

6th Sunday of Luke - October 25, 2020

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church



St. Demetrios-Oct 26

SYNAXARION: The Holy Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius the Notaries; Tabitha who was raised from the dead by Peter; Chrysaphios the Martyr; Chrysantho the Martyr

Resurrectional Apolytikion (3rd Mode): Let all things above in heaven rejoice, and let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm, an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet He has trampled down death by death, and first born of the dead has He become. From the womb of Hades has He delivered us, and to all the world has granted His great mercy.

Apolytikion for the Martyr: Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. * Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

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.

Trisagion Service: Maria Spanos (40 Days)

Readings for the 6th Sunday of Luke

Epistle Reading is from Galatians 1:11-19

Brethren, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

Gospel Reading is from Luke 8:26-39

At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Community Outreach—Holiday Tent

The MetroMin Holiday Tent will be serving 40,000 families this year with an increased need because of Covid-19. This year clients will stay in their car and everyone (clients & volunteers) will follow CDC guidelines (limited occupancy, masks, hand washing stations, etc).

Tuesday, November 24, 3:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m. (25 Volunteers)

Monday, December 21, 3:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m. (25 Volunteers)

[Click here to sign up](#)

Saturday, November 21, 8:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m. (Matthew 25 Community Outreach)

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.

Daniel Kwasny - October 25

Domenic Letobarone - October 29

Stephanie Demetriou - October 30

Hannah James - October 30

Lauren Mason - October 31

Maggie Pliego - October 31

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, October 25

6th Sunday of Luke

Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Men's Group 5:00-7:30 p.m.

Monday, October 26

St. Demetrios

Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 27

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

Wednesday, October 28

Protection of the Holy Theotokos (Oxi Day)

Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 29

Griefshare 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 31

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

Sunday, November 1

Sts. Cosmas and Damian

Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Men's Group 5:00 p.m.
**Daylight Savings End



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 November. 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, November 7	Toddlers—Pre-K-Kindergarten
Saturday, November 14	1st, 2nd and 3rd grade
Saturday, November 21	4th, 5th and 6th grade

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

October 25-31

When a man turns to the Lord the veil is removed.

2 Corinthians 3:16

With Halloween coming this week, many people will be wearing masks, pretending to be something that they aren't. This is in the name of fun when it pertains to Halloween. However, there are plenty of people who wear a mask all the time (not referring to Covid), pretending and wishing to be something that they aren't. In some ways we all do this. When we are rude, we are wearing a mask over our true nature, which is to love. When we sin, we are wearing a mask over our true nature which is to serve God. When we turn to the Lord and focus on Him, it is as if our veil/mask is removed and we can see the Lord more clearly. As we mark Halloween, and people wear masks, and as we go through this period of the coronavirus and are wearing masks for safety, let's remember to remove the masks that hide who we truly are—people who love God and who are committed to serving Him by loving others. This is truly who we are. Let's stop spending our time covering up who we truly are.

Update and Announcements

Sunday School continues — 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!](#)

Men's Group to meet in person on October 25—The Men's Group will have its monthly meeting on Sunday, October 25. We will meet at 5:00 p.m., walk to a local restaurant for dinner, and then return for discussion in the hall.

Divine Liturgy for St. Demetrios on October 26—St. Demetrios was born into a wealthy and distinguished Christian family in the City of Thessaloniki in the late 3rd century. Demetrios was noted for his wisdom, and was a polished orator and a distinguished soldier. Thessaloniki was popular for its gladiatorial games which attracted the local pagans. Travelling with the Emperor Galerius after a military victory, Demetrios stopped in Thessaloniki, where many pagans, who were jealous of his successful life, denounced him as a Christian before the emperor, who ordered Demetrios be put in prison. A man named Nestor befriended Demetrios in prison. The Emperor went to the arena to see his favorite gladiator, Lyaaios, and offered a reward to whomever could defeat him. Nestor accepted the challenge, and through the prayers of St. Demetrios, defeated the giant. When Nestor refused to kill Lyaaios, because he had been helped by the "God of Demetrios," the Emperor ordered that both be killed. This occurred in the year 306.

Monday Night Bible Study — will continue via Zoom. The Monday night Bible study with Charlie will be held October 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 add you.

Women's Bible Study — We will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. 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.

"Mostly Greek Liturgy" on October 28 for The Holy Protection of the Theotokos—We will be having a mostly Greek Liturgy on October 28 in celebration of the Holy Protection of the Theotokos. This feast commemorates the appearance of the most holy Theotokos in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople in the tenth century. October 28 also happens to be Oxi Day, where we remember the courage of Greece to say "no" to Benito Mussolini during World War II.

GriefShare continues—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.*

Parish Assembly to be held on November 1 after Divine Liturgy—Our Fall Parish Assembly will be held on Sunday, November 1, following the Divine Liturgy, beginning at approximately 12:30 p.m. We will be offering the meeting both in-person and via Zoom. For those who come to worship with us on Sunday, November 1, you are more than welcome to join us in the Kourmolis Center. For those who would like to participate from home, a Zoom link will be mailed with the Parish Assembly Notice as well as emailed only to those who are eligible to attend the meeting. Please call the office if you have a question about your eligibility. The agenda for the assembly as well as the 2021 Proposed Budget will be mailed out with the Notice. The principle agenda item for this meeting is the 2021 Budget. As you have heard, Parish Council Elections for 2020 are suspended, and everyone currently serving will have one extra year added to their term, as well as to their term limit.

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, Toulia 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.