

Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council - October 11, 2020

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church



SYNAXARION: Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council; Philip the Apostle of the 70; Theophanes the Confessor; Holy Martyrs Zenais and Philonilla; Nectarios, Arsakios, Sisinius, and Philotheos Kokkinos, Patriarchs of Constantinople; Ethelburga, Abbess of Barking; Kenneth

Resurrectional Apolytikion (1st Mode): The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Judeans and the soldiers guarding did watch over 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 unto our Resurrected Christ; Glory unto Your Kingdom; Glory to Your dispensation, O You Who alone loves all.

Apolytikion For the Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council: Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be to You.

Apolytikion of St. John the Baptist can be found on page 24 of the [Divine Liturgy Book](#).

Kontakion: A protection of Christians unshameable, 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.

Readings for the Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Epistle Reading is from Titus 3:8-15

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 is from Luke 8:5-15

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Answer these thought provoking questions about today's Gospel Reading in the adult and teen Sunday school lesson.

Click [HERE](#).

[Click here to Download this Week's Children's Word from MyOCN.](#)

Happy Birthday!

This month we will begin publishing those who are celebrating their birthdays. We will continue to do this every month. If you want to make sure we have your birthdate on file, please call the office.

Mason Horack - October 11
Sheena Karoutsos - October 11
Manuel Klimis - October 12
Daniella Ross - October 12
Zoe Katsaros - October 13
Gianni Matassini - October 13
Carole Fotopoulos - October 14
Mr Evan Kaljiannis - October 14
Mrs Lucy A. Malacos - October 14
Mrs Lauren Papadakis - October 14
Ms Toula Trakas - October 14
Yiorgos Boulrieris - October 15
Joey Johnston - October 15
James Christopoulos - October 17
Evangelia Frantsvog - October 17
Despina Sibley - October 17
Aaron Martinez - October 17
Sevianna Smith - October 17

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, October 11

Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Youth Sunday

Monday, October 12

Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 13

Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, October 14

Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 15

Griefshare 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 17

Saturday of the 3rd Week

Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School will meet in person after Liturgy for grades 1, 2, and 3

Sunday, October 18

St. Luke the Evangelist

Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Prayer for Medical Professionals at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy

In Person Sunday School each Saturday for a few classes

We will have an in person Sunday School class for a couple grades of our Sunday School on the Saturdays of October. Kids and parents of each grade are encouraged to sign up for Liturgy that Saturday, and then there will be a short lesson after the Divine Liturgy. For October, the schedule will be as follows:

Saturday, October 17

4th, 5th, and 6th grade

Saturday, October 24

7-12th grade--GOYA will attend Liturgy and do a service project (gift baskets for college students) following the Divine Liturgy

Fifty-Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project

October 11-17

By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

John 13:35

There is ONE way that people will be able to distinguish God's people from other people, and that is how we love one another. We might think, that is easy enough, as long as we love a lot of people, we are Christian. Or as long as we make loving gestures to other people, we are Christian. There are two specific instances where it is hard to love others. First, when someone has wronged us, it is very hard to love them. Yet, we are called to love even our enemies, even those who hate us. When we are wronged and can still love, this is something that will set us apart as Christians. The second instance where it is hard to love is when we are wounded—either when we are frustrated, angry, tired, stressed out, sick, etc. When we are compromised, not necessarily by the acts of another person, but by our own humanity, it is hard to remember to love others, because our priority becomes our own needs and feelings. If we can love everyone, even the one who has wronged us, and if we can love at all times, even when we are compromised, we are well on our way to living out this verse, which identifies love as the leading sign that we are Christ's disciples.

Update and Announcements

Sunday School has begun. - Please do this with your children. There will be a video presentation for pre-school through sixth grade. There is a sheet of questions for teens and adults.

[Click here for the video presentation!](#)

[Click here for the lesson and challenge for today!](#)

Youth Sermon - Charlie will give a youth sermon at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, right after Father is done handing out Antithoron. It will last about 10 minutes. Questions will be taken either by comments on the live-stream or you can text Charlie or Alex directly. Make sure you put the child's name on the text so we can recognize our people who participate.

GriefShare has begun - GriefShare groups meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. Each GriefShare session has three distinct elements: Video seminar with experts, support group discussion with focus and personal study and reflection. We will meet from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. initially via zoom on Tuesdays beginning September 3, for 13 weeks, ending on Thursday, December 10. For more information please contact Donna Hambos at 813-843-8412 or dhambos@msn.com. Books for the program will be provided. Donation for the book suggested but not required. Open to all family and friends. *Griefshare remains open enrollment with support towards healing and hope. You can begin at any time. If you attended last semester and missed a day or two, you can come for those days or repeat the whole thing.*

Women's Bible Study - We will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. via zoom. Fr. Stavros will again lead this group this year. If you would like to join our women's Bible study group, please contact Fr. Stavros at frstav@gmail.com and he will add you. Also, each participant will receive a link to purchase a book for this year. We will be studying the Epistle of James.

Monday Night Bible Study will continue via zoom. The Monday night Bible study with Charlie will be held October 5, 12, 19, and 26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. If you are not currently part of the Monday night Bible study and would like to join in, please contact Charlie at chambos@stjohntpa.org and he will

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Kathy & Andrew Bouzinekis; Anastasia; Amanda, Andrew, Colton, Miranda, Charlotte Elizabeth, Nuha, Nabeel, Michael, Amal, John, Elaine, Olga, Virginia Georgiou, Ron Myer, Toula Tsaros, Fr. Pat Legato, Nellie Pringle, Robert Calbi, Yolanda Webb, Angela Bougas, Tony Ekonomou, Ron, Jason Vickers, Rex Garrison, Tina Chakonas, Ann Demas, Alex Martinez, Adriana Martinez, Aaron Martinez, Christina Noel Kouzes Houck, Evangeline Xeroteris, Nichole Ross, Daniel Ross, Daniella Ross, Ashley Henderson, Natalie Henderson, Chris, Debbie, James, Avery, Lily, Jacob, Jesse, Ann, Rosario, Antonia Caffentzis, Alissa, John, Angela, Joey, Christine Scourtes, Steven, Matthew & Family, Phyllis, John Zelatis, Reagan, Peter Zaharis, Alexandra Ferrarolis, Leon & Despina Botham, Cindy Xenick, Mary Ellen Evdemon, Marie Sofia Panagopoulos, Maria Hursey, Chris Vamvakias, John Myer, Mike Trimis, Robert and Alice Stoccardo, John Alexander, Michael Romero, George Hambos, Dean Kondilis and Family, Bill and Nancy Manikas, Patricia Costello, Anastasia Smyrnakis, Ekaterina & Anna Shushaalykova, Dora Koudouna, Ana Mourer, Debbie Phelps, Mary Voykin, David Voykin, Anne Sakellaris, Denise Badrane, Sia Blankenship, Don Payne, Zhana Temelkova, Stanislava Terzieva, James, Jude and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.