

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.

Announcements

Update on Parish Finances: I would like to give a brief update on our parish's finances, since we are more than half-way through the year. Last fall the parish approved a 2017 budget which was based upon our 2016 stewardship, totaling \$467,000 pledged. This year we have received far lower total pledges than last year, with 2017 stewardship totaling \$377,000 pledged – or \$90,000 less than last year. Because of these reduced pledges (and the lower stewardship contributions) we are now spending more than we are receiving, putting our parish in a deficit. As we try to reduce expenses to a bare minimum, we will also have to prepare a much smaller 2018 budget with limited or no funding for ministries, unless this situation changes.

Please prayerfully consider raising your 2017 pledge (by contacting Erik Chosvig or Barbara) or giving beyond your pledged amount, so that our budget can continue to reflect the dynamic and diverse ministries and outreach which we as a community support.

I thank God for our clergy, all of you and our loving community.

John Davis, PC President

Sunday school registration is now open! Please stop by the registration table during coffee hour to register your child/children for class! Registration will be open every Sunday in August.

Panagia Picnic for the Feast of the Dormition: Join us for food and fellowship to celebrate this beautiful Feast Day of the Theotokos. The picnic will be at Cedar Hills Park on Saturday, August 19 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Bring a dish to share and bring beverages for yourself or to share. Everyone is invited and encouraged to join us.

Register Now for the Greek Open Golf Tournament & Brewfest on September 18 at Langdon Farms! Join Shattered Oaks & pFriem Family Brewers for complimentary beer samplings while you golf, not to mention the famously delicious Greek dinner afterwards. Only \$100 per golfer for the first 100 (or \$50 for just the dinner). See Chris Perlmutter or visit www.greekopen.com today.

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

TENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW LEAVETAKING OF THE FEAST OF TRANSFIGURATION OUR RIGHTEOUS FATHER MAXIMOS THE CONFESSOR

FIRST MODE/TENTH MORNING GOSPEL

AUGUST 13, 2017

The Holy Dormition of the Theotokos is commemorated August 15. The Theotokos was granted to know of her repose before it took place and it was her wish to see each of the twelve apostles beforehand. Accordingly, they were miraculously transported from the ends of the earth to where she lived in Jerusalem. After blessing each of them, the Theotokos fell asleep and was buried in a tomb. Then Thomas, who had not arrived with the others, came and wishing to see her face one last time, he requested that the tomb be opened. It was opened and they found that the Theotokos's body was not there. Our church teaches that the Most Holy Mother of God fell asleep (died), rose in bodily form and was taken to Heaven by her Son. This is why we call this feast the Dormition, because after falling asleep, our Lord raised her from the dead, transforming death into sleep. Even in the manner of her death, we see evidence of the holiness of the Theotokos. Orthros & Liturgy for this great feast will be celebrated tomorrow, Monday evening at 5:30 pm.

Saint Maximos the Confessor was born in Constantinople around 580 and raised in a pious Christian family. He received an excellent education and became the chief secretary of Emperor Heraclius and his grandson Constans II. Saint Maximos soon realized that the emperor and others had been corrupted by the Monothelite heresy, which was spreading rapidly through the East. He resigned from his duties at court, and went to Chrysopolis Monastery, where he later became abbot. When the saint saw what turmoil the Monothelite heresy caused in Constantinople, he sought refuge in the West, where the heresy had been completely rejected. After Emperor Heraclius died in 641, Constans II took the throne, and the assaults of the heretics against Orthodoxy intensified. When Saint Maximos refused to refrain from speaking or writing against Monothelitism, his tongue was uprooted and his right hand was cut off. He was sent into exile, where he reposed on August 13, 662, leaving a great theological legacy in his writings.

PC: VanSickle/Lindgren G: Blankenstein/Chosvig Altar Servers Team C: Stathi, Levi, Aiden, Thomas, Petros, Gabriel

Clean-up Team: All hands needed

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

Special Second Antiphon of Holy Transfiguration:

Save us, O Son of God, Who were transfigured on Mount Tabor, we sing to you, Alleluia

Soson imas I-e Theou, o en to óri to Thavór metamórfothis, psalontas si Alliluia,

Hymn of the Holy Transfiguration (Grave Mode):

You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing Your glory to Your disciples, as much as they could bear. Shine Your everlasting light upon us sinners, through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Giver of light, glory to You.

Small Entrance Hymn of Holy Transfiguration:

With You is the fountain of life, and in Your light shall we see light. Save us, O Son of God, Who are risen from the dead, we who sing to You: Alleluia.

Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (1st Mode):

The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch o'er Your pure and sacred body. O Savior the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life, whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory to our resurrected Christ. Glory to Your Kingdom. Glory to Your dispensation, O You alone who loves all.

Repeat the Hymn of the Feast.

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 Holy Transfiguration (Grave Mode):

On the mount You were transfigured, and Your disciples, as much as they could bear, beheld Your glory, O Christ our God; that when they should see You crucified, they would know Your passion to be willing, and would preach to the world that You, in truth, are the Radiance of the Father.

Special Hymn to Theotokos, in place of "It is truly meet" (4th Mode):

Your childbirth occurred without corruption. For God it was, wearing flesh, Who came forth from your virginal womb. For He appeared on earth and made His dwelling among men. And therefore you, O Theotokos, we all magnify.

Communion Hymn of Holy Transfiguration:

O Lord, in the light of the glory of Your face shall we walk, and in Your Name shall we rejoice for ever. Alleluia.

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 4: 9-16 (10th Sunday after Pentecost):

Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the offscouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 17: 14-23 (10th Sunday of Matthew):

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before Him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day." And they were greatly distressed.

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 13

Sunday, August 13	Orthros & Divine Liturgy Tenth Sunday of Matthew Leavetaking of the Feast of Holy Transfiguration Our Righteous Father St. Maximos the Confessor	8:45 AM
Monday, August 14	Orthros & Divine Liturgy Dormition of the Theotokos Vacation Church School begins at Holy Trinity	5:30 PM
Tuesday, August 15	Parish Council Meeting	6:45 PM
Saturday, August 19	Panagia Picnic for the Dormition Great Vespers	11:00 AM 5:00 PM
Sunday, August 20	Orthros & Divine Liturgy Eleventh Sunday of Matthew Samuel the Prophet	8:45 AM