SUPPORT PROJECT KENYA AT FELLOWSHIP TODAY! Support our Kenyan brothers & sisters in Christ by providing them with the means to purchase icons for the iconostasis and in their homes. Please give generously of the gifts that God has given to us in order to do His good works. A collection basket will be put out. Enjoy the special meal!

SPECIAL PRESENTATION TODAY after fellowship on Project Kenya. Missionary Eleni G. will speak about the Icon Project and how you can help.

FR. MATTHEW ON A 3-WEEK LEAVE … in anticipation of the arrival of their son, through mid-October. ***He will continue to be available for pastoral needs and emergencies, and liturgical services.***

BARBARA ON VACATION… through October 10. For urgent administrative/facility needs contact Sophia G: (630) 400-9165, sgaleev1968@gmail.com.

MONASTERY MEN'S WORK PARTY: On Friday-Saturday, October 13-14, come help the sisters of St. John the Forerunner Monastery in Goldendale, WA, with a wide variety of tasks to maintain the monastery grounds. Spend the night on Friday or drive up on Saturday morning. RSVP to Brandon at cravetruth@yahoo.com by Tuesday, October 10 to provide a headcount for the sisters and to help consider carpooling.

FULLNESS OF THE FAITH CLASS & BIBLE STUDY WILL TAKE A BREAK: Classes will resume on October 18.

GROWING TOGETHER AS A FAMILY IN CHRIST—WITH PARISH FAMILY NIGHT: A new and exciting event is happening on Saturday, October 28 at 6:00 pm: our first Parish Family Night! We will have a meal, activities and learning for kids (PreK-8th), a parenting discussion with Fr. Matthew, and fellowship for all!

JR GOYA & GOYA CORN MAZE: Find your way through the "Corn Maize" at Sauvie Island, hang out at a campfire, and enjoy a meal with your friends on Saturday, October 14 7:00-9:00 pm. All middle and high school students are welcome! Please let Ioan know if you can go: ioan@stjohngoc.org (971) 448-3530.

GOYA MEETING: All high schoolers are invited to the Nieuwsma's home after Vespers on October 21 6:00pm-8:00pm to share a meal and engage in fun, thoughtful activities and discussion. We will continue learning the ***art of facing conflicts through communication, self-awareness, and prayer.***

A.S.A. SEEKS NEW SCHOOL SECRETARY: Agia Sophia Academy is hiring an Administrative Assistant/School Secretary. Please visit the school website for more info: asapdx.org/employment.

A TIME FOR ALL TO SERVE—THE PARISH WORK DAY: Lend a hand and join your brothers and sisters in Christ in caring for your church home on Saturday, Ocotber 21, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Mark your calendar and be sure to come! Food will be provided.

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: -- (open) and Moffitt (close) Greeter: Sandy
Clean up Team 4: Davis, Gonzalez, Hagan, Hailey

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 8, 2023

St. Pelagia the Righteous • St. Philip Bishop of Gortyna

Saint Pelagia the Penitent was converted to Christianity by Saint Nonnus, Bishop of Edessa (Saturday of Cheesefare Week). Before her acceptance of Christianity through Baptism, Pelagia was head of a dance troupe in Palestinian Antioch, living a life of frivolity and prostitution. One day Pelagia, elegantly dressed, was making her way past a church where Saint Nonnus was preaching a sermon. Believers turned their faces away from the sinner, but the bishop glanced after her. Struck by the outer beauty of Pelagia and having foreseen the spiritual greatness within her, the saint prayed in his cell for a long time to the Lord for the sinner. He told his fellow bishops that the prostitute put them all to shame. He explained that she took great care to adorn her body in order to appear beautiful in the eyes of men. "We... take no thought for the adornment of our wretched souls," he said. On the following day, when Saint Nonnus was teaching in the church about the dread Last Judgment and its consequences, Pelagia came. The teaching made a tremendous impression upon her. With the fear of God and weeping tears of repentance, she asked the saint for Baptism. Seeing her sincere and full repentance, Bishop Nonnus baptized her. By night the devil appeared to Pelagia, urging her to return to her former life. The saint prayed, signed herself with the Sign of the Cross, and the devil vanished. Three days after her baptism, Saint Pelagia gathered up her valuables and took them to Bishop Nonnus. The bishop ordered that they be distributed among the poor saying, "Let this be wisely dispersed, so that these riches gained by sin may become a wealth of righteousness." After this Saint Pelagia journeyed to Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives. She lived there in a cell, disguised as the monk Pelagius, living in ascetic seclusion, and attaining great spiritual gifts. When she died, she was buried in her cell.

Saint Philip of Gortyna who reposed in 180 AD was Bishop of Gortyna on Crete. Little is known about him except for his authorship of a now lost treatise against the Gnostics. An Early Christian Apologist, he wrote in the time of Marcus Aurelius against Marcion. He was mentioned with great praise by Dionysios of Corinth in one of his letters to the Christian Community in Gortyna., he praised the Bishop, Philip, for his aversion to heresy.

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 canonically 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.

HYMNS OF THE SMALL ENTRANCE

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.

Tu líthu sfrayisthéndos ipó ton Iudthéon, ke stratiotón filassóndon to áhrandon su Sóma, anéstis tri-ímeros Sotír, dthorúmenos to kósmo tin zoín; dthiá túto e Dthinámis ton uranón evó-on si zoödthóta. Dthóxa ti Anastási su Christé, dthóxa ti vasilía su, dthóxa ti ikonomía su, móne filánthrope.

Hymn of St. Pelagia (Plagal Fourth Mode)
In you the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; for taking up your cross, you followed Christ, and by your deeds you taught us to overlook the flesh, for it passes away, but to attend to the soul, since it is immortal. Therefore, O righteous Pelagia, your spirit rejoices with the Angels.

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 you, O Forerunner; for you have proved to be truly more venerable than the Prophets, since you were granted to baptize in the stream Him Whom they proclaimed. Therefore, having contested for the truth, you rejoiced to announce the good tidings even to those in Hades: that God has 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

II Corin 9:6-11 (18th Sunday after Pentecost)
Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 7:11-16 (Third Sunday of Luke)
At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, October 8
- **Orthros** 8:45 am
- **Churching of Kristina Bourquin & Esther Jane** 9:45 am
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- Special Fellowship Fundraiser for Project Icon
- Sunday School 12:00 pm
- Presentation of the Kenyan Icon Project by Eleni G. 12:00 pm
- Greek Festival at Holy Trinity

Monday, October 9
- Fr. Matthew on leave through October 14
- Barbara on vacation through October 10
- ASA Gala Planning Meeting 6:30 pm

Wednesday, October 11
- NO Bible Study
- NO Fullness of the Faith Class
- Wednesday Coffee Hour 10:00 am
- **Paraklesis to St. John the Baptist** 6:00 pm
- Choir Practice 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 12
- **Akathist to the Mother of God Nurturer of Children** 9:00 am
- Passport to ASA 6:00 pm

Friday, October 13
- Men's Monastery Work Party

Saturday, October 14
- **Great Vespers** 5:00 pm
- Jr. GOYA (6th-8th) Trip to the Corn Maize 7:00 pm

Sunday, October 15
- **Orthros** 8:45 am
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- Fellowship, Sunday School, & Theology 101 Adult Study (following services)