

17th Sunday after
Pentecost

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2 Cor. 6:16-7:1  
Luke 8:26-39

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Homily by
Dn. Kevin Dougherty

Epistle Reader:
Jerry Finkler

Coffee Hour Hosts:
Medders Families

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

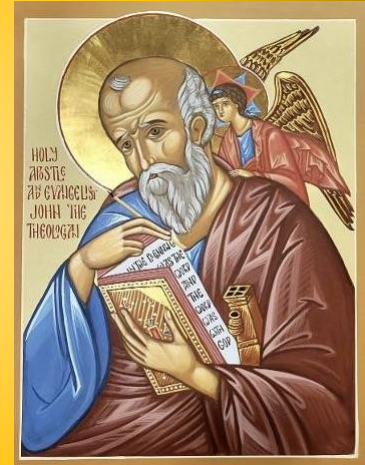
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## Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, October 20, 2024

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

“Thursday Night Talk” Next Week, October 24, Saint James House

Next week will conclude our opening series on Parenting and Family Issues. After this we will suspend these “Talks” for the near future in order to give adequate attention to the “inquirer’s classes” we need to have. See the announcement about these below.

Opening the Door to Orthodox Christianity

Thursdays at the Saint James House from 7-8:30pm - beginning Nov. 7

Are you, or someone you know, interested in a series of classes aimed at understanding the basics of Orthodox Christian beliefs and practices? These classes will be positive, not polemical. They will be practical, not theoretical. They will engage modern questions, not just parrot past answers. Most of all they will aim to open the door to knowing the real God as He revealed through Jesus Christ and known in the scriptures and the Orthodox way.

These classes are for inquirers and seekers, “nones” or Churchgoers, non-Orthodox or Orthodox who want to understand their faith better. We will meet in the Saint James House, right next to the Cathedral, as it provides a comfortable and informal setting. If childcare would help you attend on these evenings, let me or Tim Mellor know, and we will arrange something here at the Church.

Meeting with friends and talking about God is one of the best ways I can think of to spend a winter evening. So, I look forward to our time together. If you plan to attend and have not already done so, please confirm by sending me an email at frmarc@stjohnalaska.org. Thank you. —Fr. Marc Dunaway



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.

PFD Project Focus 2024 for St. John's Parish St. James House Upgrades

We will put all PFD tithing toward several overdue upgrades to the St. James House. The priority will be making the SJH handicap accessible. At the same time, we will replace the back deck to make it more usable for all, as well as upgrade the back steps.

For many years the tithe and donations from the PFD has allowed our Parish to accomplish some important projects. Providing handicap access to the Saint James House has long been on our wish list. This will be accomplished by building a long ramp from the parking lot to the back door into the dining room.

Please donate to this much needed improvement and mark your PFD tithe or more for this project so we can all continue to enjoy the St James house facilities. - *Martha Fisher and Bruce Johnson, Co-chairs of the Parish Council*

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 for more information.



(Also, it's not too late to start dropping off stuffing boxes for our local Thanksgiving Blessing meal.)

Coffee Hour This Sunday - October 20 Group C - Third Sunday of the Month



Hosts Families: Medders Families

Snacks: 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

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**Next Sunday – Group D – October 27 – Hosts: Templeton / Sorensens**

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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## News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese



Metropolitan Saba's Appeal for Lebanon – October 15, 2024

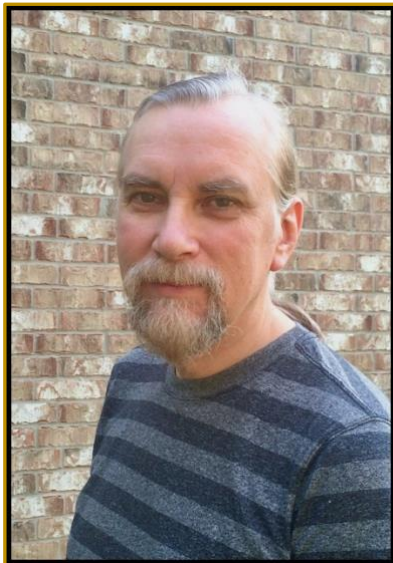
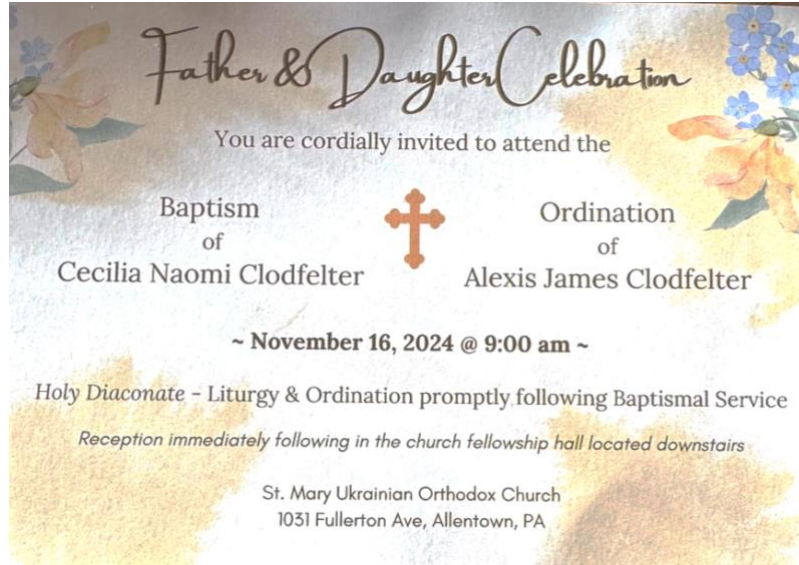
[Link to Letter](#)

## Notes and Pictures from Parishioners

### “Checking In” with Each Other

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

### Congratulations to Alexis and Delaney Clodfelter



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+Yuri Sidorenko

August 12, 1958 – October 2024

+Yuri Sidorenko reposed in the Lord on Saturday, October 12th. May God grant much comfort to all his family and friends.

His funeral took place on Thursday, October 17th at St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church in Spring, Texas

May his memory be eternal.

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Yuri and his wife Vera were the designers for Saint Sergius Chapel on our 50 Acres. This Chapel is a work of art because of their contribution during the time they were members of Saint John's from 1990-1994. Yuri was also a skilled painter and iconographer. He painted the main Icons that are inside the Chapel and the Icons of Saint Herman and St. Sergius that hang near the pulpit in our Cathedral. It was also through Yuri's efforts that the Chapel Icons, which had not yet been installed were placed in the Cathedral and blessed by Patriarch Alexy during his visit to Alaska in 1993. Yuri was a serious and thoughtful Orthodox Christian, and we were blessed in many ways to have them be part of our community. May God give rest to his soul and comfort to his family! - Fr. Marc

## Photos of Fr. John Downing's Funeral



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### *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*

This Thursday, Oct. 24, we will meet at JoAnn Webster's house. We will have a potluck lunch to celebrate our 2 October birthdays, Judy Tsyver and MaryAnn Northey. — Ann Patras.

#### *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.



## *Birthdays This Week*

October 22 - Steve Templeton  
October 22 - Jennifer VanDewater  
October 23 - Ryan Williams  
October 25 - MaryAnn Northey  
October 25 - Lucia Fletes  
October 26 - Chris Grasse  
October 26 - Ryan Hattenburg  
October 27 - Gwyn Jones



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



## *Remembering in Prayer...*

*Gwyn Jones*  
*Nina Potts*  
*Laura Temple*  
*Oksana Artz*  
*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 !*



## *Anniversaries this Week*

Anthony & Cara Fletes - October 25, 2015  
*M A N Y Y E A R S !*

*Who is that Prophet on the Iconostasis?  
Answers to this question will be highlighted in the bulletin each Sunday*



**Holy Prophet Isaiah**  
**Feast Day – May 9**

*“Unto us a child is born and to us a son is given.”*

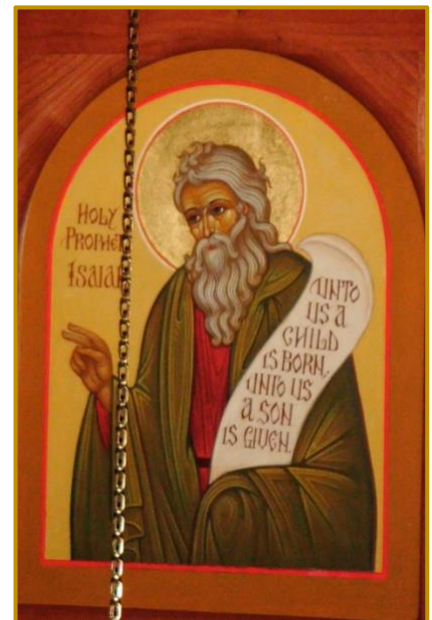
The Holy Prophet Isaiah lived 700 years before the birth of Christ and was of royal lineage. Isaiah’s father Amos raised his son in the fear of God and in the law of the Lord. Having attained the age of maturity, the Prophet Isaiah entered into marriage with a pious prophetess (Is 8:3) and had a son Jashub (Is 8:18).

Saint Isaiah was called to prophetic service during the reign of Oziah [Uzziah], king of Judea, and he prophesied for 60 years during the reign of kings Joatham, Achaz [Ahaz], Hezekiah and Manasseh. The start of his service was marked by the following vision: he beheld the Lord God, sitting in a majestic heavenly temple upon a high throne. Six-winged Seraphim encircled Him. With two wings they covered their faces, and with two wings they covered their feet, and with two wings they flew about crying out one to another, “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord Sabaoth, heaven and earth are filled with His glory!” The pillars of the heavenly temple shook from their shouts, and in the temple arose the smoke of incense.

The prophet foretells the birth of the Messiah from a Virgin, and with clarity he describes the Suffering of the Messiah for the sins of the world. He foresees His Resurrection and the universal spreading of His Church. By his clear foretelling of Christ the Savior, the Prophet Isaiah deserves to be called an Old Testament Evangelist. To him belong the words, “He beareth our sins and is smitten for us.... He was wounded for our sins and tortured for our transgressions. The chastisement of our world was upon Him, and by His wounds we were healed...” (Is 53:4-5. Vide Isaiah: 7:14, 11:1, 9:6, 53:4, 60:13, etc.).

The holy Prophet Isaiah had also a gift of wonderworking. And so, when during the time of a siege of Jerusalem by enemies the besieged had become exhausted with thirst, he by his prayer drew out from beneath Mount Sion a spring of water, which was called Siloam, i.e. “sent from God.” It was to this spring afterwards that the Savior sent the man blind from birth to wash, and He restored his sight. By the prayer of the Prophet Isaiah, the Lord prolonged the life of Hezekiah for 15 years.

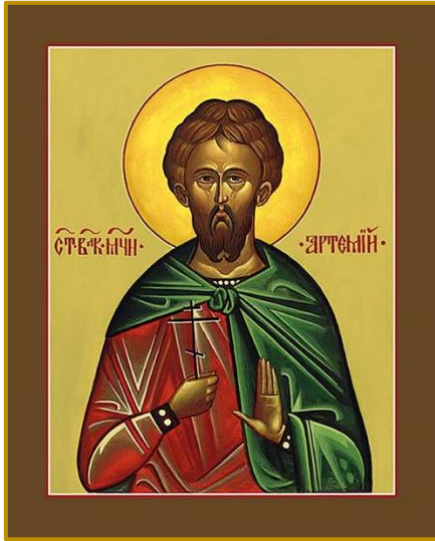
The Prophet Isaiah died a martyr’s death. By order of the Jewish king Manasseh, he was sawn through by a wood-saw. The prophet was buried not far from the Pool of Siloam. The relics of the holy Prophet Isaiah were afterwards transferred by the emperor Theodosius the Younger to Constantinople and installed in the church of Saint Laurence at Blachernae. At the present time part of the head of the Prophet Isaiah is preserved at Athos in the Hilandar monastery.



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## THE SYNAXARION

### Great-Martyr Artemius at Antioch – October 20



On October 20, in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy Great-Martyr Artemius at Antioch.

#### *Verses*

*Artemius, who in all things in life shone brightly,  
was beheaded, departing for the highest glory.*

*On the twentieth, the neck of swift-witted Artemius was cut.*

This glorious saint was Egyptian by birth and the chief commander under Emperor Constantine the Great. Artemius was present with the emperor when the victorious Cross appeared to him. At that moment, Artemius believed in the Lord Jesus Christ and was baptized. He was appointed as imperial prefect in Egypt and remained in this position under Emperor Julian the Apostate. Later, Artemius was summoned to Antioch by Emperor Julian where the apostate emperor subjected two Christian priests, Eugenius and Macarius, to torture. Seeing this, Artemius became greatly enraged and told the Emperor Julian, “Your death is near.” Julian then stripped Artemius of his military rank and ordered him to be flogged and torn asunder. Artemius was thrown into prison, where the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to him and healed him. Artemius was beheaded in the year 362. Emperor Julian went out against the Persians and perished dishonorably, just as Artemius had foretold.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Gerasimos the New Ascetic of the Greek Island of Kephallenia, and Venerable Matrona of the Greek Island of Chios. 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