

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-876-8830
Retired Priest in Residence: Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski 813-876-8830
Retired Priest in Residence: Rev. Fr. John Stefero 813-876-8830
Pastoral Assistant: Alex Limberatos 262-370-0586
Bookkeeper: Debbie Bowe 813-876-8830

Parish Council:
 Jim Armstrong, President 954-295-6665
 Euripides Panos, Vice President 813-352-3972
 John Zelatis, Secretary 813-727-2271
 Gary Ward, Treasurer 813-846-3898
 George Chagaris 727-420-1920
 Amin Hanhan 813-846-2957
 Nick Kataras 863-581-2430
 Jimmy Konstas 813-220-7352
 Marilyn Sandborn 813-855-8678
 Mike Xenick 813-340-8737

12 Disciples Mathew Balasis 727-421-7376
AHEPA: Thomas Sakaris, President 201-819-2319
Altar Angels: Engie Halkias 813-932-5859
 Kalliope Chagaris 813-789-4134

Bookstore: Pres. Denise Stefero 678-464-4833
Choir: Pauline Spencer, Director 813-390-1782
 Ruth Losovitz, Organist 727-688-2782

Community Outreach: Greg Melton 813-967-2074
Dance Groups: H XAPA ΜΑΣ, Alexandra De Maio 813-340-9668
 Bessie Palios, 813-523-0347
 Maraquet Edquid 813-422-8963
 ΠΑΡΕΑ, Marina Choundas 813-877-6136
 ΠΑΝΗΓΥΡΙ, Alexandra De Maio 813-340-9668

Daughters of Penelope: Diane Trimis 813-220-3389
Finance Committee: Gary Ward 813-846-3898
Food Pantry Sheila Vukmer 412-719-1005
GriefShare: Donna Hambos 813-843-8412
GOYA: Michael & Bessie Palios 813-523-0346
Hope/Joy: George & Zackie Ameres 813-245-3813
Men's Fellowship: Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis 813-876-8830
MOMS: Mary Ann Konstas 813-215-9862
Nursing Ministry: Marcelle Triantafilou 612-396-5026
Oratorical Festival: Peggy Bradshaw 727-244-1374
Photography Ministry: Karina Findlay 813-476-9632
Philoptochos: Melissa Krinos 813-716-9975
Stewardship: Chris Kyrus 757-672-1920
 George Mitseas 813-748-1220
 Vickie Peckham 813-758-3102

Sunday School: Pete Trakas 813-505-2193
Ushers Maria Xenick 813-765-3587
Welcoming Ministry: Alex Limberatos 262-370-0586
Young Adults Mike Trimis, President 813-784-4872
Young at Heart: Mary Nenos, Vice President 813-935-2096
Youth Protection: Suzanne Pileggi 813-244-5855



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

November 7, 2021 - 7th Sunday of Luke

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (Proistamenos)
Fr. Stratton Dorozenski (Retired Priest In Residence)
Fr. John Stefero (Retired Priest In Residence)

(Synaxis of Archangels, November 8, Above)

VISION:

Love God, Love your neighbor and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as an Orthodox Christian community.

MISSION:

The mission of St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church is to welcome and serve people with love, truth, joy and peace, and to create an environment that encourages all to seek salvation through Orthodox Christianity.

CORE VALUES:

Love, Worship, Community, Learning, Service

SYNAXARION:

33 Martyrs of Melitene; Lazarus the Wonderworker; Martyr Athenodorus; Alexander the Martyr of Thessaloniki

Apolytikion of the Week (3 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 of St. Lazarus the Wonderworker (4 Mode): As you vigilantly prayed you drenched your pillar with rivers of your tears; and with your sighs from deep within, painstaking labors produced their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a pastor, giving forgiveness to all those who came to you, our devout father Lazarus. Intercede with Christ our God, entreating Him to save our souls.

Apolytikion of St. John: 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 prophets. 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 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.

Welcome to all of our Visitors “Welcome one another just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” Romans 15:7 We pray that your worship experience with us today will be inspirational and uplifting. Please introduce yourself to an usher or a member of the Welcoming Ministry and pick-up a “welcome packet” as you exit the church. We are happy that you are with us today!

Holy Communion is offered only to Orthodox Christians who are in good canonical standing with the church and who have prepared through prayer and fasting. Everyone is invited to receive the Antidoron (Blessed Bread) at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Order for Holy Communion—With Sunday School back in session the order for Holy Communion will be as follows:

1. Choir
2. Altar boys
3. Sunday school teachers (who will line up in middle aisle before Communion)
4. Sunday school students (who will line up in the middle aisle before Communion behind the teachers)
5. Then the rest of the congregation

Memorial (Saturday, November 13): Constantine Laliotis (40 Days)

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, November 7

Orthros 8:45 a.m.

Honoring Veterans & First Responders (After Liturgy in Church)

Men’s Group

5:00 p.m.

Monday, November 8

Synaxis of Archangels

Orthros 9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Fr. John’s Bible Study

6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 9

St. Nektarios

Orthros 9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 10

Women’s Bible Study

10:00 a.m.

Thursday, November 11

Greek School

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 13

St. John Chrysostom

Orthros 9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Young At Heart Monastery Trip

Departure from St. John @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 14

St. Philip

Orthros 8:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Stewardship 2021 Update

As of Thursday, November 4, we have received 355 stewardship forms, with a pledged amount of \$472,993.00 for 2021. Don’t forget to fill out your form and send it into the office!

Fifty-Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project November 7-13

Then said Jesus, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Luke 17:17-18

This month all of our Bible verses will focus on thanksgiving. These two verses are from the story of the healing of ten lepers. Leprosy was a terrible disease on two fronts. First, it was painful. Second, it was isolating. Lepers lived in colonies and were not allowed to be among people. They were thought to be cursed, even by God. The lepers approached Jesus and asked Him to have mercy on them. Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the priests. He didn’t heal them immedi-ately. It was the priests who would deem someone fit to join society if they had previously been determined to be “unclean.” The lepers went their way, to go to the priests. This did show some trust in Jesus to heal them. And as they made their way, their leprosy was cured, they realized that they were healed, and certainly they must have realized that Jesus was the cause of their healing. Only one of the ten returned to Jesus to say thank you, and that one was a Samaritan, a sworn enemy of the Jews. The lesson here is that we can’t forget to thank Jesus, for His blessings. Many times we ask God quickly to bless us, and then when we are blessed, we forget to thank the One who is the source of our blessings. Even when the blessings aren’t big, we forget to thank God for even the small blessings, like our breath and our life.

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES



St. John's Bookstore — On November 8th, the Orthodox Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Archangels and we remember, in particular, Archangel Michael and Archangel Gabriel. We come together at this feast to honor these divine ministers, our protectors and guardians, and to chant their praises. Throughout the month of November, our bookstore is offering 20% off ANY items pertaining to or depicting angels. Our bookstore is open every Sunday following Divine Liturgy. Stop in and browse our selection.

Men's Group, Nov 7—The Men's Group will meet TODAY, Sunday, November 7, at 5:00 p.m. We will walk to a nearby restaurant and have dinner and then come back to church for a discussion, concluding by 7:30 p.m. All men of the community are welcome to participate.



Notice on James Harritos & Tuesday Night Book Studies—As of October 30, James Harritos is no longer working at Saint John as our pastoral assistant. We thank him for his service and wish him well in his future endeavors.

Our Tuesday Night Book Study will temporarily discontinue. Stay tuned for a new book study early 2022.



Orthodoxy 201, Last Class, November 8 @ 6:00 p.m.—Alex's Orthodoxy 201 Class will conclude with its 4th installment on November 8, meeting at 6:00 p.m. The topic will be on prayer & ritual. We hope you have enjoyed these lectures.

Epiphany Diver Applications Due December 10—If you are between the age of 16-18 (on January 6), you are eligible to dive for the cross on January 6, 2022 at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Tarpon Springs. See Messenger or visit St. Nicholas' website for link to application. The application must be submitted by December 10 at 4:00 p.m., no exceptions.



November 7, LAST DAY TO SIGN UP FOR ORLANDO MONASTERY TRIP—Join us on **Saturday, November 13**. We will depart from the St. John parking lot at 10:30 am sharp. Sign up as soon as possible to determine the size bus. We already have 21 of the maximum of 56 seats signed up. Contact Mike Trimis, YAH President at 813-784-4872 or TrimisM@gmail.com.

GOYA Movie Night November 21—The GOYA Meeting for November will be on Sunday, November 21, from 4:30-8:30 p.m. (notice the different hours). We are going to be watching a movie entitled "To Save a Life." The movie is about two hours. This will allow us a time to eat and have fellowship, to watch the movie and to have discussion afterwards. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend the screening of this movie. With it being Thanksgiving Week, this is the perfect day to watch a movie and go a little longer with GOYA.



Readings for 7th Sunday of Luke

Epistle Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 1:11-19

Prokeimenon: *Sing praises to our God, sing praises. Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations.*

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 8:41-56

At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and had spent all her living upon physicians and could not be healed by anyone, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter and those who were with him said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Keith Lynn & Patrick Carroll; Daniel Hoss, Ourania Tziotis, Irina, Marina, Yuri, and Christophoros; Ashley Snyder; Evangelos & Caroline Critkas; Constantinos & Kalotina Klimis; Christine Alex, June, Lillian Thomas; Scotty; Desi Serriera; Ashley Kladakis; Dora Kallas, Kathy & Andrew Bouzinekis; Anastasia; Virginia Georgiou, Ron Myer, Toulia Tsaros, Fr. Pat Legato, Nellie Pringle, Yolanda Webb, Angela Bougas, Tony Ekonomou, Ron, Jason Vickers, Rex Garrison, Tina Chakonas, Ann Demas, Christina Noel Kouzes Houck, Evangelina Xeroteris, 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, Debbie Phelps, Mary Voykin, David Voykin, Denise Badrane, Don Payne, and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.


SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATE	
<u>November 7</u> Topic: Sacramental Life of the Orthodox Church Veteran Day Cards	<u>November 21</u> Youth Sunday (7-12 Grade Music @ 11:40 a.m.) Topic: Charity/Thankfulness
<u>November 14</u> Topic: Talents & Giving Prosphora: 5 & 6 Grade	<u>November 28</u> NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (Thanksgiving)

Education & St. John

<u>Monday Night Bible Study</u> <i>Leader:</i> Fr John Stefero <i>Day:</i> Monday 6:30 p.m.	<u>Women’s Group</u> <i>Leader:</i> Fr. Stavros <i>Day:</i> Wednesday 10:00 a.m.	<u>Greek School</u> <i>Leader:</i> Magda Myer <i>Day:</i> Thursday , 6:00-8:30pm
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Hope/Joy Fall Food Drive—Please join St. John's Hope & Joy children’s ministry in providing a meal to families in need through Metropolitan Ministries. Make this your family project and help us put together Boxes of Hope filled with the items needed for a Christmas holiday dinner. There are many ways you can help provide a Box of Hope:

- Shop for any of the items below and bring to church Sun, **Nov 7- Sat, Dec 11**
- Donate \$25 or more (cash/ check/ gift card) for a Box of Hope-
- Checks payable to Metropolitan Ministries



<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gift certificate for a turkey or ham• 1 box of cereal (hot or cold) 2 cans of fruit• 1 jar of peanut butter 2 cans of vegetables 2 cans of yams• 1 bag or box of stuffing 1 box of potatoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 cans of black beans• 2 cans of cranberry sauce 1 bag of dried beans• 1 box or bag of rice• 1 can or packet of gravy 1 box dessert mix• 1 package cookies or pastries 1 family box of Jell-O/ Pudding
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Honoring All Active, Retired Military, and First Responders Today, November 7

Philoptochos is calling all Active, Retired Military, and First Responders to be honored after Divine Liturgy, TODAY. If you are involved or have been involved in one of these public services, please make sure to stay to the end of liturgy!

Altar Boy Schedule	
<u>November 7 - St. Luke</u> Teddy Kafentaris Andrew Thatcher Kris Christopher Vasilios Panos Jonah Blankenbaker Lucas Elly Liam Elly	<u>November 14 (Captains Only)</u> John Palios Genaro Scarfogliero Nicholas Akrotirianakis Yanni Trimikliniotis James Magos Demetri Passalaris -

Happy Birthday and Happy Nameday! If you want to make sure we have your birthdate on file, please call the office.		
<u>Birthdays</u>		<u>Namedays</u>
November 7	Angelina Krinos; James Michael Strahan;	ATHINODOROS, ERNEST, THEAGENIS, THEMELIOS
November 8	Lola Bavaro; Tammy Christou; Helen Fentress; Luisa Mekras; Roberto Rodriguez; Yian-ni Trimikliniotis	ANGELOS, EFSTRATIA, GABRIEL, GABRIELA, MATINA, METAXIA, MICHAEL, MICHELLE, RAPHAEL, STAMATIA, STAMA-TIS, STRATIGOS, TAXIARHIS
November 9	Dee Nicolaou	THEOKTISTI, ELLADIOS, MAVRA, NEKTARIOS, ARSENIOS
November 10	Penelope Aranoutakis	ARSINOE, ERASTI, ERASTOS, IRODION, MI-LON, ORESTIS, ORION, RODIOS, SO-SIPA-TROS
November 11	Anna Demas; Daphne Kane; Brigham Sibley;	DRAKON, MINAS, MINOS, VICTOR, VINCENT
November 12	Eliana Edquid	
November 13	Maria Cantonis; Sandra Pappas; Collin Snyder;	DAMASKINOS, HRYSTOMOS

Liturgical & Study Notes

Monday, November 8 - The Archangels This feast commemorates the Archangels Michael and Gabriel and all of the “bodiless powers” of heaven, all of the angels. There are nine orders of angels—Angels, Archangels, Virtues, Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, Authorities, Cherubim and Seraphim.

Tuesday, November 9 - St. Nectarios St. Nectarios is a “modern day” saint, a saint of the 20th Century, (Died in 1920, Canonized as a Saint in 1960), who was a bishop in Greece. St. Nectarios is the patron saint of cancer patients and is considered one of our “healing” saints, meaning that we invoke his intercessions when we are praying for those who are sick. Cancer sufferers and survivors are urged to attend this Divine Liturgy in order to pray for continued healing through the Intercessions of St. Nectarios. Father Stavros has oil from the tomb of St. Nectarios in Aegina, Greece, with which he will anoint the faithful in attendance at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on November 9.

Saturday, November 13 - St. John Chrysostom St. John Chrysostom lived in the 4th Century. He was a Bishop of the Church and is recognized as one of the Three Hierarchs (together with St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory the Theologian). He received the title “Chrysostomos,” meaning “the Golden Mouth,” for his great ability to speak. St. John Chrysostom authored the Divine Liturgy that we celebrate on most Sundays. Therefore, we offer the Divine Liturgy on this day in honor of St. John Chrysostom.

Sunday, November 14 - St. Philip the Apostle Each of the Twelve Disciples has their own feastday. They are celebrated collectively on June 30. With Saturday Liturgies being offered during this period of the pandemic, we are celebrating some extra feast days this year, which include the feast of St. Philip, one of the 12 disciples, who is commemorated on November 14.