

Parish Priest:
Retired Priest in Residence:
Retired Priest in Residence:
Bookkeeper:

Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-394-1038
Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski 813-876-8830
Rev. Fr. John Stefero 678-637-4425
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

AHEPA:

Altar Angels:

Bible Study:

Bookstore:

Choir:

Mathew Balas 727-421-7376
Thomas Sakaris, President 201-819-2319
Kalliope Chagaris 813-789-4134
Fr. John Stefero 678-637-4425
Pres. Denise Stefero 678-464-4833
Tara Swartzbaugh, Director 813-313-0439
Ruth Losoviz, Organist 727-688-2782
Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-394-1038
Greg Melton 813-967-2074

College Ministry:

Community Outreach:

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
Sandra Pappas 813-785-3747
Michael & Bessie Palios 813-523-0346
George & Zackie Ameres 813-245-3813
Maraquet Edquid 813-422-8963
Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-394-1038
Marcelle Triantafilou 612-396-5026
Karina Findlay 813-476-9632
Katherine Sakkis 813-309-1073
Chris Kyrus 757-672-1920
George Mitseas 813-748-1220
Vickie Peckham 813-758-3102
Pete Trakas 813-505-2193
Fr. John Stefero 678-637-4425
Maria Xenick 813-765-3587
Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-876-8830
Aris Rogers 813-309-5525
Bill Manikas 813-716-8185
Dora Morgan 813-613-3738
Suzanne Pileggi 813-244-5855

Sunday School:

Ushers

Veterans/1st Responders

Welcoming Ministry:

Women's Bible Study:

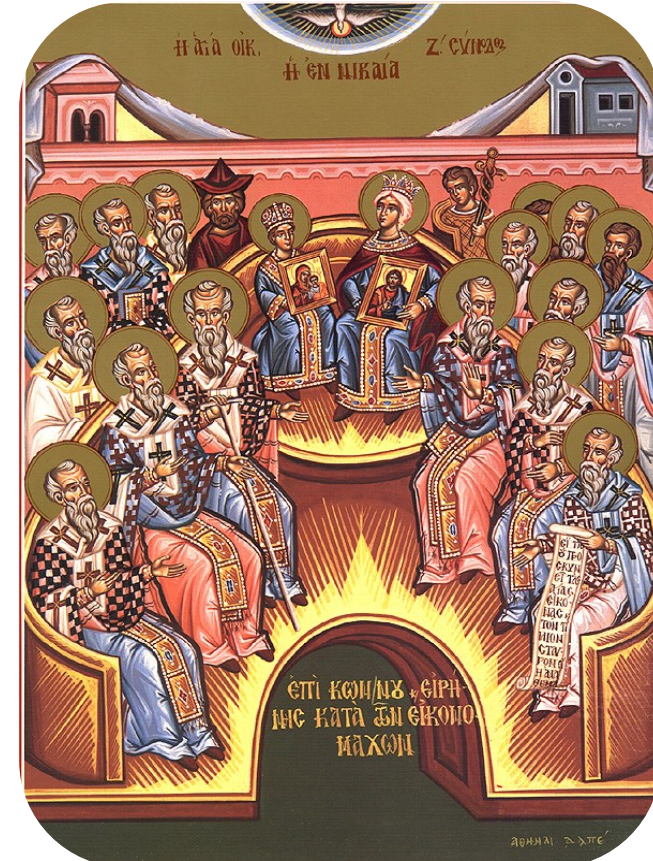
Young Adults

Young at Heart:

Youth Protection:



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church



October 15, 2023

Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (Proistamenos)

Fr. Stratton Dorozenski (Retired Priest In Residence)

Fr. John Stefero (Retired Priest In Residence)

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:

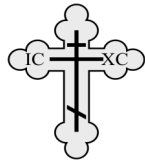
Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council; Lucian the Martyr of Antioch ; Savinos the Bishop of Catania

Resurrectional Apolytikion:

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 of the Feast:

Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be to You.



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 out of 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 October 15

Orthros 8:45 a.m.

Prayer for Medical Personnel
College Group after Liturgy
Dance Practice
Philoptochos Meeting
Men’s Group 5:00 p.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Monday October 16

Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday October 17

Women’s Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday October 18

St. Luke

Orthros 9:00 a.m.

Choir

Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Saturday October 21

Community Outreach

Sunday October 22

Orthros 8:45 a.m.

Youth Sunday
Parish Assembly
Fall Festival 4:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Monday October 23

St. James

Orthros 5:00 p.m.

Liturgy of St. James 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday October 24

Women’s Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Religious Education at St. John

Monday Night Bible Study

Leader:
Fr. John

October 16 :
Monday at
6:30 p.m.

Women’s Bible Study

Leader:
Fr. Stavros

October 17 :
Tuesday at
10:00 a.m.

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 - "Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives"

The Life and Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica, one of the foremost elders of 20th century Serbia. Available in our bookstore today.

**PARISH ASSEMBLY WILL BE ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22ND.
PLEASE JOIN US!!**

Greek Dance Groups

Y Hara Mas (3rd-6th grades) will have Greek dance practice today for 45 minutes, from 12:15 to 1:00pm. Please meet by the stage in the Kourmolis Center at 12:15pm ready to dance. We only have three more practices until the Greek Festival! The first costume fitting will take place today. We will have a second fitting next Sunday, October 22, for dancers who still need a costume. If your dancer plans to perform at the Greek Festival on Saturday, November 4, and you have not received an email, please email your dancer's name and grade level to Maraquet Edquid at maraquet@gmail.com. Thank you!



Greetings Parents and Hara Mas dancers K-2 (ages 5-7)

Reminder:

We will continue to have dance practice every Sunday until the festival. Please meet after church in the hall by the side of the stage closest to the kitchen. Please be sure to write your names (parent and child) and email/phone on the paper-work provided on the stage. You can purchase a costume online or borrow a costume. If the latter please see me. See you Sunday for dancing and cookies! Any questions: Alexandra DeMaio 813-340-9668

PAREA DANCE GROUP (7th-12th graders)

We will have practice every Sunday after that unless there is a GOYA meeting that day (October 15, 22 and 29). We are also planning to have a couple of Saturday practices given the limited time we have before the festival. Please email Marina Choundas at mchoundas@outlook.com if your child will be dancing in the Parea dance group this year and provide your child's name, age, grade and your (the parent/guardian's) email and cell number. Thank you!



Nursing Ministry



Nursing Ministry will have a blood pressure clinic and also some giveaways for breast cancer awareness month after Liturgy **today**. Come and get your blood pressure checked and know your numbers!!

Readings for Sunday, October 15

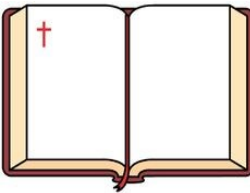
Prokeimenon: Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers. Daniel 3.26,27

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.



The reading is from The Gospel According to Luke 8:5-15

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 15TH
Kathy Kaburis & Kalliope Chagaris

OCTOBER 22ND
YAH

Memorial:

John Myer (9 days); Panagiotis Papadeogeorgis (5 years)
(Members of the Kaburis/ Maltzeos Family- Chrisoula (3 months); Vasilios (3 years); Georgios (4 years); Eleni (5 years); Nick (7 years); Stavros (7 years); Panagiota (9 years); Helen (10 years)

Daughter's of Penelope & AHEPA

Dear Parishioners.


As we do each year the Daughter's of Penelope with the support of AHEPA are participating in a community service project - WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S in Tampa. It will be held on **November 11th at Amalie Arena at 8AM**. Everyone is welcome! It provides an opportunity to raise funds by asking your friends and relatives to sponsor you in your walk or just to donate to you to meet the goal you set for yourself this year. We hope you will join us in the fight to find a cure for this disease. Join us or reach out to Maria Zabetakis at 813-748-7709 or visit our team site to register or simply to donate at:

https://act.alz.org/site/TR?team_id=843963&pg=team&fr_id=16469

Here are some facts on why it's so important to find a cure.

Alzheimer's disease is a devastating brain disorder that slowly destroys a person's memory and thinking skills. It's the 6th leading cause of death in the United States¹ and affects over 6 million Americans.² One in three older adults dies with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia—killing more people than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined.² The impact of Alzheimer's is felt by everyone who is touched by the disease, including the person with the diagnosis, their family, friends, and caregivers. Many loved ones will bear the weight of this disease, facing significant challenges along the way. Witnessing someone you love gradually lose their memory and abilities takes an undeniable emotional and physical toll. The ripple effect of Alzheimer's disease is a reminder that its reach goes far beyond those living with the disease.





Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk– October 28


Join the ladies of Philoptochos, our Nursing Ministry, and the American Cancer Society in a celebration of courage and hope as we take strides in a movement uniting communities to end breast cancer on


Saturday. October 28th- Raymond James Stadium– 7:30 a.m.


For three decades, these 3 to 5 mile non-competitive walks have grown into the nation's largest and most impactful breast cancer movement providing a supportive community for courageous breast cancer survivors, caregivers, and families alike.

Under the direction of Chairpersons Georgia Kane and Vivian Samuels, we will be enlisting volunteers of all ages to form teams, raise funds, and participate in the walk.

To join our team go to: <https://bit.ly/3tlugNh> or scan the QR code (attached)







Altar Boy Schedule		
October 15th Teddy Kafentaris Andreas Stefanou Kris Christopher Vasilios Panos Jonah Blankenbaker Theodore Edquid	Captains Demetri Passalaris Nicholas Akrotirianakis Nicholas Magos Nicholas Carter George Xenick PJ Zelatis	October 22nd Christos Nenos Constantine Ameres Zachary George Louis Mantzanas Gianni Matassini Nathan Moran Michael Meadows
SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & TOPICS		
October 15th Making Moral Choices		October 22nd The Light of Christ- Making Faith Personal YOUTH SUNDAY
If you do not receive our weekly Sunday School Constant Contact every Friday afternoon, please e-mail Vickie Peckham to let her know. Her e-mail address is vickiepeckham@gmail.com		

Liturgical Notes


Sunday, October 15 - Special Prayer for Medical Personnel
St. Luke, Apostle, Evangelist and also Physician, has his feastday celebrated on October 18. In conjunction with this, as he is the patron saint of doctors, we are going to offer a prayer for everyone in the medical field on Sunday, October 15, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. All doctors, nurses, dentists, researchers, students, and anyone connected to the medical field is encouraged to attend.





Tuesday, October 18 - Feast of St. Luke
St. Luke was one of the Four Evangelists, along with Sts. Matthew, Mark and John. He was an artist, writer, and doc-tor, and is probably one of the most intelligent of all the saints in the history of our church.

Wednesday, October 18 – 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.



Monday, October 23 - Liturgy of St. James - Evening Liturgy
The Divine Liturgy of St. James is celebrated only once a year, on his feastday, which is October 23. The Divine Liturgy of St. James is the oldest of the Divine Liturgies and is also the longest.

Community News

GOYA

Senior Lockin-There will be a lock-in for our 10th-12th grade GOYAns on Saturday, October 21, beginning at 5:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by Tuesday, October 17.

Men's Group



Our men's group will meet on **TODAY**, from 5:00-7:30 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. Any men of our community are welcome to join us for dinner, discussion. We meet at 5:00 p.m., walk to a local restaurant and get some food, then bring it back to the hall where we eat and have a discussion. Our topic for October will be—How we can serve God in our jobs.

College Students in the Tampa Bay Area

TODAY, after Liturgy we will have our second monthly lunch for all college students. Join us in the library for a free lunch and discussion.

JOY Tweens

Please check your email for information regarding the HOPE/JOY Fall Festival and how your 6th grader can help! Don't forget to mark your calendars! Friday, October 27, 2023 at 6:30pm we will have our first movie night of the year in the Kourmolis Center. More details to follow!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our Community Outreach ministry has secured dates with Metropolitan Ministries to volunteer to help with the annual Holiday Tent for the needy.

Metropolitan Ministries Holiday Tent 2023 2609 N Rome Ave, Tampa, FL 33607

St John the Baptist GOC is responsible for 12 volunteers for both the Thanksgiving and the Christmas events. Below are the dates, times and sign up website for St John the Baptist GOC. It is imperative that each St John volunteer pre-registers for this opportunity as any unfilled slots are released 2 weeks prior to our scheduled dates.

Thanksgiving Holiday: Tuesday November 21— 2:00 to 5:30 PM
Christmas Holiday: Thursday December 21— 2:00 to 6:00 PM
Sign-up Link:

<https://metromin.volunteerhub.com/vv2/lp/stjohnngreekorthodox/>



St. John is responsible to have 6 volunteers sign up each month.

Sign Up

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 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

Hope & Joy Fall FESTIVAL

MUSIC-FOOD-CRAFTS- FUN
PRE-K - 6TH AND FAMILY WELCOMED

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
KOURMOLIS CENTER

PLEASE RSVP TO ZACKIE 813.245.3813 OR ZACKIEG@YAHOO.COM

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Melissa Romero, Sandra Reyes, Miltiadis, Larry Maas; Konstantinos Triantafyllopoulos; 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; Eva Coppalla; Christopher; Christopher; Peter Nenos; Patrick Carroll; Ourania Tziotis, Irina, Marina, Yuri, and Christophoros; Ashley Snyder; Evangelos & Caroline Critkas; 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, 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, 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, and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.



~November 3-4, 2023~

~ Festival Countdown ~18 Days until our OPA Kickoff Weekend ~

‘Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven’ Matthew 5:16

Things to Know

Volunteer - This is our single largest fundraiser and **help is needed!** Please go to the Signup Genius and select a shift or two or three. We have over 400 OPEN Volunteer Positions and only 25% filled to date. Please don’t wait - Encourage your friends and family to volunteer TODAY!



Promote – Pick up a Yard Sign and Poster Today. Please share with your Businesses, Family, Friends, Social Media Accounts. & local NextDoor Site

Areas of Need – We need someone or a team to oversee the **Kids Area**. Or we can break this up into Shifts. We promise it will bring lots of smiles and everything will be provided. Please contact Mike Xenick #813-340-8737 or mxenick@gmail.com if you’re able to help.

Admission & Parking: Admission and parking are free and will be collecting donations at the door and throughout the weekend. If you’re unable to attend the festival this year, please consider making a donation.

Help Needed on the Following Dates:

Thursday, October 19 - Koulourakia Baking/Rolling 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 21 – Koulourakia Baking/Rolling – 9:30a.m.

Friday, October 27 - Gyro Booth – Pork & Chicken Souvaki – 6p.m.

Coming Soon – Dates/Times for Dolmathes/Pastitsio

Decorating / Setup – Festival Week – 10/30 – 11/2

(morning and late afternoon 10/30 & 10/31/evening on 11/1 & 11/2) – Details on SignUp

www.TampaGreekFestival.com



SPONSORSHIP ORDER FORM

Overview:

With thousands of visitors during the weekend, we offer many opportunities to not only contribute to the church, but also receive a great value in exchange for your sponsored ads. Not only do the proceeds help support the church, but they also help support our affiliate charities. Below are the details for our packages. Each package includes an online bundle.

Order Qty	Description	Available Spots	Unit Price USD
	Banner Ads - Inside and Outside	25	250
	Booth Sponsor	10	500
	Festival Handouts Front Cover	1	1500
	Festival Handouts Back Cover	1	1000
	Festival Handouts Inside the Folds	6	250
	1 Social Media Mention & Logo Added to Website	TBD	150
	5 Social Media Mentions & Logo Added to Website	TBD	500
	Mentions on All Social Media Posts & Added to Website	Limited	1000

Questions:

Call Theo at 248-867-3697, or send an email to TGFads@gmail.com

Payments:

Payments via check can be made payable to St. John Greek Orthodox Church (include “Greek Festival” in the memo line) and mailed to Tampa Greek Festival Album, 2418 Swann Ave Tampa, FL 33609. Credit card payments can be made online at TampaGreekFestival.com or by calling the church at 813-876-8830.

Artwork for Ads:

The deadline for submitting artwork is October 20 or 1 week prior to your online ad run date, whichever is sooner. All artwork MUST BE HIGH RESOLUTION, CAMERA-READY artwork, or it will NOT be included. Email a high-resolution image of your business card or ad to TGFads@gmail.com. Please send JPGs or PDFs. All banners must be dropped to the church no later than the Monday prior to the festival. We must receive your check AND ad by the deadline (above) or your ad will not run.

Reserve your Ad Now.

The undersigned agrees to pay the Total Amount Due for their Greek Festival advertisement(s), subject to the terms of this agreement.

Contact Name

Email

Business Name (if applicable)

Phone

Authorized Signature

Date

Total Ad Amount