HOW IS COMMUNION PREPARED? Come to Theology 101 Adult Education today to learn how the prosphora (offering bread) is prepared before each Liturgy. Fr. Matthew will give a live demonstration of how it is prepared.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: Show your ***Philoxenia*** "Love for Strangers" and host a Sunday fellowship. Pick a day that is special to you or your loved ones, or any day that you would like. Put your name on the fellowship sign-up sheet, posted by the kitchen doorway. Upcoming available Sundays include: October 6, 20, and 27.

NEW WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY: Beginning this fall, we will have a weekly Wednesday evening class, 7:00-8:00 pm, which will explore aspects of our Faith. The first series of classes (through December) will be a broad survey of the Faith: "The Basics of Orthodoxy." Learn about Orthodox spirituality, prayer, theology, iconography and practices, and the 2,000 year history of the Church.

ST. KOSMAS HOMESCHOOLING CLUB: Our monthly meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 2 at 10:00 am at the church. All moms with school-aged kids or preschoolers are welcome!

CROSSROADS MINISTRY LUNCHEON: Our monthly potluck meal will be on Tuesday, October 8 at 11:00 am and will include a presentation by Dn. Innocent and Jennifer Davis on their experiences at Project Mexico.

THE ST. JOHN MONASTERY BENEFIT DINNER AND AUCTION: On Sunday, October 20 at 5:30 pm in The Dalles, the monastery will hold their 13th annual benefit dinner. This special event usually sells out, so please reserve your seats as soon as possible! Enjoy dinner prepared by the sisters, a guest speaker, a short video, and a silent auction. Visit the information table during fellowship today or next Sunday. If you need a ride, contact Rich Whitton at whitton.richard@gmail.com or (971) 228-8082.

68TH ANNUNAL GREEK FESTIVAL NEXT WEEKEND: Holy Trinity's annual festival runs through Friday-Sunday, October 4-6. It's fun for the whole family!

JOHN & PATRICIA THANK YOU: "To our dear St. John parish family, thank you all so much for the beautiful luncheon that was held in our honor a few weeks ago. From the decor, to the food, and the special words expressed, we were deeply humbled. This parish will always hold a special place in our hearts and we are filled with gratitude. We thank you for all of your prayers for us over the past years and we ask that you continue to pray for us as we embark on this new journey to be closer to our families. You will be in our prayers as you all continue to move forward doing the works of Christ through faith and love."

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: Chosvig/VanSickle/Moffitt Altar Servers Team D: Pavlos, Zacharias, Thomas, Nathan, Nicholas, John
G: Chosvig & Dale Clean-Up Team 8: Marine, McAtee, Chosvig, Jungwirth, Muzik, Hagan

St. John the Baptist
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Historical Christian Church

Rev. Father Matthew Swehla (503) 644-7444 • www.stjohngoc.org
Deacon Innocent Duchow-Pressley 14485 SW Walker Rd, Beaverton, OR 97006

September 29, 2019

Righteous Kyriakos the Anchorite • Theophanes the Merciful of Gaza

Holy Kyriakos was born in Corinth, to the priest John and his wife Evdoxia. Bishop Peter of Corinth was his relative. When he was still young, Kyriakos was ordained a reader in the cathedral church. Reading the Holy Scripture, the young Kyriakos marveled at God's providence: how He glorified all His true servants and arranged the salvation of the human race. At the age of eighteen, Kyriakos went to Jerusalem and entered a monastery. There, a holy man, Evstorgios, gave him his first instruction in the monastic life. Later he went to St. Evthymios, who foresaw that he would be a great spiritual father. He clothed Kyriakos in the Great Schema and sent him to St. Gerasimos at the Jordan. Kyriakos spent nine years with St. Gerasimos. Following the elder's death, he returned to the Monastery of St. Euthymios, where he practiced stillness for ten years. After that, in order to avoid the praise of men, Kyriakos moved from place to place. His final earthly home was in the community of St. Chariton. St. Kyriakos was physically massive and strong and despite strict fasting and keeping vigils, he remained this way his whole life. He was zealous for the Orthodox Faith, denouncing all heresies, especially that of Origen. Kyriakos was a great light, a pillar of Orthodoxy, a healer of the sick, a miracle-worker, and a gentle comforter of the sorrowful. He lived a long life for the benefit of many and fell asleep peacefully at the age of 109 in the year 557.

Saint Theophanes the Merciful was an inhabitant of the Syrian city of Gaza. He was kind and merciful. He took in vagrants, helped the poor and the sick, and spent all his substance on help for the needy, while he himself remained in want. He did not grieve at all over the loss of his property. He lost his health, and sickness caused him great suffering. His body began to swell up, and rot. He endured this ordeal in good spirit, giving thanks to God for all things. A fierce storm raged while he was dying, and his wife grieved that she would not be able to give him proper burial. The saint comforted her: "Weep not, woman, for up to now the trial has lasted, but here comes help from the Merciful God, since in the hour of my death the storm will cease, by the will of God." Just as he gave up his soul to God, calmness prevailed. After his death, his body became completely cleansed of wounds and became fragrant, giving forth healing myrrh.

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 (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 dthinamis epi to mnima Su, ke i filassontes apenekrothisan. ke istato Maria en to tafo zitusa to achranton Su soma. Eskilefsas ton Adthin me pirasthis ip aftu ipindisas ti Partheno, dthorumenos tin zoin o Anastas ek ton nekron, Kirie dthoxa Si.

Hymn of Righteous Kyriakos (1st Mode)
Thou didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker, O Kyriakos, our Godbearing Father. By fasting, vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength. Glory to Him that hath crowned thee. Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through 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 Theotokos (2nd 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

2 Corinthians 4: 6-15 (Second Sunday of Luke)
Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:31-36 (Second Sunday of Luke)
The Lord said, "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, September 29
- **Orthros** 8:45 AM
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 AM
- Sunday School 12:00 PM
- Theology 101 Adult Education: Preparing the Gifts—Prosphora 12:00 PM

Tuesday, October 1
- Bible Study 10:00 AM

Wednesday, October 2
- St. Kosmas Orthodox Homeschooling Club 10:00 AM
- Wednesday Evening Study: Basics of Orthodoxy 7:00 PM

Friday, October 4
- Pan-Orthodox Retreat *"Tune Your Heart to God"* with Frederica Mathewes-Green 7:00 PM

Saturday, October 5
- **Divine Liturgy** 7:30 AM
- Continental Breakfast 8:30 AM
- Pan-Orthodox Retreat *"Tune Your Heart to God"* with Frederica Mathewes-Green 9:00 AM
- **EARLY Great Vespers** 4:00 PM

Sunday, October 6
- **Orthros** 8:45 AM
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 AM
- Sunday School 12:00 PM
- Theology 101 Adult Education: Historical Background of the Gospels: A Four-Part Series 12:00 PM