

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after  
Pentecost  
Commemoration  
Innocent of Alaska  
(October 6)

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2 Cor. 6:16-7:1  
Luke 6:31-36  
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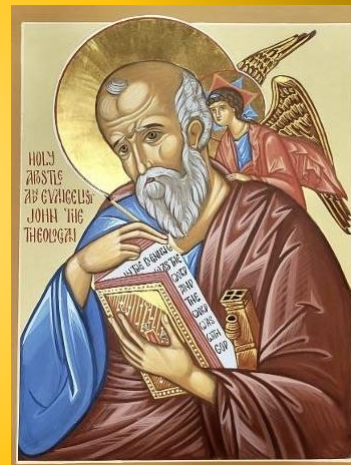
Homily by  
Fr. Marc Dunaway  
Epistle Reader:  
Jennifer Medders  
Coffee Hour Hosts:  
Cooley / Weaver

# St. John Orthodox Cathedral



## Weekly Bulletin Sunday, October 5, 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

### **Important Information If You Want to Attend ...**

#### **“Opening the Door to Orthodox Christianity”**

**A series of introductory classes beginning Thursday, October 9, 6-7:30pm**

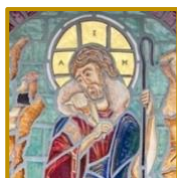
These classes will open the door to knowing God as He is revealed through Jesus Christ and known in the Scriptures and the Orthodox way. They are for everyone – inquirers, seekers, catechumens, “nones,” Churchgoers, Orthodox, non-Orthodox – to all who want to understand the Christian faith better.

#### [Schedule](#)

#### **Here are some important things to note:**

1. Please respond 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 can offer a tip.
3. Finally, I do not plan to make paper copies of the material we may read in class. Instead, I will post documents online and provide a link on the home page of our Cathedral website ([stjohnalaska.org](http://stjohnalaska.org)). So, bring a laptop, tablet, or mobile phone to access these online.

**Please respond to this link by October 5: [Important Information Needed](#)**



**Atrium – Sundays from 12:30pm – 2:00pm**

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

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. If you have any questions, you may contact Rhonda Clodfelter at 907-696-2128



## Our Parish Council is Re-establishing a Cemetery Committee

We now have 50 people buried in our Cathedral cemetery. This is a great blessing for a parish to have its own cemetery, but also it is also a great responsibility. We need a committee to help care for our cemetery, and we are looking for at least 5 people (up to 7) to serve on this committee. Duties of the committee will include:

- Update existing cemetery guidelines, including guidelines for who may be buried in the cemetery
- Establish bylaws and duties of Cemetery Committee
- Assist families in ordering monuments and crosses
- Bring existing monuments up to standards
- Help plan improvements to our current space and proposals for future expansion

A term on the committee is 3 years. The committee will normally meet twice a year, but some extra meetings will be needed at the beginning to get things sorted out. If you are willing to serve our Cathedral community by serving on this important committee, please contact Sydney Ihde at 907-854-5517. Thank you. – Saint John's Parish Council

## Tithes on PFD 2025

It's that time of year again when we are all blessed with a PFD gift from the State of Alaska. This year each Alaskan will receive \$1000.00. For many years we have set aside the tithe and donations from the PFD for some important projects. Please donate and mark your PFD tithe in the memo as PFD tithe. (You can scan this using your phone, or you can go to the [donation page](#) on our website and donate there.) Thank you!



## Youth Group to Start Tuesday, October 7 – 6:30-8pm

Once again, we are starting our St. John's Youth Group for grades 6-12. We'll meet Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00pm during the winter starting this week on Tuesday October 7. We'll meet at the St. James House and each week 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. I look forward to seeing you all there. Call us with any questions

at (907) 317-9549. —John Marc and Bethany Dunaway



## *Coffee Hour This Sunday - October 5, 2025 Group A - First Sunday of the Month*

### Hosts Families: Cooley / Weaver

Snacks: Abel, Bower, Cook, Cooley, Dozier, Gillquist Families, Haley, Jenkins, Justus, Lindblom, Macalino, Mellor, Northey, Patras, Sorensen, Stallman, Templeton, Tysver, VanDewater, Weaver, Wells

### ~~~~~ Next Sunday – Group B – October 12, 2025 – Hosts: Klatt / Labrecque

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

## Great news! Our St. Sergius Chapel will Soon Have Two New Beautiful Cupolas

At this time, scaffolding is being erected for the installation, which should take place in the next two weeks. This is a true parish project and a reflection of our community, as the cupolas were designed and fabricated by parishioners, Sam Stogstill and Myles Kelly, with gold leafing help by Kathy Stone and welding help by Jana Jenkins. Our facilities manager, John Marc Dunaway, cleared the way by removing the old cupolas and has coordinated installation efforts with a local contractor, Kuchar Construction, whose children graduated from Saint John's School last year. The St. Sergius Chapel is a cherished part of the St. John community, and the new cupolas will be beacons to the faithful for years to come.



## Photos from the Orthodox - Evangelical Leaders Conference at Beach Lake Last Weekend



A conference was held at Beach Lake Cabin on Sep 26, 27 to encourage dialogue between Orthodox and Evangelical leaders. Fr. Marc presented an overview of how one becomes an Orthodox Christian, from enrollment as a catechumen through the sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation. Joel Stamoolis from Wasilla Bible Church responded with an explanation of the

Baptism service at his church. About 25 people attended, including Mark Oxbrow from England, representing the Lausanne Orthodox Initiative. The other major topic was the Council of Nicaea and its Creed as a unifying statement of faith. This was the first conference in what is hoped to be an annual series in memory of Fr. Michael Oleksa.



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### *News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese*



September 2025 Newsletter – Click [HERE](#)

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



#### **Part-Time Position Opening**

Saint John's School is hiring for a part-time **After-Care position: Monday–Thursday, 2:45–5:15 pm**. Duties include setting up snacks and activities, helping with cleanup, and spending time with children of all ages. If interested, please contact **Kali Macalino at 907-696-3920**.

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## *Notes and Pictures from Parishioners*



### **Beautiful Northern Lights Display**

Monday evening around 8:30pm - as seen from Fr. Marc's House

*Photos taken by Fr. Marc*

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## *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.



### *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*

Oct 5 - Richard Peters

Oct 5 - Linda Peters

Oct 6 - Nichol Unser

Oct 9 - Caleb Lindblom

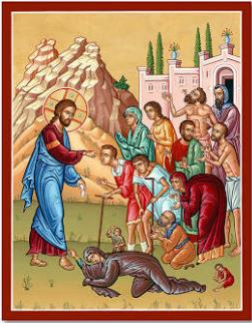
Oct 10 - Subdn. Steven Alvarez

Oct 10 - Kh. Betsy Dunaway

Oct 10 - Catherine Jones

Oct 12 - Esther Saur

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



### *Remembering in Prayer...*

*Helen Gillquist  
Zoie (Oksana's Mom)  
Sam Stogsdill*

*Jay Keener  
Krya & Skylynn Lineer  
Katie Jones*

*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.



## THE SYNAXARION

### Innocent, Apostle to America – October 6

On October 6, in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to America, named in the world: John Popov-Veniaminov.

John was born in 1797 in Irkutsk into the family of a sacristan. The boy mastered his studies at an early age and by age seven he was reading the Epistle in church. In 1806 they sent him to the Irkutsk seminary. The missionary service of the future Apostle of America and Siberia began in 1823. Father John spent 45 years laboring for the enlightenment of the peoples of Kamchatka, the Aleutian Islands, North America, Yakutsk, the Khabarov frontier, performing his apostolic calling in severe conditions and at great risks to life. Father

John baptized ten thousand people, built churches, taught the fundamentals of the Christian life and translated the holy services into the native tongues of the various lands he served. In 1840, after the death of his wife, Father John was tonsured a monk with the name Innocent by St. Philaret, the Metropolitan of Moscow, in honor of St. Innocent of Irkutsk. Innocent was consecrated Bishop of Kamchatka, the Kurile and Aleutian Islands. In 1868, Innocent succeeded Metropolitan Philaret on the Moscow cathedra. He fell asleep in the Lord in 1879, on Holy Saturday, and on October 6, 1977, Archimandrite Innocent was glorified as a Saint by the Russian Orthodox Church.

### Charitina of Amisos – October 5

On October 5, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyr Charitina of Amisos.

#### *Verses*

*That for which she prayed, the loosing of the body,  
behold Charitina receives by praying.*

*On the fifth Charitina entered the city of God.*

Orphaned young, Charitina was adopted by an eminent Christian man called Claudius, who brought her up as his own daughter. Charitina studied the law of God day and night and vowed to live in perpetual virginity as a true bride of Christ. The governor Dometius wanted to kill Charitina because she led many to the Lord. A judge ordered that her hair be cut off, and live coals put on her head, but the maiden was preserved by God's power. She was bound to a wheel which began to turn, but an angel of God stopped the wheel and Charitina remained unharmed. Then the wicked judge sent some depraved youths to take her virginity. Fearing this attack, Charitina knelt in prayer to God to receive her soul before



that could happen. At that moment, her soul soared to the immortal Kingdom of Christ in the year 290.

On this day, we also commemorate Venerable John, bishop of Euchaïta; Venerable Eudokimos of Vatopedi monastery on Athos; and the uncovering of the relics of our fathers among the saints Peter, Alexis, Jonah, Philip and Hermogenes, metropolitans of Moscow. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen

#### **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