

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.

A Special Coffee Hour Today! Our Project Mexico Homebuilding Missionaries will host a Special Project Mexico Coffee Hour/Snack Today. Please consider making a donation to help us get there.

The Annual GOYA Raft Trip is Sunday, July 23 to Monday, July 24 This is a perfect time to make and create great connections, to challenge yourself and to bond as a group. We are hoping that many of you can go. Please RSVP to Dn. Innocent ASAP at pdxdps@gmail.com. May God bless all your summer plans and allow you to draw closer to Christ in these long warm days.

Men's Breakfast. Save the date! Saturday, July 29th at 8:30am. Please join us for a spiritually led discussion with Fr. Matthew. Cost is \$5 per man. No RSVP needed. All men are welcome.

Fr. Matthew's Schedule. During the week, Fr. Matthew will be at the church, Tuesday - Friday. He will be out on Mondays. (Fr. Timothy's day off will be Thursdays.)

Summer Coffee Hours & Almsgiving Opportunities - Individuals and Ministries are invited to host a coffee hour during July and August and donate all the free-will offerings collected to a St. John the Baptist supported cause. Please contact the church office to sign up for a coffee hour date at (503) 644-7444 or email: churchoffice@stjohnnoc.org Thank you

ASA announcements:

Summer Camp. It's not too late to register your kids for the ASA summer camp. You can register for one week or a few. It's \$200 per week (half or full day).

Summer Office Hours: Since school is out for the Summer, please forgive any delay you may experience in responding, due to limited office hours. The school office will be open from 9am - 1pm most weekdays, but visit our website's online calendar for exact office closure dates.

Summer Play dates. Join ASA once a month for an informal play date in the park!

Monday	July 17th	10am	Pioneer Park	Beaverton
Wednesday	August 9th	3pm	Barsotti Park	Aloha

We're hiring! We are seeking both a part-time Math Assistant Teacher and a Janitor for the 2017-18 school year. Days are M/W/F for each. Visit www.asapdx.org to learn more.

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

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VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE AT STJOHNGOC.ORG

FIFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

THE HOLY HIEROMARTYR PANCRATIUS BISHOP OF TAUROMENIUM SICILY

4TH MODE/5TH MORNING GOSPEL

JULY 9, 2017

The Hieromartyr Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina, was born when our Lord Jesus Christ yet lived upon the earth.

The parents of Pancratius were natives of Antioch. Hearing the good news of Jesus Christ, Pancratius' father took his young son with him and went to Jerusalem in order to see the great Teacher for himself. The miracles astonished him, and when he heard the divine teaching, he then believed in Christ as the Son of God. He became close with the disciples of the Lord, especially with the holy Apostle Peter. It was during this period that young Pancratius got to know the holy Apostle Peter.

After the Ascension of the Savior, one of the Apostles came to Antioch and baptized the parents of Pancratius together with all their household. When the parents of Pancratius died, he left behind his inherited possessions and went to Pontus and began to live in a cave, spending his days in prayer and deep spiritual contemplation. The holy Apostle Peter, while passing through those parts, visited Pancratius at Pontus. He took him along to Antioch, and then to Sicily, where the holy Apostle Paul then was. There the holy Apostles Peter and Paul made Saint Pancratius Bishop of Taormina in Sicily.

Saint Pancratius toiled zealously for the Christian enlightenment of the people. In a single month he built a church where he celebrated divine services. The number of believers quickly grew, and soon almost all the people of Taormina and the surrounding cities accepted the Christian Faith.

Saint Pancratius governed his flock peacefully for many years. However, pagans plotted against the saint, and seizing an appropriate moment, they fell upon him and stoned him. Thus, Saint Pancratius ended his life as a martyr.

The saint's relics are in the church named for him in Rome. He is also commemorated on February 9.

PC: Chiprout/Keese G: Blankenstein/Chosvig Altar Servers Team C: Stathi, Levi, Aiden, Thomas, Petros, Gabriel
Clean-up Team 3: Cherry, Makarounis, Chiprout, Knight, Chosvig, Poulos J & P, Contes

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

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 evermore and Christ our God has risen from the dead and granted to the world His great mercy.

To fedron tis anastaseos kirigma ek tu anggelu mathuse e tu Kiriu mathitrie ke tin progonikin apofasin aporrripsase tis Apostolis kafhomena elegon eskilefte o thanatos igerthi Christos o Theos thorumenos to kosmo to mega eleos.

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 (2nd Mode):

O protection of Christians unshamable, intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, reject not the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. Instead, come to us, for you are good; your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you: hasten to intercede and speed now to supplicate, as a protection for all time, Theotokos, for those who honor you.

EPISTLE READING: Romans 10:1-10 (5th Sunday after Pentecost):

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the Law, that every one who has faith may be justified. Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the Law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 8:28-34, 9:1 (5th Sunday of Matthew):

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs met Him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have You to do with us, O Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged Him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw Him, they begged Him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat He crossed over and came to His own city.

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 9TH

Sunday, July 9th	Fifth Sunday of Matthew Holy Hieromartyr Pancratius Bishop of Tauromenium Sicily Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45 AM
	Camp Angelos begins	
Wednesday, July 12th	St. Paisios of the Holy Mountain Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45 AM
Saturday, July 15th	Great Vespers	5:00 PM
Sunday, July 16th	Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45 AM

Fr. Timothy's New Office. Fr. Timothy has been with our parish for nearly 9 years and we have never provided him with proper working space. To correct that oversight, the Parish Council approved the addition of an office for Fr. Timothy in the best place they could identify in the building, which is in the South Fellowship Hall. This will provide him with proper, space, lighting, ventilation, and privacy. (To do this, we are giving up approximately 20-30 seats in the SFH, which will only affect events with more than 300 people.) This is a reflection of who we are and where we are going. We are truly a growing community that is Christ-centered and willing to make sacrifices to properly care for a most important part of our church, our clergy.

Fr. Timothy Out of Office. Fr. Timothy will be on vacation from July 14th to the 25th.

20th Anniversary. In light of the major parish events which have occurred in the last month, the parish council has decided to celebrate our 20th anniversary in a more subdued manner, with a simple commemoration after the Sunday Liturgy on October 1. For the 25th anniversary we will plan a major event.