PRAYING FOR THE DEPARTED: It is a blessed and sacred opportunity to pray for those who have fallen asleep in the Lord. This coming week, please participate in the services —and the all-night vigils—for two of our beloved parishioners: Dee Pennock and Jim Sorenson.

NO PARAKLESIS TO ST. NIKIFOROS THIS WEEK. Due to a Trisagion service. The last Paraklesis will be next week, Wednesday, October 27 at 6:00 pm.

UPCOMING YOUTH MEETINGS: GOYA (9th-12th) meets at the Corn Maze today at 2:00 pm. On Saturday, October 23, HOPE (K-2nd) meets at the church at 1:00 pm and Jr. GOYA meets at the Corn Maze at 2:00 pm. For questions, email youthdirector@stjohngoc.org.

FR. MATTHEW OUT OF TOWN: From after the funeral on Thursday through all day Friday, October 21-22. For pastoral emergencies, please contact Holy Trinity Cathedral.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK DINNER: Join your sisters in Christ on Saturday, October 30 after Great Vespers at 6:00 pm.

DUCKS VS. BEAVERS FOOD DRIVE: Are you ready for some football?! It's time for our annual food drive for Oregon Food Bank. Help your team score by donating non-perishable food items now through November 23. Food barrels are in the south fellowship hall. (FYI, an early donor has given the Beavers a big lead!)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT … of the Grab 'n Give bags ministry. We now have volunteers thru December. A new sign up sheet will be posted in the New Year. Don't forget to grab a bag for your car, to give to those in need.

THE BREAD MINISTRY WILL END WITHOUT YOUR HELP: In order to continue the bread ministry, we need hands to do the work on Mondays, 3:15 to 4:00 pm. Volunteers wrap and store beautiful breads and pastries. Please see the link in the weekly email to sign up.

FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE:

Family Promise is looking for people to provide Thanksgiving meal baskets for their guests. Many of their families do not have ovens, so pre-made items are requested. Contact Shaely at Family Promise at shaelyk@fpwc.org for details.

Family Promise has started a new in-person service opportunity! Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. You have the opportunity to feed, play a game, do a craft or just have conversation with families feeling isolated while living in hotel rooms. If interested in learning more, reach out to Carmen.

Mark your calendars! St. John's Family Promise Host Week is set for December 19-26. Details to come.

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:
Kathleen K and Shawn S.

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

October 17, 2021

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of 7th Council • Prophet Hosea • Hieromartyr Andrew of Crete

On this Sunday we commemorate the 350 holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council, which gathered in Nicea in 787 under the holy Patriarch Tarasios, during the reign of the Empress Irene, to refute the Iconoclast heresy, which had received imperial support beginning with the Edict issued in 726 by Emperor Leo the Isaurian. Many of the holy Fathers who condemned Iconoclasm at this holy Council later died as Confessors and Martyrs for the holy Icons during the 2nd assault of Iconoclasm in the 9th century, especially during the reigns of Leo the Armenian and Theophilos. The iconoclasts were finally overcome on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, celebrated in Great Lent.

Prophet Hosea was the son of Beeri of the tribe of Issachar. Hosea lived and prophesied more than eight hundred years before the birth of Christ. His divinely inspired words are found in his book, which contains fourteen chapters. He strongly rebuked Israel and Judah for their idolatry and also foretold God's punishment for their sins, the destruction of Samaria and Israel for their apostasy, and God's mercy on the tribe of Judah. He foretold the abolition and the end of the sacrifices of the Old Testament. He foretold the coming of the Lord, and the richness of gifts that He would bring with Him to earth. He lived to a very old age and entered peacefully into rest.

Hieromartyr Andrew of Crete lived during the reign of the emperor Constantine Kopronymos (741-775) who ordered Christians to remove holy icons from their churches and homes. Those, who fearlessly resisted the iconoclast, and held firmly to the traditions of the holy Fathers, were locked in prison. When the venerable Andrew heard that the emperor was throwing virtuous and pious Christians into prison, he went to the Church of the Great Martyr Mamas in Constantinople and denounced the heretic for persecuting the true Faith. The emperor said that it was folly to bestow veneration on wood and paint. To this the monk replied that whoever suffers for holy icons suffers for Christ, but whoever reviles the icon upon which Christ is depicted, offers insult to Christ Himself. The enraged iconoclast gave orders to torture St. Andrew. They dragged him through the streets and cut off his feet. He was freed from his torments by death. A century later a canon was written to him by St. Joseph the Hymnographer .

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

Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal Fourth Mode)
From on high did You descend, O Merciful Lord. For us did You endure three days in the tomb that we may be released from passions in this world. You who are our resurrection and our life, glory unto You, O Lord.

Ex ípsus katílthes, o éfsplanghnos, tafín katedthéxo tri-ímeron, ína imás eleftherósis ton pathón. I zoí ke i Anástasis imón, Kýrie, dthóxa si.

Hymn of the Fathers (Plagal Fourth Mode)
Most glorified are You, O Christ our God, Who have established our Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them guided us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to You.

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 of the Theotokos (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

Titus 3:8-15 (Sunday of the Holy Fathers)
Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 8: 5-15 (Sunday of the Holy Fathers)
The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when His disciples asked Him what this parable meant, He said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As He said these things, He cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, October 17
- **Orthros** 8:45 am
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- Fellowship 11:45 am
- GOYA (9th-12th) at the Corn Maze 2:00 pm

Monday, October 18
- **Viewing for Dee Pennock** 5:00 pm
- **Trisagion & Reception** 6:00 pm

Tuesday, October 19
- **Funeral for Dee Pennock** 10:00 am
- **Makaria (Mercy Meal)** 11:00 am
- **Evening Orthros** 5:30 pm
- **Evening Divine Liturgy & Artoklasia** 6:30 pm
- Potluck Dinner 8:15 pm

Wednesday, October 20
St. Gerasimos of Kefalonia (celebrated Tuesday)
- **NO Paraklesis Tonight**
- Bible Study 10:00 am
- **Viewing for Jim Sorenson** 5:00 pm
- **Trisagion & Reception** 6:00 pm
- *The Fullness of the Faith* Catechism 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 21
- **Funeral for Jim Sorenson** 10 :00 am
- **Interment at Buxton Cemetery** 12:00 pm

Saturday, October 23
St. James the Brother of the Lord
- **Orthros** 8:30 am
- **Divine Liturgy** 9:30 am
- **Baptism of Elias Jungwirth** 11:45 am
- HOPE (K-2nd) Meeting at Church 1:00 pm
- Jr. GOYA (6th-8th) at the Corn Maze 2:00 pm
- **Great Vespers** 5:00 pm

Sunday, October 24
- **Orthros** 8:45 am
- **Churching - Jennifer (Genevieve) Harmon & Graham (Rafael)** 9:45 am
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- Fellowship 11:45 am