

Fathers of the 7th
Ecumenical Council

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Titus 3:8-15  
Luke 8:5-15

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Homily by
Fr. Marc Dunaway

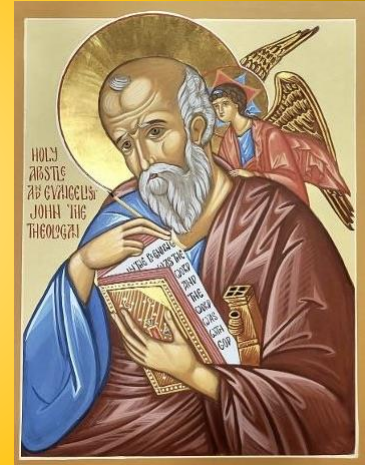
Epistle Reader:
Jennifer Medders

Coffee Hour Hosts:
Gillquist

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

Weekly Bulletin

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Sunday, October 13, 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 Note about the Funeral Service Tonight

The Funeral Service for a Priest begins with a special service tonight (Friday) at 7pm. This service is much like the regular funeral service and includes most of the familiar psalms and hymns. It also includes five special readings from the Epistles and the Gospels. It will last longer than one hour. The funeral services on Saturday morning begin with the Divine Liturgy at 9:15pm followed by the "Last Kiss" and procession to the cemetery.

#### Services for Fr. John will be as follows:

##### Friday, October 11

6-7pm - Visitation at St. John Orthodox Cathedral

7pm - Funeral Vigil for a Priest

##### Saturday, October 12

9:15am - Divine Liturgy

10:45am - Burial Service at Saint John Cemetery immediately following Liturgy.

11:30am - "Mercy Meal" in the Cathedral Basement after Burial Service.

*~ May His Memory Be Eternal ~*

#### Fr. John Downing's Paintings

It was Father John's wish that he share his paintings after his repose. There will be a place to do this on stage at the mercy meal. There will also be 6-8 paintings available for a donation to the Saint John's Orthodox Christian School, (SJOCS). Father loved this school and asked in his will for donations be done in his name there instead of flowers.



#### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Atrium)

**12:30pm – 2:00pm**

Classes begin at 12:30 and go to 2:00pm. Please provide each of your children with lunch before they enter the Atrium for participation and learning.

## **“Thursday Night Talks” 6:30-8pm at the Saint James House Family Life and Parenting – Part 2**

Last Thursday night’s articles offered a good discussion about the basic approach to good parenting. A homework assignment was to think about the family you grew up in and the family you may now be raising and try to determine some of the “mottos” you may be guided by in family life. Often these mottos are not recognized as such, but they are there and have a profound impact on the culture of your family. Some mottos may be good and others not so much. Either way, it can be good to consciously evaluate them and see if they are working toward the real goals you want for your family.

The session this coming week will focus more on methods of interaction with children to raise them to be the kind of people God wants us all to be. The articles are not yet posted online but will be early next week.

Articles may be accessed at this link: [Family and Parenting Articles](#)

\*Please remember to bring a laptop, tablet or iPhone on which these articles and excerpts may be accessed. Printed copies will not be available.

Also, Tim Mellor is arranging childcare for these three weeks, and, if you have not already done so, you can sign up for this on this link: [Sign-up for Thursday Childcare](#)



### **Good Works Basket – Diaper Drive**

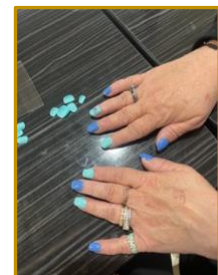
St. Johns is participating in a city-wide **DIAPER DRIVE** for PIC (Programs for Infants and Children) through the end of October. Donations of any size diaper will help supply the PIC Diaper Pantry which last year helped over 1,071 children in the Anchorage area. PIC’s mission is to provide early intervention services which promote the growth and development of infants and toddlers with special needs. [www.picak.org](http://www.picak.org) for more information. (Also coming up is our annual collection of stuffing boxes



for our local Thanksgiving Blessing meal. Keep an eye out for more information to follow.)

### **Sisters of Mary and Martha & Brothers Lazarus Helping at Downtown Hope Soup Kitchen**

Two Saturdays ago SMMS partnered with Brothers of Lazarus and did a 4 1/5 hour lunch shift together at the Downtown Hope Soup Kitchen. Typically, the kitchen hands out about 400 lunches every day to men and women. We cooked, served, sorted clothes, cleaned, colored and did nails with the ladies that live there. I have taken people once a week since March to serve at the dinner shift (one hour) in the evenings and we do a long lunch shift once every couple of months. Roughly 25 of us have at some point signed up and served here since March. It has been so great to see so many of us get involved and help those in our community. Acts of service is a core value of our church and anyone who has been there has loved coming. Please contact me if you are interested in joining. I have some shift openings in December.



Thanks! —Sydney Ihde (907)854-5517



## *Coffee Hour This Sunday - October 13 Group B - Second Sunday of the Month*

### **Hosts Families: Gillquist Families**

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

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Next Sunday - Group C - October 20 - Hosts: Medders Families

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

Minutes from the Sisters of Mary and Martha Meeting

- Natasha Haines gave a reading about the work of Mary and Martha. Remembering that the intangible things are important. One thing is needful: a relationship with God
- Retreat Takeaways: * A bigger space is needed * Time management (more discussion time needed; * Preferred time for retreat is right before Lent
- Jennifer Gillquist shared about new items for the kitchen:
 - Drink Dispenser / Victoria Bower donated silverware to the church kitchen
- Fundraiser for Laura Temple. Venue to be announced. Contact Jennifer Gillquist to learn how to help.
- Katy Arvidson shared about What's App: Who uses it? Is it efficient? Sisters of Mary and Martha news will be communicated via What's App and occasionally on email and via the church bulletin.
- Katy shared the Sisters of Mary and Martha Mission Statement.
Three buckets of our mission: * Creating opportunity for fellowship; * Caring for those in need in our parish; * Caring for those in need in our community
- Purpose of our group: (intentional connection, personal sharing, developing relationships, caring for each other etc.)
- Lily Cowen shared a testimony about fellowship, her story in her faith, and how young adults in the church need more opportunities for fellowship together
- Katy shared a story from Elisa Betson who described impactful interactions from the Sisters of Mary and Martha, specifically when people called around to check and see how people were doing during Covid.
- Activity: Women were asked to share what they enjoyed in the past about the Sisters of Mary and Martha.
- Sydney Ihde shared about the downtown Hope Soup Kitchen and its service to the homeless in Anchorage. Volunteer opportunities are available to serve meals. Thank-you Sydney for organizing this!
- Katy shared about including others in Sisters of Mary and Martha activities (husbands, single people, children, young adults, elders etc.).
- Activity: Katy divided everyone into 3 groups, and we all reviewed and added jobs to the three "buckets" depicted in our mission statement.
- Opportunities for Fellowship: * Caring for the needs in our Parish; * Caring for those in need in our community

We all indicated which jobs we would want to help with and which ones we would want to lead.

Katy Arvidson, President - adjourned the meeting.

News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese



Writings by Metropolitan Saba: [The Mother of All Vices, Part One](#)

Notes and Pictures from Parishioners

“Checking In” with Each Other

Is there something you’d like to share? Please email: cathedral@stjohnalaska.org

Home for Sale



Kim Medder’s home is for sale. It’s within walking distance of the Cathedral. It is located at 15712 Mooseberry Bend. Please contact Jeremy J Millen for information at +1 (907) 982-9819

New Phone Number for Chris & Katie Jones in Kodiak

Katie - 907 512 6335 / Chris - 907 512 6119

Dates to Remember

Monday ‘Moms with Kids’ Reading Group

Monday morning reading group for moms with little ones 10 AM in St. James House living room. If you have any questions, please contact Natasha Haines.



Thursday Reading Group

The Thursday 10 am reading group will be meeting at the Senior Center. I will also send out a text message reminder. — Ann Patras.

Birthdays This Week

October 14 - Greg Gillquist

October 15 - Dn. Joseph Ray

October 18 - Lorence Scherer

M A N Y

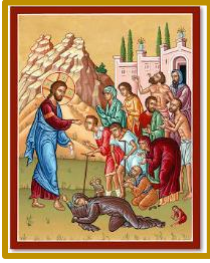
October 19 - Judy Tysver

October 19 - Anthony Fletes

October 19 - Danielle Dunaway

Y E A R S !





Remembering in Prayer...

Gwyn Jones
Nina Potts
Laura Temple

Oksana Artz
Maris Kelly
Stina Dozier

*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
- * Infant 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 26. Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



Who is that Prophet on the Iconostasis?

Answers to this question will be highlighted in the bulletin each Sunday



Right Side of Nave



Holy Prophet King Solomon

Feast Day – December 13

“Wisdom built her house and she supported it.”

The Prophet-King Solomon (ca. 972 - 932 B.C.) was the son of David and Bathsheba. He succeeded his father as King and reigned for forty years. He built the palace and the Temple at Jerusalem and was renowned for his wisdom. The Old Testament books of Proverbs, the Song of Songs, and the Wisdom of Solomon are attributed to him. He may have written parts of these books, but much of the material was probably transmitted orally before it was written down. In the Gospels, Christ mentions Solomon by name, citing his glory and wisdom (Matthew 6:29; 12:42).

THE SYNAXARION

Jacob of Hamatoura – October 13

On October 13, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyrs Karpos, Papylos, Agathodoros and Agathonika at Pergamos.

On this day, we commemorate the Venerable Hieromartyr Jacob of Hamatoura. This saint struggled in asceticism at the Monastery of the Dormition of the Most-holy Theotokos of Hamatoura in Lebanon. His heroic spiritual labors soon brought him to the attention of the authorities who, being jealous of his fame, determined to convert him from his faith in Jesus Christ to Islam. St. Jacob adamantly refused. Eventually, they dragged him with a number of monks and laymen to Tripoli, Lebanon where St. Jacob endured harsh tortures for a year, before he was beheaded and burned on October 13, 1450.



Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council – Sunday, October 11-17



On this day we commemorate the holy and blessed Fathers who came together for the seventh Ecumenical Council; the second time that such a council assembled in Nicaea. This took place during the reign of the pious and Christ-loving Emperors Constantine and Irene. The Council met against those who impiously, ignorantly and foolishly asserted that the Church of God worships idols, and against those who rejected the eminent and holy icons.

Verses

*Your champions, O Word, with words as their weapons,
Turn to flight the foes of the venerable icons.*

The Council met in 787 to refute the Iconoclast heresy, whose camp believed that all depictions of Christ, His Mother and the saints should be destroyed. But the iconophiles believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church, and they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine, through art and beauty. The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry, because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype, or the person depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time."

By the intercessions of the Holy Fathers, 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 • Email cathedral@stjohnalaska.org -
Parish Council Email parishcouncil@stjohnalaska.org • Website: stjohnalaska.org
• Diocesan Website: <http://www.antiochianladiocese.org>
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway • Assistant Priest: Fr. Robert Polson