

1st Sunday of Luke - September 27, 2020

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church



SYNAXARION: Callistratus the Martyr & his 49 Companions; Mark, Aristarchos, and Zenon, Apostles of the 70; Akylina the New Martyr of Thessaloniki; Gideon the Righteous;

Resurrectional Apolytikon (Grave Mode): Lord by Your sacred cross You abolished death, and granted to the thief blessed paradise. The myrrh-bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy; the apostles did preach the good news at Your command that You are risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing Your mercy upon the world evermore.

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 ty-rants, * dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

Apolytikion of St. John the Baptist: The memory of the just is observed with hymns of praise; for you O Forerunner the witness of the Lord is sufficient. You have proved to be truly more venerable than the proph-ets. Since you were granted to baptize in the river, the One Whom they proclaimed. Therefore, you strove for truth, proclaiming with joy the Good News, even to those in Hades: that God was manifested in the flesh, and takes away the sins of the world, and grants to us His great mercy.

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 1st Sunday of Luke

Epistle Reading is from 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel Reading is from Luke 5:1-11

At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

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.

Foti Kwasny - September 27
Demetrios Kolovos - September 28
Nicholas Freeman - September 28
Vasili Sotiropoulos - September 29
Katerina Papaefstathiou - September 30
Ava Spirides - September 30
Alexios Diniaco - October 1
Andrew Roy - October 1
Penelope Kremydas - October 2
Joanna Samuel - October 3
Sophia Samuel - October 3
Ariadne Stonestreet - October 3
Declan Torres - October 3

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, September 27

1st Sunday of Luke

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

Men's Group 5:00 p.m.

Monday, September 28

Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 29

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

Wednesday, September 30

Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 1

Young At Heart 11:30 a.m.

Griefshare 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 3

St. Dionysios the Areopagite

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

In person Sunday School Class for Toddlers-Pre K-Kindergarten after Liturgy

Sunday, October 4

2nd Sunday of Luke

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

GOYA 5:00 p.m.

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 3	Toddlers/PreK/Kindergarten
Saturday, October 10	1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade
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

September 27 - October 3

I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

This is one of my favorite verses of the whole Bible. It is a great motto/mantra to take into "battle" each day of our lives. Whether we are making an important decision, or trying to survive being the victim of someone else's decision; whether it is a day of relaxation or a day of anxiety; whether we are confidently climbing a mountain, or struggling or realizing we are on a mountain we cannot conquer, whatever our state in life is, Philippians 4:13 is a crucial verse to have at the forefront of our minds and hearts. It is Christ Who gives us the strength to confront whatever challenges come at us. With Christ, coming through all things is possible. That doesn't necessary mean coming through them as you wish to come through them, but rather in how He chooses to guide us through our challenges. In locker rooms all across our country, sports teams put up signs that say things like "Play like a champion today." On the way from the locker room to the field, players will touch the sign, a reminder of how they will play that day. If you want to put a sign next to your door, to touch on the way out of the house each day, it should say Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me," as a reminder that whatever happens on a given day, when we go

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!](#)

GOYA - There will be a GOYA meeting from 5:00-6:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 4 in person.

Men's Group - Our Men's Group will meet today at 5:00 p.m. We will meet at the hall, walk over to a local restaurant and get food and then return to the church for discussion, concluding at 7:30 p.m. All men of our parish are welcome to join.

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 in August via zoom. The Monday night Bible study with Charlie will be held September 14, 21 and 28 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.

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.