LENTEN SERVICES: As we journey through Great Lent, please make some of these weekday services a part of your weekly routine! Great Compline on Monday at 6:30 pm; Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday at 6:30 pm and on Friday at 8:00 am; and Salutations/Akathist on Friday at 6:30 pm. Kalí Sarakostí ~ Blessed Lent!

SITE COMMITTEE MEETING: Tomorrow after Great Compline the site committee will have its inaugural meeting. All are welcome!

PAN-ORTHODOX SERVICES IN LENT:
-Sunday, March 8, 5:00 pm: Vespers for Sunday of Orthodoxy, Holy Trinity Cathedral.
-Wednesday, March 11, 6:30 pm: Presanctified Liturgy, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church.
-Wednesday, March 25, 6:30 pm: Feast Day Liturgy, Annunciation Orthodox Church.
-Wednesday, April 8, 6:30 pm: Presanctified Liturgy, St. Stephen Serbian Orthodox Church.
All services will have a Lenten meal afterward.

MOM'S NIGHT OUT ... will be on Thursday, March 12 at 6:00 pm—dinner at Thai Bloom (3800 SW Cedar Hills Blvd, Beaverton 97005). RSVP to Rachel RachelDaniels503@gmail.com

YOUTH NIGHT AT THE CHURCH: On Saturday, March 14 after Vespers, all kids, K-8th Grade are invited to a fun evening together: HOPE (K-2nd), JOY (3rd-5th) & Jr. GOYA (6th-8th).

NEW WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY: During Lent, Erik Chosvig will teach about "The Desert Fathers and Mothers." The final two classes be at 8:30 pm on March 18 and April 1.

HOSTING FELLOWSHIP IN LENT: There are a few Sundays without fellowship hosts. Please consider offering a simple Lenten meal or snack, as an act of *philoxenia* (hospitality).

YOUTH WORKERS NEEDED: Our Youth Night and youth events are thriving, so we need you! Jobs range from cooking food, cleaning up, participating in games, supporting our leaders, helping with crafts, etc. Please see Beth P. to help.

RECEPTION FOR NEWLYWEDS: On Saturday, March 21 at 3:00 pm at the church celebrate Shawn and Diana Stebner's wedding. Please RSVP by text or phone to Sylvia at (503) 399-0428 by Friday, March 13.

SUMMER CAMP—START PLANNING! We are taking vans down to St. Nicholas Ranch again this summer, July 19-25. All youth ages 8 -18 are welcome. See the recent email for more details, or see Beth if you didn't receive the email. To register for Session 2 of summer camp, go to gosfyouth.org/summer-camp/. ***Act quickly, because registration will be FULL in a few weeks!***

FLOWER BASKET FUNDRAISER FOR ASA: Order your gorgeous hanging baskets today! These long-lasting hanging baskets come in 12" pots and are only $35! Swing by our table during fellowship to view the wide selection. They will be available for pick up on May 2. Questions? Email: FlowerBaskets@asapdx.org.

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/VanSickle/Ketrenos K Altar Servers Team A: Noah, Athanasios, Basil VS, Peter, Owen, Judah, John G: Lubliner N & K & Black Clean-Up Team 7: Lindgren, Lubliner J&D, Lubliner N, Wehlitz E., Anderson

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

March 8, 2020

Sunday of Orthodoxy • Theophylact the Confessor, Bishop of Nicomedia

For more than 100 years the Church was troubled by the Iconoclasts persecution, beginning in the reign of Leo the Isaurian (717-741) and ending in the reign of Theophilos (829-842). After Theophilus's death, his widow the Empress Theodora (Feb. 11), together with the Patriarch Methodius (June 14), established Orthodoxy anew. The empress venerated the icon of the Mother of God in the presence of the Patriarch Methodius, other confessors and righteous men, and openly cried out these holy words: "If anyone does not offer veneration to the holy icons, not adoring them as though they were gods, but venerating them out of love as images of the archetype, let him be anathema." Then with common prayer and fasting during the whole first week of Great Lent, she asked God's forgiveness for her husband. After this, on the first Sunday of Lent, she and her son, Michael the Emperor, made a procession with all the clergy and people and restored the holy icons, and again adorned the Church with them. This is the holy deed that all we the Orthodox commemorate today, and we call this radiant and venerable day the Sunday of Orthodoxy, that is, the triumph of true doctrine over heresy.

St. Theophylact was from the East; his native city is unknown. In Constantinople he became a close friend of Tarsios, who afterwards became Patriarch of Constantinople. Theophylact was made Bishop of Nicomedia. After the death of St. Tarsios, Patriarch Nicephoros called together a number of bishops to help him in fighting the iconoclast Emperor Leo the Armenian, (813-820). Among them were Euthymios, Bishop of Sardis, who had attended the 7th Ecumenical Council in 787, was exiled three times and eventually martyred for the sake of the holy icons; Joseph of Thessalonica; Michael of Synnada; Emilian, Bishop of Cyzicos; and St. Theophylact. The saint boldly rebuked Emperor Leo to his face, telling him that because he despised the long-suffering of God, utter destruction was about to overtake him, and there would be none to deliver him. For this, St. Theophylact was exiled to Asia Minor, where, after 30 years of imprisonment and hardship, he gave up his holy soul about the year 845. Emperor Leo according to the saint's prophecy, was slain on the eve of our Lord's Nativity, in 820.

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 Sunday of Orthodoxy (2nd Mode)
We venerate Thine immaculate icon, O Good One, asking the forgiveness of our failings, O Christ our God; for of Thine own will Thou wast well-pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, that Thou mightest deliver from slavery to the enemy those whom Thou hadst fashioned. Wherefore, we cry to Thee thankfully: Thou didst fill all things with joy, O our Savior, when Thou camest to save the world.

Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal 1st Mode)
Coeternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, Who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation. As the faithful we both praise and worship Him, for in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross, and death did He endure. And He raised the dead unto life through His glorious resurrection.

Repeat the Hymn of Sunday of Orthodoxy.

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 to the Theotokos (Plagal 4th Mode)
To thee, the Champion Leader, we thy flock dedicate a feast of victory and of thanksgiving, as ones rescued out of sufferings, O Theotokos. But as thou art one with might which is invincible, from all dangers that can be do thou deliver us that we may cry to thee: Rejoice, thou Bride unwedded.

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40 (Sunday of Orthodoxy)
Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

GOSPEL READING

John 1:43-51(Sunday of Orthodoxy)
At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and he said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

Megalynarion for the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (Instead of "It Is Truly Right")
In you who are full of grace, all creation rejoices – both the congregations of angels and the human race. O consecrated temple and spiritual paradise, the boast of virgins, from you was God incarnate and became a child – He, our God, who existed before the ages. For He made your womb a throne and He made you more spacious than the heavens. In you who are full of grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday March 8
Sunday of Orthodoxy
Orthros 8:45 AM
Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great 10:00 AM
Procession with Icons 12:00 PM
No Theology 101 Adult Education
Pan-Orthodox Vespers at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral 5:00 PM

Monday March 9
Great Compline 6:30 PM
Site Committee Inaugural Meeting 7:30 PM

Tuesday March 10
Bible Study 10:00

Wednesday March 11
No Wednesday Evening Study
No Presanctified Liturgy at St. John
Pan-Orthodox Presanctified Liturgy at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church 6:30 PM
Pan-Orthodox Lenten Potluck 8:00 PM

Thursday March 12
Mom's Night Out at Thai Bloom 6:00 PM

Friday March 13
Presanctified Liturgy 8:00 AM
Salutations to the Theotokos 6:30 PM

Saturday March 14
Baptism of Annemarie McAtee 2:00 PM
Baptismal Reception 3:00 PM
Choir Practice 4:00 PM
Great Vespers 5:00 PM
Youth Night at the Church 6:00 PM
HOPE (K-2nd), JOY (3rd-5th) and Jr. GOYA (6th-8th)

Sunday March 15
Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas
Orthros 8:45 AM
Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great 10:00 AM
No Sunday School/Theology 101