

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.

Meeting starts
after services

**The Spring General Assembly
Sunday, May 21st**

NO group childcare

Meeting is planned to last no longer than 1 ½ hours.

PLEASE **plan ahead for your childcare** so that at least one parent can be there.
Or share babysitting with another family, so that more parents can be present!

Congratulations to our Oratorical Festival finalists, Ruth H., Petra R., and Eva H., who traveled to Seattle this past weekend to participate in the District Oratorical Festival at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. They all did a wonderful job presenting their speeches! Ruth and Petra advanced to the Metropolis level, which will be held at St. Nicholas Ranch on May 12-14. Congratulations!

JOY Monastery Visit-Fri-Sat, May 19th-20th. Children, grades 3,4,& 5, and their parents/families are invited for a JOY group retreat. Enjoy being together with the sisters for services, meals, and stories. RSVP to Katherine Braden TODAY! Carpools and caravans can be coordinated, once we confirm attendance.

Men's Monastery Work Trip-Fri-Sat, May 12th-13th Deacon plans to lead willing men to assist the sisters with various prearranged work tasks. All men welcome; no cost.

Contact Brandon Wilson to RSVP and to carpool either Friday or Saturday, cravetruth@yahoo.com.

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

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

Mochas for Missions Update: If you read Fr. Theodore's article in the May newsletter, you will have seen his remembrance of being in a C.O.M.E. meeting 20 years ago discussing the need for a new parish in Seattle or Portland. That was the seed for our parish of St. John the Baptist. The support C.O.M.E. provides to new and ongoing parishes has grown over the past 20 years, in large part due to donations made by parishioners – such as you.

So far we have raised **\$750** towards our goal. Thank you very much!

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

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC COMMEMORATION OF THE APPEARANCE OF THE PRECIOUS CROSS IN THE CITY OF JERUSALEM

THIRD MODE/5TH MORNING GOSPEL

MAY 7, 2017

Close to the Sheep's Gate in Jerusalem, there was a pool, which was called the Sheep's Pool. It had round about it, five porches. That is, five sets of pillars supporting a domed roof. Under this roof there lay very many sick people with various maladies, awaiting the moving of the water. The first to step in after the troubling of the water was healed immediately of whatever malady he had.

It was there that the paralytic of today's Gospel waited, lying, tormented by his infirmity of thirty-eight years. When Christ beheld him, He asked him, "Wilt thou be made whole?" And he answered with a quiet and meek voice, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool." The Lord said unto him, "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." And straightaway the man was made whole and took up his bed. Walking in the presence of all, he departed rejoicing to his own house. According to the expounders of the Gospels, the Lord Jesus healed this paralytic during the days of the Passover, when He had gone to Jerusalem for the Feast, and dwelt there teaching and working miracles. According to Saint John the Evangelist, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.

On this day in the year 351, not long after Cyril had succeeded Maximus as Archbishop of Jerusalem, during the reign of Constantius, the son of Saint Constantine the Great, on the day of Pentecost, the sign of the Cross appeared over Jerusalem. Saint Cyril, in his letter to the Emperor Constantius, says, "At about the third hour of the day, an enormous Cross, formed of light, appeared in the heaven above holy Golgotha and reaching to the holy Mount of Olives, being seen not by one or two only, but manifest with perfect clarity to the whole multitude of the city; not, as one might suppose, rushing swiftly past in fancy, but seen openly above the earth many hours in plain sight, and overcoming the beams of the sun with its dazzling rays"

PC: Weick/VanSickle G: Blankenstein Altar Servers Team D: Demetrius, Constantine, Athanasios, Basil, Wade, Owen, Simon

Clean-up Team 6: Ketrenos J & K, Lubliner D & J, Lubliner N, Goldman, Thienes, Tesfamicael, Taylor, Hatch

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.

Hymn of the Resurrection for this Sunday (3rd Mode):

Let all things above in heaven rejoice, and let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet He has trampled down death by death. And first born of the dead has He become. From the womb of Hades has He delivered us, and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.

Hymn of the Cross (1st Mode):The image of Thy Cross at this time shone brighter than the sun, when Thou didst spread it out from the holy Mount of Olives to Calvary; and in making plain Thy might which is therein, O Saviour, Thou didst also thereby strengthen the faithful. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Christ our God, and save us.

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 9:32-42 (Sunday of the 4th Week):

In those days, as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints that lived at Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed." And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments which Dorcas made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, rise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

GOSPEL READING: John 5:1-15 (Sunday of the Paralytic):

At that time Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda, which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water; for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool, and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had. One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet,

and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet." But he answered them, "The man who healed me said to me, 'Take up your pallet, and walk.'" They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your pallet, and walk?'" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you." The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 7TH

Sunday, May 7th	Sunday of the Paralytic Orthros & Divine Liturgy Sunday School/Theology 101 ASA Gala	8:45 AM 12:15 PM 4:30 PM
Monday, May 8th	Evangelist John Orthros & Divine Liturgy Basics of Orthodoxy Class-Basics of Bible Study	8:30 AM 7:00 PM
Tuesday, May 9th	Gleaning Group Meeting	7:00 PM
Wednesday, May 10th	Mid-Pentecost ASA Feast Day Orthros and Divine Liturgy with ASA Choir Practice	7:30 AM 7:00 PM
Friday, May 12th	Sr. Altar Boy Retreat to the Monastery Men's Work Trip to the Monastery	
Saturday, May 13th	Great Vespers Sr. GOYA-Fireside Chat	5:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sunday, May 14th	Mother's Day Sunday of the Samaritan Woman Orthros & Divine Liturgy <u>Last Day of Sunday School</u>	8:45 AM 12:15 PM

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!