HELP MAKE SUNDAY HAPPEN! This fall there are many exciting things coming to our parish: Theology 101, Sunday school, and more. If we all give a hand, then these blessings will double: a blessing of receiving and of giving!

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION: It's that time of year! Please fill out the form (through the QR code) for all your children who will be participating this year, who are in school or are turning 4 in 2022. Sunday school begins September 18 and occurs weekly after Liturgy until the end of May. Questions? Contact Sunday school director Anya S. at sundayschooldirectorsjb@gmail.com.

OFFERING PHANOUROPITES: Has St. Phanourios been quick to intercede for you in this past year? Bake a Phanouropita ("St. Phanourios Cake") in his honor and offer it at Divine Liturgy next Sunday. Then serve it to your fellow parishioners during fellowship. His feast day is August 27.

PARISH GAME NIGHT: On August 27 after Vespers, adults and teens are welcome to a parish game night. Bring snacks to share (and games!).

MEN'S BREAKFAST: On Saturday, August 27 at 8:30 am, have a hearty breakfast and spiritual discussion. Please bring $5 per person to help offset the cost. No RSVP needed.

MARRIAGE RETREAT - Married couples and those headed toward marriage, are you interested in learning how to get to your 25th Silver Anniversary and beyond? Then please join us on September 16-17 for a parish Marriage Retreat with our former assistant priest, Fr. Timothy Pavlatos, a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. RSVP with the QR code:

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: We have need of many hands to make the Marriage Retreat a success. See the link to signup in the weekly email. We need bakers, servers, A/V assistance and more.

25 YEARS OF BLESSINGS! CELEBRATING OUR BEGINNING, PRESENT, & FUTURE: A wonderful time to remember how we started, to see who we are today, and to envision where we will go. Sunday, Oct 9th dinner event at Langdon Farms Golf Course. Register today at the table in the hall or on line at the SJB website: stjohngoc.org. Tickets $75. each. Watch for more details about the Oct 8th family friendly BBQ.

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:
Kurt and Sophia

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

August 21, 2022

The Holy Apostle Thaddeus of the 70 • Bassa the Martyr of Edessa & her sons

St. Thaddeus, Apostle of the 70, was by descent a Hebrew, and he was born in the Syrian city of Edessa. The holy Apostle Thaddeus of the 70 must be distinguished from St. Jude, also called Thaddeus or Levi (June 19), who was one of the 12 Apostles. When he came to Jerusalem for a feast day, he heard the preaching of John the Forerunner. After being baptized by him in the Jordan, he remained in Palestine. He saw the Savior, and became His follower. He was chosen by the Lord to be one of the 70 Disciples, whom He sent by twos to preach in the cities and places where He intended to visit (Luke 10: 1). After the Ascension of the Savior to Heaven, the saint preached the good news in Syria and Mesopotamia. He came preaching the Gospel to Edessa and he converted King Abgar, the people and the pagan priests to Christ. He backed up his preaching with many miracles (about which Abgar wrote to the Assyrian emperor Nerses). He established priests there and built up the Edessa Church. Prince Abgar wanted to reward St. Thaddeus with rich gifts, but he refused and went preaching to other cities, converting many pagans to the Christian Faith. He went to the city of Beirut to preach, and he founded a church there. It was in this city that he peacefully died in the year 44. (The place of his death is indicated as Beirut in the Slavonic menaion, but according to other sources he died in Edessa. According to an ancient Armenian tradition, St. Thaddeus, after various tortures, was beheaded by the sword on December 21 in the Artaz region in the year 50).

The Martyrs were from Edessa of Macedonia. Bassa was the wife of a certain Valerian, a priest of the idols, to whom she bore three sons: Theogonios, Agapios & Pistos and raised them in piety. She was betrayed with her sons to the proconsul by her own husband; each of her sons was tormented before her and beheaded. For refusing to worship the idols, she was imprisoned, cast into water and then fire, was stoned, and remaining unharmed, was brought to the temple to worship the idols. Laying hold upon the idol of Zeus, she overturned it and broke it to pieces. After being preserved through further torments, she was beheaded, about the year 290, in the reign of Maximian.

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

Hymn of the Dormition of the Theotokos (First Mode)

In giving birth, you preserved your virginity; in your dormition, you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. You were translated unto life, since you are the Mother of Life; and by your intercessions you redeem our souls from death.

En ti yennísi tin parthenían efílaxas; en ti Kimísi ton kósmon ou katélipes Theotóke. Metéstis pros tin zoïn, mítir ipárhusa tis zoïs, ke tes presvíes tes ses litruméni, ek thanátu tas psihás imón.

Resurrectional Hymn (First Mode)

The stone had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews, and the soldiers guarding did watch o'er Your pure and sacred body. O Savior, the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Your kingdom. Glory to Your dispensation, O You alone Who loves all.

Repeat the Hymn of the Dormition of the Theotokos.

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 Dormition of the Theotokos (Second Mode)

The grave and death could not hold the Theotokos, who is unsleeping in her intercessions and an unfailing hope in her mediations. For as the Mother of Life, she was translated to life by Him Who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.

EPISTLE READING

I Corinthians 4: 9-16 (10th Sunday of Matthew)

Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 17 :14-23 (Tenth Sunday of Matthew)

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day."

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, August 21

Orthros	8:45 am
Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
Fellowship	11:45 am

Tuesday, August 23

Fr. Matthew on vacation through August 26

Wednesday, August 24

Coffee Hour	10:00 am
Choir Practice	7:00 pm

Thursday, August 25

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

Saturday, August 27

Men's Ministry Breakfast	8:30 am
Youth Worker Orientation	12:00 pm
Memorial for Aly Hope Weiser Lilly (7 years)	6:30 pm
Great Vespers	6:30 pm
Game Night (Adults & Teens)	7:30 pm

Sunday, August 28

Orthros	8:45 am
Divine Liturgy & Blessing of the Phanouropites ("St. Phanourios Cakes")	10:00 am
Fellowship	11:45 am
Men's Ministry Meeting	12:00 pm
St. George Middle Eastern Festival	12:00 pm

Monday, August 29

The Beheading of St. John the Baptist
Strict Fast Day

Orthros	8:30 am
Divine Liturgy	9:30 am