

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## *Notes and Pictures from Parishioners*

**"Checking In" with Each Other**

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

### **Note from Elisa Betson**

Dear St. John's Community,

Thank you so very much for all your donations, meals, visiting, and prayers. Here is the [link](#) to the GoFundMe that my sister set up on my behalf. In there is an update on my progress. Please feel free to ask me any questions.

Your continued prayers and any assistance are greatly welcomed. Your sister in Christ, Elisa Betson.

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## *Dates to Remember*



### *Thursday Reading Group*

We will meet Thursday at the Chugiak Senior Center at 10am

### *Monday 'Moms with Kids' Reading Group*

Please join us for reading group on Mondays at 10 AM. We meet at Saint James House in the living room area. If you have any questions, please contact Natasha Haines at 907-351-4942.





## Monday Evening Reading Group - 6:30pm

Regroup for the Evening Reading Group Monday, 6:30 PM after many delays due to weather and various reasons. We'll read a short story by Eudora Welty, have a book review, and discuss possible books to read for Lent. Bring a snack if you like and just relax and enjoy socializing.

## Birthdays This Week

February 12 - Zoe Labrecque

February 15 - Denise Ray

February 14 - Brandon Weaver

February 18 - Mia Fletes

February 15 - Ronan Hanna

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



## Remembering in Prayer...

*Janet Hawi*

*Gwyn Jones*

*Judi Hoyt*

*Jan Northey*

*Gale Armstrong*

*Eloise Lamb*

*Kerry Jones*

*Tisha Dunham*

*Elisa Betson*

*We will continue to pray for all those suffering in Ukraine and for all those suffering in Israel and Gaza, for a quick end to war and for peace*

## Remembering Those Who Have Fallen Asleep This Month



\* Steven Theodore Primis - February 3, 2001

\* Archpriest Jack Sparks - February 8, 2010

\* Phyllis Isabel Webster - February 12, 1992

\* Lynn Ellen Guio - February 17, 2019

\* Dn. Christian Timothy Sorensen - February 23, 2000

*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 **February** – our scheduled meal that we provide Clare House is: **Saturday, February 24, 2024**. Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



### Bulletin Announcement Guidelines

Send announcements to church email address: [stjohnalaska@aol.com](mailto:stjohnalaska@aol.com). 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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## THE SYNAXARION

### Blaise of Sebastia – February 11



On February 11, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Hieromartyr Blaise, bishop of Sebastia, and his companions.

#### *Verses*

*Since the throat of Blaise was severed with the sword,*

*From ailing throats, he stops harmful humors.*

*On the eleventh, unyielding bronze cut the neck of Blaise.*

Born in Cappadocia, Blaise (Vlassios) was meek and God-fearing from early childhood. During a period of violent persecution of Christians, Blaise encouraged his flock and visited the martyrs in prison, among them the famous Eustratius. Later in life, Blaise retired to the mountain of Argeos and lived there in a cave. Ferocious wild beasts, recognizing a holy man, came to him and he gently tamed them. Persecutors sent by the emperor Licinius found the saint in that hidden spot and took him for trial. On the way there, Blaise healed a boy who had a bone stuck in his throat and, at the petition of a poor widow, made the wolf that had taken her pig return it to her. The dark judges tortured him, flogging him terribly. By his steadfastness, Blaise brought many unbelievers to the Christian Faith. Seven women and two children were thrown into prison with him. Together, they suffered and were glorified on this day in 316. Blaise's prayers are sought for the health and well-being of domestic animals and for protection from wild beasts. He is also invoked against ailing and sore throats.

On this day, we also commemorate Theodora the empress; and New-martyr George of Serbia. By the intercessions of Your saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

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### Saint John Orthodox Cathedral

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• Diocesan Website: <http://www.antiochianladiocese.org>

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway • Assistant Priest: Fr. Robert Polson