

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
Pastoral Assistant:	Vasili Panagopoulos	414-254-5134
Bookkeeper:	Debbie Bowe	813-876-8830
Parish Council:		
John Zelatis, President		813-727-2271
Euripides Panos, Vice President		813-352-3972
Marilyn Sandborn, Secretary		813-855-8678
Gary Ward, Treasurer		813-846-3898
Jim Armstrong		954-295-6665
Joanne Dalaklis		781-888-3329
Amin Hanhan		813-846-2957
Nick Kataras		863-581-2430
Suzanne Pileggi		813-244-5855
Marcelle Triantafilou		612-396-5026
Mike Xenick		813-340-8737
12 Disciples	Mathew Balasis	727-421-7376
AHEPA:	Thomas Sakaris, President	201-819-2319
Altar Angels:	Kalliopi 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
Sunday School:	Vickie Peckham	813-758-3102
Ushers	Pete Trakas	813-505-2193
Welcoming Ministry:	Maria Xenick	813-765-3587
Young Adults	Alex Limberatos	262-370-0586
Young at Heart:	Bill Manikas	813-716-8185
	Dora Morgan	813-613-3738
Youth Protection:	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

May 8, 2022 - Sunday of Myrrh Bearers

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (Proistamenos)

Fr. Stratton Dorozenski (Retired Priest In Residence)

Fr. John Stefero (Retired Priest In Residence)

(Icon of Myrrh Bearers)

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:

Sunday of Myrrh Bearing Women
Joseph of Arimathea & Nicodemus; St. John the Theologian; Arsenios the Great;

Memorials

Fr. Antonios Papatathanasiou (40 Days); Maria Garcia (40 Days); Anastasia Smyrnakis (40 Days); Eftihia "Effie" Sorolis (2 Years); Aphroditis "Freda" Kladis (10 Years);

Resurrectional Apolytikion (Mode 2):

When You descended to the realm of death, You as Life immortal, rendered to Hades a mortal blow, through Your Divine Radiance. And when You, from the depths of Hades and the darkness below, did raise the dead all the powers of heaven did proclaim and cry out: O life-giving Christ and our God we give glory.

Apolytikion (Mode 2):

When he took down Your immaculate Body from the Cross, the honorable Joseph wrapped it in a clean linen shroud with spices and laid it for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day You arose, O Lord, and granted the world Your great mercy.

Apolytikion for the Myrrhbearers (Mode 2):

The Angel standing at the sepulcher cried out and said to the ointment-bearing women: The ointments are appropriate for mortal men, but Christ has been shown to be a stranger to decay. So go and cry aloud, The Lord has risen and granted the world His great mercy.

Apolytikion for the Evangelist (Mode 2):

O Apostle, the beloved of Christ God, hasten to deliver us, a people that has no excuse. He accepts you supplicating Him, for He condescended at the Supper to let you lean on Him. Entreat Him, O Theologian, that He scatter the persistent cloud of hostile nations, and pray for us, for peace and great mercy.

Kontakion of Pascha (Mode Pl. 4):

Even though You descended into the grave You destroyed the Power of Hades and You rose as a Victor, O Christ our God, saying to the myrrh bearing women: Rejoice! And to Your Apostles granting peace and to the fallen, You also grant Resurrection

Hymn to the Theotokos (Mode 1):

The angel cried to her who is full of grace: Rejoice Holy Virgin and again I say rejoice, for your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day. Shine, shine, O New Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has arisen over you. Dance now for joy O Zion and exult. Rejoice and be glad O pure Theotokos at the Resurrection of your Child.

Communion Hymn

So-ma Chris-tou me-ta-la-ve-te Pi-gis A-tha-na-tou yef-sas-the. Alliluia. Receive the Body of Christ and partake ye of Him. He is an Immortal Fountain. Alleluia.

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.

Please Be Reverent During Holy Communion We're asking everyone to refrain from speaking during Holy Communion. We are to approach the chalice "with fear of God, faith, and love" and have this time to focus our attention on the Lord and the Grace He pours out to us.

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)

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, May 8

**Sunday of the Myrrh-bearers
Orthros
Divine Liturgy**

**8:45 a.m.
10:00 a.m.**

Monday, May 9

Meeting of the Ministry Heads

6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 10

Women's Bible Study
Fr. John Bible Study

10:00 a.m.
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 11

Paraklesis

6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 12

Adult Greek School

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 15

**Sunday of the Paralytic
Orthros 8:45 a.m.
GOYA**

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.**

Fifty- Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project May 8-14

And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the Mother of James, and Salome, brought spices to that they might go and anoint Him. Mark 16:1

On the second Sunday after Pascha, we commemorate the Myrrh-bearing women. There were seven women, plus the Virgin Mary, who ministered to Jesus at the time of His death and Resurrection. Three women, we are told in the Gospel account of St. Mark, went to the tomb early in the morning after the Sabbath was past, so that they might anoint the body of Jesus according to the burial rites of the Jewish tradition. These women showed great courage, traveling through a hostile city in the dead of night. Indeed, this was a journey of faith, because they did not know what they would find at the tomb. They didn't know who was going to roll the stone away from the door of the tomb. Most likely they knew that Roman soldiers were guarding the tomb. But they went anyway. And of course when they arrived, they found the tomb empty and heard from the angel that Christ had risen. The myrrh-bearing women provide us with an example of faith and courage.

Education at St. John

Monday Night Bible Study

*Leader: Fr. John
Day: Tuesday 6:30 p.m.*

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

*Leader: Fr. Stavros
Day: Tuesday 10:00 a.m.*

Greek School

*Leader: Magda Myer
Day: Thursday 6:00 p.m.*

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

St. John's Bookstore



Have your kids recently attended a class on baking prosphoron? In this book, "Yiayia and the Prosphoron", Yiayia shares the joy of baking prosphoron as an offering to God. Hardcover volume with great pictures and even a recipe. See this and a great selection of other children's books in our bookstore today.

Meeting of Ministry Heads

We will have a meeting of ministry heads on Monday, May 9, in the Kourmolis Center at 6:30 p.m. We ask that each ministry send at least one representative. We meet periodically to check in and to look over the next few months in the life of our parish.

Community Outreach

Hello and WELCOME! **On the 3rd Saturday of each month**, we volunteer 2 1/2 hrs of our time to provide for the needy and homeless of our community in East Tampa. We partner with local charity Matthew 25, Metropolitan Ministries and USF Medical School to serve breakfast, provide clothing and medical needs for our guests.

To Volunteer: Go to the Sign Up Genius below, or scan the QR code.

If you forget to sign up, you can still come!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48a5a62da3f49-community1>



Vasili's Book Study Beginning in June!

Vasili Panagopoulos, our Pastoral Assistant, will be starting a book study in June. This book study will meet once a week, for about an hour and a half each session. In addition, the book study will be hybrid: both in-person and virtual over Zoom. The specific book, start date and time, and schedule of meetings will be announced shortly.

Next GOYA Meeting - Mark Your Calendars!

Dear GOYAnS,

Our next GOYA Meeting will be Sunday, May 15, from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. Dinner, as always, will be served. We hope to see you there!

Readings for Myrrh Bearing Women

Prokeimenon: Their voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Epistle Reading is from St. John's First Universal Letter 1:1-7

THAT WHICH WAS from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life - the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us - that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing this that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Gospel Reading is from Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: George, Pam, and Liz; Roger Zesis; Christopher Labatos; Sylvia Michos; Eva Coppalla; Christopher; Christopher; Mary & Peter Nenos; Tony Ekonomou; Keith Lynn & Patrick Carroll; 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, Evangeline Xeroteris, Ashley Henderson, Natalie Henderson, Chris, Debbie, James, Avery, Lily, Jacob, Jesse, Ann, Rosario, Antonia Caffentzis, Alissa, John, Angela, Joey, Christine Scourtes, Steven, 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

Sunday, May 8
Topic: Ascension

Sunday, May 22

Sunday, May 15
Topic: Pentecost

Last Day of Sunday School
Sunday School Graduation Ceremony for all students
Sunday School and Teachers' Photo taken for Directory
Sunday School End of the Year Party on CAMPUS

Liturgical Notes

The Pentecostarion - The 50 Days After Pascha The period of 50 days between Pascha & Pentecost is referred to as the "Pentecostarion." The period of forty days between Pascha Sunday and the day of the Ascension is known as the period of Pascha (or Easter). It is a period set aside by the Church for the specific celebration of Christ's glorious resurrection. It is a celebration of "rebirth". . . The re-birth of God's creation which surrounds us, and the rebirth of the spirit within each and every one of us! This period is not merely a ritualistic celebration but a celebration which can be seen, felt, heard and talked about. It is a very REAL celebration which CAN make our entire being jump with JOY. It is a celebration which offers us HOPE. It is a celebration which offers us the TRUE FREEDOM found only in Jesus Christ! During the 40 days of Pascha, we are to greet each other with the greeting "Christ is Risen" or "Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη!," to which the response is "Truly He is Risen" or "Ἀληθῶς Ἀνέστη!"

No Kneeling until Pentecost

It is actually the Tradition in the Orthodox Church that we not kneel on Sundays in honor of the Resurrection of Christ. Because we do not worship on a daily basis in our church communities, priests have encouraged people to kneel on Sundays, the thought being that if we do not kneel on Sundays, that we'll never kneel in church. It is a Tradition, that for 50 days after Pascha, we do not kneel in honor of the Resurrection. The next time we will kneel after April 23 is on the Feast of Pentecost (June 12) at the Vespers of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, when the priest says "Again and again on bended knees let us pray to the Lord."

Sunday, May 8- Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women They came to anoint Jesus' body, but found an EMPTY tomb. We also commemorate Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus.

Sunday, May 8 - Feast of St. John the Theologian and St. Arsenios On May 8, we celebrate the feast days of St. John the Theologian, the author of the fourth Gospel, as well as the Epistles of St. John and the book of Revelation, and also celebrate the feast of St. Arsenios, a monk of the 5th Century.

Wednesday, May 11 – Paraklesis Service of Supplication to the Virgin Mary - We will continue to offer Paraklesis once a month, so that we can pray for all the members of our community by name, out loud. We will alternate some in the evening and some in the morning. For May, the Paraklesis will be offered on Wednesday Evening, May 11, from 6:00--7:00 p.m.



Our Food Pantry is very active helping people near and far in the Tampa Community

- Pasta
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Tomato sauce/ chopped tomatoes etc.
- All kinds of white flour
- Canned Tuna
- Canned Chicken
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Gluten Free Foods and Flours
- Body Wash
- Cereal
- Whole wheat rice and pasta
- Men's and Women's razors and shaving cream (travel size)
- Toothbrushes
- Granola & Protein Bars

Download Our St. John the Baptist App Today!

Stay Updated With Push Notifications, Access Our Parish's Resources With Just One Click! Available on Apple, Android, and Amazon Devices. Just look up "**St. John GOC Tampa**"

Using our community's Church App on your mobile device is a great way to stay in touch and get the most out of Holy Week this year. If you haven't already, download the app on your device's App Store for free!

Follow us on Instagram: stjohntpa
And follow us on Facebook!



Happy Birthday and Happy Nameday!

If you want to make sure we have your birthdate on file, please call the office.

Birthdays

Namedays

May 8		Melios, Theologos
May 9	Suzanne Payne, Alexis Yohai	Christopher, Essaias
May 10	Isadora Panopoulos	Simon
May 11	Christos Nenos	Argyris, Armodios, Dioskouridis, Methodios, Olympia
May 12		Epifaneios, Theodoros
May 13	Debra Passavanti	Glykeria
May 14	Carlee Calamunci, Caroline Corcoran	Aristotele, Isidoros, Therapon

Altar Boy Schedule

Sunday, May 8 St. Mark

Nicholas Carter
Zachary Carter
Harry Robinson
Prometheus Koutouzi
Leo Lenardos
PJ Zelatis
Niko Kyrus

Captains John Palios

Genaro Scarfogliero
Nicholas Akrotirianakis
Yanni Trimikliniotis
James Magos
Demetri Passalaris

Sunday, May 15 St. Luke

Teddy Kafentaris
Andrew Thatcher
Kris Christopher
Vasilios Panos
Jonah Blankenbaker
Lucas Elly
Liam Elly