

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:		
	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
	Joanne Dalaklis	781-888-3329
	Amin Hanhan	813-846-2957
	Nick Kazaras	863-581-2430
	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855
	Marilyn Sandborn	813-855-8678
	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:	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
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, President	813-716-8185
	Mary Nenos, Vice President	813-935-2096
Youth Protection:	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

January 16, 2021 - 12th Sunday Of Luke

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

(St. Anthony January 17 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:
Veneration of Apostle Peter’s Precious Chains; Righteous Hierodeacon Makarios of Kalogeras; Romilo the Monk of Mt. Athos; Nicholas the New-Martyr of Mytilene; Peusippos, Elasiippos, and Mesippos the siblings, and their grandmother Neonilla;

Apolytikion of the Week (Pl. 1 Mode): Co-eternal with the Father and Spirit is the Word Who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation we the faithful both praise and worship Him. For in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the cross and death did He endure and He raised unto life the dead by His all Glorious Resurrection.

Apolytikion for the Apostle (4 Mode): Without leaving Rome, you came to us, through the precious Chains that you wore, O President of the Apostles. As we venerate them in faith, we pray to you: By your intercessions with God, grant to us the great mercy.

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:
- Choir
 - Altar boys
 - Sunday school teachers (who will line up in middle aisle before Communion)
 - Sunday school students (who will line up in the middle aisle before Communion behind the teachers)
 - Then the rest of the congregation

Memorials: Stylianos (Steve) Sofos (1 Year); Stavroula (Voula) Pappas (3 Years); Stamatina San Filippo (7 Years)
And the servants of God: Nikolaos, Nikolaos, Constantine, Constantine, Constantine, Constantine, Aslanis, Leontis, Antonios, Antonios, Ioannis, Dimitrios, George, George, Zaharias, Polyxeni, Kalliopi, Eftyhia, Eftyhia, Anthousa, Argyro, Stamatia, Christina, Paraskevi, Eirini, Eirini, Sophia, Maria;

Apolytikion for 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 (1 Mode): O You Who sanctified by Your birth a Virgin womb, and blessed the hands of Simeon as seemed most appropriate, You came indeed to save us all, O Christ our God. Wherefore bring peace to our nation in time of hostility, and secure in strength, the rulers You have truly loved, as the only one Who loves mankind.

Upcoming Services & Events		
Sunday, January 16	Orthros 9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Monday, January 17	St. Anthony Orthros 9:00 a.m. Bible Study	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, January 18	Sts Athanasios & Cyril Orthros 9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, January 19	Women’s Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
Thursday, January 20	Parea & Paraklesis (Young Adult Event) Adult Greek School Griefshare	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, January 22	GOYA Lock-In	5:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 23	Orthros 8:45 a.m. Men’s Group	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

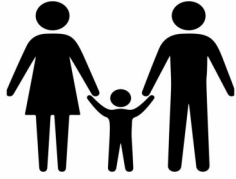
Fifty-Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project
January 16-22

You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve.
Matthew 4:10

This verse occurs during the story of the temptation of Christ in the desert by Satan. Jesus was in the desert for forty days after His bap-tism, praying, fasting and preparing Himself for His earthly minis-try. The devil came to tempt Jesus on three occasions. “On one occa-sion, the devil took Jesus up a high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them; and he said to Him, ‘All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.’ Then Jesus said to him ‘be gone Satan! For it is written, you shall worship the Lord your God and only Him shall you serve.’” (Matthew 4:7-10) Imagine if the devil did this to you or me, told us we could have all the kingdoms of the world if we just fell down and worshipped him. That would be so tempting. Of course, I’m saying “no way would I fall for that.” However, the truth is, I am falling for it, we all are. Each time we become obsessed with what we have, to the point where we serve ourselves and our things more than we serve God, we are falling to this temptation. Indeed, to worship God and serve only Him is a tall task. This is what we are called to do. As we begin the new year, it is a good time to take stock of how we are faring against this temptation—serving God versus serving ourselves. This is an area where can probably all stand to make at least some adjustment.

Education at St. John 01/16 to 01/22		
Monday Night Bible Study <i>Leader:</i> Fr John Stefero <i>Day:</i> Monday 6:30 p.m.	Women’s Bible Study <i>Leader:</i> Fr. Stavros <i>Day:</i> Wednesday 10:00 a.m.	Greek School <i>Leader:</i> Magda Myer <i>Day:</i> Thursday 6:30 p.m.

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES



Welcome Vasili, Moriah, and Anthony - Today we welcome our new Pastoral Assistant, Vasili Panagopoulos, his wife Moriah, and their son Anthony into our community. Be sure to stop and meet the Panagopoulos family today at Coffee Hour!

St. John's Bookstore— Have you decided to devote more time to studying Scripture this year? Our bookstore is full of resource materials for you. From Orthodox study Bibles to commentaries on particular books, we have a large selection to choose from. Stop in today and browse our selection.



GriefShare Continues This Thursday @ 6:30 p.m. - If you are struggling with a loss in your life, GriefShare is open to you to be vulnerable with this hurt. GriefShare is a Christian-based bereavement program open to those inside and outside our community. GriefShare groups meet weekly and has three distinct elements: Video seminar with experts, support group

discussion with focus and personal study and reflection. This thirteen session program will begin on January 13 and weekly will be held from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays. If you are interested or have any questions about GriefShare, please contact Donna Hambos at 813-843-8412 or the church office.

Young Adult Dinner on Thursday, January 20 - We will be having a young adult "Paraklesis and Parea" on Thursday, January 20. We will gather for Paraklesis at 6:00 p.m., followed by a dinner/discussion at 7:00 p.m. If you are a young adult, age 18-40, and would like to attend, please email Fr. Stavros so that we have enough food. You can email Father at frstav@gmail.com.



Philoptochos Selling Spanakopita, Tyropita, and Trays of Baklava - The Philoptochos will continue selling Spanakopita, Tyropita, and Baklava after Divine Liturgy! You can ask a Philoptochos board member or call Lisa Alsina (813-728-1094) if you're interested in purchasing one!

Men's Group January 23 - Our men's group will meet on Sunday, January 23, at 5:00 p.m. We meet once a month, go to a restaurant for fellowship and discussion. We finish by 7:30 p.m. All men of our parish are welcome to join. New people are welcome, and bring your non-Orthodox friends, they are welcome also.



Blood Pressure Screening in February- YOUR nursing ministry will be doing FREE blood pressure checks every Sunday, after liturgy, for the month of February! Come get your blood pressure checked and know your numbers!

Readings for 12th Sunday of Luke

Epistle Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:4-11

Prokeimenon: You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us.
Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

Gospel Reading is from Luke 17:12-19

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said: "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus's feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. 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?" And he said to him: "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Christopher; Elaine Daniels; Mary & Peter Nenos; Tony Ekonomou; 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, Evangeline 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

Sunday, January 16
Topic: Vasilopita/St. Basil
Prospora: Grades 7-8

Sunday, January 30
Topic: Saints of the Orthodox Church
Prospora: Grades 2-4

Sunday, January 23
Topic: Making Moral Choices

Sunday, February 6
Youth Sunday
Topic: Presentation of Christ / Salvation

Liturgical Notes

Monday, January 17 - St. Anthony St. Anthony is recognized as one of the fathers of monasticism. He lived in the late 3rd and early 4th centuries. He founded a monastery in Egypt which still exists to this day. He authored many of the monastic rules that are still in practice today. He also was a major contributor to the First Ecumenical Council in Nicea in 325, where the Nicene Creed was first authored. He was one of the leaders against the heresies of Arianism.

Tuesday, January 18 - St. Athanasios and Cyril St. Athanasios was born in 297 and was ordained a priest in 319. At the tender age of 28, he was one of the leaders of the First Ecumenical Council in 325 in Nicea, and defended the Faith against the heresies of Arius. He contributed to the development of the Nicene Creed which was authored in 325 and edited in 381 at the second Ecumenical Council. St. Athanasios became a bishop and later Patriarch of Alexandria. St. Cyril was actually born after the death of St. Athanasios, so even though they are depicted together and celebrated together, they never met one another. Saint Cyril was also the Patriarch of Alexandria and presided over the Third Ecumenical Council in 431.

Thursday, January 20 – 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 January, the Paraklesis will be offered on Thursday evening, January 20, from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Altar Boy Schedule

January 16 (St. Matthew Team)	Captains	January 23 (St. Mark Team)
George Xenick	John Palios	Nicholas Carter
Nicholas Magos	Genaro Scarfogliero	Zachary Carter
Michael Galin	Nicholas Akrotirianakis	Harry Robinson
Leo Sengsouvana	Yanni Trimikliniotis	Prometheus Koutouzi
Kenny Kane	James Magos	Leo Lenardos
Philip Kane	Demetri Passalaris	PJ Zelatis
James Betza		Niko Kyrus

Happy Birthday and Happy Nameday!

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

Birthdays		Namedays
January 16	Elizabeth Xenick	
January 17	William Yotis	Anthony; Theodosios;
January 18	Dean Arnaoutakis; Michael Kwasny	Athanasios; Cyrillos; Theodoula; Efrasia;
January 19	Niko Bavaro; Aris Rogers;	Makarios;
January 20	Zeina Fellios; Maria Speegle; Maggie Trakas;	Efthimios; Fabianos; Thyrsi;
January 21	Sophia Garcia;	Agnes; Evgenios; Maximos; Neophytos; Patroklos;
January 22	Olive Dumphy;	Anastasios; Timothy;

Orthodoxy 101 Class will Begin in January

Fr. Stavros offers this class two times per year, in the spring and in the fall. This will be a Four-week course of study on Monday nights to make people aware of the basics of being an Orthodox Christian. The classes will be part lecture, part discussion, with lots of time for questions and answers.

Who should attend the Orthodoxy 101 class?

- Interfaith couples. This will help the non-Orthodox person understand more about what is going on in our church.
- Anyone who is considering joining our church. Going forward, this class will be a requirement for those who wish to join our Orthodox faith.
- New converts to Orthodoxy. For those who recently joined our church and who want to know a little bit more.
- Anyone who wants to know more about the basics of our faith, or who wants a refresher course in the basics of Orthodoxy is encouraged to attend.

The four sessions will be done as follows:

Monday, January 17 A Tour of the Orthodox Church: What we see in the Church and what it means

Monday, January 24 Orthodox Spirituality—Introduction to the Sacraments

Monday, January 31 The Divine Liturgy—This will actually be a “teaching” Liturgy on the solea of the church. If you have taken the class, or if you wish to only attend THIS session, please feel free to do so.

Monday, February 7 Orthodox Traditions—fasting, icons, prayer, and separating Theology from “yiaiyalogy.” Classes will be held on these three Mondays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and will be held in the CHURCH Sanctuary.

Please sign up with Fr. Stavros at frstav@gmail.com, so he has enough materials for everyone. There is no charge for this class.



Gasparilla Parking Volunteers Needed -
After 15 years, John Kokkas is retiring from chairing our Gasparilla Parking fundraiser. For those who do not know, we sell parking spaces in our

parking lots for the two Saturdays of the Gasparilla parades—January 22 (children’s) and January 29 (adults). John will be there to assist whoever the new chairperson is this year. If you are interested in chairing the Gasparilla Parking fundraiser, please see Fr. Stavros.



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

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