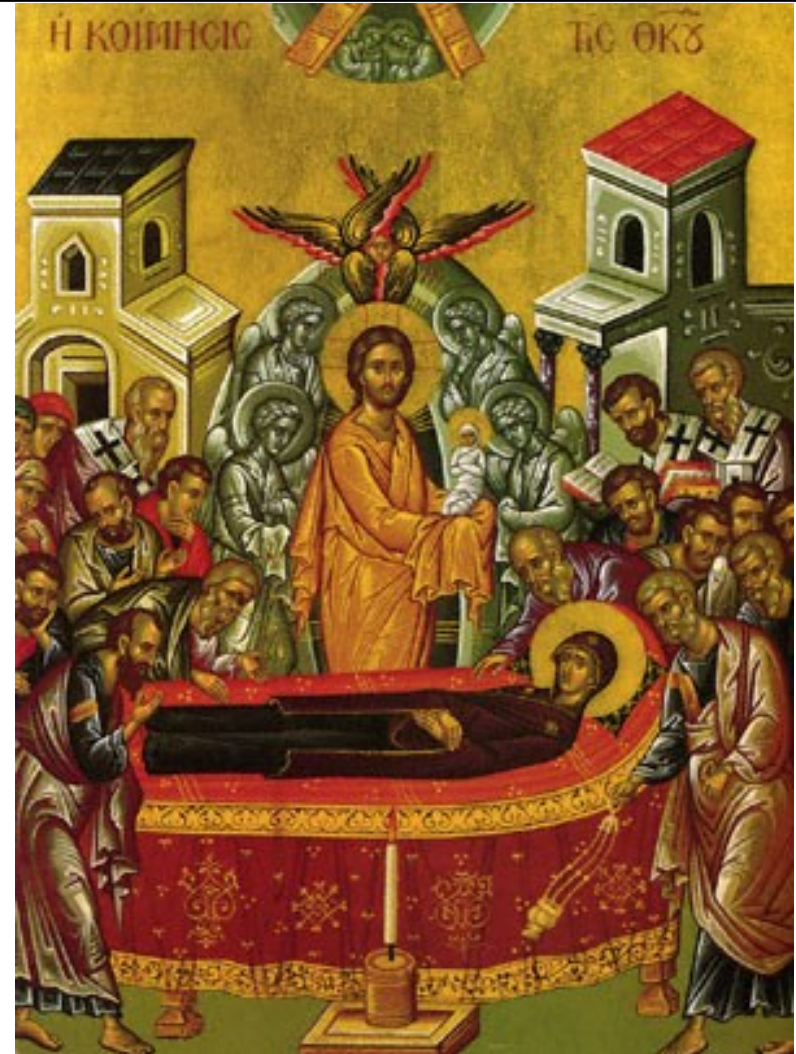


Parish Priest:	Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis	813-876-8830
Retired Priest in Residence:	Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski	813-876-8830
Retired Priest in Residence:	Rev. Fr. John Stefero	813-876-8830
Pastoral Assistant:	Vasili Panagopoulos	414-254-5134
Bookkeeper:	Debbie Bowe	813-876-8830
Parish Council:		
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		813-385-8205
Amin Hanhan		813-846-2957
Nick Kazaras		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:	Kalliope Chagaris	813-789-4134
Bookstore:	Pres. Denise Stefero	678-464-4833
Choir:	Tara Swartzbaugh, Director	813-313-0439
	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:	Elena Ketchum	813-229-0144
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	Vasili Panagopoulos	414-254-5134
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
August 14, 2022 - Forefeast of the Dormition of the Theotokos
Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (Proistamenos)
Fr. Stratton Dorozenski (Retired Priest In Residence)
Fr. John Stefero (Retired Priest In Residence)

(Icon of Dormition of the Theotokos - August 15)

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:
Forefeast of the Dormition of the Theotokos
Prophet Michaias; Marcellus the Hieromartyr

Resurrectional Apolytikion (PL. 4th Mode): Apolytikion of St. John the Baptist:

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.

For the Forefeast (4th Mode):

O people, anticipate and leap for joy now with faith, * and longingly congregate today applauding with joy, * and all of you cheerfully * shout now in exultation; * for the Theotokos * is preparing for her departure * from the earth to the heavens * with glory; and we sing hymns to her * and glorify her as the Mother of God.

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 (4th Mode):

On your glorious memory, all the earth’s people, today do pre-celebrate, with joy and mystically, O God-conceiver, and cry to you: Rejoice, O Virgin, the boast of the Christians.

- 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

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, August 14	Orthros 8:45 a.m. First Day of Sunday School Great Vespers NOTICE: Great Vespers <i>is not</i> at 6:00 p.m. as previously scheduled GOYA	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
Monday, August 15	Dormition of the Theotokos Orthros 8:45 a.m. Bible Study	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 16	Ministry Heads Meeting (Zoom)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 18	Book Study	6:30 p.m.
Sunday, August 21	In Tampa: Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. In Orlando: Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Ordination of Fr. Kyriakos Hambos (happening in Orlando)	
Monday, August 22	Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 23	Veterans/1 st Responders Meeting	6:30 p.m.

Fifty-Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project
August 14-20

When Jesus saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing near, He said to His mother, “Women, be-hold your son!” Then He said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.
John 19: 26-27

From August 15-23, we commemorate the Dormition of the Virgin Mary, or her falling asleep. This event is im-portant be-cause her tomb was later found empty, with on-ly her belt left behind. This assures us the Resurrection of our soul and body. One important event in the life of the Virgin Mary occurred during the Crucifixion of Je-sus. Jesus saw her standing at the foot of the cross, with John, the Beloved Disciple. He entrusted John with the care of His mother. This is further proof that Joseph, His earthly father, was passed away by the time of the cruci-fixion. Otherwise, He would have entrusted her care to him. Some people say that this was the moment that the church was established. As Jesus told John to look at Mary as his mother, in essence He is telling all of us to look at her as our mother. In telling Mary to look at John as her son, in essence He was telling her to look at all the disciples, us included, as her children. This is why we still call her our mother, this is why we go to her for inter-cession, because she is like a mother to all of us. When we were children and got hurt or got sick, the first person we ran to was our mother for help and comfort. This is what we should be doing in re-gards to the Virgin Mary, running to her first for help and comfort. This is why we offer the Paraklesis services and pray through her for in-tercession. Because she is mother to Christ and mother to us also.

Education at St. John

<u>Monday Night Bible Study</u> <i>Leader: Fr. John</i> Day: Monday 6:30 p.m.	<u>Thursday Night Book Study</u> <i>Leader: Vasili Panagopoulos</i> Day: Thursday 6:30 p.m.
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MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Deacon Kyriakos Hambos Ordination to the Priesthood - August 21 in Orlando, FL

It is with great joy that we announce that Deacon Kyriakos Hambos will be ordained to the Holy Priesthood at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Trinity in Maitland (Orlando), FL on Sunday, August 21. Fr. Stavros will be attending and many of our parishioners will also want to be in attendance. We are overjoyed with the news that the first person of our community to be ordained to the Holy Priesthood is going to have this special day next week. We are renting a bus for the ordination. The cost is \$40 per person, and will leave promptly at 7:00 a.m. from St. John's, and return that afternoon. If you are interested, please RSVP by emailing the Church at office@stjohntpa.org by the end of the business day on Tuesday, August 16. We need 48 people to make this a go.

St. John's Bookstore - Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Each August our Orthodox Church sets aside the first 14 days for fasting in honor of the Holy Theotokos. This fast is culminated on August 15th when we gather to celebrate the Feast of the Dormition (Falling Asleep of the Theotokos). In commemoration of this, our bookstore will feature a special table dedicated to items honoring the Theotokos - icons, books, prayer ropes, etc. Stop *by today* to view our selection.



Please give a warm welcome to Tara Swartzbaugh!

Tara is our new choir director. She is directing our choir for the first time today. If you are interested in joining our choir, please contact Tara at: tswartzbaugh@ut.edu or

GOYA Kick off Meeting - TODAY!

Our first GOYA meeting of the new school year will be held today, Sunday, August 14 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. Dinner will be provided. One parent of each GOYAn is asked to attend the meeting. Also, there will be a parents' meeting, while the GOYAns meet with Fr. Stavros, to go over procedures for the year, review the yearly calendar, fill out emergency forms and arrange for parents to sign up to do a meal for one of the meetings.

Ministry Heads Meeting - August 16

This Tuesday, we will be having our first Ministry Heads Meeting at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. In this meeting, we will be discussing the calendar for the upcoming year.

GOYA Lock-in - Saturday, August 27

Our GOYA will have an end of summer lock-in on Saturday, August 27, beginning at 4:00 p.m. and ending after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, August 28.

Adult Greek School - Starting at the end of September

Interested in learning Greek?

Learn how to speak, read, and write Greek as well as basic grammar, and Greek history! Classes are held on Thursday's at St. John's from 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. starting September 29! There are a total of three sessions, each session lasting three months. Contact Ms. Magdalini Myer: (813) 523-5771 | aspis69@aol.com

Greek Afternoon School - Starting at the end of August

Open registration to all children between 5 and 15 years old!

Learn greek, history, mythology, and dance.

Every Saturday beginning the last week of August from 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Interested? Contact our teachers!

Ioannis Giavaras | (718) 419 - 4413 | igiavaras@gmail.com

Chrisa Giavaras | (727) 612 - 7049

Readings for the Sunday, August 14

Prokeimenon: Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His holy mountain. The Lord reigns; let the peoples be angry.

The Epistle Reading is according to Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 3:9-17)

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder, I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

The Gospel Reading according to Matthew (14:22-34)

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up into the hills by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is You, bid me come to You on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Stavroula, George, Pam, and Liz; Roger Zesis; Christopher Labatos; Sylvia Michos; Eva Coppalla; Christopher; Christopher; 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, Toulia Tsaros, 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 Zelatidis, 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, John Alexander, Michael Romero, George Hambos, Dean Kondilis and Family, Bill and Nancy Manikas, Patricia Costello, Ekaterina & Anna Shushaalykova, Dora Koudouna, Debbie Phelps, Mary Voykin, David Voykin, Denise Badrane, Don Payne, Vasili, Moriah, Andoni, and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATE

Sunday School is here and begins today!
Registration continues today after church.
Please see insert in the weekly bulletin.

Liturgical Notes

Sunday, August 14 - Great Vespers for the Feast of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary—In the liturgical tradition of the Orthodox Church, the day begins with the setting of the sun. On August 15, we celebrate the Dormition of the Virgin Mary. But the actual feast begins with the setting of the sun on the evening of August 14. An evening service, called Vespers, announces each new day. In most parishes, Vespers is only offered a few times a year. For instance, in Tampa, we do Vespers on January 6 in the evening, as the prelude of the feast of St. John the Baptist on January 7. There are a few others times of the year we offer this service as well. This year, we will begin a tradition of celebrating Great Vespers on August 14. There is a tradition of an “Epitaphios” of the Virgin Mary. Most of us know the term “Epitaphios” as it relates to Christ in the tomb. In fact, the word “Epi-Taphios” literally means “in the tomb.” On Good Friday, we lay the “Epitaphios” of Christ into the Kouvouklion, the tomb of Christ. There is a tradition of doing the same thing on August 14, laying an “Epitaphios” (icon of the Virgin Mary in the tomb) in a Kouvouklion. I’ve personally thought that the Kouvouklion should be used once a year, only for the Body of Christ, which is why we have not done this service previously. However, because of the pandemic, Felix, our maintenance man, built us a small Kouvouklion because we did not use the regular one this year. So, now we have two Kouvouklia, the regular large one and now a smaller one. We have also acquired a beautiful Epitaphios of the Virgin Mary. On August 14, this year and every year going forward, we will use the Epitaphios of the Virgin Mary and place it in the small Kouvouklion. And on Good Friday, we will utilize the large Kouvouklion for the Epitaphios of Christ. Great Vespers on August 14 will be at 4:00 p.m. We will display the Epitaphios of the Virgin Mary and the Kouvouklion from August 14-23 (which is the leave-taking of the Dormition).

Sunday, August 15 - Dormition of the Virgin Mary—This is one of the Twelve Major Feastdays of the Church Year, and commemorates the Falling Asleep of the Virgin Mary. When the Virgin Mary died, all the disciples were present, save for Thomas, who could not get there in time for the funeral. When Thomas arrived, they opened the tomb for him to pay his respects to the Virgin Mary. The tomb was found empty, save for the belt of the Virgin Mary. Her body, along with her soul, had been assumed into heaven. This shows us that those who are righteous will be taken to heaven. It is not just Christ who went to heaven, but all of us can go. The Virgin Mary was not God—she was one of us, and shows to us, in the most excellent example, of what it means to live a life of obedience to God. We honor her above every person, even every angel, as we chant, “Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim (Cherubim and Seraphim are two order of angels, the ones who stand closest to God), you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos, you do we magnify.”

NOTICE: Great Vespers will be at 4:00 p.m. on August 14. It was previously scheduled for 6:00 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

Stay up to date by following us on Social Media!

St. John’s has a social media presence on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!



Find us on by searching the following:

Facebook: St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church Tampa



Instagram: @stjohntpa

Twitter: @stjohntpa

Be sure to tag us in any posts or pictures that are here at the Church!



Happy Birthday and Happy Nameday!

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

Birthdays		Namedays
August 14		
August 15	Yianni Lambrou, Matthew Peckham	Panagiotis, Despina, Elona, Gesthimani, Heliostalakti, Katholiki, Kristalo Marieta, Mariniki, Mary, Maria, Marios, Marcy, Presveia, Theotokis, Joseoph, Tarzizios
August 16	Nicholas Apostoleres, Louis Papaefstathiou, Natasha Stroud, Jason Williams	Alkiviadis, Apostolos, Diomidis, Gerasimos, Sarantis, Seraphim, Stamatia, Stamatis
August 17	Ekaterini-Petranelis Mangarides, Michael Meadows, Dean Naum, Cathryn Sandborn	Lefkothea, Miron, Stratton
August 18	Will Apostolos, John Kavouklis, Isabella Kokkas	Arsenios, Floros, Lavros
August 19	Marian Preston	
August 20	Nicholas Gavalas, Demetri Roussos, Jeannie Spirides, Elias Tziotis	Idiodoros, Samuel, Theoharis

Altar Boy Schedule

August 14	Captains	August 21
Anyone May Serve	John Palios Genaro Scarfogliero Nicholas Akrotirianakis Yanni Trimikliniotis James Magos Demetri Passalaris	Anyone May Serve
