

WOMAN’S MEETING IS TODAY! Join together with fellow women of St John's to learn about where Women's Ministry is today and bring your feedback and ideas to shape where it will be tomorrow. All women are warmly encouraged to contribute. We will meet in the NFH during fellowship.

FAMILY MEETUP: Following the Divine Liturgy for St. Panteleimon on Monday, July 27, there will be a Family Meetup in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share and enjoy a potluck, fellowship, and board games with fellow St. John’s families and parishioners.

COME TO THE 40 LITURGIES, FOR OUR FUTURE! Pray for the future of St. John’s—for discernment, wisdom, patience, and fortitude—from July 7 to the Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15. See the calendar for services and locations (at the Forerunner Property and at the current property).

JOIN A FELLOWSHIP TEAM ... and take part in the *Philoxenia* ("Love for strangers") that is an integral part of our community life. Email fellowship@stjohngoc.org or use this QR code with questions or to sign up!



AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY! Our new church property has many needs and you have a unique opportunity to help us with some projects during Oregon’s beautiful summer. Please take advantage these opportunities for fellowship and to work alongside fellow members of St. John’s this summer. All are welcome! Things to bring: gloves, water bottle, and loppers if you have them. Join us on Saturdays: July 25 after Liturgy for Dormition of St. Anna, approx.. 11:30 am - 3:30 pm; August 8, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm; and September 12, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm—and every Thursday 4:00 - 6:30 pm.

NEXT SUNDAY IS PRISON MINISTRY SUNDAY OCPM is an agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States. For Orthodox Christians who have been arrested for crimes, OCPM helps them return to the Faith, offering forgiveness and reconciliation with Christ. For both Orthodox and non-Orthodox alike, OCPM provides spiritual care, enabling people in prison to find hope and purpose in their lives.

FR. MATTHEW OUT OF TOWN Fr. Matthew is at the Metropolis Summer Camp in Dunlap, CA through July 25.

YOUNG WOMENS NIGHT (ages 18-40): Do you want to get to know other young women of St. John’s? We would like to meet once monthly. All women married, single or mom’s are welcome. Please use this QR code to fill out a poll, so we can start making plans.



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: Silva (open) and Corazza (close) Greeter: Samuel & Anna (Annette)
Cleanup Team 9: Burger, Dixon, McCormick, Kepler, Fairing, Peterson, Corazza



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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July 19, 2026

Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council • St. Makrina the Righteous, Sister of St. Basil the Great

The 630 Holy and God-bearing Fathers who came together for the 4th Ecumenical Council who assembled in Chalcedon in 451 are commemorated on this Sunday. The council condemned Eutyches—who taught that there was only one nature, the divine, in Christ after the Incarnation—and Dioscorus, Patriarch of Alexandria, who illegally received Eutyches back into communion and deposed Saint Flavian, Patriarch of Constantinople, who had excommunicated Eutyches.

Saint Makrina was the sister of the holy hierarchs Basil the Great and Gregory of Nyssa, and was born in Cappadocia at the beginning of the 4th century. She was named Makrina, in honor of a grandmother who suffered during the persecution under the emperor Maximian Galerios. Besides Makrina, there were 9 other children. St. Emilia guided the upbringing and education of her daughter Makrina. She taught her reading and writing in the Scriptures, including the Psalms of David, selecting examples from the sacred books which spoke of a pious and God-pleasing life. St. Emilia taught her to pray and to attend church services. Makrina was also taught domestic governance and handicrafts. She was never left idle and did not participate in games. When Makrina grew up, her parents betrothed her to a pious youth, but the he soon died. Many young men sought

marriage with her, but the saint refused them all, having chosen a virtuous life. She lived in the home of her parents, helping them fulfill the household tasks overseeing the servants She helped raise her younger brothers and sisters. After her father’s death, she became the chief support for the family. When all the children grew up and left the parental home, St. Makrina convinced her mother, St. Emilia, to set their slaves free, and to settle in a women’s monastery. Several of their servants followed their example. Having taken monastic vows, they lived together as one family, they prayed together, they worked together, they possessed everything in common, and in this manner of life nothing distinguished one from another. After the death of her mother, St. Makrina guided the sisters of the monastery and was respected by all. Strictness and temperance were characteristic of the saint all her life. She slept on boards and had no possessions. St. Makrina was granted the gift of wonderworking. There was an instance (told by the sisters of the monastery to St. Gregory of Nyssa after the death of the saint), when she healed a girl of an eye affliction. Through the prayers of the saint, there was no shortage of wheat at her monastery in times of famine. St. Makrina died in the year 380, after a final prayer of thanks to the Lord for having received His blessings over all the course of her life. She was buried in the same grave with her parents.

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: come to our Saturday evening catechism class (at the time posted on our online calendar); purchase the newcomer book bundle at Logos Bookstore; and meet with our clergy.

HYMN OF THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal Second Mode)

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, and those who guarded You became as though dead, and standing by Your sepulcher was Mary, seeking Your pure and sacred body, then You did vanquish Hades, and uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the virgin, bestowing the gift of life. O You Who rose from the dead, Lord, we give glory to You.

Angeliké Dthinámis epí to mníma Su, ke i filássondes apenekróthisan, ke ístato María en to táfo, zitúsa to áhrandon Su sóma. Eskiléfsas ton Ádthin, mi pirasthís ip aftú, ipíndisas ti Parthéno, dthorúmenos tis zoín. O anastás ek ton nekrón, Kýrie, dthóxa si.

Hymn of the Holy Fathers (Plagal Fourth Mode)

Most glorified are You, O Christ our God, Who have established our Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth and through them guided us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to You.

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

Titus 3:8-15 (Sunday of the Holy Fathers)

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the Law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:11-19 (Sunday of the Holy Fathers)

The Lord said to His disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the Law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

When the council of holy fathers from far and wide had convened, they defined the dogma of the one essence and nature of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And they handed down the formula of this mystery of theology to the Church. Let us with faith call them blessed and extol them and say: “Oh divine battalion, artillery of theologians of the Lord’s army! You are luminaries, who shine like stars in the spiritual firmament, indestructible towers of mystical Zion, fragrant flowers of Paradise, the solid gold mouthpieces of the Logos, the pride and joy of Chalcedon and celebrities of Christendom. We implore you earnestly intercede for our souls.”

- Doxastikon Hymn, Orthros for Holy Fathers

PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, JULY 19
Orthros 8:45 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Fellowship follows
All Women’s Meeting 12:00 pm
Fr. Matthew at Summer Camp through July 25

MONDAY, JULY 20
Prophet Elias & St. Maria of Paris
Orthros at the Forerunner Chapel 5:30 am
Divine Liturgy at the Forerunner Chapel 6:30 am

TUESDAY, JULY 21
Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers 5:30 am
at the Forerunner Chapel
Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22
St. Mary Magdalene
Orthros at the Forerunner Chapel 5:30 am
Divine Liturgy at the Forerunner Chapel 6:30 am
Bible Study 10:00 am
Wednesday Coffee Hour 11:00 am

THURSDAY, JULY 23
Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers 5:30 am
at the Forerunner Chapel
Akathist to the Mother of God 9:00 am
Nurturer of Children
Work Party at the Forerunner Property 4:00 pm

FRIDAY, JULY 24
Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers 5:30 am
at the Forerunner Chapel
Paraklesis to St. Nikiforos the Leper 6:00 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 25
Dormition of St. Anna Mother of the Theotokos
Liturgy with Pre-Communion Prayers 5:30 am
Summer Project Work Party at 11:30 am
the Forerunner Property

SUNDAY, JULY 26
Orthros 8:45 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Fellowship follows
Talk #5 About Our Parish – 12:15 pm
Matt Newman (NE Engineers)