MEMORY ETERNAL! It is with sadness yet with hope in the Risen Lord that we inform you of the falling asleep of Evelyn Pavlatos, mother of Father Timothy. She reposed on November 9.

THEOLOGY 101 TODAY: We will have a final question & answer session with Lazarus Chiprout on the topic of October's 4-part series—Historical Background of the Gospels, *"Everything You Wanted to Know About the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Zealots, but were Afraid to Ask."*

PARKING ON NOVEMBER 30: As we welcome our fellow Orthodox Christians from Salem and Eugene we ask that you consider carpooling to church. Also, if you are physically able to, please park in the adjacent neighborhood on SW Meadow Drive and walk to the church.

AKATHIST TO THE MOTHER OF GOD NURTURER OF CHILDREN: Join ASA for this monthly service on Tuesday, December 3 at 9:00 am, with a fellowship coffee hour following.

ST. KOSMAS HOMESCHOOL GROUP ... will meet at the church at 10:00 am, Wednesday, December 4. All parents with kids at home are welcome, whether they are school-aged or younger.

WOMEN'S MONASTERY RETREAT: Join the ladies of St. John, December 13-14. Email Rachel at racheldaniels503@gmail.com to reserve your spot. RSVP by December 6.

ST. NICHOLAS CAROLING PARTY: On Saturday, December 7 we will have a parish-wide caroling party, following the EARLY Vespers at 4:00 pm. Please bring a Lenten dessert to share. Activities for kids, caroling, fellowship, and fun!

FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEER TRAINING ... Saturday, December 7, 9:00-11:00 am at St. John. Training is ***required.*** Sign-up to volunteer at: https://tinyurl.com/y4xeyv8r.

NATIVITY FAST CONTINUES: As we prepare for our Lord's Nativity, we enter a season of increased fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Please come to as many morning services as you can, and take part in the sacrament of Confession.

GIVING THANKS TO GOD: Let us show our thanks to God by extending love toward the "strangers" around us. Sign up to host a Sunday fellowship and show your *Philoxenia.* Sunday before Christmas is available! Put your name on the sign-up sheet, posted by the kitchen doorway.

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS: Please consider serving on the parish council. By December 1, submit the names of those who are willing to serve to the election committee: John Davis, James Ketrenos, Sophia Galeev, or Lois Russo. Elections will take place on Sunday, December 15.

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: Moffitt/Chosvig Altar Servers Team A: Noah, Athanasios, Basil VS, Peter, Owen, Judah, John
G: Carper & Corazza Clean-Up Team 4: Buckley, Rusinaru, Blankenstein, Agrawal, Black

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

November 24, 2019

St. Peter Archbishop of Alexandria & St. Catherine the Great

Saint Peter illustriously occupied the throne of Alexandria for 12 years, and, as Eusebius says, "was a divine example of a bishop on account of the excellence of his life and his study of the sacred Scriptures". He excommunicated Arius for his sympathy with the Meletian schism. When Arius learned that St. Peter had been imprisoned, he sent many religious to him, asking that he receive him back into communion with the Church before his martyrdom. When the ambassadors of Arius, who had not, like St. Peter, perceived the ruin he would engender, were astonished at the vehemence with which St. Peter refused to receive Arius again, he revealed to them a dread vision he had seen, in which the Master Christ had appeared to him as a child wearing a torn garment. When St. Peter asked the Lord who rent His garment, the Lord answered that it was Arius, and that he must not be received back into communion. The holy hieromartyr Peter was beheaded in the year 312; he is called the "Seal of the Martyrs," because he was the last Bishop of Alexandria to suffer martyrdom under the pagan Emperors.

St. Catherine the Great (Nov 25) was the daughter of King Constus. After his death she lived with her mother in Alexandria. Her mother a Christian brought Catherine to the Christian Faith. In a vision, St. Catherine received a ring from the Lord Jesus Himself as a sign of her betrothal to Him. She was greatly gifted by God and was well educated in Greek philosophy, medicine, rhetoric and logic. When the Emperor Maxentius offered sacrifices to the idols and ordered others to do the same, she denounced his idolatry. The emperor, seeing that she was greater than he in wisdom and knowledge, summoned 50 of his wisest men to debate with her on matters of faith. She outwitted and shamed them. In a rage, he ordered all 50 of them burned. By St. Catherine's prayers, all 50 confessed the name of Christ before their execution. After Catherine had been put in prison, she converted the emperor's commander, Porphyrius, 200 soldiers, and the Empress Augusta-Vasilissa. They all suffered for Christ. During the torture of the saint, an angel of God came to her and destroyed the wheel on which the she was being tortured. Afterward, the Lord appeared and comforted her. After many tortures, she was beheaded at the age of 18, on November 24, 310. Milk, instead of blood, flowed from her body. Her relics reside on Mt. Sinai.

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

Hymn of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple (4th Mode)
Today is the prelude of God's good will and the heralding of the salvation of mankind. In the temple of God, the Virgin is presented openly, and she proclaimeth Christ unto all. To her, then, with a great voice let us cry aloud: Rejoice, O thou fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.

Símeron tis evdthokías Theú to proímion, ke tis ton anthrópon sotirías i prokírixis. En Naó tu Theú tranós i Parthénos dthíknitë, ke ton Hristón tis pási prokatangéllete. Aftí ke imís megalofónos voísomen: Hyére tis ikonomías tu Ktístu i ekplírosis.

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.

Repeat Hymn of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple.

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 Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple (4th mode / *Thou Who wast raised up*)
The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 2:4-10 (Thirteenth Sunday of Luke)
Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 18: 18-27 (Thirteenth Sunday of Luke)
At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, He said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But He said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

It is foolish to think that wealth or abundance—or even moderate means—would be advantageous or possibly reassuring. The rich worry even more than the poor and the impoverished.

-St. Ambrose of Optina

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, November 24
- **Orthros** 8:45 AM
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 AM
- Sunday School 12:00 PM
- Theology 101 Adult Education: Background of the Gospels, Q&A 12:00 PM
- Altar Server Practice for Ordination 12:45 PM

Monday, November 25
- **Orthros** 6:30 AM
- **Divine Liturgy for St. Katherine the Great Martyr** 7:30 AM

Tuesday, November 26
- Bible Study 10:00 AM

Wednesday, November 27
- No Wednesday Evening Study

Thursday, November 28
- Church Office Closed
- **Orthros** 8:30 AM
- **Divine Liturgy for Thanksgiving** 9:30 AM

Friday, November 29
- Church Office Closed

Saturday, November 30
- **Orthros** 8:30 AM
- **Hierarchal Divine Liturgy for St. Andrew the First-Called and Ordination the Diaconate of Steven Tussing by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos** 10:00 AM
- Ordination Luncheon 1:00 PM
- **Great Vespers** 5:00 PM

Sunday, December 1
- **Orthros** 8:45 AM
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 AM
- No Sunday School/Theology 101