

19th Sunday after
Pentecost
Joel the Prophet
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2 Cor. 11:31-12:9  
Luke 7:11-16  
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Homily by
Fr. Marc Dunaway

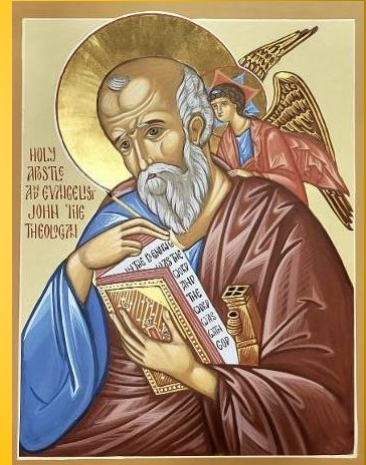
Epistle Reader:
Russell Clodfelter

Coffee Hour Hosts:
Arnold / Mellor

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, October 19, 2025
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.*

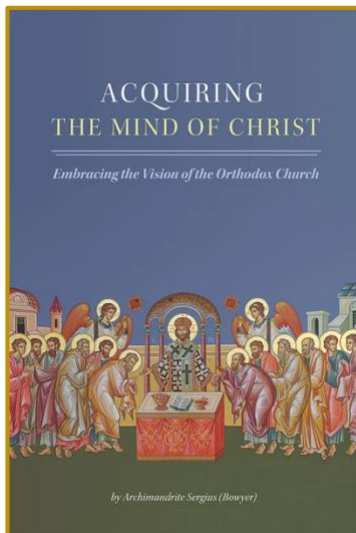
## Parish Events and News

### Opening the Door to Orthodox Christianity Class This Week

Thursday, October 23, 6-7:30pm:

*“About the Holy Spirit, the Church and the World to Come”*

At the St. James House – [Schedule](#)



### Introducing a New “Men’s Book Club” Wednesday Nights 7-8pm at the St. James House Starting this Wednesday, October 22

- We will be reading *Acquiring the Mind of Christ* by Archimandrite Sergius, abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery.
- A description of the book: *“Acquiring the Mind of Christ”* is an easy-to-read collection of essays by our revered abbot, Fr. Sergius, whose wise words, whether in confession or in sermons have been treasured by the monastery community. Contained in this little volume are reflections on the Divine Liturgy as life, prayer, beauty, monasticism, and the outline of a “ten-minute prayer rule.”
- To make it easier to fit into our busy schedules, there will be no assigned reading. We will read the book aloud and discuss.
- Unfortunately, all Orthodox booksellers are currently sold out.

However, we were able to acquire ten copies to share and use during our sessions.

- If you have any questions, text Sam Lowry at (616)-928-5181

## ! IMPORTANT UPDATE ! FOR WESTERN ALASKA RELIEF DONATIONS

According to AVCP, please **STOP** donating used items for now. They will accept donations of **NEW** items only, labeled on the top of boxes.

### NEW ITEMS REQUESTED:

- Water & nonperishable food
- Diapers (all sizes) & wipes
- Toilet paper & paper towels
- Personal hygiene items
- Cleaning supplies
- Phone chargers & batteries
- Blankets, sleeping bags, cots, pillows
- Blankets, sleeping bags, cots, pillows
- Flashlights, hand wipes, rubber gloves
- Totes, duffle bags, backpacks
- Large trash bags
- Air mattresses with pumps

### OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT:

- » Amazon Wishlist: <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1C1NSKNI9HD16>
- » Western Alaska Disaster Relief Fund: <https://tinyurl.com/zrfe7xzx>
- » AFN Convention Donation Drop Site: Dena'ina Center, Room 6 (2nd Floor)

## Let's Help Out Those Affected by the Floods in Western Alaska

On this Sunday, October 19th, donations of new items will be collected to help those affected by the flooding in Western Alaska.

Donations can be brought to the home of Jennifer and Greg Gillquist on Monastery Drive or to the Cathedral Narthex. Jennifer and Greg have volunteered to drop off collected donations at the Dena'ina Center. Those who wish, can drop off donations at the Dena'ina Center, Room 6 (2nd Floor). Additionally, Jennifer and Gregg are willing to purchase items for those who may not have the time to do so. Contact Jennifer Gillquist to discuss donating funds for items. Please see the flyer for a list of requested new items.

## September 30 - Parish Council Meeting Summary

[parishcouncil@stjohnalaska.org](mailto:parishcouncil@stjohnalaska.org)

- The PC members shared highlights of their summer and reflected on the contributions and loss of Bruce Johnson. They also welcomed the new PC member, Derick Hanna.
- The PC will start the process of finding a new co-chair from amongst the PC members.
- It was recognized that more liturgy books are needed and so more will be made available. The PC also discussed the importance and process of welcoming new members and are brainstorming the best way to ensure that all feel welcomed and incorporated into the Parish. Welcome packets are being created with a plan to have them available for visitors.
- With the Preschool class moving out of one of the SJH basement apartments, it's now available, and two young women who are both catechumens in the Church will be staying there.
- The Maranatha House renovations are complete.
- Fr. Marc provided an update on the Parish's summer activities. In summary, Bishop John's visit went well. The ERI was well attended. The ERI recordings are available now at [eagleriverinstitute.org](http://eagleriverinstitute.org)
- The PC continued the discussion on the proposed endowment fund.
- The PC also continued the discussion of the renovation project to make the SJH handicap accessible. None of the plans we considered so far seem to fit as well as we would like. More planning is needed and will be in the works over the next several months.
- Plans were discussed to reestablish the Cemetery Committee. This has now been done and committee members who volunteered to serve are Ann Patras, Sydney Ihde, Oscar Medders, Jenny Stogsdill, Liz Klatt and Alyssa Espino.
- The scaffolding for the cupolas has begun. The insurance covered the large cupola and the small cupola expenses will come from church funds.
- The school/church bus has been revamped to make it functional for school/church use.
- Next meeting: October 28, 2025, 7p to 9p in the church basement. The PC members will be assigned a strategic planning video to watch prior to the next meeting which will be discussed during the first 30 minutes of our next meeting.

Please send any comments/questions/suggestions to the Parish Council at

[parishcouncil@stjohnalaska.org](mailto:parishcouncil@stjohnalaska.org).

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Atrium)

12:30pm – 2:00pm

*Parents – please provide your children with a lunch.*



## Youth Group-Tuesday Nights-6:30-8pm at the St. James House

We'll have dinner together at the 'big table' starting at 6:30pm with a discussion and activities in the living room wrapping up at 8pm. —John Marc and Bethany Dunaway (907) 317-9549.

## An Update on Our Work at Downtown Hope Soup Kitchen

Hello everyone! Our church has steadily been volunteering a few times a month at the Downtown Hope Soup Kitchen since March of 2023. I have kept track of how many people from our parish have come with me to DSK over the last year and a half and we are at 35 people! I hope to continue our work there. The residents and staff love having us and always complementing our church volunteers on their hard work and gentleness. *(Our church contributes \$250 and month to DSK).*

### **Our next big group (10 people) volunteer day is: October 25th, 9-1:30pm.**

I have two spots left so please let me know if you are interested soon. If you're more interested in a one-hour evening shift, please reach out, I do those usually once a week with 1-2 additional volunteers. Thank you! -Sydney Ihde (907)854-5517

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## News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese



### Writings by Metropolitan Saba: [“A Bishop’s Scribbles”](#)

On Oct. 7-10 and 13, the metropolitans of the Holy Synod of Antioch, under the presidency of His Beatitude John X, gathered specialists to discuss Islamic-Christian relations, social welfare, and bridging gaps in the Middle East's pluralist society. The specialists have emphasized the Patriarch and the Holy Synod's critical role in promoting trust, peace and understanding. Here's [a recap](#).



## Coffee Hour This Sunday - October 19, 2025 Group C - Third Sunday of the Month

### Hosts Families: Arnold / Mellor / Forbes

Snacks: Arnold, Curry, Dunham, Fisher, Hanna, Hawi, Hunter, E & H Johnson, Kelly, Kendall, Labrecque, Medders Families, Okuley, Polson, Saur, Scherer, Sparks, Stiehr, Temple Families, Wasile

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### Next Sunday – Group D – October 26, 2025 Hosts: E & H Johnson / Burton

Snacks: Alexander, Arvidson, Clodfelter, Dougherty, Fr. M & Kh. Betsy Dunaway, Dyal, Fletes, Haines, Goetz, Hightower, M Johnson, Jones, Kies, Lamb, Mee, Moses, Palmer, Parker, Ray, Snider, Stogsdill, I. Temple, Terrell, Van Dyke, Webster



The poster features a warm orange background with dark brown leafy branches at the top. The title 'ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL TRUNK-OR-TREAT' is prominently displayed in the center. Below the title, a dark purple banner indicates the event is hosted by the school board. To the left, three icons (calendar, location pin, and group of people) precede the event details: date, location, and attendees. To the right, a light orange circle contains the event schedule with corresponding icons (smiley face, witch hat, and broom). At the bottom, two jack-o'-lanterns sit on a patch of grass, and the sponsors' names are listed. The website URL is at the very bottom.

**ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL**  
**TRUNK-OR-TREAT**

**HOSTED BY THE ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL BOARD**

 **DATE:**  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

 **LOCATION:**  
ST, JOHN'S SCHOOL  
PARKING LOT &  
MONASTERY DRIVE

 **WHO:** ST, JOHN'S  
STUDENTS, FAMILIES,  
AND COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS

**EVENT SCHEDULE**

 **SET-UP:** 5:30–5:45 PM

 **TRICK-OR-TREATING:**  
6:00–7:00 PM

 **CLEAN-UP:**  
7:00–7:15 PM

**SPONSORED BY**  
**GEICO**  
**AND MONICA JOHNSON**



**SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
**[WWW.SJOCS.ORG](http://WWW.SJOCS.ORG)**

## 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)



### Update on Our Catechumen Landen Begaye

A shout out to catechumen Landen Begaye who just had his 21st birthday and graduated from Navy boot camp as a Fireman Recruit! Landen continues his interest in the Orthodox faith visiting monasteries and local churches near him. Please keep him in your prayers!

## Dates to Remember

### Wednesday 'Moms with Little Ones' Reading Group

Wednesday Reading Group for Mom's with Little Ones starts at 10 AM in the St. James house living room. If you have any questions, please contact Natasha Haines at 907-351-4942.



Men's Book Club

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

We will meet at the St. James House. If you have and questions, you can text Sam Lowry at 616-928-5181. (Begins October 22)



### Thursday Reading Group

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

### Birthdays This Week

October 19 - Danielle Dunaway

October 19 - Anthony Fletes

October 19 - Judy Tysver

October 22 - Steve Templeton

Oct 22 - Jennifer VanDewater

*M A N Y*

October 23 - Maddy Temple

October 25 - Lucia Fletes

October 25 - MaryAnn Northey

October 26 - Chris Grasse

October 26 - Ryan Hattenburg

*Y E A R S !*

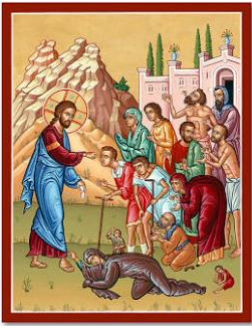




### *Anniversaries this Week*

Anthony & Cara Fletes - October 25, 2015

*M A N Y   Y E A R S !*



### *Remembering in Prayer...*

*Helen Gillquist*

*Jay Keener*

*Zoie (Oksana's Mom)*

*Krya & Skylynn Lineer*

*We 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*



- Fr. John Downing - October 4, 2024
- Kh. Nancy Downing - October 19, 2002
- Helen Grace Edzards Peters - October 23, 1998
- Isabella Joy Fletes - October 24, 2019

*M E M O R Y   E T E R N A L !*

### *Clare House Meal - 4th Saturday of Each Month*

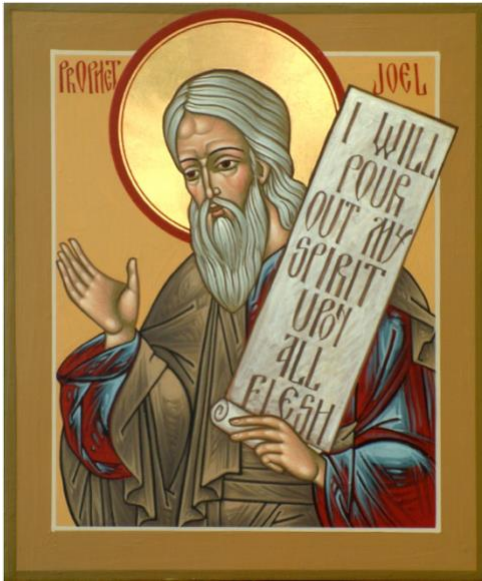
For the Month of **OCTOBER** – our scheduled meal that we provide Clare House is:  
**Saturday, October 25.** Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



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## THE SYNAXARION

### Joel the Prophet – October 19



On October 19, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy and glorious Prophet Joel.

#### *Verses*

*Joel, who in tragic strains sang the earth's sufferings,  
Has passed from the earth to a place above sufferings.  
On the nineteenth, death concealed the Prophet Joel.*

Joel was the son of Phaniel of the tribe of Reuben. He lived 800 years before Christ and foretold the misfortunes of the Israelites and their captivity in Babylon for the sins that they had committed against God. He called the people to fasting and the priests to penitent and tearful prayer that God would have mercy on them; and they listened to him. Joel also prophesied of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, and the outpouring of His grace on all the faithful. He foretold and described the Dreadful Judgment of God, and the glory of God's holy Church.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Varos and seven martyrs with him; the Righteous Mother Cleopatra of Palestine; the Venerable John of Rila; Prochoros of Pchinja and Archpriest John of Kronstadt, the wonderworker. By the intercessions of Your saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon 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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• Diocesan Website: <http://www.antiochianladiocese.org>  
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway • Assistant Priest: Fr. Robert Polson