

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	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:	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
	IIAPEA, Marina Choundas	813-877-6136
	IIANHΓYPI, 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	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

May 29, 2022 - Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (Proistamenos)

Fr. Stratton Dorozenski (Retired Priest In Residence)

Fr. John Stefero (Retired Priest In Residence)

(Icon of the Blind Man)

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, May 29	Sunday of the Blind Man Orthros 8:45 a.m.	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, May 31	Leave-Taking of Pascha Orthros 5:00 p.m.	Divine Liturgy 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 1	9th Hour/Paraklesis	6:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 2	Ascension Orthros 9:00 a.m. Adult Greek School	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. 6:00-8:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 5	Sunday of the First Ecumenical Council Orthros 8:45 a.m. “ <i>The Chosen</i> ” Small Group GOYA	Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m. 12:00-2:00 p.m. 5:00 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

SYNAXARION:

Sunday of the Blind Man

Theodosia the Virgin-Martyr of Tyre; Theodosia the Virgin-Mother of Constantinople;
Seven New-Martyrs of Kastoria

Resurrectional Apolytikion (Plagal First 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.

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

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.

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.

Trisagion Hymn

O-si is Chris-ton e-vap-tis-thi-te Chris-ton e-ne-thi-sa-sthe. Alleluia.
All those who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Communion Hymn

So-ma Chris-tou me-ta-la-ve-te Pi-gis A-tha-na-tou yef-sas-the. Allilulia.
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)

Fifty- Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project

May 29-June 4

And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.
Luke 24:52-53

This week, we celebrate the Ascension of Christ. This event was both amazing and confusing. It was amazing in that Jesus went up to heaven in great glory. Movies depict a flash of light, we know that the angels spoke to the disciples from the clouds, telling them that Jesus would return. That was probably the confusing part. How did their friend and Lord just leave them? When would He return, and how? Jesus had told them to remain in the city of Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit. And so that’s what they did, they waited in Jerusalem, with joy, with anticipation, and were blessing God in the temple. We also wait, not in a fatalistic way, like for life to pass so we can get on to heaven. We are supposed to enjoy this life but we are also supposed to make something of our lives, we are supposed to honor God with our lives and with the talents He has given us. And one of the best ways to do this, is to make sure we are continually in the temple (church) blessing (worshipping) God and be strengthened by the sacraments we receive in Church.

Education at St. John

Greek School

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

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Vasili's Book Study Begins June 9!

Interested in having a theological, historical, and practical understanding of the Divine Liturgy? In Vasili's book study, you'll be reading *"The Divine Liturgy: A Commentary in the Light of the Fathers"* written by Hieromonk Gregorios. The class will meet every Thursday from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., both in-person at St. John's and virtually.

Come for as many as you're able, even if you know you'll miss a couple of sessions. Don't worry, it will be easy to catch up and continue! The class will meet twelve times between Thursday, June 9 and Thursday, September 1.

Please RSVP to Vasili by Sunday, June 5 to secure your copy of the book!

GOYA Meeting Next Sunday!

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

St. John's Bookstore-Kid's Book Sale

Stock up for summer reading! Look for the pink dots and receive 1/2 off selected children's books when you purchase another children's book of equal or greater value at our always low bookstore pricing!

College Student Night—Monday, June 6—we are planning a summer get together at the church for any college students in the area for Monday, June 6, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. There is no cost. Please RSVP to Fr. Stavros by Wednesday, June 1 at frstav@gmail.com



GriefShare to Resume in August—Thank you to Donna Hambos for finishing our fourth semester of GriefShare, our small group ministry dedicated to people who have lost loved ones. This group will resume either in later August or early September with another 13-week program. We know that there have been several people this spring who have lost loved ones. Please keep this very beneficial program in mind over the summer so that you can participate in the fall.

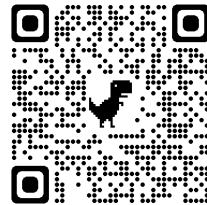
2022 Junior Olympics - We Need Your Help!

The 2022 Junior Olympics is back with a full weekend of fun and fellowship. That means we need everyone's help!

You can sign-up on our Sign-Up genius and select what dates, times, and events you'd like to help out with.

Either scan the QR code on the right or click the link below to sign-up and support us:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0548a5af28a1fe3-junior>



Readings for Sunday of the Blind Man

Prokeimenon: You shall guard us, O Lord; You shall preserve us.

The Epistle Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (16:16-34)

In those days, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

Gospel Reading is from John 9:1-38

At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe": and he worshiped him.

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; 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, Toula 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 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, 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, and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATE

GREAT NEWS!!! We will have a FAITH and FUN Summer Program for the 1st time ever at St. John's. This program will take place after Holy Communion.

*The dates for this program are:
June 12th and June 19th
July 10th and July 17th*

Our Faith and Fun Summer Program will be filled with fun activities and crafts to strengthen our students' faith. We are offering this program to our rising Pre-K-3 through 6th Graders.

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 "Χριστός Ανέστη!," to which the response is "Truly He is Risen" or "Ἀληθῶς Ανέστη!"

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 29 - Sunday of the Blind Man - The theme of LIGHT! Commemoration of the healing of the blind man which leads us to the reality of the healing of our own spiritual blindness.

Tuesday, May 31- Apodosis (Leave-Taking) of Pascha -This marks the end of the Paschal Season. It is a repeat of the Resurrection Service and Liturgy of Pascha and is the last time of the Liturgical year that we sing Χριστός Ανέστη. We will celebrate this feast on Tues-day, May 31, with an evening Liturgy at 6:00 p.m. (Orthros will begin at 5:00 p.m. and is a replication of the Resurrection Service from Pascha).

Wednesday, June 1- 9th Hour and Paraklesis

On June 1, we will be having 9th Hour service, which will last about 5 minutes. We will chant for one last time this Paschal season, Christ is Risen - and move right into the Paraklesis service.

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.

Thursday, June 2 - Ascension

This marks the feast where Christ ascended to heaven, 40 days after the Resurrection, thus completing His earthly ministry.



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

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasta | <input type="checkbox"/> Body Wash |
| <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"/> Gluten Free Foods and Flours | |

Vasili's Book Study Begins June 9!

Interested in having a theological, historical, and practical understanding of the Divine Liturgy? In Vasili's book study, you'll be reading "*The Divine Liturgy: A Commentary in the Light of the Fathers*" written by Hieromonk Gregorios. The class will meet every Thursday from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., both in-person at St. John's and virtually.

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Please RSVP to Vasili by Sunday, June 5 to secure your copy of the book!

Happy Birthday and Happy Nameday!

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

Birthdays

Namedays

May 29	Olivia Axelrod, Franco Capitano, Peter George, Maria Nicklow	Ipomoni, Olivianos, Theodosia
May 30	Crystal Calamunci, Elisa Mitseas	Emmeleia
May 31	Paul Jacobsen, Maria Pavlidis Levine	Ermeias, Magos
June 1	Nicholas Carter	Evelpistos, Gerakina, Ierax, Justine, Pyrros, Thespesios
June 2	John Carter	Marinos, Nikiforos
June 3	Thomas Katsifis, Steven Lenardos, Alexa Westmoreland	Ieria, Ypatia
June 4	Sophia DeJesus, Sevi Frantsvog, Ryan Goodaker, Bill Grammaticas, Emmerson Hampton, Thalia Letobarone, Byron Nenos, Joe Xanthopoulos, Zachary Zaharis	Martha

Altar Boy Schedule

Sunday, May 29

Anyone attending may serve

Captains

John Palios

Genaro Scarfogliero
Nicholas Akrotirianakis
Yanni Trimikliniotis
James Magos
Demetri Passalaris

Sunday, June 5

St. Matthew/St. Mark

George Xenick, Nicholas Magos, Michael Galin, Leo Sengsouvanha, Kenny Kane, Philip Kane, James Betza

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

