

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.

Sts. Mary & Martha Gathering is on Monday, Nov 28th at 7pm! Please join us to make 'Grab & Give' bags for the homeless in our community together! Sign up to bring your 'Grab & Give' items in the fellowship hall.

OCMC Mission Short Term Mission Trips 2017 (1-2 wks) Help spread the Gospel and the love of Christ overseas. Check out the posting in the Fellowship Hall. See Dcn. Innocent or Thomaida to participate and find out how your Parish family can help you. Visit: https://www.ocmc.org/about/open_teams.aspx e-mail: teams@ocmc.org, or call 1-877-463-6784 for more information.

St. John the Baptist presents the final in the series of talks designed to inform parents on serious topics, as they strive to raise their children amid the challenges of the present day, & to provide practical advice & reliable resources.

Thursday, December 1
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Our Children and Sexual Abuse
Presenter: Sally Blackwood, Cares NW

St. Nicholas Celebration! Please join us on Saturday, Dec 3rd at 5pm, as we celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas with Great Vespers and a special celebration! We are looking for helpers to set up and decorate, clean up, help with the event, provide Lenten desserts, make/serve cider, and donate oranges for the event. Please look for signups coming soon.

As the joyful Nativity season approaches, keep in mind St. John's Almsgiving "Christmas Card/Benevolent Fundraiser.", Dec. 4th-18th. These beautiful cards are frame-worthy works of art. Simply make a free-will donation, receive cards, & be a "benevolent blessing" to others! Need more details? Contact Diane Cherry, Lisa Corazza, or Lois Russo.

January is the perfect time for 3yr. olds. Do you or someone you know have a potty-trained 3 yr old (or almost 3) at home? January is a great time to start ASA's Montessori 1/2-day Program, and secure a spot for the fall! So spread the word about what makes ASA such a joyful place to learn, and get those applications in before it's too late! www.ASAPdx.org.

Young Adults WINE TASTING-Saturday, Nov 26th at the Crosby home: 13970 SW Allen Blvd #2, Beaverton OR 97005. Please join us for a wine tasting party following vespers. We will be sampling different wines & finger foods. Please bring a bottle of wine & finger food to share (crackers, bread, chips etc.). If wine is not your thing, no worries, we'll also have juices. This will be a great time to fellowship with each other. Please RSVP to Beth Carper.

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

Witnessing
the Truth
of Apostolic
Christianity

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA * METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO

Rev. Fr. Theodore Dorrance
Rev. Fr. Timothy Pavlatos
Dcn. Innocent Duchow-Pressley

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VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE AT STJOHNGOC.ORG

NINTH SUNDAY OF LUKE FOREFEAST OF THE ENTRY OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE PLAGAL FIRST MODE/ ELEVENTH MORNING GOSPEL NOVEMBER 20, 2016

Presentation of the Theotokos - When the Most-holy Virgin Mary reached the age of three, her holy parents Joachim and Anna took her from Nazareth to Jerusalem to dedicate her to the service of God according to their earlier promise. It was a three-day journey from Nazareth to Jerusalem. Many kinsmen of Joachim and Anna gathered in Jerusalem to take part in this event. Leading the procession into the Temple were virgins carrying candles, then the Most-holy Virgin, led by her father and mother. The virgin wore beautiful garments befitting the "King's daughter, the Bride of God" (Psalm 45:13-15). Kinsmen and friends followed with lighted candles. Fifteen steps led up to the Temple. Joachim and Anna lifted the Virgin onto the first step, then she ran quickly to the top herself, where she was met by the High Priest Zacharias, who was later the father of St. John the Forerunner. Taking her by the hand, he led her not only into the Temple, but into the "Holy of Holies," where no one but the high priest ever entered, and only once each year. St. Theophylact of Ohrid says that Zacharias "was outside himself and possessed by God" when he led the Virgin into the holiest place in the Temple, beyond the second curtain-otherwise, his action could not be explained. Mary's parents then offered sacrifice to God according to the Law, received the priest's blessing and returned home. The Most-holy Virgin lived in the Temple for nine years. While her parents were alive, they visited her often, especially Righteous Anna. When God called her parents from this world, the Most-holy Virgin did not wish to leave the Temple until death or to enter into marriage. As that would have been against the Law and custom of Israel, she was betrothed to her widowed kinsman Joseph, after reaching the age of twelve. Under his protection, she could live in virginity and thus fulfill her desire and formally satisfy the Law, for it was then unknown in Israel for maidens to vow virginity to the end of their lives. The Most-holy Virgin Mary was the first of such life-vowed virgins, of the thousands and thousands of virgin men and women who would follow her in the Church of Christ.

PC: Davis/Mirras G: Benson Altar Servers Team E: Alexander, Gabriel, Yoas, Pavlos, Noah, Peter
Clean up Team 5: Walsh, Daniels, Hudanish T, Keese, Chan, Olson, Ntatsos, Kolpakov, Clary

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (Plagal 1st Mode):

Eternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, Who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation. As the faithful we both praise and worship Him, for in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross, and death did He endure. And He raised unto life the dead, through His all-glorious resurrection.

Ton sinanarhon Logon Patri ke Pnevmati, ton ek Parthenu tekthenta is sotirian imon. Animnisomen pisti ke proskinisomen, oti ivthokise sarki anelthin en to stavro ke thanaton ipomine, ke eyire tus teth-neotas en ti en thoxo anastasi Aftu.

Hymn of the Forefeast (4th Mode/Be quick to anticipate):

By blossoming forth the only Ever-virgin as fruit, * today holy Anna doth betroth us all unto joy, instead of our former grief; * on this day she doth fulfil her vows to the Most High, * leading her with joy into the Lord's holy temple, * who truly is the temple and pure Mother of God the Word.

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 Forefeast of the Presentation (4th Mode/On this day Thou hast appeared):

The whole world is filled today * with joy and gladness * on the Theotokos' * auspicious and resplendent feast, * whereon with great voice it crieth out: * The heavenly tabernacle is she in truth.

EPISTLE READING: Galatians 6:11-18 (22nd Sunday after Pentecost):

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and not only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:16-21 (9th Sunday of Luke):

The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be? So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.'" As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 20TH

Sunday, November 20th	Forefeast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45 AM
	Sunday School/Theology 101	12:15 PM
Monday, November 21st	Presentation of the Theotokos	
	PCP and Liturgy	5:30 AM
	Sts. Mary & Martha Board Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday, November 22nd	PCP and Liturgy	5:30 AM
	Bible Study	9:30 AM
Wednesday, November 23rd	PCP and Liturgy	5:30 AM
	Choir Practice	7:00 PM
Thursday, November 24th	Church Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	
	PCP and Liturgy	9:30 AM
Friday, November 25th	Church Office Closed Great Martyr Katherine	
	PCP and Liturgy	9:30 AM
	No Mom's 'n Tots Bible Study	
Saturday, November 26th	PCP and Liturgy	9:00 AM
	Great Vespers	5:00 PM
	Young Adults Wine Tasting	6:00 PM
Sunday, November 27th	13th Sunday of Luke	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45 AM
	Sunday School/Theology 101	

PC ELECTIONS ARE COMING!



This is one of the best ways to help serve our Church and to continue strategically grow our Parish.

Please don't be shy about nominating someone, or running yourself!

If you would like more information, please contact John Poulos, Lois Russo or Chris Perlmutter!

2017 Membership & Stewardship Deadline Approaching! Sunday, Nov 30th will be the blessing of the 2017 Pledge Cards. Please turn in your completed cards either to the Church Office or to a Parish council member. The deadline for completed membership cards is Nov 30! If you have any questions please contact Niko Poulos at poulos.niko@gmail.com.

TOTAL COLLECTED FOR TASSO IS \$1,721.00.

There's one more Sunday to feather Tasso & bless Parishioners in need for the Holidays. May it be blessed!

The **LOST AND FOUND** is overflowing. Please check it carefully for items belonging to you and yours. Anything remaining after Nov 27th will be donated to charity.