

# 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.*



Did you know that C.O.M.E. helps support the 6 Mission Parishes in our Metropolis: Pasco, WA; Salem, OR; Roseburg, OR; Maui, HI; Flagstaff, AZ; and Lake Havasu City, AZ? This work is done thanks in part to the donations that we raise through our Mochas for Missions campaign. As of last week, **we have raised \$398** towards our \$4,000 goal.

### 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.

**Crossroads March Lenten Potluck** Father Alban from Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church will be speaking at 11am followed by our potluck luncheon at 12pm. We hope you can join us!

**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 the registration link and for questions.

**CALLING ALL KIDS! The Holy Friday Youth Retreat** is on Friday, Apr. 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:45am-2:45pm. It's a fun-filled day! Lunch, activities, and fellowship. Go to the registration table during coffee hour Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>-Apr. 9<sup>th</sup>. Palm Sunday is the last day to register! This is an amazing opportunity to prepare for Pascha! For more information, please contact Athena Gonzales at athenacontes@hotmail.com.

**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 (jenniferannarich@gmail.com).

**Agia Sophia Academy** 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>.

**On Sale now!** Get your ASA gala tickets during coffee hour and help support our school! ASA is still seeking donations of: wine bottles, gift card donations (purchase a SCRIP card), and items for the silent auction! Visit: [www.asagala.org](http://www.asagala.org) for more information.

### Support Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage!

Please donate bags of dried pinto beans and rice to the orphanage. Questions? Contact Pavlos B at [grkgks12@gmail.com](mailto:grkgks12@gmail.com)

**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

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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT-VENERATION OF THE CROSS HOLY MARTYRS CHRYSANTHUS AND DARIA

PLAGAL SECOND MODE/6TH MORNING GOSPEL

MARCH 19, 2017

With the **Third Sunday of Lent**, we come to the middle of the journey of preparation for Pascha. We should be feeling two things simultaneously: the fatigue of our ascetic efforts and the increased grace of God and the fruit of that grace. In a very real sense, we have climbed up the mountain to the point where we can begin to see the end of the journey. We can see the road that lies ahead, but in the distance the glorious Feast of Pascha awaits us. Deep within us we need to nurture a sense of anticipation and impending climax. There should be in our hearts the light of the coming joy of our Lord's resurrection. Although feeling the effects of fasting, increased worship services and other forms of asceticism, we should gain a sense of renewal, knowing that Christ is transfiguring those who participate and place their faith in His victory over sin and death through the Cross.

For this reason, the Church places the Veneration of the Holy Cross on this the Third Sunday of Lent. The hymnology of the services for this week develop for us our Church's most important understanding of the Cross: victory and joy in the midst of suffering. Although suffering and the Cross can never be separated, the event of Christ's crucifixion is first and foremost the means to His resurrection, victory over sin and death and everlasting life in His Kingdom.

We need to remember the joy and victory that comes through suffering as we become co-sufferers with Christ. We are called by Christ to suffer with Him that we might share in His victory. Once we understand the meaning of Christ's cross, we can begin to understand the meaning and purpose of our own crosses and lives and learn to bear them with peace, thanksgiving and patient endurance.

**Saint Chrysanthus**, who was from Alexandria, had been instructed in the Faith of Christ by a certain bishop. His father, who was a senator by rank and a pagan, had him shut up in prison for many days; then, seeing the unchanging disposition of his mind, he commanded that a certain young woman named **Daria** be brought from Athens. She was a very beautiful and learned maiden, and also an idolater, and Chrysanthus' father wedded him to her so that he might be drawn away from the Faith of Christ because of his love for her. Instead of this however, Chrysanthus drew Daria unto piety, and both of them boldly proclaimed Christ and received the crown of martyrdom in 283, during the reign of Numerian, when they were buried alive in a pit of mire.

PC: Lindren/Weick G: Reiter Altar Servers Team B: Anthony, Christos, Stathi, Nicholas S., Makarios, Nicholas D.  
Clean up Team 10: Wilson, Blankenstein, Hudanish P & J, Hills, Braden, Perlmutter N & D, Stovea, Breen

## SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

### Hymn of the Cross (1st Mode):

Save, O Lord, Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Grant Thou unto Thy faithful victory over adversaries; and by the power of Thy Cross, do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

### Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (Plagal 2nd Mode):

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb and those who guarded You became as though dead, and standing by Your sepulcher was Mary, seeking You pure and sacred Body then You did vanquish Hades and uncorrupted by its touch You came unto the Virgin, bestowing the gift of life. O You Who rose from the dead, Lord, we give glory to You.

### Repeat the Hymn of the Cross

### 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 for this Sunday (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 4:14-18, 5:1-6 (Third Sunday of Great Lent):

Brethren, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee;" as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

### GOSPEL READING: Mark 8:34-38, 9:1 (Third Sunday of Great Lent):

The Lord said: "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

## PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 19TH

Sunday, March 19th	<b>Veneration of the Holy Cross Orthros &amp; Divine Liturgy</b>	8:45 AM
	Sunday School/Theology 101	12:15 PM
Monday, March 20th	Crossroads 55+ Luncheon	10:00 AM
	Speaker: Fr. Alban	
	<b>Great Compline</b>	6:30 PM
	Basics of Orthodoxy Class	7:30 PM
	Choir Practice	7:30 PM
Tuesday, March 21st	No Bible Study	
	Parish Council Meeting	6:45 PM
Wednesday, March 22nd	<b>Presanctified Liturgy</b> followed by Lenten Potluck	6:30 PM
Friday, March 24th	<b>Presanctified Liturgy</b>	8:30 AM
	<b>Salutations to the Theotokos</b>	6:30 PM
Saturday, March 25th	<b>Services at Annunciation Orthodox Church in Milwaukee</b>	
	<b>Orthros</b>	8:00 AM
	<b>Divine Liturgy</b>	10:00 AM
	Luncheon	12:00 PM
Sunday, March 26th	<b>St. John of the Ladder Orthros &amp; Divine Liturgy</b>	8:45 AM
	Sunday School/Theology	12:15 PM

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**Lenten Care Packages Project.** Did you know? There are 11 students from SJB attending out-of-town colleges and universities! Are you interested in showing them some love from our Parish? St. Justin's College Student Ministry is fundraising to cover the cost of their package. This project will send each student a signed card, a chocolate bar, and a spiritual book. Visit Logos bookstore today to make a donation to cover the cost of this endeavor!

Questions? Awesome ideas? Contact Sam M. or Bethany D.

### Retreats

**Men's Lenten Retreat** at the Monastery is on March 31<sup>st</sup> to April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please see the bulletin board for details or find a brochure on the table in the SFH. Please contact Brandon at [cravetruth@yahoo.com](mailto:cravetruth@yahoo.com) if you'd like to carpool.

**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](mailto: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!

### Gleaning Groups

**Ladies of St. John the Baptist**, please consider signing up for the upcoming round of "Gleaning Groups", sponsored by Sts. Mary and Martha Philoptochos. If you decide to sign up to be in a "Gleaning Group", you can expect to meet at least once every two weeks, discuss a spiritual book together, pray for one another, and deepen your relationships with a small group of women over the next 6 months. Look for the sign up table during coffee in the SFH. See Nika B. or Jessie C. for questions.

*We look forward to building and deepening relationships with our sisters in Christ.*

We hope you will be able to join us!