

*Ephraim the Syrian
Tone 1*

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*Gal. 5:22-26; 6:1-2  
Luke 6:17-23*

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*Homily by
Dr. Nathan Hoppe*

*Epistle Reader:
Ben Dunaway*

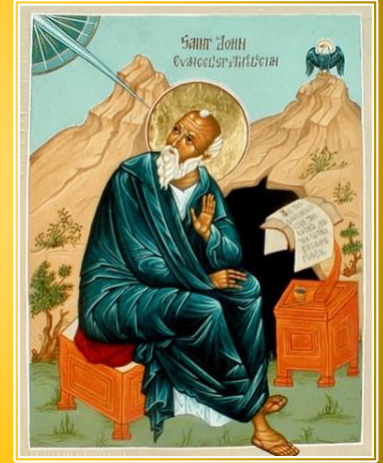
*Coffee Hour Hosts:
Kies / I. Temple*

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, January 28, 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.

Feast Days and Services



Meeting of the Lord In The Temple Services - Thursday, February 1 Vesperal Liturgy 6:15pm

The **Meeting of the Lord in the Temple** (also called the **Presentation**) is one of the Great Feasts of the Orthodox Church, celebrated on February 2. In the Gospel of Luke 2:22-40, Mary and Joseph took the infant Christ to the Temple in Jerusalem. He was received in the arms of the elder Simeon, who then prayed, "Now let Thy servant depart in peace... for I have seen Thy salvation." This was one of the things that Mary "pondered in her heart"—the fact that others recognized that her Son was the Messiah.

Parish Events and News

Saint John's is Seeking to Hire a Full-Time "Parish Administrator"

Saint John Orthodox Cathedral is looking to hire a Parish Administrator to assist the Pastor in coordinating and managing the properties, ministries, and activities of our Cathedral parish in a way that serves our mission and vision, especially in the areas of community, education, and hospitality. Please share this announcement with anyone who might be interested and qualified. You can see the job description and application here: [Parish Administrator Job Description and Application](#) Printed copies are also available on the Narthex table.

No Thursday Night Talks Due to Vesperal Liturgy for the Feast Day

Tuesday Inquirer/Catechism Class this Tuesday, January 30

Out of the Office...



Maris Kelly will be out of the office, traveling to Australia with Myles and daughter Catherine, from January 29 through February 21. (*Please keep us in your prayers for safe travels*). I will be doing the Bulletin from ‘down under’ while I’m away and will continue checking church emails. John Marc has kindly agreed to make Monday morning deposits of any checks received and write reimbursements as needed.

Since Australia is a day ahead – please be aware that the bulletin may not be on the website exactly on Friday afternoon. I will do my best to make that happen - but I will need any bulletin announcements by Wednesday or Thursday (the latest), rather than Friday. Send any announcements to stjohnalaska@aol.com. Thanks—Maris Kelly

The Brothers of Lazarus are Back!

The Brothers of Lazarus is a fellowship of volunteer ‘handy men,’ focused on the upkeep, care, maintenance, and improvement of our Cathedral buildings and properties, and on other special needs, putting their personal skills and experience to work for the Lord and His Church.

The Brothers of Lazarus are men whose family and work responsibilities allow them time and energy to volunteer. It is not intended to replace the work of skilled contractors or hired laborers.

For more information or to become a member, email Tim Mellor at brothersoflazarus@gmail.com. Tim is coordinating the Brothers of Lazarus as a project for the St. Stephens Course and could use all the volunteers available. Even if you are a current member, please email Tim so that the list of volunteers can be updated. There are already several projects that need to be completed, so do not wait to sign up. You might just get a free hat.

New Parish Council Members Needed / Church Family Meeting

Saint John’s will have its annual Parish Family Meeting in on Saturday, March 2. We need at this time to fill two positions on the Parish Council. This is an important way to serve our Parish Community. Please see the qualifications below:

If you are willing to serve in this role, please submit your name to the Church office by phone (907) 696-2002 or by email (stjohnalaska@aol.com).

“The Church is a community, the ‘body of Christ.’ As such all members of the Parish need to use their talents to contribute to the health and well-being of the whole. Those on the Parish Council assume a special role of leadership to help make important decisions and guide the parish in its ministries and good works. Offering a positive contribution with a spirit of commitment is the essential work for a healthy governing body. We need our Parish Council members to be examples of committed effort and willingness to serve.

Qualifications: 25 years or older; Member of parish for two years, demonstrate membership “by regularly participating in the parish’s sacramental life and by regularly contributing to its temporal maintenance through the payment of dues, pledges, assessments (tithes).”

The Parish Council regularly meets on the 4th Tuesday evening of each month, about 10 times a year, with allowances for Feast Days or other scheduling conflicts considered.



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Atrium)

12:30pm – 2:00pm

Parents – please provide your children with a lunch.



Coffee Hour This Sunday - January 28, 2024 Group D - Fourth Sunday of the Month

Hosts Families: Kies / I. Temple

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

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**Next Sunday – Group A – February 4, 2024 - Hosts: Patras / Bowman**

Snacks: Abel, Baker, Bowman, Cook, Davis, Dozier, Gillquist Families, Haley, Hoxie, Jenkins, Justus, Lindblom, Macalino, Mellor, Northey O'Fallon, Patras, Sorensen, Stallman, Templeton, Tysver, VanDewater, Wells

## St. John's School Weekly News

### Hawaiian Themed Fundraiser Dinner February 18 at 5:30pm



St. John's School is having a Hawaiian-themed fundraiser dinner on Sunday, February 18 in our Cathedral basement. This was a tradition of our School pre-Covid and will be the first time for us to have a dinner like this in several years.

It will be a fun and family-oriented event, and an opportunity to raise money to support our School.

Beginning at 5:30pm we will have children's activities at the school, allowing adults a time to gather in the basement, have appetizers, and look at silent auction items. Dinner will be served about 6:15pm.

Tickets for the dinner are: \$35 for adults and \$25 for kindergarten to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. We can only seat about 200 people. There will also be a silent auction and a raffle for two Alaska Airline tickets. Raffle tickets are \$20. Call the School office soon and talk to Kali Macalino to reserve your dinner tickets, or to buy a raffle ticket 907-696-3920.

## News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese



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.

**Writings by Metropolitan Saba:** [On Frequent Holy Communion, Part One](#)

**Monthly Newsletter – Click [HERE](#)**



## Notes and Pictures from Parishioners

### “Checking In” with Each Other

Is there something you'd like to share? Please email [stjohnalaska@aol.com](mailto:stjohnalaska@aol.com)

### Update of Rollie Gillquist



We have been praying for a Rollie since November as it was believed he might have had cancer. The doctors have been monitoring the lesion in his bladder and the results from the most recent ultrasound showed the inflammation was gone. He is to follow up with another ultrasound in 6 months. We may never know what was going on. This is the power of prayer at work. Thank you to everyone who prayed and checked in to see how he was doing during this time. Glory to God in all things.

—Gillquist family

## 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

We will meet Thursday at the Chugiak Senior Center at 10am



### Birthdays This Week

January 31 - Tobias Haines

February 1 - Jaye Keener

February 1 - Xenia Clodfelter

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



### Anniversaries this Week

Kasey & Jennifer Medders - February 3, 1996

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





## *Remembering in Prayer...*

*Janet Hawi  
Gwyn Jones  
Judi Hoyt  
Jan Northey  
Gale Armstrong*

*Eloise Lamb  
Kerry Jones  
Tisha Dunham  
Elisa Betson*

*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*



- \* Steven Theodore Primis - February 3, 2001
  - \* Archpriest Jack Sparks - February 8, 2010
  - \* Phyllis Isabel Webster - February 12, 1992
  - \* Lynn Ellen Guio - February 17, 2019
  - \* Dn. Christian Timothy Sorensen - February 23, 2000
- 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 **February** – our scheduled meal that we provide Clare House is:  
**Saturday, February 24, 2024.** Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



### **Bulletin Announcement Guidelines**

Send announcements to church email address: [stjohnalaska@aol.com](mailto: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.

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## THE SYNAXARION

### Ephraim the Syrian – January 28



On January 28 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous Father Ephraim the Syrian.

#### *Verses*

*Ephraim, a Syrian by race and tongue, heard an unknown tongue,*

*As the psalm says, calling him up to the heights.*

*On the twenty-eighth, angels led Ephraim to sing his praises before God.*

Ephraim was born in Syria of poor parents in about 306. He spent his youth rather tempestuously, but suddenly a change took place in his soul, and he began to burn with love for the Lord Jesus. Ephraim was a disciple of St. James, bishop of Nisibis. Due to the great grace of God, wisdom flowed from Ephraim's tongue like a stream of honey, and ceaseless tears flowed from his eyes. Industrious as a bee, Ephraim continually wrote books, orally taught the monks in the monastery and the people of Edessa and dedicated himself to prayer and contemplation. Numerous are his books and beautiful are his prayers, the most famous of which is his prayer recited during Great Lent: "O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, meddling, lust of power, and idle talk. But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to me, Thy servant. Yea, O Lord, and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother; for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen." When the people wanted to appoint him a bishop by force, he pretended to be insane, racing through the city, dragging his garment behind him. Seeing this, the people left him in peace. Ephraim was a contemporary and friend of St. Basil the Great. Ephraim is considered the apostle of repentance. Even today, his works soften many hearts hardened by sin, returning them to Christ. Ephraim reposed in 378.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable and God bearing Father Isaac the Syrian, Venerable Palladios of Antioch; Martyr Charita and Venerable Theodosios of Totma. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

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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