

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.

Basics of Orthodoxy Classes: The full schedule is on the bulletin board and online. The classes are free and open to the public. Learn about Orthodoxy for the first time or refresh your knowledge.

Young Adults- DINNER, DISCUSSION, and PRAYER is tomorrow at 6:30pm - We'll be discussing Repentance and Confession by Hieromonk Gregorios, with Fr. Theodore, at the Dorrance home. Please bring \$5 to help with food costs and a drink to share. RSVP to Beth at youthdirector@stjohnnoc.org.

Please join the staff and students of Agia Sophia Academy for Divine Liturgy on February 17. Coffee and treats to follow in the young family room. Questions? Contact Christina Blankenstein at christina@asapdx.org

Men's Night Out will be Saturday, Feb. 18th at 6:30pm at Michael Becker's home after Great Vespers. (Two days before meatfare!) He will provide main course. Please bring salad and your favorite libations. RSVP to robert.downs.iii@gmail.com.

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 wonderful work in Guatemala.

You are warmly invited to attend our Crossroads Lenten Potluck on Monday, Feb. 27th from 11am to 1pm. We are honored to welcome Father Theodore who will be speaking to us about Lent. Please call Helen Stinman, if you need a ride.

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY MARCH 4th: The women of Philoptochos are organizing the first ever Parish-wide Service Day *'March Forth to Serve'*. A variety of service opportunities will be available from which to choose for most all members of our Parish family to reach out in love to our local community. This loving use of our time and talents will be a beautiful way to begin our Lenten Journey. Watch for more details to come. Direct questions to either Lisa Corazza or Jennifer Davis. May it be Blessed!

Sts. Mary and Martha Philoptochos-Membership Month

Sts. Mary and Martha Philoptochos of St. John the Baptist would like to invite all women of the Parish to join Philoptochos. A wonderful advantage of belonging to Philoptochos is that it allows us to connect with one another. By working on various ministries of the Orthodox Church, we come to know and love each other, which is what we are called to do. The mission of Philoptochos is to help the poor, destitute, hungry, sick, aged and anyone in need of assistance inside or outside the Church community. A table is available during coffee hour today and next Sunday for information. The membership offering is \$40 for one year. There will be a Membership Social 7:00 – 8:30 this Thursday, February 16 at St. Johns with complimentary appetizers, beverages and a raffle for a one year membership. All women are encouraged to attend.

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@stjohnnoc.org

VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE AT STJOHNGOC.ORG

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON ST. MELETIOS, ARCHBISHOP OF ANTIOCH

FIRST MODE/1ST MORNING GOSPEL

FEBRUARY 12, 2017

On the **Sunday of the Prodigal Son**, we read the parable about the spiritual death and rebirth of a young man. In this illustration about sin and repentance, Jesus shows us how in varying ways we each make both conscious and unconscious decisions to turn away from our homeland (the Kingdom of Heaven), to foolishly waste our time, talents and treasure on immediate gratification and selfish pursuits, and to sink lower and lower into sin. The story also shows us how to come to our senses, realize our sinful condition and return to our Heavenly Father. Jesus shows us how great is the Father's desire to see the repentance of one of His creatures. Remember, while the prodigal son was still far off, the father ran toward his son, embraced him, clothed him, restored him to sonship and invited his entire household to rejoice over the rebirth of his second son.

Once a person, with the help of God, is able to develop sustained desire and humility, he is able to see himself as he truly is in relation to God. When a person compares himself to God, he discovers his sinfulness and his inadequacies. We must see our need for God and desire to change before God can forgive us and restore us to complete and full fellowship with Him. May we take the opportunity that Lent provides for us to nurture this kind of repentance in our own hearts.

We celebrate a **Saturday of the Souls** on the Saturday following the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. The Saturday of the Souls services are an important element of our spiritual lives and usually happen as part of our preparation for a major feast. Please list the baptismal names (first names only) of Orthodox Christians who have reposed and bring them prior to the start of Liturgy on Saturday with a small offering of kollyva. A recipe for kollyva can be found on the church website under "Resources/Parish Cookbook."

PC: Davis/Keese G: Reiter Altar Servers Team B: Anthony, Christos, Stathi, Nicholas S., Makarios, Nicholas D.
Clean up Team 6: Ketrenos J & K, Lubliner D & J, Lubliner N, Goldman, Thienes, Tesfamichael, Taylor, Hatch

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (1st Mode):

The stone had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch o'er Your pure and sacred body; O Savior, the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ, glory to Your kingdom, glory to Your dispensation, O You alone Who loves all.

Tu lithu sfragisthentos ipo ton Iutheon, ke stratioton filassonton to ahranton Su soma. Anestis triimeros Sotir, thorumenos to kosmo tin zoin, thia tuto e thinamis ton uranon evoon Si zoothota. Thoxa ti Anastasi Su Christe. Thoxa ti vasilia Su. Thoxa ti ikonomia Su, mone Filanthrope.

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 Prodigal Son (3rd Mode/On this day the Virgin):

Foolishly I sprang away * from Thy great fatherly glory * and dispersed in wicked deeds * the riches that Thou didst give me. * With the Prodigal I therefore * cry unto Thee now: * I have sinned against Thee, O compassionate Father. * But receive me in repentance; * make me as one of * Thy hired servants, O Lord.

EPISTLE READING: I Corinthians 6:12-20 (34th Sunday):

Brethren, "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" —and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 15:11-32 (Sunday of the Prodigal Son):

The Lord said this Parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this

my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12TH

Sunday, February 12th	Sunday of the Prodigal Son Orthros & Divine Liturgy Sunday School/Theology 101 Chili Cook-Off	8:45 AM 12:15 PM 5:00 PM
	Normal Fasting All Week	
Monday, February 13th	Young Adults-at the Dorrance home	6:30 PM
Tuesday, February 14th	Bible Study	9:30 AM
Wednesday, February 15th	Basics of Orthodoxy Class-Orthodox Spirituality II Choir Practice	7:00 PM 7:00 PM
Thursday, February 16th	Sts. Mary & Martha Gathering	7:00 PM
Friday, February 17th	St. Theodore the Tyro Orthros & Divine Liturgy with ASA Mom's 'n Tots Bible Study	7:30 AM 10:30 AM
Saturday, February 18th	Saturday of Souls Orthros, Divine Liturgy & Memorial Jr. GOYA Monastery Retreat Great Vespers Sr. GOYA Fireside Chat Men's Night Out-at the Becker home	8:30 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM
Sunday, February 19th	Sunday of the Last Judgement (Meatfare) Orthros & Divine Liturgy Sunday School/Theology 101	8:45 AM 12:15 PM

From the Makarounis Family - We would like to thank our St. John's family for all of the kind and loving prayers, meals, words, thoughts, letters, and deeds during Jim's illness and after his passing. We are so grateful for this community, and words cannot express our immense gratitude, love, and appreciation for each and every one of you. Thank you! With love, Stephanie, Hanna & Christos