

17th Sunday after
Pentecost
Commemoration
John the Evangelist

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2 Cor. 6:16-7:1  
Luke 5:1-11  
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Homily by
Dn. Kevin Dougherty

Epistle Reader:
Steve Templeton

Coffee Hour Hosts:
Doss / M. Johnson

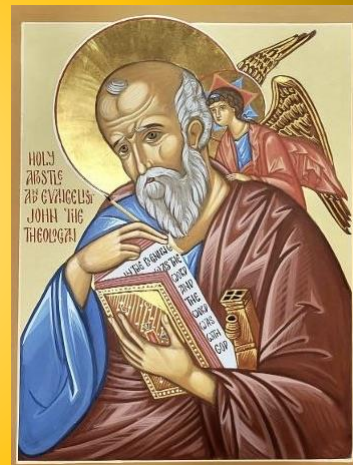
St. John Orthodox Cathedral

~~~~~ Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, September 27, 2026

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.*

## Feast Days and Services

**The Falling-Asleep of St. John the Evangelist**

**Feast Day – Saturday, September 26**

**Readers' Vespers - September 26 at 7:15pm.**



## Parish Events and News

**Faithful and Friends of St. John's:**

**There are two things going on this Saturday at St. John's to be aware of.**

**First**, St. Andrew parish in Eagle River has asked if they can use our basement for a funeral reception, "Celebration of Life," for Nick Peters this Saturday at 12:45pm. The funeral will be at St. Andrew's at 11am, but St. Andrew's does not yet have a parish hall. Nick Peters died in a plane crash last week near Aniak. He was married to Kristen (Lasard), and their 6-year-old son attends St. John's School. Nick's death is a tragic loss for two Eagle River families, for our School, and for many friends who knew them here and in Cooper Landing.

**Second**, Vespers on Saturday night will be a simple "Reader Vespers" commemorating St. John, without the Litia previously scheduled. Fr. Marc had a previous commitment that evening, and Fr. Robert needed to accompany his son Benjamin to Seattle for a surgery scheduled to take place on Friday. Fr. Robert hopes to return next week.

Please keep all of those who are ill and those who are grieving in your prayers.

Fr. Marc



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

Sundays from 12:30 – 2:00pm

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

**First Class: Thursday, October 1, 6pm-7:30pm in the Church Basement**

**Introduction: “A Timeline of Church History”**



### **Youth Group Dinner Meetings - 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 & Beth Dunaway 317-9549.



### *Next Sunday - October 4 Wedding of Taylor Wilson and Alex Hanna*

*Three O'clock at St. John Orthodox Cathedral  
Reception immediately following*



### **Tithes on PFD 2026**

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 \$1,200.00. 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!



## *Coffee Hour This Sunday - September 27, 2026 Group John (4) - Fourth Sunday of the Month*

**Hosts Families: Doss / M. Johnson**

*Snacks:* J. Alvarez, S. Alvarez, Arvidson, Burton, Cooley, Dougherty, FrM & KhB Dunaway, Goetz, Gresset, Haines, Hawi, D & S Ihde, M Johnson, Keener, Kies, Macalino, Mason, Minea, J Northey, Parker, DnJ & D Ray, Schlicting, Sparks, J. Stiehr, Templeton, Van Dyke, Watson

*No Coffee Hour – Wedding at 3pm (Alex Hanna & Taylor Wilson)*



### **Out of Office....**

Maris Kelly, church secretary and bookkeeper, will be out of the church office (September 24-October 16). "I will be in Vancouver, BC visiting family and cat sitting. The 'church computer' is now a laptop rather than a desktop and will be going with me so I will be able to perform all my work from there. My email addresses are [maris@stjohnalaska.org](mailto:maris@stjohnalaska.org) and for reimbursements you can email me at [bookkeeper@stjohnalaska.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stjohnalaska.org)."

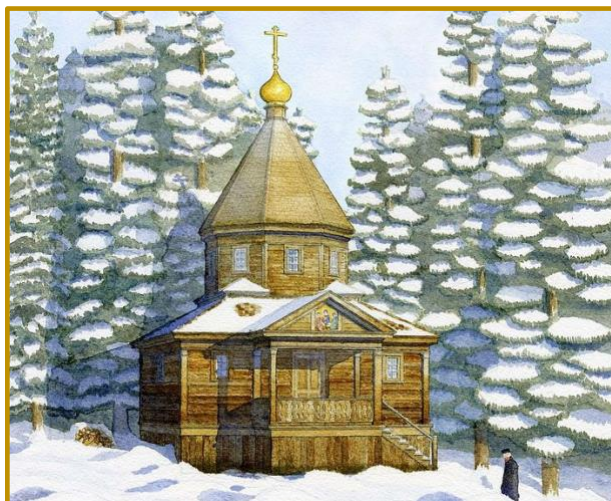
### **Sound-Dampening Panels Installed in Cathedral Basement**



John Marc Dunaway and Oscar Medders installed the new noise-dampening panels in the Cathedral basement. These were purchased after research was done by Derick Hanna. Early indications suggest they will help with conversations at Coffee Hour. Thank you for installing these!

### **Fr. Andrew from Spruce Island to Visit St. John's October 14**

Fr. Andrew, the Priest-monk (hieromonk) from the St. Michael's Skete on Spruce Island, will be visiting our parish the evening of October 14th. He will be hosted by the Men's Reading Group from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Fr. Andrew will give an informal talk and then be available for questions and discussion. His talk will be hosted in the Cathedral basement, and all (men, women, children) are invited to attend!





*Resources from the Crossroads Institute of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese*

**CROSSROAD**  
PARENTING NETWORK

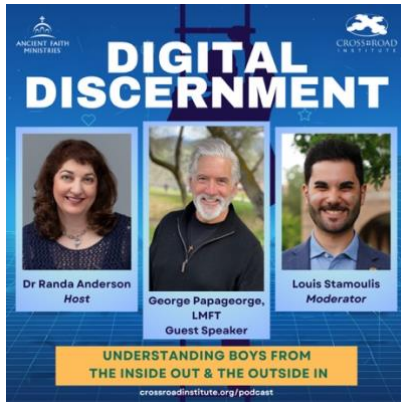
## **CrossRoad Parenting Launches!**

Join the first in a series of webinars as we share insights and resources after talking to Orthodox parents and Christian educators around the country. Webinars are free, open to the public, and geared towards parents with kids at home

**Faith, Freedom, & Formation: Tensions in Orthodox Parenting**

**Tuesday, October 6 at 5:00PM PT / 8:00PM E**

**Register [HERE](#)**



## ***New Digital Discernment Podcast Episode with George Papageorge***

Why do boys seem to disappear into video games and what's going on underneath? Therapist George Papageorge, LMFT shares his "inside out/outside in" approach for understanding and connecting with boys.

**Listen [HERE](#)**

## **09/15/26 Parish Council Meeting Summary**

PC members shared one highlight from their summer.

Fr. Marc shared that he met with local Orthodox priests to discuss the growing needs for cemetery plots and there was interest from the OCA Bishop in forming a committee to look for property.

The By-laws Committee will plan to continue work on the PC by-laws over the winter and hope to finalize a document in the spring.

The Onboarding Packet Committee is working to finalize an onboarding packet for new PC members.

Jennifer reported that she will continue work on getting speed bumps installed on Monastery.

John Marc shared that sound reduction paneling will be installed soon. One test panel has already been installed.

Dn. Tim presented two drafts to review for the new visitor pamphlet.

Sydney updated the PC on the Cemetery Committee status. Inventory of space is done, and expansion planning has begun. Family packet for families of the deceased is currently a working document.

The St. John Strategic Planning Committee will begin their work in Oct.

It was discussed that we will add a hook to the reading room door to keep it from shutting during events/coffee hour. We plan to continue informing parents/children to not allow children in the reading room unsupervised.

Fr. Marc presented the cost breakdown of the ERI: \$4,381 for two instructors, \$1,938 for babysitting and \$2,476 food. We did receive approximately \$600 in donations from attendees.

Dn. Tim provided a debrief on the Cupola installation and the cost breakdown. -Fr. Marc

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## *News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese*



Greetings in our Lord Jesus Christ. Here is this week's teaching from His Eminence Metropolitan Saba titled "[The Cross in Our Life, Part Three](#)".

"The question is not 'Is A.I. good or bad?' The question is: What kind of people is it making us?" This newly released video "[A.I. in Our Lives](#)" explores the possibilities and the problems of the emerging technology of artificial intelligence, and how Orthodox Christians can navigate it without compromising the human person. Please watch it and share it with your congregations.

The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch is celebrating its 50th anniversary and everyone -- members and non-members -- are warmly welcome. The [jubilee weekend](#) from Nov. 20-22 in New York and New Jersey includes a visit with Metropolitan Saba, a day trip to Times Square, and a gala banquet. Space is limited so make your reservations by Oct. 1. Please share this information with your congregations.

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## *St. James House Weekly News*



**St. James House Café**  
**Come Sit and Enjoy a Cup of Coffee and**  
**Catch Up with Friends**  
**Tuesdays and Thursdays 8am to 9am**

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## *Dates to Remember*

### *'Moms with Little Ones' Reading Group - Wednesdays 10am*

We will meet at the St. James House. If you have any questions, contact Natasha Haines at 907-351-4942.



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

We will meet at the St. James House. If you have any questions, you can text Sam Lowry at 616-928-5181.



### *Women's Reading Group - Thursdays at 10am*

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

$\mathcal{M} \mathcal{A} \mathcal{N} \mathcal{Y} \quad \mathcal{Y} \mathcal{E} \mathcal{A} \mathcal{R} \mathcal{S} !$



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



*Oksana Artz                      Travis Cook  
Ben Polson                      Lily and baby Moses  
Sylvia Villafana  
For those suffering from the devastation of war*

## A photograph of a cemetery with various tombstones and crosses in a grassy field with trees in the background.

- M E M O R Y   E T E R N A L !*

## *Local Community News*

### **Consecration of Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Anchorage**

This service was presided over by my Archbishop Elpidophoros and Metropolitan Gerasimos and two other Bishops. Fr. Marc joined the Consecration service on Saturday, August 19, along with Fr. Matthew Howell from Saint Herman's and four other priests. Several of Saint John's parishioners also attended the service and others went to the celebration banquet on Saturday evening. Congratulations to Fr. Vasili and all the Faithful of Holy Transfiguration Church for this wonderful accomplishment.

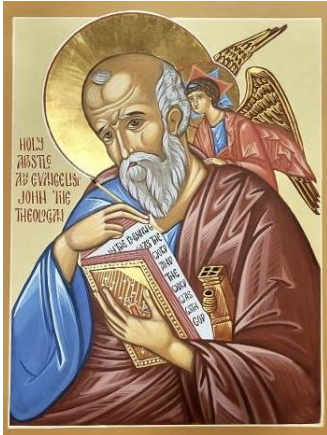
Link to article from [Orthodox Observer](#): Archdiocese's northernmost parish welcomes first Archiepiscopal visit in nearly 50 years



*Photos by  
Fr. Marc Dunaway*



## THE SYNAXARION



### Repose of John the Evangelist – September 26

On September 26, in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the Repose of the holy and glorious Apostle and Evangelist, bosom-friend, virgin and beloved John the Theologian.

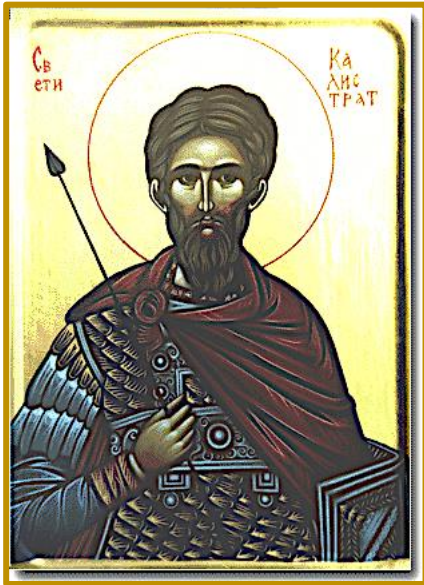
#### *Verses*

*You stand before the beloved Word of the Father,*

*You who are beloved above all the disciples.*

*On the twenty-sixth the Son of Thunder passed unto God.*

John was the son of Zebedee the fisherman and Salome the daughter of Joseph the betrothed of the Holy Theotokos. Called by the Lord Jesus, John immediately left his father and his fishermen's nets and, with his brother James, followed Christ. From then on, he was not separated from his Lord until the end. With Peter and James, he was present at the raising of Jairus' daughter and the Transfiguration of the Lord. At the Last Supper, he inclined his head on Jesus' breast. When all the other apostles had abandoned the crucified Lord, John and the Holy Mother of God remained beneath the Cross. In obedience to the Lord, he was as a son to the Holy Virgin Mary and carefully served and watched over her until her Dormition. John then lived and labored mostly in Ephesus. By his inspired preaching and miracles, he converted many to Christianity and shook paganism to its foundation. The embittered pagans bound him and sent him to Rome, to face Emperor Dometian, who had him tortured and flogged, which did him no harm. This terrified the emperor and, thinking him immortal, Dometian sent him into exile to the island of Patmos. There John converted many to Christianity by words and miracles and confirmed well the Church of God. He also wrote his Gospel and Revelation on Patmos. He was over one hundred years old when he went to the Lord, and we celebrate the anniversary of his repose today.



## Martyr Kallistratos & His 49 Companions – September 27

On September 27, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate holy Martyr Kallistratos and the holy 49 Martyrs with him.

### *Verses*

*When the neck of Kallistratos was sundered with a sword,  
He was joined to the triumphant army of Martyrs.*

*On the twenty-seventh Kallistratos and company were taken up.*

Kallistratos was a soldier and one night, one of his colleagues caught him praying and reported him to the harsh commander Persentinus. The commander ordered Kallistratos to offer sacrifice to idols, which he immediately refused to do. Then Kallistratos was harshly beaten and thrown into the sea, but God's power preserved him, and he emerged from the sea unharmed. Seeing his endurance and his miracles, 49 soldiers came to believe in Christ the Lord, and they were beaten and thrown into prison along with him. In prison, Kallistratos instructed his soldier companions in the faith and ministered to them. They showed great courage in suffering, and the Lord showed great power through them. The wicked torturer finally sent a band of soldiers to the prison at night, and they slew Kallistratos and the other 49 with him. They suffered for the truth in 304.

On this day, we also commemorate the Apostles Aristarchos, Zenon and Mark of the Seventy; New-martyr Aquilina of Thessalonica; Venerable Ignatius, abbot in Asia Minor; and Venerable Savatios of Solovky. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy on 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