

JOIN THE ST. PAISIOS PARKING MINISTRY! St. Paisios offered himself to others despite physical struggles he faced. Thus he is a fitting patron for our parking ministry, which provides parking spaces in the St. John parking lot by parking off-site. Thank you to the families/individuals who have joined! You will be commemorated at each Paraklesis service. Please let Fr. Matthew know if you would like to join as well.

LOOKING FOR ORATORS! St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival will take place after Divine Liturgy and fellowship on Sunday, March 1. This event is open to 7th-12th graders. For more information on registration, topic selection, and prizes please reach out to Basil M at youthdirector@stjohngoc.org.

2026 GOYA CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRIP: GOYANs (9th-12th) are invited to our annual ski trip! We depart after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 15 and return the following evening. More details to come soon. For more info and to RSVP, email Basil at youthdirector@stjohn.org!

YOU CAN DONATE MONTHLY TO THE BUILDING FUND WITH AN A.C.H. TRANSFER: The church is now able to accept recurring automatic ACH payments to the building fund, just like it does for Stewardship. To enroll just fill out a form in the church office. Thank you for your continued support!

SENIOR MINISTRY LUNCHEON (55+) Join Senior Ministries this month on Thursday, February 19 at 1:00pm when we will be blessed to hear from Basil, Pastoral Asst. Light lunch will be served.

PHILOPTOCHOS DONATION DRIVE: Help fund philanthropy at the state, national and local level and within our St. John community. Look for the table during Fellowship.

SUMMER CAMP—START PLANNING! We are going to St. Nicholas Ranch this summer, July 19-25. All youth ages 8-18 are welcome. Register for Session 3. *Registration begins TODAY!* Act quickly, because registration will fill up! Financial assistance is also available— please talk to Fr. Matthew. Scan QR code.



FAMILY POTLUCK & MEETUP: On Monday, Februray 2, after Liturgy. there will be a Family Potluck and Meetup in the SFH. Bring a dish to share and a board game! We'll have a short lesson on the feast and then hang out. All ages welcome. Contact Anya Seidel to RSVP (not required).

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS—YOUNG MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Starting this week, and going until Holy Week, the Church will be open 7:00-10:00 pm on Friday nights for the young men in our parish to come and enjoy fellowship with one another. Feel free to bring food or non-alcoholic drinks to share. For more details contact Basil at youthdirector@stjohngoc.org.

MEN'S BREAKFAST- Saturday, February 7 at 8:30AM for breakfast with spiritual guided discussion at church. Please bring \$5 per person to help with the cost. No RSVP needed, just show up. All men welcome! Email cravetruth@yahoo.com any with dietary restrictions though dairy free and gluten free options will be available

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: Nordling (open) and Christian/Anderson (close) Greeter: Samuel and Anna (Annette)
Cleanup Team 11: Robertson D, Davies J&K, Zenith, Spikkeland, Christian



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

February 1, 2025

Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee •

The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" and were hypocrites (Matt 23:5, 13-15), because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, publicans—collectors of the royal taxes—committed many injustices and extortions for their financial benefit, and all the people held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness. Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before Great Lent as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. In this present week they have set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the

Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades. And, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights.

Martyr Tryphon was a poor and uneducated boy from Phrygia who tended animals. Because of his prayers, he had the gift of healing and driving out demons. The 3rd century Emperor Gordian of Rome had a possessed daughter that none could cure. When the demon confessed that only Tryphon could heal her, many named Truphone were called until the boy from Phrygia prayed for her. He gave away the emperor's gifts and returned home. Within a few years, the emperor died and was replaced by Decius, who revived the persecution of Christians. Tryphon was called to Rome. They attempted many tortures, which could not harm him, yet he prayed aloud to become worthy of martyrdom. Moments before he was to be beheaded, he prayed and gave up his spirit. Many were healed close to his relics, which were buried in his village.

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 Dthínámis ton uranón evó-on si zoödthóta. Dthóxa ti Anastási su Christé, dthóxa ti vasília su, dthóxa ti ikonomía su, móne filánthrope.

Hymn of the Forefeast (1st Mode/*The soldiers standing guard*):

The Heavens’ choir looked down from the vaults of the Heavens, and gazing on the earth, they beheld with amazement the Firstborn of all creation brought forth as a suckling babe to the Temple by a pure and virginal mother; and with us, they now do sing a hymn for the Forefeast, astonished and full of awe.

Hymn of the Holy Martyr Tryphon (Fourth Mode / *Be quick to anticipate*)

Your Martyr, O Lord, in his courageous contest for You received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from You, our immortal God. For since he possessed Your strength, he cast down the tyrants and

wholly destroyed the demons’ strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by his prayers, save our souls, since You are merciful.

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 Forefeast of the Meeting of the Lord (Fourth Mode / *On this day You have appeared*)

On this day now Symeon receives with gladness God, the Giver of the Law, and he cries out to Him in fear, "Let me depart now, O Master Christ, for I have seen You, the Glory of Israel."

EPISTLE READING

Romans 8:28-39 (For St. Tryphon)

Brethren, we know that everything works for good with those who love God, who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the first-born among many brethren. And those whom He predestined He also called; and those whom He called He also justified; and those whom He justified He also glorified. What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is

against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, will He not also give us all things with Him? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 18:10-14 (16th Sunday of Luke)

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to His house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK	
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1	
Triodion: Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee	
Orthros	8:45 am
Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
Fellowship and Sunday School follow	
Small blessing of the Waters	12:15 pm
Great Vespers for the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple	6:30 pm
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2	
The Meeting of our Lord in the Temple	
Orthros	7:15 am
Divine Liturgy	8:15 am
Family Meetup	10:00 am
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4	
Bible Study	10:00 am
Wednesday Coffee Hour	11:00 am
Paraklesis to the Theotokos	6:00 pm
<i>“Growing in the Faith”</i>	7:00 pm
Catechism Class	
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5	
Liturgy (with Pre-Communion Prayers	5:30 am
Akathist to the Mother of God	9:00 am
Nurturer of Children	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6	
St. Photios the Great	
Orthros	7:15 am
Divine Liturgy	8:15 am
Friday Night Lights: Young Men’s Fellowship	7:00 pm
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7	
Men’s Ministry Breakfast	8:30 am
Great Vespers	5:00 pm
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8	
Orthros	8:45 am
Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
Fellowship, Sunday School, & Adult Theology101 follows	