

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.

We have new clean-up teams! A new list will be sent out in the October Newsletter. Please make sure to read the Weekly Bulletin and Monthly Newsletter to ensure you are present on the appropriate weekend. If you will not be at church on your designated Clean-Up Sunday, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. If you have any questions, please contact Naomi Knight.

Raffle Tickets are available TODAY for the Greek Open Golf Tournament. You do not have to be present to win. See Naomi Knight during Coffee Fellowship to purchase your raffle tickets, register for game day or buy dinner tickets for the Greek Open event.

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. Pre-orders will be accepted at coffee hour and online from Sept. 1st - Oct. 11th. Pick-up begins Sunday, November 1st.

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. For questions, please contact Colleen VanSickle or Beth Downs.

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 e-mail Jennifer Davis at jennifer@ccmania.com for guidelines.

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.stjohnnoc.org

SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS MARTYRS EUSTATHIOS, THEOPISTE AND AGAPIOS SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

Grave Mode / 5th Morning Gospel

Great Martyr Eustathios & his family

Eustathios was a great Roman general during the reigns of Emperors Titus and Trajan. Though he was a pagan, Placidus (for that was his pagan name) was a just and merciful man. One day while hunting, he pursued a stag. By God's providence, a cross appeared between the antlers of the stag and the voice of the Lord came to Placidus, directing him to go to a Christian priest and be baptized. At baptism, he received the name Eustathios; his wife, Theopiste (meaning "faithful to God"); and his sons, Agapitus and Theopistus. After his baptism, he returned to the place where he had experienced the revelation of the stag and, kneeling, gave thanks to God that He had brought him to the truth. Just then, the voice of the Lord again manifested itself to him, foretold that he would suffer for His name, and strengthened him. Then Eustathios secretly left Rome with his family, intending to serve God in humble and unknown surroundings. Arriving in Egypt, he was immediately beset by trials. An evil man abducted his wife, and both of his sons were seized by wild beasts and carried away. Eustathios settled in a village and lived there for fifteen years as a hired laborer. Unbeknownst to Eustathios, his wife had escaped, and the children were saved from the wild beasts and raised by shepherds. At this time, however, the Roman Empire was being attacked and Emperor Trajan sent two officers to seek out his former general, the brave Eustathios. By God's providence, these officers found Eustathios and brought him back to the emperor. On the way back to Rome, Eustathios found his wife and both sons. Back in Rome, he amassed an army and defeated the barbarians. Meanwhile, Emperor Trajan had died and Emperor Hadrian was on the throne. When Hadrian summoned General Eustathios to offer sacrifices to the gods, Eustathios declined, declaring himself a Christian. The emperor subjected him and his wife and sons to torture. They were put in a great fire, where they submitted their souls to Christ, while their bodies remained unharmed. Thus, this glorious commander rendered unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's (Luke 20:25), and took up his habitation in the Eternal Kingdom of Christ our God.

PC: Jungwirth/Davis G: Becker Altar Boys Team D: Nathaniel, Demetrius, Constantine, Athanasios, Wade, Owen
Clean-up Team 6: Ketrenos J & K, Lubliner E, Lubliner D & J, Lubliner N, Goldman, Thienes, Tesfamicael, Taylor, Hatch

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

Hymn of Exaltation of the Cross (1st Mode):

Save, O Lord, Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; grant Thou unto the faithful victory over adversaries. And by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (Grave Mode):

O Lord, by Your sacred cross, You abolished death, and granted unto the thief blessed paradise. The myrrhbearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The apostles did preach the Good News at Your command, that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing Your mercy upon the world ever more.

Repeat Hymn of the Cross

Hymn of Great Martyr Eustathios & his family (2nd Mode):

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for Thee * received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. * For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants * and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. * O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

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 Exaltation of the Cross (4th Mode/Thou Who wast raised up):

Thou Who wast raised up on the Cross of Thine own will, * O Christ our God, do Thou bestow Thy compassions * upon this, Thy new commonwealth named after Thee. * Gladden with Thy sovereign might * our most Orthodox hierarchs, * and vouchsafe them victory * over every false teaching; * and as Thy help in war may they possess * the weapon of peace, the trophy invincible.

EPISTLE READING: Galatians 2:16-20 (Sunday of the 21st Week):

BRETHREN, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 8:34-38; 9:1(Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross):

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20TH

Sunday, September 20th	Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross Orthros & Divine Liturgy First Day Sunday School/Theology 101	8:45 AM 12:15 PM
Monday, September 21st	Greek Open at Langdon Farms	12:00 PM
Tuesday, September 22nd	No Bible Study	
Wednesday, September 23rd	No Choir Practice	
Friday, September 25th	Women's Retreat begins at Tillicum Retreat Center	7:00 PM
Saturday, September 26th	Great Vespers	6:00 PM
Sunday, September 27th	1st Sunday of Luke Orthros & Divine Liturgy Sunday School/Theology 101	8:45 AM 12:15 PM

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

Drawing for the free Psalter TODAY during Coffee Fellowship. Please submit any written questions from reading the Psalms and place them in the basket on the table in front of Logos Bookstore. Fr. Theodore will address these questions during Theology 101 at a future date.

Please NOTE: Theology 101 will now be held in the South Fellowship hall due to Sunday School.

Sunday School Begins TODAY! When the bell rings for Sunday School, please ensure your children find the appropriate classroom. See the list below:

SUNDAY SCHOOL: GRADES, CLASSROOMS & TEACHERS

PRESCHOOL - ST. KATHERINE ROOM - Vicki Horton & Maddie Bob

KINDERGARTEN - ST. JOHN OF KRONSTAD ROOM - Anna Corazza, Colleen & Jamie Perlmutter

1ST & 2ND GRADE - MONTESSORI ROOM 1 - Carlos Esparza & Sam Marine

3RD GRADE - MONTESSORI ROOM 2 - Colleen VanSickle & Beth Smith

4TH GRADE - ST. NICHOLAS ROOM - Seraphim Daniels & Jillian Walsh

5TH GRADE - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - Erik Chosvig & Chris Perlmutter

7TH & 8TH GRADE - FR'S OFFICE - Robert Crosby & Beth Carper

9TH - 12TH GRADE - NORTH FELLOWSHIP HALL - Lisa & Jon Corazza