

23rd Sunday after
Pentecost
Tone 6

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Ephesians 2:4-10  
Luke 10:25-37

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Homily by
Fr. Marc Dunaway

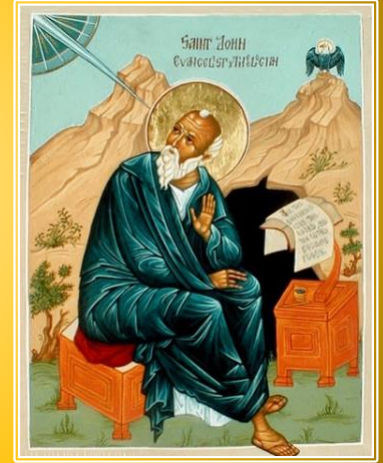
Epistle Reader:
Jennifer Medders

No Coffee Hour
Today

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

Weekly Bulletin

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Sunday, November 12, 2023  
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.*



## Wedding of Brett Clement & Chloe French

This Sunday - November 12, 2023 at 2:00pm  
Cake and Coffee to follow in Church Basement

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## Feast Days and Services

### The Advent Fast

The Advent Fast begins 40 days before Christmas on November 15. *(Due to the American holiday of Thanksgiving, some begin this fast in earnest on December 1 or else they take a four-day break from the fast from Thanksgiving through the following Sunday.)*



It is usual to limit both the number of meals and the amount of food eaten. The Church's complete Rule calls for abstinence from all meat and animal products. However, fish, wine and oil may be eaten on all days except Wednesdays and Fridays, up to December 20, which is the beginning of the Forefeast, the "Holy Week" before Christmas. After December 20 the fast should become more rigorous. The strict fast of Christmas Eve is broken by a fasting meal after the evening Liturgy. *(Note: When Christmas Eve falls on a Saturday or Sunday it is not a strict fast day but is kept as any regular fasting day in Advent).* There is no fasting on Christmas Day up to the Eve of Epiphany.

### Inquirer/Catechism Classes on Tuesday Evening

Next Class is November 14, 7pm-8:30pm *(Class Topic Partakers of the Divine Nature)*

## Parish Events and News

### Thursday Night Talks – 6:30pm at Saint James House

The articles for the coming week follow up on the ADN article we discussed last Thursday night. Since we did not get a chance to talk about “*Places to Think with Neighbors*” by Nathan Beacom, that is still on the list. Also, I have posted an article Harold Parker mentioned by Fr. John Jillion, “*Advice on the Future of Religion in North America by a College Class.*” Finally, I have included a short piece by Mother Raphaela, abbess of Holy Myrrhbearers Orthodox Convent in Otega, New York, “*When Children Stray*”. These and other articles we have read can be found here: [Articles for Thursday Night Talks](#)

**In case you missed the introduction to these Talks, it is included below for one more week.**

With the kind of help of Eric and Hannah, overseers of our Saint James House, and with the encouragement of my family, I propose to host a time of somewhat-informed discussion and casual conversation around the living room fireplace about topics all Christians are challenged with in our modern world. We will approach these topics from the Orthodox perspective, but this doesn't mean we will always come to perfect conclusions on every topic. Rather we will listen and learn from others and try to have an open mind about some things. The format will be to read a short something together followed by a discussion, which I will facilitate with help from others. The introductory articles will be posted online each week, so participants may read them beforehand if they wish. I do not plan to make printed copies, so please come prepared to view them on our iPhone, iPad, or other device. These are articles I have collected over the last three or four years in hopes of being able to discuss someday. To start we will read an article from the Anchorage Daily News published three weeks ago: “*America's Nonreligious are a Growing, Diverse Phenomenon.*” This will be accompanied by a short article published two weeks ago in Plough Magazine. You will also find a list of the articles I have collected to share. Please note that these articles do not necessarily represent my view or the teaching of the Orthodox Church. I think they can provide, though, a profitable way to spend a winter evening talking with friends.

[Articles for Thursday Night Talks](#)



### No Atrium Class Scheduled On Sunday – Due to the Wedding at 2:00pm

### St. John's Bookstore

Time to think about Christmas shopping. St John Bookstore is now stocked with packets of Christmas cards as well as new children's and teen's books - the perfect gift from grandparents! Stop by during coffee hour this week for best selection.



### Good Works Basket – Thanksgiving Offering 350 Individual Boxes of Stuffing **LAST WEEK TO COLLECT!**



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 19 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.



## No Coffee Hour This Sunday - November 12

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Next Sunday – Group C – November 19 Hosts: Saur / Okuley

Snacks: Amundson, Clement, Curry, Dunham, Fisher, Greene, Hannah, Hawi, Hunter, E & H Johnson, Kelly, Kendall, Labrecque, Medders Families, Okuley, Polson, Saur, Scherer, Sparks, Stiehr, Taylor, Temple, Wasile



The Proclamation of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the OCA on the Glorification of the Righteous Matushka Olga

The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America has heard the petition of The Right Reverend ALEXEI, Bishop of Sitka, and Alaska, expressed in his November 2, 2023 letter to His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, concerning the glorification of the Servant of God, the Righteous Matushka Olga. Here is a link to the article.

https://www.oca.org/fs/proclamation-glorification-righteous-matushka-olga?fbclid=IwAR373rn3dTmW90AQXleN5tCfiPbLAnCH_YmqymMAu6wJAYPWau05VBPv814



News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese



Metropolitan Saba and our Archdiocese are trying to improve communications to parishes and give people a better understanding of our Archdiocese ministries and programs. A regular series of articles will be made available to highlight different Archdiocese departments and ministries. Also, 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.

How Our Archdiocese Serves Us: [Conventions and Conference Planning](#)
Writings by Metropolitan Saba: [The Suffering Church](#)

Dates to Remember

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

The evening reading group will meet Mondays at 6:30pm in the "Reading Room."



Thursday Reading Group

The Thursday Readers will meet at JoAnn Webster's home at 10am.

Birthdays This Week



November 13 - Dan Kendall

November 15 - Anna Haley

November 15 - Macrina Ray

November 16 - Cecelia Jones

November 17 - Eric Johnson

November 19 - Russell Clodfelter

M A N Y Y E A R S !

Clare House Meal - 4th Saturday of Each Month

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



Remembering in Prayer...



Janet Hawi

Gwyn Jones

Myles Kelly

Jan Northey

Katy Jones

Kh. Sally Howell

Eloise Lamb

Kerry Jones

Tisha Dunham

Jennifer Stogsdill

Judi Hoyt

Gale Armstrong

*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



* Mary Margaret Simmons - November 1, 2007

* Jean Margaret Proctor - November 7, 1997

* Laurie Jean Prather - November 13, 1998

* Thea Ann Ray - November 21, 2020

* Archimandrite Lazarus Moore - November 27, 1992

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

Notes and Pictures from Parishioners

“Checking In” with Each Other

Is there something you'd like to share? Please email stjohnalaska@aol.com

November 5, 2023

Prayers of Naming for Lucia Ruth Fletes

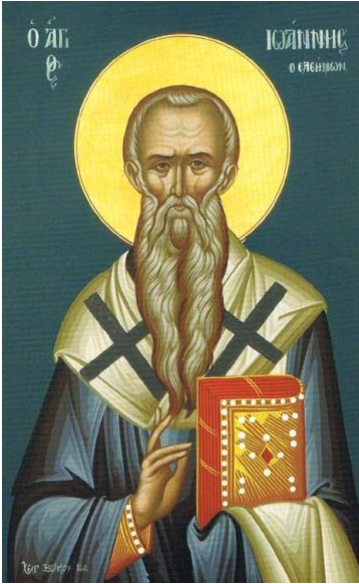


Enrolling of Brandon Weaver as a Catechumen



THE SYNAXARION

John the Almsgiver – November 12



On November 12, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate father among the saints John the Almsgiver, patriarch of Alexandria.

Verses

*Since John gave and dispersed to poor men and paupers,
Now standing before Christ, he receives a crown of jewels!
The Almsgiver, owning nought, departed the twelfth.*

Born on Cyprus, John was raised as a Christian from childhood. Renowned for his compassion and piety, John was chosen as Patriarch of Alexandria in the time of Emperor Heraclius. He governed the Church of Alexandria for ten years as a true shepherd, safeguarding his city from pagans and heretics. He was a model of meekness, charity, and love for his fellow men. John was also known as “the merciful.” He said: “If you desire nobility, seek it not in blood, but in virtues, for this is true nobility.” Once, as he was on his way to the Church of Sts. Cyrus and John, John met a needy and unfortunate widow who spoke to him at length about her misfortune. The patriarch’s escorts became bored by the woman’s lengthy complaint and urged the bishop to hurry to the church for the service, impatiently telling him that he could hear the woman’s story afterward. John said to them: “And how will God listen to me, if I do not listen to her?” He would not leave until he heard the widow’s complaint to the end. Thus, John embodied the Beatitude: “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.” John entered eternal rest in the year 620.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Neilos the Faster of Sinai; Neilos the myrrh-streaming of the Great Lavra on Athos; Martin the wonderworker, bishop of Tours; and New-martyrs Sabbas and Nicholas of Constantinople.

By their intercessions, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Bulletin Announcement Guidelines

Send announcements to church email address: 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.

Saint John Orthodox Cathedral

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway ◦ Assistant Priest: Fr. Robert Polson