LITURGIES AT THE NEW PROPERTY ... will continue through mid-October: 5:30 am on weekdays and 7:00 am on Saturdays. Please note: the following feast days will NOT be at the new property but rather at 14485 SW Walker Road:
Monday, September 23, 7:15/8:15 am (for St. John)
Friday, October 18, 7:15/8:15 am (for St. Luke)

HOST FELLOWSHIP! Offer your *philoxenia* "love for strangers" through a snack or meal. (Up to $150 can be re-imbursed.) Sign up on the sheet by the kitchen door or through this QR code:

FAMILY MEETUP AFTER LITURGY ... on Monday, September 23. Babysitting will be provided for the younger kids in the YFR. Bring a dish to share. RSVP is not required. Contact Bailey A. or Anya S. with any questions.

BRING YOUR OWN GAME BOARD ... to the Chess and Board Game Night at St. John's on Friday, September 27, 6:00-8:00 pm! Learn, play, or compete! No experience necessary.

DONATE ICONS FOR BUILDING FUND! At Logos Bookstore, more than $400 has been raised so far! Any parishioner can contribute by bringing used Icons and Orthodox items (including books!) to the Bookstore, clearly marked "Building Fund." God bless our efforts!

MEN'S MONASTERY WORK PARTY ... Friday-Saturday, October 11-12. Email Brandon at cravetruth@yahoo.com to RSVP or for more info,

ALL OF OUR PRAYERS AT THE NEW PROPERTY: Together we can offer ***daily*** prayer to our beloved patron saint, asking for his intercession and thanking him for the blessing of our church home.

- Use this QR code to sign up for a day on which you'll read the Akathist to St. John (~20 minutes).
- Read it at any time of day, 6 am to 10 pm—at the Icon Stand on the left of the driveway, or in the Barn Chapel, if the weather is bad.
- Bring friends or family and read together!

FEELING LOST? COME TO THE CORN MAZE! Our annual teen outing is right around the corner! All middle and high school students are invited to the Pumpkin Patch on Sauvie Island, Saturday, September 28, 7:00-9:00 pm. Come hungry—we will have chili and hot dogs at the Corn Maze! Bring $10 for the tickets.

ALL WOMEN'S POTLUCK: September 28 at 6:00pm, after Vespers. Come for fellowship and learn about Women's Ministry at St. John's.

PARISH FELLOWSHIP NIGHT IS FOR EVERYONE! Come celebrate as a parish family on Saturday, October 5, 6:00-8:00 pm—with dinner following Vespers; a movie night for teens; art, games, and learning for the younger kids (PreK-5th); a spiritual discussion with Fr. Matthew for adults (not just parents!); and time for fellowship.

GREEK FESTIVAL! October 4-6 at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Portland

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: Jordan (open) and Chosvig (close) Greeter: Athena and Julie
Cleanup Team 2: Bourquin, Braden, Brunson, Wilson, Dahl, and Chosvig

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

September 22, 2024

Hieromartyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinope • Martyr Phocas the Gardener

Hieromartyr Phocas practiced all of the Christian virtues from his youth. He served as bishop in his hometown of Sinope on the shores of the Black Sea. There he strengthened the faith of the believers by his example and divine words and converted many idol-worshipers to the true Faith. This also angered pagans against the holy bishop. Through a vision granted to St. Phocas by the Lord, he foresaw his martyrdom in this way: Phocas saw a white dove fly down from heaven carrying a beautiful wreath of flowers in its beak, lowering the wreath onto his head. Then Phocas heard a voice, saying, "Your cup is full and you should drink it!" From this he realized that he was soon to suffer for Christ. Phocas was not afraid, but with gratitude toward God prepared himself for suffering. Soon after, a certain prince, Africanus, took Phocas for interrogation, and subjected him to harsh tortures, eventually throwing him into boiling water, where this brave soldier of Christ ended his earthly life and settled in the joy of his Lord. Phocas suffered during the reign of Emperor Trajan in the early 2nd century.

Martyr Phocas the Gardener, a contemporary of Hieromartyr Phocas, had a garden in Sinope. He lived modestly, selling what he grew to support himself. He helped the needy and paid for the housing of vagrants. His piety had a great influence on other people. Even pagans deferred to him with deep respect, while some abandoned their error and accepted the Christian Faith. The governor of the district sent soldiers to kill St. Phocas for being a Christian. He happened upon the soldiers and, without revealing his name, he courteously received them, fed them and prepared a place for them to spend the night. At night he went into the garden, then prepared a grave and a place for his burial. He even made arrangements for his possessions to be distributed to the poor after his death. In the morning St. Phocas declared to the strangers that it was he for whom they were searching, and told them to fulfill the duty entrusted to them. The visitors were distressed, not wanting to kill the kindly saint. They felt honor bound to spare Saint Phocas, but he would not hear of it, and humbly bent his head beneath the sword. They buried the holy Martyr Phocas in the grave that he himself had prepared in the garden. The place of his burial was glorified by miracles, and later a church was built there.

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 (Fourth Mode)
When the tidings of the resurrection from the glorious angel were proclaimed unto the women disciples and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore and Christ our God has risen from the dead and granted to the world His great mercy.

To fedthrón tis anastáseos kírigma, ek tu anggélu mathúse e tu Kyríu mathítrie, ke tin progonikín apófasin aporrípsase, tis Apostólis kafhómene élegon: Eskílefte o thánatos, iyérthi Christós o Theós, dthorúmenos to kósmo to méga éleos.

Hymn of Hieromartyr Phocas (Fourth Mode)
As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, you found discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Therefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, you also contested for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Phocas. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

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

I Corinthians 16:13-24(First Sunday of Luke)
Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatos and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 5:1-11 (First Sunday of Luke)
At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, September 22
- **Orthros** 8:45 am
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- Fellowship follows Liturgy
- 1st Day of Sunday School & Theology 101 Adult Education

Monday, September 23
Conception of St. John the Baptist
- **Orthros** (at 14485 SW Walker Rd) 7:15 am
- **Divine Liturgy** (at 14485 SW Walker) 8:15 am
- Family Meetup 9:30 am

Tuesday, September 24
- **Liturgy (with Pre-Communion Prayers)** 5:30 am at Barn Chapel, 10050 NE Walker Rd
- ASA Greek Open Tournament 1:00 pm
- Building Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

Wednesday, September 25
- **Liturgy (with Pre-Communion Prayers)** 5:30 am
- Bible Study 10:00 am
- Wednesday Coffee Hour 11:00 am
- **Paraklesis to St. Nikiforos the Leper** 6:00 pm at the church, 14485 SW Walker Rd
- Fullness of the Faith Catechism Class 7:00 pm

Thursday, September 26
- **Liturgy (with Pre-Communion Prayers)** 5:30 am
- **Akathist to the Mother of God Nurturer of Children** 9:00 am

Friday, September 27
- Chess and Board Game Night 6:00 pm

Saturday, September 28
- **Liturgy (with Pre-Communion Prayers)** 7:00 am
- Great Vespers 5:00 pm
- All Women's Potluck 6:00 pm
- Corn Maze Teen Outing 7:00 pm

Sunday, September 29
- **Orthros** 8:45 am
- **Divine Liturgy** 10:00 am
- Fellowship, Sunday School & Theology 101 Adult Education follow Liturgy