TODAY'S FELLOWSHIP IS HOSTED BY:

The Kinonia Ministry: How can you help?

- Join the Kinonia Ministry: Contact Beth Smith.
- Host Sunday fellowship (alone or with another family): Sign upon the clipboard by the kitchen.

GOYA SUMMER BBQ: All 9th and 12th graders are invited to our annual summer BBQ. Come to Deacon Innocent and Sandy's home for fellowship and fun! Next Sunday, July 31 at 5:00 pm. Contact Deacon for questions.

FR. MATTHEW AT SUMMER CAMP: Fr. Matthew will be in California for the metropolis summer camp, July 23-August 1. Please contact Fr. John M if you have any urgent pastoral needs.

25 YEARS OF BLESSINGS! CELEBRATING OUR BEGINNING, PRESENT, & FUTURE: ***Save the date for our parish's 25th anniversary celebration***—a wonderful time to remember how we started, to see who we are today, and to envision where we will go. We would like everyone to attend the weekend's events: a parish BBQ and a banquet at Langdon Farms, ***Saturday -Sunday, October 8-9***. Watch for more details and ask how you can help.

DORMITION FAST BEGINS AUGUST 1: We will prepare for the great feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos by observing a strict fast (with wine and oil on the weekend and fish on the feast of the Transfiguration). May God grant us a more joyful celebration of the Panagia through this fast!

SERVICE SCHEDULE DURING THE DORMITION FAST: Please make an effort to attend services during the fast with Paraklesis at 6:30 pm Tuesday, August 2 through Thursday August 4 and Sunday, August 7 through Friday, August 12.*(Great Vespers for the Transfiguration of the Lord is on Friday, August 5)*

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION: On Saturday, August 6 we will celebrate the Transfiguration of our Lord on Mt. Tabor with Orthros at 8:30 am and Liturgy at 9:30 am. Please bring grapes to be blessed after Liturgy!

FAMILY PROMISE WEEK, AUGUST 14-20: Be a blessing for a family! During our host week, our parish will provide meals for families living in the Beaverton Day Home. To sign up, use the link in the weekly email or scan this QR code.

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

Parish Council:
Greg and Jack

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

July 24, 2022

Martyr Christina of Tyre

The Martyr Christina lived in the 3rd century. She was born into a rich family, and her father was governor of Tyre. By age 11 she was exceptionally beautiful, and many sought her hand. Her father, however, envisioned her a pagan priestess. He placed her in a special dwelling with 2 servants and many golden idols, and he commanded her to burn incense before them. Christina began to wonder who had created this beautiful world. She was delighted by the stars and she constantly came back to the thought about the Creator. She was convinced, that the inanimate idols in her room could not create anything, since they were created by humans. She began to pray to the One God with tears, asking Him to reveal Himself. Her soul blazed with love for the unknown God, and she intensified her prayer with fasting. Christina was visited by an angel, who instructed her in the true faith in Christ. The angel called her a bride of Christ and foretold her suffering. The holy virgin smashed all the idols standing in her room. Christina's father, Urban, asked her where all the idols had disappeared. The saint was silent. He learned the truth from her servants. In a rage he slapped her. She told her father about the One True God, and what she had done. Urban gave orders to kill the servants, and he beat her and threw her in prison. Having learned about what had happened, the saints mother came in tears, imploring her to renounce Christ. But Christina remained unyielding. On another day, Urban brought his daughter to trial and urged her to offer worship to the gods, and to ask forgiveness for her misdeeds. She remained firm and steadfast. She was tied to an iron wheel, over a fire. The martyr was scorched on all sides. An angel of God appeared at night, and healed her wounds. Her father gave orders to drown her in the sea. Christina miraculously came out of the water and reappeared before her father. Her father thought it sorcery and decided to execute her in the morning, but he suddenly died. Another governor, Dion, replaced him. He summoned the saint and failed to persuade her to renounce Christ. He subjected her to more tortures. The holy martyr was for a long while in prison. People flocked to her, and she converted about 300 to the true faith. A new governor arrived and put her in a furnace. She was unharmed. Many came to believe, and the torturers finally executed the saint with a sword.

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 First 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.

Ton sinánarhon Lógon Patrí ke Pnévmati, ton ek Parthénu tehthénda is sotirían imón. Animnísomen pistí ke proskinísomen, óti ivdthókise sarkí, anelthín en to Stavró, ke thánaton ipomíne, ke eyíre tus tethneótas en ti endthóxo Anastási aftú.

Hymn of Great Martyr Christina (Fourth Mode/ *Joseph was amazed*):

O Lord Jesus, unto You Your lamb cries with a great voice: O my Bridegroom, You I love; and seeking You, I now contest, and with Your baptism am crucified and buried. I suffer for Your sake, that I may reign with You; for Your sake I die, that I may live in You. Accept me offered out of longing to You as a spotless sacrifice. Lord, save our souls through her intercessions, since You are great in mercy.

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

Romans 12:6-14 (Sixth Sunday of Matthew)

Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 9: 1-8 (Sixth Sunday of Matthew)

At that time, getting into a boat Jesus crossed over and came to His own city. And behold, they brought to Him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say 'Rise and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" He then said to the paralytic -- "Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, July 24

Fr. Matthew at the Metropolis Summer camp through August 1

Orthros 8:45 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Fellowship 11:45 am

Wednesday, July 27

St. Panteleimon

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Choir Practice 7:00 pm

Thursday, July 28

Akathist to the Mother of God Nurturer of Children 9:00 am

Saturday, July 30

Kids 'n' Cancer Camp Agape through August 4

Great Vespers 6:30 pm

Sunday, July 31

Orthros 8:45 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Fellowship 11:45 am

GOYA (9th-12th) Summer BBQ at Deacon's home 5:00 pm

Monday, August 1

The Dormition fast begins through August 14.