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.

Please Join us for the joint baptism of cousins Anastasia Hillier and Panagiotis Poulos on Saturday, October 3rd at 3:00PM at St. John. A cake reception will follow to celebrate this joyous occasion. Great Vespers will begin at 5:00PM on October 3rd.

Save the date for the upcoming Bible Seminar! Sunday school and Missions and Evangelism are hosting a seminar on Reading the Scriptures in the Orthodox Church Oct. 16th & 17th. Please contact Jessie Crosby with any questions.

Introducing Grab & Give Bags. These bags are intended for St John parishioners and visitors to grab, keep handy in their cars and give to people in need. This will be an ongoing ministry of the Almsgiving Committee. If you're interested in helping put together the bags, please email Jennifer Davis at *jennifer@ccmania.com* for guidelines.

NOTES

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 before the Elevation of the Cross
The Consecration of the Church of the Holy Resurrection
The Holy Martyr Cornelius the Centurion
September 13, 2015

Plagal of the Second Mode / 4th Morning Gospel

The Exaltation of the Precious & Life-giving Cross and
The Consecration of the Church of the Holy Resurrection

For a long time the place of the Crucifixion and burial had been purposely buried by the Jews; furthermore, during the reign of Emperor Hadrian (117-138), a temple dedicated to Aphrodite was built over the site so that this sacred place might be even further desecrated. Saint Helen, the mother of St. Constantine the Great, when she was already advanced in years, undertook the difficult journey from Constantinople to Jerusalem in search of the cross, about the year 325. The venerable Helen had the statue of Aphrodite destroyed and the earth removed, revealing the Tomb of Christ and three crosses. Of these, it was believed that one must be that of our Lord, the other two of the thieves crucified with Him; but Saint Helen was at a loss to determine which was which. At the inspiration of Saint Makarios, Archbishop of Jerusalem, a woman, who was already at the point of death from a certain disease, was brought to touch the crosses, and as soon as she came near the Cross of our Lord, she was made perfectly whole. Consequently, the precious Cross was lifted on high by Archbishop Makarios of Jerusalem; as he stood on the ambo, and when the people beheld it, they cried out, "Lord have mercy." It was at the site of Christ's crucifixion and burial, that the very great and magnificent temple named in honour of Christ God's Resurrection-the Anastasis-was built under the supervision of the blessed Helen. The same Archbishop Makarios performed the consecration of this temple in the year 336.

Today we celebrate the Consecration of the Church of the Resurrection and tomorrow, Monday, September 14th, we commemorate the Elevation of the Cross with Orthros & Divine Liturgy beginning at 7:30 a.m.

PC: Walsh/ J. Poulos G: Chosvig Altar Boys Team C: Tobias, Kyle, Levi, Aiden, Thomas, Petros

ALL PARISH CLEAN UP lead by Team 5: Daniels, Walsh, Hudanish T, Keese, Ntatsos, Olson, Chan, Kolpakov

Small Entrance Hymns

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 then You did vanquish Hades and uncorrupted by its touch You came unto the Virgin, bestowing the gift of life. O You Who rose from the dead, Lord, we give glory to You.
Angelike thinamis epi to mnima Su, ke i filassontes apenekrothisan. ke istato Maria en to tafo zitusa to achranton Su soma. Eskilefsas ton Athin me pirasthis ip aftu ipindisas ti Partheno, thorumenos tin zoin o Anastas ek ton nekron, Kirie thoxa Si.

Hymn of the Forefeast (2nd Mode):
We offer Thee in mediation the life-giving Cross which, of Thy goodness, Thou hast given unto us, the unworthy, O Lord. Save Thy hierarchs and Thy flock, and grant Thou peace through the Theotokos, O only Friend of man.

Hymn of the Consecration (4th Mode):
Thou hast shown the earthly beauty of the holy tabernacle of Thy glory to be like unto the splendour of the heavenly firmament, O Lord. Strengthen it for ever and ever, and accept our prayers which we unceasingly offer therein unto Thee, through the Theotokos, O Thou Who art the Life and Resurrection of all.

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 Consecration (4th Mode/*On this day Thou hast appeared*):
The Church is shown to be * a many-lighted heaven * that doth shine a guiding light * upon all them that do believe; * wherein while standing, we cry aloud: * Do Thou Thyself now establish this house, O Lord.

EPISTLE READING: Galatians 6:11-18: (The 22nd Sunday of the Week):
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 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: John 3:13-17: (Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross):
The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Parish Activities For the Week of September 13th

Sunday, September 13th	**Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross**	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45 AM
	Fr. Timothy's 20th Ordination Anniversary Luncheon	12:00 PM
Monday, September 14th	**Exaltation of the Holy Cross**	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy *ASA Attends*	7:30 AM
	Greek Open Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday, September 15th	Bible Study	9:30 AM
	Parish Council Meeting	6:45 PM
Wednesday, September 16th	Choir Practice	7:00 PM
Friday, September 18th	Strategic Plan Meeting	5:00 PM
Saturday, September 19th	Great Vespers	6:00 PM
Sunday, September 20th	**Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross**	
	Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:45 AM
	First Day Sunday School/Theology 101	12:15 PM

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

Sunday School Begins Next Week! 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.

We are hosting a 20th Ordination Anniversary Luncheon honoring Fr. Timothy and his family after Liturgy TODAY. Join us for an afternoon of food, sharing memories and celebrating a most beloved priest.

Take 'n' Bake assembly - our goal is to make 100 pans each of Tyropita, Spanakopita & Baklava to support our Building Fund. Please consider signing up for TWO 2-hr shifts offered on the Take n Bake bulletin board.

Take 'n' Bake sales support the Building Fund. Order online this week. We'll be back next week with the table. Pre-orders will be accepted at coffee hour and online from Sept. 1st - Oct. 11th. Pick-up begins Sunday, November 1st.

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 12:00 PM. Player registration fee $150 before September 7th and includes lunch, golf, tee prize, and dinner. Cocktails and Dinner begin at 5:30 PM. Additional dinner tickets $50 each. Visit *greekopen.com* to register and 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.