

# 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.*

**LOST AND FOUND IS BRIMMING!** The lost and found is located in the NFH and it is brimming with lots of items: boots, jackets, etc. If you are missing something, please retrieve it!

**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.

**Stewardship Cards:** If you haven't turned in your 2017 Stewardship card, please turn it in ASAP. If you need a blank card, see Erik Chosvig or pick one up on the visitors table located in the SFH. You may place your card in the offering basket or turn in at the Church Office.

**The Oratorical Festival** is Saturday, March 11th. Please come support our youth! Jr. Division speeches begin at 3pm, followed by Vespers at 5pm, followed by a potluck at 6pm and Sr. Division begins at 6:30pm.

**Men's Breakfast** and Spiritually led discussion Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> 8:30am. Open to all men. No RSVP needed. Please bring \$5 to help with the cost of food.

**JOY Youth Group:** Please join us at the Oregon Food Bank on Thursday Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> from 6-8:30pm to volunteer our time to help others in need. Please have all participants register individually for this shift. You may bring other family members and friends - recommended for ages 6 and up! Contact Katherine Braden for registration link and for questions.

**CALLING ALL KIDS!** For **The Holy Friday Youth Retreat** on Friday, Apr. 14, 2017 at 10:45am-2:45pm. It's a fun-filled day! Lunch, activities, and fellowship. A registration table during coffee hour on the following Sundays: Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>, Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Apr. 9<sup>th</sup>. Palm Sunday will be the last day to register! Do not miss out on the amazing opportunity to prepare for Pascha! For more information, please contact Athena Gonzales at athenacontes@hotmail.com. Thank you!

**SAVE THE DATE: Women's Monastery Retreat** sponsored by Sts. Mary & Martha Philoptochos on Apr. 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. Please email: nika.buckley2014@gmail.com to sign up so she can save your space. Look forward to a beautiful time of fellowship with one another and the nuns!

**Myrrhbearing Maidens** is an opportunity for girls, 3rd grade - 8th grade, to serve at Christ's Burial and Resurrection during Holy Week. Donations of outgrown white dresses are also being accepted. For questions, contact Jennifer Rich at jenniferannarich@gmail.com.

**Agia Sophia Academy**, an Orthodox Christian School, seeks an experienced educator to serve as our Principal for the 2017-18 school year. Learn more at <http://www.asapdx.org/about-us/employment/principal-position>.

**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

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

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VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE AT [STJOHNGOC.ORG](http://STJOHNGOC.ORG)

## SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY CONON, THE GARDENER MARK, THE ASCETIC

FOURTH MODE/4TH MORNING GOSPEL

MARCH 5, 2017

On the **Sunday of Orthodoxy**, we celebrate the triumph of true doctrine over heresy. For more than one hundred years the Church suffered from the persecution by the Iconoclasts, who taught that it was not proper to make and venerate icons. This terrible period began in the reign of Leo the Isaurian (717-741) and ended in the reign of Theophilus (829-842). After Theophilus's death, his widow the Empress Theodora (celebrated Feb. 11), together with the Patriarch Methodios (June 14), established Orthodoxy anew. This ever-memorable Queen venerated the icon of the Mother of God in the presence of the Patriarch Methodios and the other confessors and righteous men, and openly cried out these holy words: "If anyone does not honor the holy icons, not adoring them as though they were gods, but venerating them out of love as images of the archetype, let him be anathema." Then with common prayer and fasting during the whole first week of the Forty-day Fast, she asked God's forgiveness for her husband. After this, on the first Sunday of the Fast, she and her son, Michael the Emperor, made a procession with all the clergy and people and restored the holy icons, and again adorned the Church of Christ with them. This is the holy deed that we commemorate today by again processing with icons and affirming that proclamation that was made on that first Sunday of Orthodoxy.

**St. Conon** lived during the reign of emperor Decius in 251. He was from the town of Nazareth. He left his hometown and went to the city of Mandron, in the province of Pamphylia. There he stayed cultivating a garden which he used to water and plant with various vegetables, all that was necessary for life. He had such an upright and simple mind that, when he met those who wished to arrest him and saw that they greeted him, he also greeted in return from the bottom of his soul and heart. When they told him that governor Publius called the saint to go to him, the saint answered with simplicity: "What does the governor need me, since I am a Christian? Let him call those who think as he does and have the same religion with him." So, he was tied and brought to the governor, who tried to move him to sacrifice to idols. But he sighed, cursed the tyrant and confirmed his faith in Christ with his confession, saying that it is not possible to be moved from it even though he might be tortured cruelly. So, for this reason they nailed his feet and made the saint run in front of the governor's coach. But the saint fainted in the street. Having fallen on his knees, he prayed and, thus, he commended his holy soul to the hands of God.

PC: Walsh/Chiprout G: -Chosvig Altar Servers Team E: Alexander, Gabriel, Yoas, Pavlos, Noah, Peter  
Clean up Team 9: Feyler, Jones/Kuchilis, Lindgren, Rush, Wehlitz, Solomon, Mansager, Crosby, Gebreyesus

## SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

### Hymn of the Sunday of Orthodoxy (2nd Mode):

We venerate Thy holy icon, loving Lord, asking Thee to pardon our transgressions, Christ our God. For Thou of Thine own will wast pleased in the flesh to ascend upon the Cross, so to deliver from the bondage of the enemy those whom Thou hast fashioned. Therefore in thanksgiving we cry aloud to Thee: Thou hast filled all things with joy, our Saviour, when Thou hast come to save the world.

### Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (4th Mode):

When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished ever more and Christ our God has risen from the dead, and granted to the world His great mercy.

### Repeat Hymn of Sunday of Orthodoxy

### 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 Theotokos (Plagal 4th Mode):

To thee, the Champion Leader we thy flock dedicate a feast of victory and of thanksgiving, as ones rescued out of sufferings, O Theotokos. But as thou art one with might which is invincible, from all dangers that can be do thou deliver us, that we may cry to thee: Rejoice, thou Bride unwedded.

### EPISTLE READING: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40 (Sunday of Orthodoxy):

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets--who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated--of whom the world was not worthy--wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And in all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

### GOSPEL READING: John 1:44-52 (Sunday of Orthodoxy):

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathaniel, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also in the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathaniel said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathaniel coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathaniel said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathaniel answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

## PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 5TH

Sunday, March 5th	<b>Sunday of Orthodoxy Orthros &amp; Divine Liturgy &amp; Procession w/Icons No Sunday School/Theology 101</b>	8:45 AM
Monday, March 6th	<b>Great Compline</b> Basics of Orthodoxy Class-Church History I Choir Practice	6:30 PM 7:30 PM 7:30 PM
Tuesday, March 7th	Bible Study Strategic Planning Meeting	9:30 AM 7:00 PM
Wednesday, March 8th	<b>Presanctified Liturgy</b> with Lenten Potluck	6:30 PM
Friday, March 10th	<b>Presanctified Liturgy</b> No Mom's 'n Tots Bible Study <b>Salutations to the Theotokos</b>	8:30 AM 10:30 AM 6:30 PM
Saturday, March 11th	Oratorical Festival-Jr. Division <b>Great Vespers</b> Oratorical Festival Potluck Oratorical Festival-Sr. Division	3:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM
Sunday, March 12th	<b>Second Sunday of Great Lent St. Gregory Palamas Orthros &amp; Divine Liturgy Sunday School/Theology 101</b>	8:45 AM 12:15 PM

### Parish Council Announcement:

At its last meeting, the Parish Council approved a Parish alert mechanism to communicate broadly about services or Parish activities in the case of unusual circumstances, such as our earlier winter weather this year. Messages will originate with our Pastor, and by default a banner will appear on our website making his announcement. The mechanism can include a duplicate email message and/or text message to those who would like to receive them. Please contact Barbara in the church office to express your interest and/or opt in. email: [churchoffice@stjohnhoc.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnhoc.org)