

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.

The Students & Staff of Agia Sophia Academy warmly invite you to our Christmas Program "Christ is Born". Join us this Friday, December 11th at 6:30 PM for this heartfelt Nativity treat. A delicious Bake Sale will follow, proceeds to benefit the music program.

A Special Thank You to everyone who helped make the retreat with Fr. Josiah Trenham & the Logos Bookstore Open House a success! The use of your time and talents allowed our parishioners & visitors the opportunity to learn about the Holy Scriptures and grow in their relationship with Christ and each other. May God richly bless you for all your efforts!

The retreat with Fr. Josiah was well attended this past weekend. Due to technical issues, however, we were unable to record the lectures. Those who would like to hear Father Josiah speak may purchase the entire set of lectures from http://patristicnectar.org/store_lectures_homilies.html for a small fee.

Camp Angelos 2016 date change: The Camp Angelos dates for 2016 have been officially changed to July 10th - 15th. Please note the change on your calendar.

A message from the Church Office: Announcements for the Weekly Bulletin are due by NOON on Thursdays. Articles and Announcements for the Monthly Newsletter due the 10th of each month. Father Theodore has been receiving an increasing number of individual notes to announce in church on Sundays. Please ensure the information reaches those who are not able to be present each Sunday. E-mail your announcements to the Church Office in a timely manner. A parish wide e-mail will not be sent out for late announcements. Thank you!

A Nativity Lenten Retreat with Fr. Josiah Trenham will take place on Friday, December 11th & Saturday, December 12th at the parish of the Holy Cross in Yakima, WA. The retreat topic is Cultural Conflagration and the End of the World: Lessons from the Apocalypse. A free-will offering will be accepted during the retreat. Please call 509-575-0145 for more information or to request to stay at a parishioner's home. Child care will be provided.

Benevolence Fund Christmas Card Fundraiser Coming Soon! Celebrate friends and family by giving a gift in their name. For your contribution to the Benevolence Fund, you will receive a beautifully hand-crafted card for you to give to your honored recipient. Cards will be available during Coffee Fellowship from December 6th-20th. Contact Adrienne Gillespie for details.

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*

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Witnessing the Truth of Apostolic Christianity

Visit our NEW Parish website at www.stjohngoc.org

9TH SUNDAY OF LUKE

THE HOLY APOSTLE PHILEMON AND THOSE WITH HIM: APPIA, ARCHIPPUS, AND ONESIMUS

THE HOLY MARTYR CECILIA AND THOSE WITH HER

NOVEMBER 22, 2015

Plagal 4th Mode / 3rd Morning Gospel

St. Philemon, who was from Colossae, a city of Phrygia, was a man both wealthy and noble; **Apphia** was his wife. **Archippos** became Bishop of the Church in Colossae. All three were disciples of the Apostle Paul. **Onesimos**, who was formerly an unbeliever and slave of Philemon, stole certain of his vessels and fled to Rome. However, on finding him there, the Apostle Paul guided him onto the path of virtue and the knowledge of the Truth, and sent him back to his master Philemon, to whom he wrote an epistle. In this epistle, Paul commended Onesimos to his master and reconciled the two. Onesimos was later made a bishop; in Greece he is honored as the patron Saint of the imprisoned. All these Saints received their end by martyrdom, when they were stoned to death by the idolaters. Saint Onesimos is also commemorated on February 15th.

St. Cecilia was from an illustrious Roman family. Although she vowed life-long virginity to God, her parents betrothed her to a pagan, Valerian. On their wedding night, Cecilia counseled him to become a Christian and live in chastity. He, in turn, convinced his own brother Tiburtios to do the same. Valerian and Tiburtios were subsequently condemned to death for their faith. But on their way to execution they also converted the captain of the guard, Maximos. All three suffered martyrdom and Cecilia buried their bodies. Then she was brought to trial, for she continued to bring pagans to belief in Christ. In only one evening, she converted 400 souls. After cruel tortures, Cecilia was condemned to beheading. The executioner struck her three times on the neck with the sword, but he was unable to kill her. Three days later, the virgin martyr Cecilia gave her soul to Christ. These martyrs suffered during the reign of Diocletian, in the third century. St. Cecilia's relics rest in the church dedicated to her in Rome.

PC: Walsh/J Poulos G: Benson Altar Boys Team C: Tobias, Kyle, Levi, Aiden, Thomas, Petros, Gabriel
Clean up Team 5: Walsh, Damiels, Hudanish T, Keese, Chan, Olson, Ntatsos, Kolpakov, Clary

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 trimeros, ina imas eleftherosis ton pathon. I zoi ke i anastasis imon, Kirie, thoxa Si.

Hymn of the Feast (4th Mode):

Today is the prelude of God's good will and the heralding of the salvation of mankind. In the temple of God, the Virgin is presented openly, and she proclaimeth Christ unto all. To her, then, with a great voice let us cry aloud: Rejoice, O thou fulfilment of the Creator's dispensation.

Hymn of the Apostle and those with him (3rd Mode):

O Holy Apostles, intercede with the merciful God that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offences

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's Presentation - (4th Mode/Thou Who wast raised up):

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, * the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, * the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, * into the House of the Lord * on this day is brought forward * and bringeth with herself the grace * of the Most Divine Spirit; * her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, * for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 4:1-7 (Sunday of the 25th Week):

BRETHREN, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

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 22ND

Sunday, November 22nd	9th Sunday of Luke Orthros & Divine Liturgy Stewardship Artoklasia <i>immediately after Liturgy</i> Sunday School/Theology 101 Buckley Baptism at St. John Monastery	8:45 AM 12:15 PM 4:00 PM
Monday, November 23rd	Pre-Communion Prayers & Divine Liturgy Paraklesis Service	5:30 AM 6:30 PM

Tuesday, November 24th	Pre-Communion Prayers & Divine Liturgy Bible Study Strategic Planning Meeting	5:30 AM 9:30 AM 6:30 PM
Wednesday, November 25th	Great Martyr Katherine Pre-Communion Prayers & Divine Liturgy	5:30 AM
Thursday, November 26th	Pre-Communion Prayers & Divine Liturgy Thanksgiving Day - Church Office Closed	9:00 AM
Friday, November 27th	Pre-Communion Prayers & Divine Liturgy Church Office Closed No Moms & Tots Bible Study	9:00 AM
Saturday, November 28th	Pre-Communion Prayers & Divine Liturgy Great Vespers	9:00 AM 6:00 PM
Sunday, November 29th	13th Sunday of Luke Orthros & Divine Liturgy No Sunday School/Theology 101	8:45 AM 12:15 PM

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

Submit Names for the 40 Liturgies. Forms can be found in the narthex and next to the Church Office. To prevent duplication, please only submit names of Orthodox Christians in your immediate family and Orthodox Christians outside our parish. Forms may be turned in on Sundays to the Parish Council members on duty or to the Church Office during office hours.

You are invited to the baptism of Lucia Marie Buckley on TODAY at 4:00 PM at St. John the Forerunner Monastery in Goldendale, WA. Parents Patrick & Mandi Buckley, along with the Van Sickle family, request your presence at the sacrament. Coffee and treats will be provided by the sisters of St. John and godparents Matthew & Colleen VanSickle. Please contact Mandi at jusrex@hotmail.com or at 206-963-6980 if you have any questions. Thank you!

You will have until next Sunday to Support a Duck or Beaver! Your non-perishable food donations will benefit the Oregon Food Bank.

Only ONE week left to support families in need within our community by dressing Tasso the Turkey with feathers. We have raised \$996.70 so far! Keep up the good work. Help us reach our goal of matching last year's total of over \$1,700.00 by giving generously from your heart this next week. Tasso can be found in the South Fellowship Hall on the large bulletin board by the Church Office.

Please join us on Saturday, December 5th at 5:00 PM, as we celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas beginning with Great Vespers and a special celebration! We are looking for helpers to set up, clean up, help with events, provide Lenten desserts, make/serve cider, and donate chocolate coins or oranges for the event. Please look for sign-ups coming soon. Contact Arielle Jungwirth with any questions or to volunteer.

Jr. GOYA Monastery Retreat will take place December 12th - 13th with Holy Trinity. We depart in rented vans from Holy Trinity at 9:00 AM on Saturday, December 12th and return Sunday, November 13th at 3:00 PM. This is an experience you will not want to miss! We will tour the monastery grounds, attend Divine services, help the nuns with a work project, hear stories about our faith from the sisters, and meet the abbess: Gerontissa Efpraxia! Spots are limited, so sign up soon. Cost: \$35 per person. Contact Christine Whitton or Karen Keese with any questions.

January is a great time to start your three-year old in school. Outside of the educational and social benefits of attending Montessori at this specific age, it is also a terrific way to secure a place for the fall! There are only 2 openings for January 2016. Contact ASA today: www.asapdx.org or 503-641-4600.