MISSION TO AMERICA CAMPAIGN ENDS NEXT SUNDAY: We have reached $2,005 of our parish goal of $5,000. ***Only 1 week left*** to fund tangible projects at each of our six mission parishes in the metropolis. Donate through the link in the weekly email or the office.

CROSSROADS MINISTRY POTLUCK ... will be this Tuesday, June 15 at 11:30 am. The speaker is Fr. John Mancantelli.

SATURDAY OF THE SOULS: Pray for your departed loved ones, that God will have mercy on their souls. Come to the Saturday of the Souls services—8:30 am Orthros and 9:30 am Divine Liturgy, followed by the Trisagion for the Departed. You may make and bring koliva as well.

FEAST DAYS—HOLY TRINITY CHURCH AND ST. JOHN MONASTERY: On Holy Spirit Monday, June 21, celebrate the feast day of Holy Trinity Cathedral in Portland with Orthros & Liturgy at 8:30 am at Holy Trinity. St. John the Forerunner Monastery will celebrate its feast day with Vigil (Vespers & Orthros) on Wednesday, June 23 at 6:00 pm and Divine Liturgy on Thursday, June 24 at 8:00 am. ***There will be no services here at St. John Church on these days.***

FR. MATTHEW OUT OF TOWN: Fr. Matthew will take vacation on June 21-22, then he will be at the monastery feast day, June 23-24. For pastoral emergencies, please contact Holy Trinity.

PREPARE TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT! Next Sunday at 12:30 pm, we will celebrate the Vespers of the Holy Spirit, commonly called the Kneeling Vespers because of three beautiful and theologically profound prayers which are said while kneeling. (This is also the first time that we will kneel since before Pascha.) This is a very important and spiritually beneficial service, so please make every effort to attend.

HELPERS NEEDED to continue blessing of Bread Mondays at 3:15pm. Volunteers wrap and store beautiful breads and pastries. Dates available through October. The link to sign up is in the weekly email.

UPCOMING FAMILY PROMISE WEEK: We will host Family Promise families, August 22-28. Family Promise's main focus is to help families get back into permanent, sustainable housing and employment as quickly as possible. While in this program, guests receive food, shelter, and comprehensive support services. Look for more details on how you can be a part of this ministry this summer.

LOGOS BOOKSTORE MINISTRY SEEKS HELPERS: The bookstore has continued to grow to the point that this ministry needs additional volunteers. If you would like to offer your time in serving this rewarding ministry, please email logosbookstore@stjohngoc.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.

Parish Council:
Michael A. and Kathleen K.

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

June 13, 2021

Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

The heretic Arius was from Libya and was a presbyter of the Church of Alexandria. In 315, he began to blaspheme against Jesus Christ, the Son and Word of God, saying that there was a time before the creation of the universe when the Son did not exist and only God the Father existed. Thus he heretically taught that the Son of God was not God, nor consubstantial (of the same nature) with the Father, but rather made Him to be a creation of God. This blasphemy shook the faithful of Alexandria. Alexander, the Archbishop of Alexandria, after trying in vain to correct Arius through admonitions, cut him off from communion and finally in a local council deposed him in the year 321. Yet Arius did not stop at this, nor accepted his correction. He and his followers wrote to the bishops of other cities, requesting that his doctrine be examined, thus sowing the tares of his heretical teachings. By this means, his heresy became universally known and won many supporters, so that the whole Church was soon in an uproar. Therefore, Saint Constantine the Great, Emperor of the Roman Empire, summoned the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea, a city of Bithynia. There the shepherds and teachers of the Church of Christ gathered from all regions in the year 325. St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra in Lycia, chastised Arius for his blasphemy; and St. Spyridon, Bishop of Trymithous, explained the nature of the Trinity through the miraculous example of a brick, which spontaneously turned into its three elements: earth, fire, and water; St. Athanasius the Great, a deacon of the Church of Alexandria, forcefully refuted the Arian heresy. All of the assembled bishops, with one mouth and one voice, declared that the Son and Word of God is one in essence with the Father, true God of true God, and they composed the holy Symbol of Faith, known as the Nicene Creed (up to "And in the Holy Spirit" and following, which was added by the Second Ecumenical Council). This creed states that the Son is "of one essence" (*omo-oúsios*) with the Father. They anathematized the impious Arius and those of like mind with him. Therefore, recognizing the these Holy Fathers as heralds of the Faith after the divine Apostles, the Church has appointed this Sunday for their annual commemoration, in thanksgiving and unto their praise and honor, to the glory of God, and unto the strengthening of the true Faith.

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 speak with one of our clergy.

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMNS

Special Second Antiphon
Save us, O Son of God, who ascended in glory. We sing to You: Alleluia.

Hymn of the Ascension (4th Mode)
You ascended in glory, O Christ our Lord and God. And Your disciples were filled with joy by the promise of the Holy Spirit unto them. And through this blessing, You did proclaim and thus assure them that You are truly the Son of God and the Redeemer of the world.

Anelífthis en dthóxi, Christé o Theós imón, charopiísas tus Mathitás, ti epangelía tu ayíu Pnévmatos, veveothéndon aftón dthiá tis evloyías, óti si i o Yiós tu Theú, o litrotís tu kósmu.

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 the Hymn of the Ascension.

Hymn of the Holy Fathers (Plagal 4th Mode)
Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established our Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to 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 Ascension (Plagal 2nd Mode)
When Thou hadst fulfilled Thy dispensation for our sakes, uniting things on earth with the Heavens, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, departing not hence, but remaining inseparable from us and crying unto them that love Thee: I am with you, and no one can be against you.

EPISTLE READING

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36(Sunday of the Fathers)
In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

GOSPEL READING

John 17: 1-13 (Sunday of the Fathers)
At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify You, since You have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified You on earth, having accomplished the work which You gave me to do; and now, Father, You glorify Me in Your own presence with the glory which I had with You before the world was made. "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; Yours they were, and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they know that everything that You have given Me is from You; for I have given them the words which You gave Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from You; and they have believed that You did send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Mine; all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, which You have given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Your name, which You have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to You; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."

After communion, in place of "We Have Seen the Light," the Hymn of the Ascension is sung.

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, June 13
Sunday of Fathers of 1st Ecumenical Council
Orthros 8:45 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Sunday Fellowship 11:45 am

Tuesday, June 15
Crossroads Ministry Potluck 11:30 am
Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

Wednesday, June 16
ASA Fine Arts Night and Graduation 6:30 pm

Friday, June 18
Philoptochos Board Meeting 10:30 am

Saturday, June 19
Saturday of the Souls
Orthros 8:30 am
Divine Liturgy & Trisagion 9:30 am
Great Vespers 5:00 pm

Sunday, June 20
Holy Pentecost
Orthros 8:45 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Sunday Fellowship 11:45 am
Kneeling Vespers of the Holy Spirit 12:30 pm