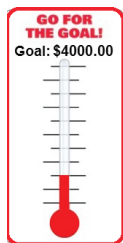


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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.



Some folks have been asking, why is our donation campaign for C.O.M.E. called **Mochas for Missions**? The campaign used to be called “Pennies for Prayers.” A few years ago, Fr. Theodore commented that pennies weren’t going to be enough to really get this ministry off the ground. So someone came up with the idea that if everyone gave up a Mocha each week during Lent and donated that \$4 or so, we would be able to raise more. In our case, our goal of \$4,000 is based on \$4 x 10 weeks of the campaign x 100 families. So the idea is to turn Mochas (or lattes, etc.) into Missions.

We have currently raised just under \$700 – THANK YOU.

Basics of Orthodoxy Class - The final classes of this important series are coming up. Don't miss the opportunity to attend for the first time, continue your education or brush-up on your knowledge.

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| May 1st | Church Architecture and the Icons |
| May 8th | Final Class for 2017 The Basics of Bible Study |

June 4th Dorrance Family Farewell Luncheon registration continues. There is no charge for the event, but registration is required, as there will be assigned seating.

Registration continues until May 15th. You may also RSVP to: StJohnregister@gmail.com

Our Spring General Assembly is next month- Mark your calendars for this important meeting Sunday, May 21st after services! The agenda packets will be sent out 10 days prior to the meeting.

Crossroads Ministry: Please join us and the ASA children for a brown bag lunch at 11:00am on May 15th. In celebration of Mother's Day, Eli Chiprout will be sharing about mothers and children. Please be there right at 11:00 and bring your lunch, desert will be provided.

Calling All Camp Counselors! Holy Trinity Summer Camp is looking for young adults 18+ to help with this year's Summer Camp at Camp Angelos, #blessed! **Dates of this year's Camp will be July 9-14th.** We are looking for all the help we can get. Let us know if you are able to attend this year. We have a great program already planned out. We just need YOU! Please Fill out our google form using the link below. Your speedy responses will help us with our planning. We ask that you respond no later than May 7th.

Google Form link: <https://goo.gl/forms/VASOkRkbmYSUmEWX2>

Pan-Orthodox Vacation Church School 2016 is planned for August 14th-18th for youth from 1st-6th grades. Held at Holy Trinity, this will be a week-long day camp filled with an abundance of activities, fun, and fellowship! Registration details coming soon.

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 MYRRBEARING WOMEN ST. JOSEPH OF ARIMATEA AND ST. NICODEMUS

SECOND MODE/4TH MORNING GOSPEL

APRIL 30, 2017

This third Sunday of Pascha we commemorate the Holy Myrrhbearing Women, St. Joseph of Arimathea and St. Nicodemus. We remember the women because they were the first to truthfully bear witness to the Resurrection, while Joseph and Nicodemus were the first to bear witness to the burial of Christ.

Since Christ died the Friday preceding the Saturday of the Passover, Joseph and Nicodemus had to bury him hurriedly before the holy day. They buried him in Joseph's own tomb and anointed him with some aloes and myrrh, but it was not done befitting the usual custom. So the women went on the third day to the tomb with expensive myrrh-oils and spices to properly anoint Christ's body. Going to the tomb, they found it open and the angel said to them "Why do ye with lamentation seek Him that liveth and hath given life unto the race of mortals? Christ our God hath risen from the dead, since He is Almighty, granting us all incorruption, life, illumination, and great mercy." This in turn they proclaimed to the Apostles, therefore becoming the apostles to the apostles.

The Myrrhbearing women were: The Theotokos, Mary Magdalene, Salome, the wife of Zebedee, Joanna, the wife of Chouza, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, Mary, the wife of Cleopas, and Susanna. The noble Joseph, a wealthy man and member of the Jewish Sanhedrin, was secretly a follower of Christ. Because of the honor he showed Christ by burying him, and in his own tomb, he was shackled by the Jews and thrown into prison. But the resurrected Lord appeared to him and convinced him of His resurrection. Later the Jews released him from prison and banished him from his homeland. He went throughout the world to preach the Holy Gospel of Christ, and that "good news" he brought to England where he reposed in the Lord.

PC: Crosby/Davis G: Reiter Altar Servers Team B: Anthony, Christos, Stathi, Nicholas S., Makarios, Nicholas D.
Clean-up Team 5: Walsh, Daniels, Hudanish T, Keese, Chan, Olson, Ntatsos, Kolpakov, Clary

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

Hymn for Pascha (Plagal 1st Mode):

Christ is risen from the dead, by death He has trampled upon death and on those in the tombs He is bestowing life.

Hymns for Sunday of the Myrrhbearing Women (2nd Mode):

When You descended to the realm of death, You as Life Immortal rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all radiant divinity. And when You from infernal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead, all the hosts of heaven's powers did proclaim and cry out, "O Life-giving Christ and our God, we give glory."

The noble Joseph, taking Thine immaculate Body down from the Tree, and having wrapped It in pure linen and spices, laid it for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day Thou didst arise, O Lord, granting great mercy to the world.

Unto the myrrhbearing women the Angel cried out as he stood by the grave; Myrrh-oils are meet for the dead, but Christ has proved to be a stranger to corruption. But cry out: The Lord is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

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 Pascha (Plagal 4th Mode):

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

EPISTLE READING: Acts 6:1-7 (Sunday of the Myrrhbearing Women):

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 15:43-16:8 (Sunday of Myrrhbearing Women):

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back;—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 30TH

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| Sunday, April 30th | Sunday of the Myrrhbearing Women Orthros & Divine Liturgy | 8:45 AM |
| | Sunday School/Theology 101 | 12:15 PM |
| Monday, May 1st | Basics of Orthodoxy | 7:00 PM |
| | Church Architecture & Iconography | |
| Wednesday, May 3rd | Choir Practice | 7:00 PM |
| Friday, May 5th | Sts. Mary & Martha Board Meeting | 9:00 AM |
| Saturday, May 6th | C.O.M.E. Choir Workshop | 9:00 AM |
| | Great Vespers | 5:00 PM |
| Sunday, May 7th | Sunday of the Paralytic Orthros & Divine Liturgy | 8:45 AM |
| | Sunday School/Theology 101 | 12:15 PM |
| | ASA Gala | 4:30 PM |

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Thank you to all parishioners who donated and prepared food for the retreat, potlucks, Palm Sunday and Pascha; who assisted with the Holy Friday Youth Retreat; who facilitated the events of the Pascha Picnic; who brought and arranged flowers; who sang, who prayed and who otherwise offered sacrifices unto the Lord this Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha.

Thank you to ASA and St. John the Baptist for your help in my Pantry Partner fundraiser for Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage. We collected 23 bags of dried beans and rice and \$134. Thanks again! Christ is Risen! - Pavlos Blankenstein