

HONOR PANAGIA BY HELPING AT HER PICNIC: A community of helpers is needed for a community event, and the Panagia Picnic is no different. Please lend a hand to make this gathering happen! There are varied jobs for different time commitments and strengths: buying food, prepping food, bringing lawn games, driving items between church properties, setting up, and more. Sign up with the QR code or talk to Mary O.



THE SEASON OF PANAGIA: Come to the five remaining Paraklesis services: tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

THE DORMITION FAST ... is a strict fast, now through August 14, in honor of the Dormition of the Theotokos. May we prepare worthily for the feast!

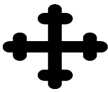
THE FINAL WEEK OF THE 40 LITURGIES: Pray for the future of St. John’s—for discernment, wisdom, patience, and fortitude—now through the Dormition of the Theotokos. All Liturgies will be *at the current church property*: 8:30 am Pre-Communion Prayers, 9:00 am Divine Liturgy.

WALKER ROAD CLOSURE: A section of Walker Road between 173rd and 185th is closed until the end of November. Please adjust your route as needed and allow yourself enough time to get to your destination.

THE COMMUNITY-WIDE PANAGIA PICNIC IS COMING UP! Join your fellow parishioners in honoring Panagia on Saturday, August 22, 2:00-5:30 pm at the Forerunner Property! We’d love for you to bring a potluck dish, a picnic blanket and/or chairs, and your appreciation for the Theotokos. But, most importantly, we want you to come and bless us with your presence! Wearing blue is strongly encouraged.

ANNUAL LABOR DAY HIKE FOR GOYA & Jr. GOYA: The Labor Day Hike is fast approaching! On Monday, September 7 (Labor Day), we will meet at church at 9:00 am and drive out to the Oregon Coast for a day of hiking, food, fellowship, and fun to kick off the new school year! We are planning to return to the church by 6:00 pm—in time for Great Vespers for the Nativity of the Theotokos. More details to come!

CASA CUNA @ PROJECT MEXICO ... is asking faithful Orthodox Christians to commit six months or up to one to two years to loving these orphaned babies. Whether that means soothing a fussy baby at 2am, helping with feedings, or simply sitting with a child so they know someone is there. Your time will make a difference you can actually see. Contact Pres. Marilyn, infants@projectmexico.org



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: Daniels (open) and Silva (close) Greeter: Dionysios (Dennis) and Natalia (Noelle)
Cleanup Team 12: Sorenson, Robertson, Winkelman, Stebner, Chamberlin, Silva



St. John the Baptist
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Historical Christian Church

Rev. Fr. Matthew Swehla • Rev. Fr. Basil McAfee
Rev. Dn. Innocent Duchow-Pressley

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August 9, 2026

Apostle Matthias of the Seventy

The Holy Apostle Matthias was born at Bethlehem of the Tribe of Judah. From his early childhood he studied the Law of God under the guidance of St. Simeon the God-Receiver (February 3). When the Lord Jesus Christ revealed Himself to the world, St. Matthias believed in Him as the Messiah, followed constantly after Him and was numbered among the Seventy Apostles, whom the Lord “sent them two by two before His face” (Luke 10:1). After the Ascension of the Savior, St. Matthias was chosen by lot to replace Judas Iscariot as one of the Twelve Apostles (Acts 1:15-26). After the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Apostle Matthias preached the Gospel at Jerusalem and in Judea together with the other Apostles (Acts 6:2, 8:14). From Jerusalem he went with the Apostles Peter and Andrew to Syrian Antioch, and was in the Cappadocian city of Tians and Sinope. Here the Apostle Matthias was locked into prison, from which he was miraculously freed by St. Andrew the First-Called. The Apostle Matthias journeyed after this to Amasea, a city on the shore of the sea. During a three year journey of the Apostle Andrew, St. Matthias was with him at Edessa and Sebaste. According to Church Tradition, he was preaching at Pontine Ethiopia (presently Western Georgia) and Macedonia. He was frequently subjected to deadly peril, but the Lord preserved him to preach the Gospel. Once, pagans forced the saint to drink a poison potion. He drank it, and not only did he himself remain unharmed, but he

also healed other prisoners who had been blinded by the potion. When St. Matthias left the prison, the pagans searched for him in vain, for he had become invisible to them. Another time, when the pagans had become enraged intending to kill the Apostle, the earth opened up and engulfed them. The Apostle Matthias returned to Judea and did not cease to enlighten his countrymen with the light of Christ’s teachings. He worked great miracles in the Name of the Lord Jesus and he converted a great many to faith in Christ. The Jewish High Priest Ananias hated Christ and earlier had commanded the Apostle James, Brother of the Lord, to be flung down from the heights of the Temple, and now he ordered that the Apostle Matthias be arrested and brought for judgment before the Sanhedrin at Jerusalem. The impious Ananias uttered a speech in which he blasphemously slandered the Lord. Using the prophecies of the Old Testament, the Apostle Matthias demonstrated that Jesus Christ is the True God, the promised Messiah, the Son of God, Consubstantial and Coeternal with God the Father. After these words the Apostle Matthias was sentenced to death by the Sanhedrin and stoned. When St. Matthias was already dead, the Jews, to hide their malefaction, cut off his head as an enemy of Caesar. (According to several historians, the Apostle Matthias was crucified, and indicate that he instead died at Colchis.) The Apostle Matthias received the martyr’s crown of glory in the year 63.

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 thousands of 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.

If you want to learn more about Orthodox Christianity, please come to the Saturday evening Great Vespers service and the catechism class afterwards. Also visit Logos Bookstore and see the newcomer table.

HYMN OF THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Hymn of Transfiguration (Grave Mode)

You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing Your glory to Your disciples as much as they could bear. Shine your everlasting light upon us sinners, through the intercessions of the Theotokos. Giver of Light, glory to Thee.

Metemorfóthis en to óri Christé o Theós, dthíxas tis Mathités su tin dthóxan su, kathós idthínando. Lámpson ke imín tis amartolís, to fos su to a-ídhion, presvies tis Theotóku. Fotodthóta, dthóxa si.

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 Hymn of Transfiguration

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 Transfiguration (Grave Mode)

On the mount You were transfigured, and Your disciples, as much as they could bear, beheld Your glory, O Christ our God, that when they should see You crucified, they would know Your passion to be willing, and would preach to the world that You, in truth, are the Radiance of the Father.

EPISTLE READING

I Corinthians 4:9-16 (Tenth 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 9

Orthros	8:45 am
Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
Churching - Lucia Evanthia Corazza and Natalie Rose Wynn	11:45 am
Conclusion of the Six Talks About our Parish - Fr. Matthew	12:30 pm
Great Paraklesis to the Theotokos	6:30 pm

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers	8:30 am
Small Paraklesis to the Theotokos	6:30 pm

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers	8:30 am
Great Paraklesis to the Theotokos	6:30 pm
Parish Council Meeting	7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers	8:30 am
Bible Study	10:00 am
Wednesday Coffee Hour	11:00 am
Small Paraklesis to the Theotokos	6:30 pm

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers	8:30 am
Work Party at the Forerunner Property	4:00 pm
Great Paraklesis to the Theotokos	6:30 pm

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers	8:30 am
Vigil for the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos (Vespers, Artoklasia, Orthros, & Lamentations)	6:30 pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos	
Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers	8:30 am
Feast Day Potluck Fellowship	10:30 am
Baptism of Lucia Evanthia Corazza	11:30 am
Baptism Reception	12:30 pm
Great Vespers	6:00 pm

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

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