**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, fellowship and the practice of Christian Stewardship, thereby serving as an instrument in the growth and expansion of the Orthodox Christian Church.

Get excited for Camp Angelos 2015 “Receive the Light!” August 16th-21st. For all youth ages 9-17, this will be a fun-filled week of faith, fun, fellowship, arts & crafts, sports, Orthodox music, campfires, skits, and MORE! Online registration is now open. The registration link can be found under the ‘forms’ tab at the bottom of the homepage. Contact Christine Whitton at christine.n.whitton@gmail.com with questions.

Pan-Orthodox Vacation Church School 2015 “Fishers of Men” June 22nd-26th. Held at Holy Trinity, this will be a week-long day camp filled with an abundance of activities, fun, and fellowship! Online registration is now open. The registration link can be found at goholytrinity.org under the ‘forms’ tab at the bottom of the homepage. Contact Christine Whitton at christine.n.whitton@gmail.com with questions.

**Life 101 Young Adults Retreat:** is May 15-17 at Camp Angelos. The deadline to sign up is May 6th! Cost is $35 per person or $50 per couple. For questions or for more information please contact Lena at elenalynnpedersen@gmail.com or Christine at christine.n.whitton@gmail.com. You may also sign up at http://goo.gl/forms/vNAiwX6Dg.

ASA is excited to offer a summer program for children ages 6-11, to continue the fun of learning about and exploring our world! Join us for “The Arts” on June 29th – July 3rd or “Kitchen Science” on July 6th – July 10th. Contact the school office for more information.

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**Christian Stewardship**

Christ Is Risen!...and so has our push for fundraising. You are invited to a Fundraising Meeting on Thursday, May 14th at 7:00 PM. We will put some meat on the bones of some projects we proposed including: an Open House dinner, a Festival Food Booth and a Fall Take-&-Bake. Please come to contribute and help get the “dough” rolling.

Men’s Ministry will be meeting May 12th at 6:30 pm at Jeff Jones’ house. 12585 SW Moorhen Way, Beaverton 97007. Food will be provided. Bring wine to share with the group. For directions and to RSVP, contact Robert Downs at Robert.Downs.III@gmail.com.

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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.

Resurrectional Hymn 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. 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.

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 3RD

Sunday, May 3rd
Sunday of the Paralytic
Orthros & Divine Liturgy
8:45 AM
Sunday School/General Assembly
12:15 PM

Tuesday, May 2nd
NO Bible Study

Wednesday, May 6th
Mid-Pentecost (ASA Feast Day)
Orthros & Divine Liturgy
7:30 AM
ASA Feast Day Celebration to Follow
NO Choir Practice

Thursday, May 7th
Greek Open Meeting
7:00 PM

Saturday, May 9th
Muzik Baptism
3:00 PM
Great Vespers
6:00 PM

Sunday, May 10th
Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
Mother’s Day
Orthros & Divine Liturgy
8:45 AM
Sunday School/Theology 101
12:45 PM

Welcome Visitors! During coffee hour, stop by our Visitors’ Table near the Logos Bookstore so we can welcome you.

Check out the new parish Web site! We have revamped the parish Web site at www.stjohngoc.org. The old site served us well for many years - thank you James Ketrenos and others involved!- but we ultimately decided that a technology and content refresh was needed. Patrick Barnes is serving as the Webmaster. Please send feedback, updates, corrections, issues, etc. to him at webmaster@stjohngoc.org.

Mochas for Missions: We’ve collected $1,545 of our $4000 goal. To help us close the $2,500 gap, we have a special incentive. Each person who donates at least $40 TODAY, will be entered to win a $20 gift card to Black Rock. The drawing will be today. Support missions by visiting the Mocha for Missions table in the South Fellowship Hall during coffee hour!