FELLOWSHIPS OF PHILANTHROPY: Today Philoptochos will kick off the summer fellowships of philanthropy by providing food and hospitality after Liturgy. They will also collect donations toward the charitable work of our own Philoptochos chapter.

MOMS NIGHT OUT: Shannon Rush's home on Tuesday, June 19 at 7:00 pm.

STRATEGIC PLAN MEETING: Goal 6 (Education) will meet at church on Thursday, June 21 at 7:00 pm.

JR. GOYA OVERNIGHT RETREAT: All middle schoolers, come kick-off summer this Friday-Saturday, June 22-23, with our overnight retreat from 7:00 pm to 10:00 am at the church. See Shannon Rush for more details.

HELP PREPARE APPETIZERS FOR FAREWELL DINNER: Please join us in the kitchen on Saturday, June 23, 8:00 am to 1:30 pm, and Sunday, June 24 after fellowship.

BEHOLD THE LIGHT: Vacation Church School at Holy Trinity is June 25-29, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, for K-5th Graders. The cost is $20 for the first child and $15 for each additional child in a family, and includes a daily meal and snack and a T-shirt. Register at: https://tinyurl.com/y97ajtmj

MOTHERHOOD MINISTRY EVENING FELLOWSHIP … will be on Tuesday, June 26 at 7:00 pm. Come pray for your children, grandchildren, or godchildren, and spend time with mothers of all ages.

HOSTING A SUMMER FELLOWSHIP OF PHILANTHROPY: This summer you have the opportunity to provide hospitality to our community and to visitors, while raising money for an Orthodox cause. Consider hosting a Sunday fellowship to support your worthy cause. Please contact the church office to find out which Sundays are still available.

LEARN TO BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH WITH FLOWERS! If you would like to learn about flower arranging, or already have a knack for it, please contact Lauri Chosvig to help with our flower ministry - to glorify God with the beautiful colors of His creation.

VOLUNTEER AT CAMP AGAPE: Camp Agape, a camp for children with cancer and their families, will take place August 4-10. Volunteers (16 years old and older) are needed to help us run our amazing Buddy Program! For any questions or information please contact Aliki Mehas at (971) 295-9977 or alikiionnam@gmail.com.

THE MISSION STATEMENT OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

The mission of St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church is to reach out and welcome all people to live an Orthodox Christian life, grow spiritually, and become disciples of Jesus Christ through serving others.

PC: Souza/Hafez/Dale Altar Servers Team B: Christos, Nicholas, Nathan, Kyle, Makarios, Nicolas
G: Gebrehiwot/Weick Clean-Up Team 5: Hailey, Schwartz, Hudanish P&J, Hudanish T.

St. John the Baptist
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Historical Christian Church

Rev. Father Matthew Swehla
Rev. Father Timothy Pavlatos
Deacon Innocent Duchow-Pressley

churchoffice@stjohngoc.org
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June 17, 2018

St. Isaurus & His Companions • Martyrs Manuel, Sabel & Ishmael • St. Botolph

The martyr Isaurus, a deacon, and Basil and Innocent were from Athens. In the reign of Numerian, they came to Apollonia. There they encountered Felix, Peregrinus, and Hermias hidden in a cave, who strengthened them in their Faith. Betrayed to Tripontius the Proconsul, all but Isaurus and Innocent were beheaded; these last two Tripontius gave to his son, who tormented them and had them beheaded in 283.

The martyrs Manuel, Sabel, and Ishmael, were brothers from Persia, sent by the Persian King as ambassadors to Julian the Apostate to negotiate a peace treaty. While with him at a place near Chalcedon, they refused to join him in offering sacrifice to his idols. Julian became angry. He annulled the treaty saying it would be impossible to reach any peace or accord between the two sides. The holy brothers answered that they were sent as emissaries of their emperor on matters of state, and not to argue about "gods." Scorning diplomatic immunity, Julian imprisoned them and had them beaten and mercilessly tortured. The saints glorified God and prayed as if they did not feel the tortures. They were beheaded in 362. Julian ordered their bodies to be burned, but a sudden earthquake opened up the ground and the bodies of the holy martyrs disappeared into the abyss. After two days of fervent prayer by the Christians, the earth returned the sweetly fragrant bodies of the saints. Many pagans, witnessing the miracle, came to believe in Christ and were baptized. This was a cause of the war with Persia in which Julian perished miserably the following year.

Saint Botolph was born in Britain in the 7th Century and in his youth became a monk in Gaul. The sisters of Ethelmund, King of East Anglia, who were sent to Gaul to learn about monasticism, met Saint Botolph, and learning of his intention to return to Britain, asked their brother the King to grant him land on which to found a monastery. Hearing the King's offer, Saint Botolph chose a certain desolate place called Ikanhoe. He worked signs and wonders, had the gift of prophecy, and was distinguished for his kind disposition and affability. In the last years of his life he bore painful sickness with great patience, yet giving thanks and continuing to instruct in the rules of the monastic life. He fell asleep in peace about the year 680. The place where he founded his monastery came to be called Botolphston, which was later shortened to Boston.

WELCOME VISITORS to the original Christian Church. At St. John the Baptist you will experience the sacred worship of God as it has taken place for 2,000 years. Our community is a dynamic witness of authentic Christianity, and we welcome all people.

Please note that Holy Communion is reserved **only** for baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared—through prayer, fasting and regular Confession—to receive the Sacrament. However everyone may receive blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy. If you have any questions about your experience, please see our visitors table during fellowship or speak with one of our clergy.

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Hymn for this Sunday (Second Mode)
When You descended to the realm of death, You as Life Immortal rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all-radiant divinity. And when You from infernal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead, all the hosts of heaven's powers did proclaim and cry out, "O Life-giving Christ and our God, we give glory."

Ote katilthes pros ton thanaton, i zoi athanatos, tote ton Adthin enekrosas ti astrapi tis theotitos. Ote dthe ke tus tethneotas ek ton katathonion anestisas, pase e dthinamis ton epuranion ekravgazon. Zodthota Christe, o Theos imon, dthoxa Si.

Hymn of St. John the Baptist (Second 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 for this Sunday (Second Mode)
A protection of Christians unshamable, intercessor to our Holy Maker unwavering, reject not the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. Instead, come to us, for you are good; your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you: Hasten to intercede and speed now to supplicate, as a protection for all time, Theotokos, for those who honor you.

EPISTLE READING

Romans 5:1-10 (Third Sunday of Matthew)
Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:22-33 (Third Sunday of Matthew)
The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

Let us be satisfied simply with what sustains our present life, not with what pampers it. Let us pray to God for this, as we have been taught, so that we may keep our souls un-enslaved and absolutely free from domination by any of the visible things loved for the sake of the body. Let us show that we eat for the sake of living, and not be guilty of living for the sake of eating.

– St. Maximos the Confessor

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, June 17
Father's Day
Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:45 AM

Tuesday, June 19
Bible Study - Gospel of Luke 10:00 AM
Moms Night Out 7:00 PM
at the Rush home

Thursday, June 21
Philoptochos Board Meeting 2:00 PM
Strategic Plan Goal 6 (Education) Meeting 7:00 PM

Friday, June 22
Jr. GOYA Overnight Retreat 7:00 PM
at the Church

Saturday, June 23
Byzantine Chant Class 4:00 PM
Great Vespers 5:00 PM

Sunday, June 24
Nativity of St. John the Baptist
Monastery Feast Day
Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:45 AM
Fr. Timothy Farewell Fellowship 12:00 PM
Fr. Timothy Farewell Reception and Dinner with His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos and His Grace Bishop Apostolos 6:30 PM