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.

Building Fund Bake Sale: Thank you to our current bake sale fundraiser volunteers. We still need volunteers to help during the July 1st bake sale event. If you would like to volunteer, have any questions, would like to bake, or have an idea to add to the fundraiser, please email Sam Marine at *marine.samantha@gmail.com*.

ASA GALA Committee thanks you! The 3rd Annual ASA Gala event raised over $62,000 dollars for the school and St. John the Baptist's Building Fund. Thank you for your contiuned support and prayers.

AHEPA Family at Holy Trinity Presents: The Archaeological Footprint of Baptism in Early Byzantine Christianity. This Presentation will take place Thursday, May 28th at 7:00 PM at Holy Trinity's St. Dimitrios Hall. All are welcome. For more information contact Jacki Dickinson at 971-327-7172.

Saturday of Souls: Memorial prayers will be read on Saturday, May 30th. Bring the names of Orthodox friends and loved ones to commemorate. Don't forget to bring Kollyva for those being remembered.

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.

St. John the Forerunner Monastery Feast Day Celebration: You are cordially invited to celebrate the feast of The Nativity of St. John the Forerunner June 23rd & 24th at the monastery in Goldendale, Washington. Great Vespers & Orthros will begin Tuesday, June 23rd at 6:00 PM. Hours & Divine lituury on Wednesday, June 24th begin at 8:00 AM. Lodging is available at Quality Inn Suites 509-773-5881 and Ponderosa Motel 509-773-5842.

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 at *goholytrinity.org* under the 'forms' tab at the bottom of the homepage. Contact Christine Whitton at *christine.n.whitton@gmail.com* with questions.

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

Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council
7th Sunday after Pascha - St Simeon the Stylite
May 24, 2015

Plagal of the 2nd Mode / 10th Morning Gospel

The Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

On the seventh Sunday of Pascha we celebrate the 318 God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea. This council of Holy Fathers proclaimed and confessed that the Son is of the same essence and honor as the Father. Therefore, following the feast of the glorious Ascension, this present feast has been set forth on the first Sunday after Ascension Thursday to reinforce in the minds of the faithful that He Who has Ascended into the Heavens and been enthroned at the right hand of the Father is both perfect God and perfect Man in the flesh.

The First Ecumenical Council was called by St. Constantine the Great to resolve the situation regarding the Arian heresy. Arius was a priest who was spreading blasphemy about Christ, claiming that He is a creature, born out of nonexistence and not fully God. Arius led many astray with his lawless teaching. In 325, St. Constantine used state means of transport to gather right-believing hierarchs, priests, deacons and monks from all parts of the Christian world. The Fathers discussed the situation with Arius and anathematized him and those in agreement with him from the Church. They also formulated the Creed as far as the article "And I believe in the Holy Spirit...," approved twenty canons regarding entrance into the Church, and established the method of determining Pascha each year and how it should be celebrated. Among the Fathers at this council were St. Nicholas of Myra, St. Athanasios the Great, St. Alexander of Alexandria, St. Spyridon of Trimithus and St. Makarios of Jerusalem.

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

Small Entrance Hymns

Hymn of the Ascension (4th Mode):
You ascended in glory, O Christ our Lord and God. And Your disciples were filled with joy, by the promise of the Holy Spirit unto them. And through this blessing You did proclaim and thus assure them, that You are truly the Son of God and the Redeemer of the world.

Repeat Hymn of Ascension

Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (Plagal 2nd Mode):
When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb and those who guarded You became as though dead, and standing by Your sepulcher was Mary seeking Your pure and sacred body. For You did vanquish Hades, and uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the virgin woman, bestowing the gift of life. O You Who rose from the dead, Lord, we give glory to You.

Hymn of the Fathers (Plagal 4th Mode):
Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

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 Ascension (Plagal 2nd Mode):
When Thou hadst fulfilled Thy dispensation for our sakes, uniting things on earth with the Heavens, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, departing not hence, but remaining inseparable from us and crying unto them that love Thee: I am with you, and no one can be against you.

EPISTLE READING: Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 (Sunday of the Holy Fathers):
IN THOSE DAYS, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

GOSPEL READING: John 17:1-13 (Sunday of the Holy Fathers):
At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, you glorify me in your own presence with the glory which I had with you before the world was made. "I have manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world; yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you; for I have given them the words which you gave me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you did send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are mine; all mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

Parish Activities For the Week of May 24th

Sunday, May 24th	**Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 1st Eccumenical Council**	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45AM
	Sunday School/Theology 101	12:15 PM
Monday, May 25th	**MEMORIAL DAY - OFFICE CLOSED**	
Tuesday, May 26th	Bible Study	9:30 AM
	Almsgiving Meeting	6:30 PM
	Missions & Evangelism Sub-Group Meeting	6:30 PM
Wednesday, May 27th	Special Parish Council Meeting	6:30 PM
	Choir Practice	7:00 PM
Saturday, May 30th	**Saturday of Souls**	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30 AM
	followed by Memorial Prayers	
	Cecelia Buckley Memorial	5:45 PM
	Great Vespers	6:00 PM
	Jr. GOYA Fireside Chat w/ Fr. Timothy	7:00 PM
	Sr. GOYA Fireside Chat w/ Fr. Theodore	7:00 PM
Sunday, May 31st	**Holy Pentecost**	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45AM
	Kneeling Vespers	11:45 AM
	No Sunday School or Theology 101	

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

Mochas for Missions: We've have $437.79 to go to reach our $4000 goal! Theres only 1 more week left, so PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY to make our goal a reality.