

**Parish Priest:**  
**Retired Priest in Residence:**  
**Retired Priest in Residence:**  
**Pastoral Assistant:**  
**Administrative Assistant:**  
**Bookkeeper:**

Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-394-1038  
 Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski 813-876-8830  
 Rev. Fr. John Stefero 678-637-4425  
 Vasili Panagopoulos 414-254-5134  
 Kim Rojas 813-876-8830  
 Debbie Bowe 813-876-8830

**Parish Council:**

John Zelatis, President 813-727-2271  
 Euripides Panos, Vice President 813-352-3972  
 Marilyn Sandborn, Secretary 813-760-6289  
 Gary Ward, Treasurer 813-846-3898  
 Jim Armstrong 954-295-6665  
 Amin Hanhan 813-846-2957  
 Nick Katzaras 863-581-2430  
 Suzanne Pileggi 813-244-5855  
 Alexis Scarfogliero 813-892-1599  
 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:**

Kalliope Chagaris 813-789-4134

**Bible Study:**

Fr. John Stefero 678-637-4425

**Bookstore:**

Pres. Denise Stefero 678-464-4833

**Choir:**

Tara Swartzbaugh, Director 813-313-0439

Ruth Losovitz, Organist 727-688-2782

**College Ministry:**

Vasili Panagopoulos 414-254-5134

**Community Outreach:**

Greg Melton 813-967-2074

**Dance Groups:**

H XAPA MΑΣ, Alexandra De Maio 813-340-9668

Maraquet Edquid 813-422-8963

ΠΑΡΕΑ, Marina Choundas 813-877-6136

Genie Carter 813-363-2362

ΠΑΝΗΓΥΡΙ, Alexandra De Maio 813-340-9668

Elena Ketchum 813-229-0144

Gary Ward 813-846-3898

**Daughters of Penelope:**

Michael & Bessie Palios 813-523-0346

**Finance Committee:**

George & Zackie Ameres 813-245-3813

**GOYA:**

Maraquet Edquid 813-422-8963

**Hope/Joy:**

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-394-1038

**Joy Tweens**

**Men's Fellowship:**

Marcelle Triantafilou 612-396-5026

**Nursing Ministry:**

Karina Findlay 813-476-9632

**Photography Ministry:**

Melissa Krinos 813-716-9975

**Philoptochos:**

Chris Kyrus 757-672-1920

**Stewardship:**

George Mitseas 813-748-1220

**Sunday School:**

Vickie Peckham 813-758-3102

**Ushers**

Pete Trakas 813-505-2193

**Veterans/1st Responders**

Fr. John Stefero 678-637-4425

**Welcoming Ministry:**

Maria Xenick 813-765-3587

**Women's Bible Study:**

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-876-8830

**Young Adults**

Aris Rogers 813-309-5525

**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



**June 11, 2023**

**Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (Proistamenos)**

**Fr. Stratton Dorozenski (Retired Priest In Residence)**

**Fr. John Stefero (Retired Priest In Residence)**

**THE SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS**

# Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday June 11

**All Saints Day**  
**Orthros 8:45 a.m.      Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.**  
**Junior Olympics Luncheon**

Monday June 12

**Beginning of Holy Apostles Fast**

Tuesday June 13

Chant Class 6:00 p.m.– 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday June 14

**Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.**  
 Adult Greek Dance 7:00 p.m.

Saturday June 17

Community Outreach

Sunday June 18

**Orthros 8:45 a.m.      Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.**  
**Father's Day**

Monday June 19

Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday June 20

Chant Class 6:00 p.m.– 8:00 p.m.

**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

**SYNTAXARION:**

The Sunday of All Saints; Bartholomew the Holy Apostle; Barnabas the Holy Apostle

**Resurrection Apolytikion:**

From Above did You descend O Christ our God. For us did You endure three days in the tomb, that we may be relieved from passions in this world. You who are our Resurrection and our Life: Glory to You, O Lord.

**Apolytikion of the Feast:**

Your Church having bedecked herself, with the blood of all Your Martyrs in the world, as with the finest linen and purple robe, through them cries out to You, O Christ our God: Send down Your compassion upon Your people, grant peace to Your community, and to our souls Your great mercy.

**Hymn 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 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:**

Unto You, O Lord, the Author of Creation, the universe does offer the God-bearing Martyrs as the first-fruits of nature. By whose prayers, through the Theotokos, do You preserve in profound peace Your Church, O most Merciful One.

**Communion Hymn: (Psalm 33:1)**

Exalt, you just, in the Lord; from the upright, praise is fitting. 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.

**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. Then the rest of the congregation

**Memorial:**

Stepan Rusin (1 year)

**Religious Education at St. John**

**Monday Night Bible Study**

Leader:  
Fr. John

June 19: Monday at 6:30 p.m.

**Women's Bible Study**

Leader:  
Fr. Stavros

Resumes until August

**WELCOME TO OUR PARISH**

If you are new to the Tampa Bay area or just visiting, we would love to get to know you better.

**PLEASE TEXT THE WORD**

**"WELCOME" TO 813-790-5950**

FOLLOW THE PROMPTS TO GIVE US YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION AND FROM THERE YOU WILL BE DIRECTED TO OUR ONLINE CONNECTION CARD

DO NOT NEGLECT TO SHOW *hospitality* TO STRANGERS. FOR THEREBY SOME HAVE ENTERTAINED *angels unaware.* HEBREWS 13:2

## MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

### St. John's Bookstore -SUMMER READING

Summer isn't a time to take a vacation from your faith. Dig into God's Word and find deep refreshment for your heart, mind, and soul. Our bookstore is packed with books geared to all age levels. Stop in and stock up for your summer reading.

Presvytera Denise and Elaina

### The American Foundation for Greek Language & Culture (AFGLC)

The American Foundation for Greek Languages & Culture (AFGLC) Scholarships are now available to High School Seniors and College Students. The AFGLC Dr. Demetrios G. Halkias, the AFGLC Peter & Sophia Kourmolis, the AFGLC Dr. Byron P. Palls Scholarships.

Deadline to apply **June 25th. Applications are available at the Baptismal table upfront!**

For more information contact Kalliope at 813-789-4134 or khalkias@afglc.org.

### Chant Class

Join us for our next 13- week introductory chant class offered at St. John's Church!

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

Next class will be **Tuesday, June 13** from  
6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

Register for classes now at [vasili@stjohntpa.org](mailto:vasili@stjohntpa.org)

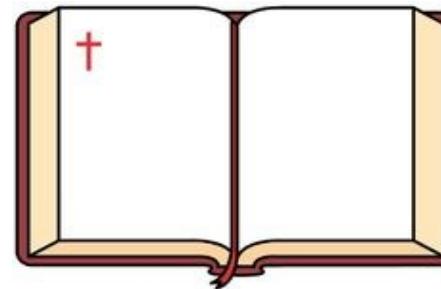


## Readings for Sunday, June 11

**Prokeimenon: God is wonderful among his saints. Psalm 67.35,26**

**The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:33-40; 12:1-2**

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.



**The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30**

The Lord said to his disciples, "Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny him before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or

daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

### Unto the Healing of Soul and Body

Encouragement for  
Restoration and Reconciliation  
in a Broken World



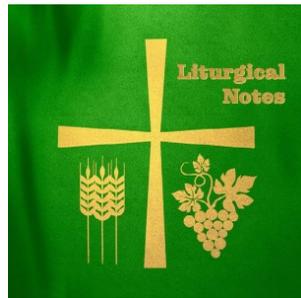
Rev. Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis

Foreword by His Eminence Metropolitan  
SAVAS of PITTSBURGH

### Introducing the Newest Book by Fr. Stavros Unto the Healing of Soul and Body: Encouragement for Restoration and Reconciliation in a Broken World

There has never been a greater need for healing in the world than there is today. The Orthodox Sacrament of Holy Unction is intended for the healing of soul and body. What makes this sacrament so powerful is not just the anointing that occurs at the end of the service, but the journey there—through seven Epistle readings, seven Gospel passages and seven powerful prayers. *Unto the Healing of Soul and Body* will serve as an aid on this journey, helping us understand our need for healing, as well as God's role and our own participation in spiritual healing.

### Liturgical Notes



#### **Sunday, June 11, Sunday of All Saints**

The period of the Pentecostarion is now complete with the commemoration of “All Saints.” This feast not only honors all the saints who have ever lived, as well as the ones who are unknown. It reminds us that our goal is for all of us to become saints.

#### **Wednesday, June 14, Paraklesis**

We will offer our monthly Paraklesis on Wednesday, June 14, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. We offer Paraklesis once a month, so we can pray for all of our parishioners by name. You are encouraged to attend this service to pray for any names and needs that you may have. We will not hold Paraklesis in July. After June 14, the next Paraklesis services will be in August, when we will have several.

**Prayer List:** Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Kostadinos Booras; Michael I, Anna Maria & Thomas Reilly; Jim Armstrong, Calliope Herman; Delaney & Alexis Johnson; Ron & Linda Ledet; Helen & Mike Mitchell; Marcelle T., Joanna & Yenay R., Carlos R., Elena, Ricky & Michael Gordenina, Tina Chakonas, Felix R., Ivco; ; George Joseph; Anna, Stavroula, George, Pam, and Liz; Christopher Labatos; Sylvia Michos; Eva Coppalla; Christopher; Christopher; Peter Nenos; Tony Ekonomou; Patrick Carroll; Ourania Tziotis, Irina, Marina, Yuri, and Christophoros; Ashley Snyder; Evangelos & Caroline Critkas; Christine Alex, June, Lillian Thomas; Scotty; Desi Serriera; Ashley Klidakis; Dora Kallas, Kathy & Andrew Bouzinekis; Anastasia; Virginia Georgiou, Toulia Tsaros, Nellie Pringle, Yolanda Webb, Angela Bougas, Ron, Jason Vickers, Rex Garrison, Ann Demas, Christina Noel Kouzes Houck, Evangeline Xeroteris, Ashley Henderson, Natalie Henderson, Chris, Debbie, James, Avery, Lily, Jacob, Jesse, Ann, Rosario, 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, Alice Stoccardo, Michael Romero, George Hambos, Dean Kondilis and Family, Bill and Nancy Manikas, Patricia Costello, Ekaterina & Anna S. Dora K., Debbie P., Mary V., David V., Don Payne, Vasili, Moriah, Andoni, and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

### Altar Boy Schedule

June 11th  
**GOYAnS may serve**



Captains  
John Palios  
Genaro Scarfogliero  
Nicholas Akrotirianakis  
Nicholas Carter  
James Magos  
Demetri Passalaris  
George Xenick  
Nicholas Magos  
PJ Zelatis

June 18th  
**Anyone attending  
may serve**

From June 9th– 11th, St. John hosted the annual GOYA Junior Olympics. We will be hosting GOYANS from around North & Central Florida for a weekend of athletic competition.

**A BIG THANK YOU to Dwight Forde** for organizing this event!!  
Come out and cheer on the teams!

*thank  
you*

### **Fifty- Two Verses -In- Fifty- Two Weeks June 11-17**

Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few. Matthew 7: 13-14

I once saw a funny meme that said “There’s a reason why they call it the “stairway to heaven” and the “highway to hell.” Many people think just the opposite. We think there is a highway to heaven and a stairway to hell, that only the worst of the worst will end up in hell and everyone else will somehow end up in heaven. Jesus seems to indicate the opposite, that the path to heaven is very narrow, it is hard, and only few will find it. Whereas the path to hell is wide, the way is easy and many people will end up there. We shouldn’t really get caught up in who will make it to heaven or how many, or how many people we think we need to be ahead of in order to make it. We need to worry about our own journey, our own path, and our own focus on the narrow path and the way that leads to eternal life.

## Take Advantage of the Parish Assistance Program

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church is excited to share we will continue to offer the Parish Assistance program together with BayCare Behavioral Health. The program will provide our parishioners access to **free and confidential** counseling services - offering additional support when life's challenges become overwhelming. The PAP utilizes a network of faith-based providers that are sensitive to the values and beliefs of those they serve and provide compassionate care to children, adults, parents, and seniors. Parishioners can confidentially contact BayCare directly to request up to three free counseling sessions from a licensed mental health professional.

The BayCare helpline, 800-878-5470, is answered 24/7 by mental health professionals. Many BayCare therapists are also offering telephonic and virtual counseling sessions to help parishioners maintain their emotional wellbeing during these trying times. You can get more information on the BayCare Behavioral Health Community Services Program on their website at: <https://baycare.org/services/behavioral-health/our-specialties/community-healthservices> Help is available for life issues including:

### **Help is available for life issues including:**

- Stress
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Family discord
- Marital problems
- Substance abuse issues
- Behavioral issues

**This service is completely confidential between parishioner and a BayCare Christian Therapist**



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST *Panigyri* *Adult Dance*

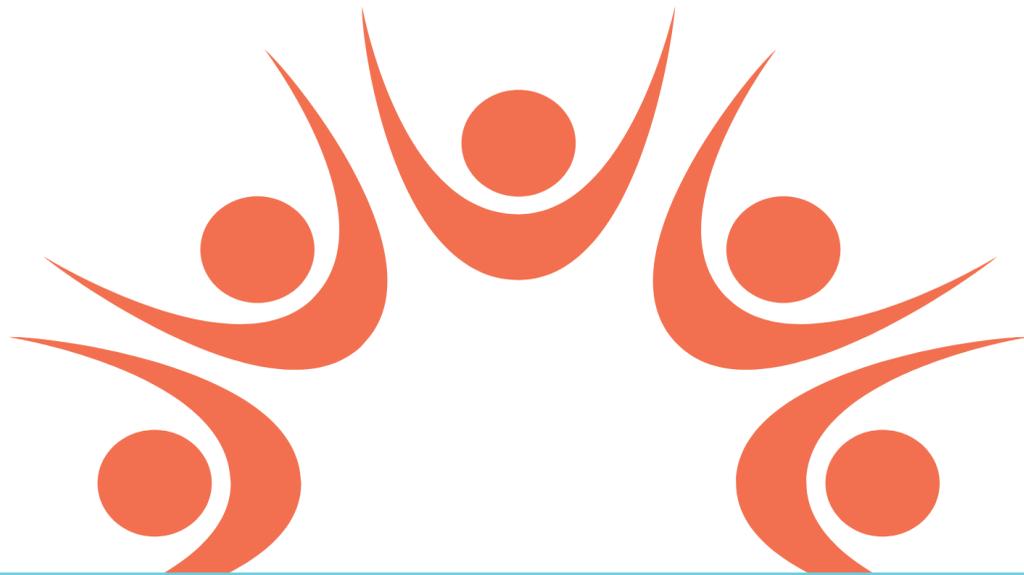


PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR  
ADULT GREEK DANCE PRACTICE  
@ THE KOURMOULIS HALL.

PLEASE WEAR DANCE SHOES OR SNEAKERS AND  
COMFORTABLE CLOTHES FOR DANCING.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14**

**[AT] 7 PM**



*Have a heart, lend a hand,  
and make a difference.*

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH 2023

OUR SCHEDULE FOR THE REMAINING MONTHS OF 2023 IS  
AS FOLLOWS:

SATURDAY JUNE 17, JULY 15, AUGUST 19, SEPTEMBER 16,  
OCTOBER 21, NOVEMBER 18, DECEMBER 16.

TIME: 8:00 AM - 10 AM

PLACE: TAMPA HOPE  
3704 E. 3RD AVENUE  
TAMPA, FL. 33605



Sign up via SIGNUP GENIUS

## St. John's 12 Disciples Project

### St. John's 12 Disciples Project

An unfortunate statement, true for many of us, is that personal, private, and meaningful prayer is rare in our lives, outside of the prayers of the regular Divine Liturgy.

Think ... why is this?

Think ... does it have to be this way?

Do each of us consider ourselves fully engaged in a daily prayer discipline?

The obvious answer is no to all these questions.

One of the simplest tasks we could undertake, personal prayer, requires hardly any effort or special resources. Several years ago, St. John's community instituted a Project intended to help us to strive toward developing a regular, personal, private, and meaningful prayer discipline. This guidance is called the 12 Disciples Project. This has been very successful with many members of our congregation, daily praying "for, "the peace from above, and for the salvation of our souls..." intended for each of you and directed to God for the benefit of hundreds of members of our congregation.

Participating "Disciples" receive a prayer and a short list of names, distributed monthly. Each participant receives a few names, so that all members of the Project collectively pray for each member of the St. John's Congregation. Combined, each member of our Congregation is prayed for daily by no fewer than 6 other members of the 12 Disciples Project! There is power in prayer and there is much power in collective, combined, directed, and daily prayer.

You may join us and become a true St. John Prayer Warrior, what our Disciples are called.

Call the Church Office, 813-876-8830, and provide your email address, phone number, and you will be added to the growing list of participating members of the 12 Disciples Project.

