

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.

Don't forget to Bring Grapes to bless at Liturgy for Holy Transfiguration on Wednesday, August 5th!

House for rent beginning in mid-August. The 4 Bedroom, 2 bathroom home is located in Tigard, Oregon. For More information, contact Steve at steve.r.tussing@gmail.com or 503-523-7851.

Sign up for your Parish Directory photos on our Parish website under *Major Upcoming Events*. Click the link *Sign up for Picture Time* and follow instructions. Contact Demetri Mirras at 503-646-5955 or the Church Office with any questions. Volunteers will be available to assist with sign-ups after church on Sundays.

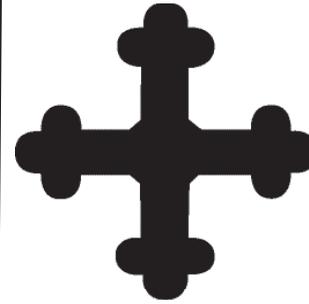
Participate in the Diaper Drive benefiting First Image, Beaverton's Pregnancy Resource Center. Throughout the month of August we will be collecting diapers and wipes. Newborn through size 2 diapers and wipes can be dropped in the parish hall. Volunteers are needed to deliver diapers to the Center. Contact Jillian Walsh at jilliankehr3@gmail.com with questions or to volunteer. If you prefer to offer financial assistance, checks can be made out to St. John the Baptist with "diaper drive" in the memo. Help us reach our goal of 2,000 diapers!

You are Invited to the Naming of the Roseburg Mission Parish on Saturday, September 12th at the Roseburg Mission Chapel (Located upstairs at St. George Episcopal Church, 1024 SE Cass Avenue in Roseburg, Oregon). Pre-Communion Prayers and Divine Liturgy begin at 9:40 AM with Naming Service, Luncheon and Silent Auction to follow. Suggested luncheon donation is \$15 per person. Please RSVP by August 22nd to RoesburgMission.eventbrite.com.

20th Annual Greek Open Golf Tournament: Mark your calendars for Monday, September 21st for the Greek Open at Langdon Farms. Check-in for golfers is at 11:00 AM. Player registration fee \$150 before September 7th and includes lunch, golf, tee prize, auction and dinner. Cocktails and Dinner begin at 6:30 PM. Additional dinner tickets \$50 each. Visit greekopen.com to register or to purchase tickets.

St. John the Baptist 15th Annual Women's Fall Retreat "Marriage & Salvation" will be held September 25th-27th at the Tilikum retreat center in Newberg, Oregon. This year's speaker will be our own Fr. Theodore Dorrance. Registration is now open at <http://stjohngoc.org/ministries/overview/>. Click the link under the Myrrh Bearers heading and follow instructions.

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

*Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America * Metropolis of San Francisco*

Rev. Fr. Theodore Dorrance * Rev. Fr. Timothy Pavlatos * Dn. Innocent Duchow-Pressley

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Witnessing the Truth of Apostolic Christianity

Visit our NEW Parish website at www.stjohngoc.org

9TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

THE RECOVERY OF THE SACRED RELICS OF THE HOLY FIRST MARTYR AND ARCHDEACON STEPHEN THE HOLY NEWMARTYR THEODORE OF DARDANELLES

AUGUST 2, 2015

Plagal of the Fourth Mode / 9th Morning Gospel

After Stephen the First Martyr had been stoned to death (see Dec. 27), Gamaliel, his teacher, encouraged certain of the Christians to go by night and take up the Saint's body and bury it in his field, which was twenty miles from Jerusalem and was called, "Kaphar-gamala," that is, "the field of Gamala," where Gamaliel himself was later buried. About the year 427, a certain pious man called Lucian, who was the parish priest of a church near to that field, had a dream revealing the place where the First Martyr was buried. He immediately made this known to John, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Thus, coming to the place indicated, and digging there, they found a box with the word "Stephen" in Aramaic letters. On opening it, they took these most sacred relics and transferred them to Jerusalem with great honor.

The Transfiguration occurred at a time when Jesus's disciples were having a difficult time grasping His identity, approximately forty days before the Crucifixion. People were saying He was a prophet, or the Messiah, or Elijah, or even a man possessed by demons. Jesus knew how important it was for His disciples to accept His identity, especially this close to His Passion. So, He took His three closest disciples, Peter, James and John, up with Him to Mt. Tabor where He was transfigured, revealing His divinity as uncreated light brighter than the sun. On either side of Him stood Moses and Elijah, the former as a representative of the Old Testament Law and the latter as a representative of the Old Testament Prophets. The Transfiguration's meaning is threefold: First, the light was a manifestation of Christ's divine nature through the Holy Spirit. Secondly, this light, the voice of the Father and Christ himself, together revealed the Holy Trinity. Finally the appearance of Moses and the Prophet Elijah affirmed Christ as Messiah. This experience served to encourage and strengthen the disciples' faith before Christ's betrayal, crucifixion and Resurrection.

PC: Lindgren/Crosby G: Becker Altar Boys Team B: Anthony, Christos, Stathi, Nicholas S., Makarios, Nicholas D.
Clean-up Team 9: Feyler, Perlmutter C, Mansager, Lindgren, Rush, Wehlitz, Solomon, Jones, Crosby

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (Plagal 4th Mode):

From on high did You descend, O merciful Lord; for us did You endure, three days in the tomb, that we may be released from passions in this world, You Who are our resurrection and our life: Glory unto You, O Lord. *Ex ipsus katilthes, o Efsplagnos. Tafin katethexo triimeros, ina imas eleftherosis ton pathon. I zoi ke i anastasis imon, Kirie, thoxa Si.*

Hymn of Protomartyr Stephen (4th Mode/Be quick to anticipate):

The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head * because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred Saints; * for when thou hadst censured the Jews' madness, thou sawest * Christ thy Saviour standing at the right hand of the Father. * O Stephen, ever pray Him for us, that He would save our souls.

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 Transfiguration (Grave Mode):

On the mount Thou wast transfigured, and Thy disciples, as much as they could bear, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; that when they should see Thee crucified, they would know Thy passion to be willing, and would preach to the world that Thou, in truth, art the Effulgence of the Father.

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17 (9th Sunday of the Week):

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder. I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 14:22-34 (9th Sunday of Matthew):

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 2ND

Sunday, August 2nd	9th Sunday of Matthew Orthros & Divine Liturgy Small Paraklesis	8:45 AM 6:30 PM
Monday, August 3rd	Small Paraklesis Missions & Evangelism Meeting Greek Dance Lessons	6:30 PM 7:30 PM 7:30 PM
Tuesday, August 4th	Small Paraklesis Young Adult Meeting at Church	6:30 PM 7:30 PM
Wednesday, August 5th	Holy Transfiguration Orthros & Divine Liturgy <i>followed by fish, wine & oil potluck</i> No Choir Practice	5:30 PM
Thursday, August 6th	Small Paraklesis Sunday School Curriculum Meeting Greek Dance Lessons	6:30 PM 7:30 PM 7:30 PM
Friday, August 7th	Small Paraklesis	6:30 PM
Saturday, August 8th	Great Vespers	6:00 PM
Sunday, August 9th	10th Sunday of Matthew Orthros & Divine Liturgy Aly Weiser-Lilly's Baptism	8:45 AM 12:30 PM

Welcome Visitors! Stop by our Visitors' Table near the Logos Bookstore so we can welcome you.

Sunday School Registration: Begins TODAY after church. Look for the NEW Registration Forms on the Sunday School bulletin board by the coffee machine in the South Fellowship Hall. Please contact Jessie Crosby at jessiecrosby27@gmail.com with any questions.

You Are Warmly Invited to the Baptism of Aly Weiser-Lilly on Sunday, August 9th after Liturgy at 12:30 PM. Come pray with Aly as she enters the Orthodox Faith and receives the name Hope.

Submit Names of Living Orthodox Christians for Commemoration. Small Paraklesis will be chanted on several evenings during the Dormition fast. We will be asking the Panagia to intercede for all those whose names have been submitted. Commemoration forms can be found in the Narthex and outside the Church Office.

Paniyiri Church Picnic for the Feast of the Dormition: Join us for food, dancing and fellowship to celebrate this beautiful Feast Day of the Theotokos. The picnic will be at Cedar Hills Park on Saturday, August 15th following Liturgy. Cost is \$7 per person or \$20 per family. Main dish provided. Sign up to bring a side dish and bring beverages for yourself or to share. RSVP to Presvytera Stacey after church on Sundays or to the Church Office at churchoffice@stjohngoc.org.

Bon Voyage! The Tussing family's last Sunday at St John before moving to Boston to attend Holy Cross School of Theology will be Sunday, August 16th. Everyone is encouraged to come to the Parish Dormition Picnic on Saturday, August 15th to say goodbye and wish Steve, Katie and family well before their departure!