

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT:

To foster the spiritual maturity of the Orthodox Christian faithful of St. John the Baptist and reach out to inquirers, the unchurched and inactive Orthodox on the west side of metropolitan Portland through worship, the sacramental life, education, philanthropy, hospitality, fellowship and the practice of Christian Stewardship, thereby serving as an instrument in the growth and expansion of the Orthodox Christian Church.

The 2017 Chili Cook-Off is Sunday, Feb. 12th. Save the date, review guidelines and register as a contestant at stjohngoc.org. Deadline to register as a contestant is Feb. 1st. \$15/person and \$50/family. Tickets available online or at the door.

Strategic Planning Parishioner Workshop Scheduled for Saturday Feb. 25, 2017

Your Strategic Planning Committee is excited to announce that a Parishioner Workshop has been scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017 at St. John the Baptist. PLEASE SAVE THE DATE. Ministry heads and all St John Parishioners over the age of 18 are invited to participate in the workshop!

While a final time frame is yet to be finalized, it has tentatively been set as being held from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm. Refreshments and lunch to be provided. It will be a highly interactive, participatory workshop to obtain additional parishioner input on the current "state of the parish" and your hopes and dreams for its future. While the final agenda for the workshop is not yet completed, we can say that the workshop will include:

*Small and larger group discussion. Participation by attendees will be essential! Your chance to be heard and help us brainstorm.

*A 'SWOT' exercise that provides a proven method for all workshop participants to help identify the Parish's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats and what they mean for the future. The Strategic Plan we are developing is a plan to build the future we wish to see for the Parish.

Summary of the "Homegrown" Parish Survey Results To Be Posted on the SJB Website in Jan., 2017

The Strategic Planning Committee is finalizing summaries of the results of the Parish wide survey completed this past Fall. The summaries will include both the many positive strengths of the parish that were identified and the areas for further discussion and improvement that were identified. The summaries will provide good background and "food for thought" in preparation for the February Parish Workshop. An upcoming e-blast from Fr Theodore will alert everyone when a link to the survey summaries is posted on the Parish website later this month.

OCMC Missionary to Guatemala, Jesse Brandow will be giving a talk with a slide presentation on Saturday, Feb. 25th at 6pm after Great Vespers. Jesse has served as a missionary to Guatemala for the past 2 years and is a graduate of St. Vladimir Orthodox Theological Seminary and doing a wonderful work in Guatemala.

Welcome Visitors! All non-Orthodox visitors to our parish are welcome and may receive the blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy. To receive Holy Communion, you must be baptized and confirmed in the Orthodox Church. You must also have prepared under the spiritual direction of your Father Confessor, which presumes participation in the Sacrament of Confession. Before approaching the Communion Chalice, we should not have any foreign matter in or on our mouths; this includes food, gum, lipstick, etc. Please come up the middle aisle with reverence and humility. When receiving, please place the cloth under your chin, wipe your mouth and then hand the cloth to the next person.



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

Bringing Orthodox Christianity to the Portland Westside and Beaverton Area

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA * METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO

Witnessing
the Truth
of Apostolic
Christianity

Rev. Fr. Theodore Dorrance
Rev. Fr. Timothy Pavlatos
Dcn. Innocent Duchow-Pressley

14485 SW WALKER ROAD
BEAVERTON, OREGON 97006
503.644.7444 FAX: 503.296.2507
churchoffice@stjohngoc.org

VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE AT STJOHNGOC.ORG

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE SAINT PAUL OF THEBES, SAINT JOHN THE HUT-DWELLER

PLAGAL 1ST MODE/8TH MORNING GOSPEL

JANUARY 15 2017

St. Paul of Thebes, first among hermits, was born about 227 in the Thebaid in Egypt. In 250 he fled into the wilderness because of the persecution raging at that time under Decius. Having lived a solitary life in a certain cave for ninety-one years, he reposed in 341, at the age of 114, and was buried by Anthony the Great, who had been directed there by God several days before the Saint's repose.

St. John the Hut-Dweller was from Constantinople. His parents were the illustrious Evtropios the Senator and Theodora. At the age of twelve, he left his home secretly and went to the Monastery of the Unsleeping. Although committed to the monastic life, he longed to be with his parents, so after six years, he returned to his father's house disguised as a beggar. Living in a small hut at the gates of his parents' house, he remained unknown to both his family and his former servants. God revealed to him the time of his death, allowing him to make himself known to his parents moments beforehand. St. John reposed in the year 450.

This week we also commemorate St. Anthony the Great (Jan. 17th) and St. Athanasios the Great (Jan. 18th). **St. Anthony**, the Father of monks, was born in 251 of pious parents. He sold all he had and went to live in the desert in response to hearing the words of the Gospel: "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell what thou hast, and give to the poor" (Matt. 19:21). Through his ascetic labors, he overcame many struggles, and other brothers were attracted to the ascetic life. He consoled Christians persecuted under Maximinus and went to Alexandria to speak against Arianism. St. Athanasios the Great encountered him as a youth and later became his biographer. **St. Athanasios** was only twenty when he wrote *On the Incarnation*. He participated in the first Ecumenical Council as a deacon. In 326, he succeeded St. Alexander as Patriarch of Alexandria. During his 47 years as Patriarch, he spent seventeen in exile due to his outspoken opposition of the heresies plaguing the Church. He died in the year 373.

PC: -Keese/Chosvig G: Becker Altar Servers Team C: Tobias, Kyle, Levi, Aiden, Thomas, Petros, Gabriel
Clean-up Team 2: Wood, Powell, Stinman, Gillespie, Muzik, Poulos N & A

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (Plagal 1st Mode):

Coeternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, Who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation. As the faithful we both praise and worship Him, for in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross, and death did He endure, and He raised the dead unto life, through His glorious resurrection.

Hymn of St. John the Hut-Dweller (4th Mode/Be quick to anticipate):

Since thou hadst with fervour longed after the Lord from thy youth, * thou leftest the world with its delights and nobly didst strive in valiant ascetic deeds. * Thou didst pitch thy hut before the gates of thy parents; * thou didst break the demons' snares, O all-blessed Father. * And therefore, as is meet, hath Christ God glorified thee, O John.

Hymn of St. John the Baptist (2nd Mode):

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner; for thou hast proved to be truly more venerable than the Prophets, since thou wast granted to baptize in the stream Him Whom they proclaimed. Wherefore having contested for the truth, thou didst rejoice to announce the good tidings even to those in Hades: that God hath appeared in the flesh, taking away the sin of the world and granting to us great mercy.

Kontakion of the Presentation (1st Mode):

Thou Who didst sanctify the Virgin's womb by Thy birth, and didst bless Symeon's hands as was meet, by anticipation hast even now saved us, O Christ God. But grant peace in the midst of wars unto Thy commonwealth, and strengthen the hierarchs whom Thou hast loved, O only Friend of man.

EPISTLE READING: Colossians 3:4-11 (29th Sunday after Pentecost):

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 17:12-19 (12th Sunday of Luke):

At that time as Jesus entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 15TH

Sunday, January 15th	12th Sunday of Luke Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45 AM
	Outdoor Blessing of the Waters @ Waterfront Park	12:30 PM
Monday, January 16th	Martin Luther King Day-Church Office is closed	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy followed by Festal Potluck	5:30 PM
Tuesday, January 17th	St Anthony, the Great	
	Bible Study	9:30 AM
	Parish Council Meeting	6:45 PM
Wednesday, January 18th	St. Athanasios	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy with ASA	7:30 AM
	Choir Practice	7:00 PM
	Basics of Orthodoxy: Jesus Christ & Holy Trinity	7:00 PM
Friday, January 20th	Mom's 'n Tots Bible Study	10:30 AM
Saturday, January 21st	Yes Focus North America	1:30 PM
	Great Vespers	5:00 PM
Sunday, January 22nd	15th Sunday of Luke	
	St. Timothy, the Apostle	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45 AM
	Sunday School/Theology 101	12:15 PM
	Chili Cook-Off Planning Meeting	1:00 PM
	Men's Night Out at the Barnes' home	5:00 PM

Basics of Orthodoxy Classes Check the full schedule on the bulletin board and online. Each class in this 14-part introductory series is free and open to the public. Come for one or attend an entire season to learn about Orthodoxy for the first time or refresh your knowledge.

Portland Walk for Life 2017 is today! You're invited to a peaceful rally for life and against abortion with Portland-area Orthodox Christians. *The Walk for Life* will take place after the 12:30 pm Pan Orthodox Blessing of the Willamette River. Meet at 2:30 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center (777 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd) and look for the "*Orthodox Christians for Life*" banner.

Men's Night Out will be Sunday, Jan. 22nd at Patrick Barnes' home at 5:00pm. He will provide main course and salad. Patrick is going to get us some catered food or appetizers, so please bring \$5.00 to help defray the cost. Also bring your favorite libations. RSVP to robert.downs.iii@gmail.com.

'Mom's Night Out' Dinner Party at Presvtera Stacey's home on Monday, Jan. 23rd at 6:30. All moms are welcome. No children please :) See flyer insert for details!!

How to Present the Orthodox Faith: a free seminar sponsored by the Missions & Evangelism Committee. Jan 26th, 27th (7pm), Jan 28th (9am, 12:30pm). An experienced Missionary Priest – Fr. Russell Radoicich, Pastor of Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church in Butte, MO – will be our speaker. Fr. Russell will teach us how he has been successful in bringing many to Orthodoxy through his efforts in Montana. Each lecture is a "building block" for the whole picture, so, you won't want to miss any of them.

Topics: Eastern vs Western Mindset, The Theotokos, The Scriptures, and Morality & Spirituality.

Questions? See Patrick or Eli.