

<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis	813-876-8830
<b>Retired Priest in Residence:</b>	Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski	813-876-8830
<b>Retired Priest in Residence:</b>	Rev. Fr. John Stefero	813-876-8830
<b>Pastoral Assistant:</b>	Alex Limberatos	262-370-0586
<b>Pastoral Assistant:</b>	Vasili Panagopoulos	414-254-5134
<b>Bookkeeper:</b>	Debbie Bowe	813-876-8830
<b>Parish Council:</b>		
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 Katzaras		863-581-2430
Suzanne Pileggi		813-244-5855
Marcelle Triantafilou		612-396-5026
Mike Xenick		813-340-8737
<b>12 Disciples</b>	Mathew Balasis	727-421-7376
<b>AHEPA:</b>	Thomas Sakaris, President	201-819-2319
<b>Altar Angels:</b>	Engie Halkias	813-932-5859
	Kalliope Chagaris	813-789-4134
<b>Bookstore:</b>	Pres. Denise Stefero	678-464-4833
<b>Choir:</b>	Pauline Spencer, Director	813-390-1782
	Ruth Losovitz, Organist	727-688-2782
<b>Community Outreach:</b>	Greg Melton	813-967-2074
<b>Dance Groups:</b>	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
<b>Daughters of Penelope:</b>	Diane Trimis	813-220-3389
<b>Finance Committee:</b>	Gary Ward	813-846-3898
<b>Food Pantry</b>	Sheila Vukmer	412-719-1005
<b>GriefShare:</b>	Donna Hambos	813-843-8412
<b>GOYA:</b>	Michael & Bessie Palios	813-523-0346
<b>Hope/Joy:</b>	George & Zackie Ameres	813-245-3813
<b>Men's Fellowship:</b>	Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis	813-876-8830
<b>MOMS:</b>	Mary Ann Konstas	813-215-9862
<b>Nursing Ministry:</b>	Marcelle Triantafilou	612-396-5026
<b>Oratorical Festival:</b>	Peggy Bradshaw	727-244-1374
<b>Photography Ministry:</b>	Karina Findlay	813-476-9632
<b>Philoptochos:</b>	Melissa Krinos	813-716-9975
<b>Stewardship:</b>	Chris Kyros	757-672-1920
	George Mitseas	813-748-1220
<b>Sunday School:</b>	Vickie Peckham	813-758-3102
<b>Ushers</b>	Pete Trakas	813-505-2193
<b>Welcoming Ministry:</b>	Maria Xenick	813-765-3587
<b>Young Adults</b>	Alex Limberatos	262-370-0586
<b>Young at Heart:</b>	Bill Manikas	813-716-8185
	Dora Morgan	813-613-3738
<b>Youth Protection:</b>	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855



## **St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church**

**January 30, 2021 - Synaxis of The Three Hierarchs**

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

**(Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs 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:**

Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, & John Chrysostom

**Apolytikion of the Week (Barys Mode):**

Lord by Your sacred cross You abolished death, and granted to the thief blessed paradise. The myrrh-bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy; the apostles did preach the good news at Your command that You are risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing Your mercy upon the world evermore.

**Apolytikion for The Three Hierarchs**

**(1 Mode):** The three greatest luminaries of the three-sun Divinity, who with rays of dogmatic teaching have set the whole world afire; the honey-flowing rivers of wisdom, who flooded all creation with streams of divine knowledge: Basil the Great, and Gregory the Theologian, along with John the renowned golden-mouthed orator, all of us admirers of their words, let us gather and with hymns honor them, for they interceded forever, to the Trinity for all of us.

**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.

**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

**Memorials:**

Taylor Ann Koulouris (40 Days), Jenny Papadakis (40 Days), Andrew Fellios (3 Years)

**Upcoming Services & Events**

<b>Sunday, January 30</b>	<b>Three Hierarchs Orthros 8:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Monday, January 31</b>	<b>Orthodoxy 101 - Teaching Liturgy</b>	<b>6:30-8:30 p.m.</b>
Tuesday, February 1	Women’s Bible Study Fr. John’s Bible Study	10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, February 2</b>	<b>Presentation of Christ Orthros 8:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.</b>
Thursday, February 3	GriefShare Adult Greek School	6:30 p.m. 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
<b>Sunday, February 6</b>	<b>St. Photios 8:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.</b>

**Fifty-Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project  
January 30-February 5**

*You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden underfoot by men.  
Matthew 5:13*

Salt has two qualities when it comes to food. It adds taste and it is also a preservative. When salt is added to food, it adds taste. And in the days of exploration, salt was added to food aboard ships to keep it from going bad on long voyages. Jesus tells us that we are the salt of the earth. And like salt, we are to have the same two qualities. We are to preserve the Christian faith, make sure we safeguard teachings and traditions and not allow them to be corrupted or fundamentally changed at any time in history. We are to use our faith like salt, to add “taste” to the world. Where the world is “bland”, faith is supposed to provide depth, purpose, and hope, things that bring “taste” to the world. If we lose our “saltiness” we cannot do either role well. We cannot bring hope to the world, nor can we preserve what we had if we have squandered it. So add depth to our society, while helping to preserve our faith for generations to come—this is what it means to be the “salt of the earth.”

**Education at St. John**

**Fr. John’s Bible Study**  
*Day: Tuesday* 6:30 p.m.

**Women’s Bible Study**  
*Leader:* Fr. Stavros  
*Day: Monday* 10:00 a.m.

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



## MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

**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.

### Orthodoxy 101: Teaching Liturgy, January 31 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Fr. Stavros will discuss preparation for the Liturgy, including clergy vestments and the Proskomide (preparation of the Holy Gifts) and then celebrate the Divine Liturgy on the solea, stopping frequently for questions and explanations. Anyone is welcome to attend this, even those not in the Orthodoxy 101 class.

**Monday Night Bible Study** - Fr. John 's Bible Study has been moved to Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m.

Join us in person or via Zoom to share your insights as we deepen our relationship with Christ.



**GriefShare meets every Thursday In-Person at 6:30 p.m.** It may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you've lost a spouse, child, family member, or friends you've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. This can be a confusing time when you feel iso-

lated and have many questions. "Going to GriefShare feels like having warm arms wrapped around you when you're shivering." GriefShare groups meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. Each GriefShare session has three distinct elements: Video seminar with experts, support group discussion with focus and personal study and reflection. We will meet from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays, starting January 21, for 13 weeks, ending on Thursday, April 22. For February, GriefShare will meet February 3, 10 17 and 24. For more information please contact Donna Hambos at 813-843-8412 or dhambos@msn.com. Books for the program will be provided. Donation for the book suggested but not required. Open to all family and friends. Griefshare remains open enrollment with support towards healing and hope. You can begin at any time.

**Ordination of Charlie Hambos Postponed**- Charlie Hambos' ordination to the Diaconate is being postponed for a few weeks. We will inform you when the new date and time is set.

**Meeting of Ministry Heads, Tuesday, February 8** - On Tuesday, February 8, there will be a meeting of ministry heads in person from 6:30-8:30 in the Kourmolis Center. Each ministry head is requested to attend and other members of each ministry are invited to attend. If the ministry head cannot attend, please ask someone else in your ministry to attend, so that all ministries are represented.

**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!



**Blood Pressure Screening in February**- YOUR nursing ministry will be doing FREE blood pressure checks February 13, 20, and 27. Come get your blood pressure checked and know your numbers!

## Readings for The Three Hierarchs

**Epistle Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 13:7-16**

**Prokeimenon:** Their voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their lives, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

**Gospel Reading is from Matthew 5:14-19**

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

**Prayer List:** Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Christopher; 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 30

Topic: Saints of the Orthodox Church  
Prosphora: Grades 2-4

Sunday, February 6

Youth Sunday  
Topic: Presentation of Christ / Salvation

Sunday, February 13

Topic: Publican & Pharisee  
Prosphora: 7th & 8th Graders

Sunday, February 20

Topic: Confession

Liturgical Notes

**Sunday, January 30 - The Three Hierarchs** The Three Hierarchs are St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian and St. John Chrysostom. Each had his own feast day and all are honored together on January 30, ironically because of a controversy over which was the greatest. (Imagine a church meeting where we debated which saints were the most important!) Each of them lived in the 4th Century, each was an accomplished writer and speaker, each was a Bishop, each authored a Liturgy and each is remembered prominently in the history of our church to this day. The Three Hierarchs are Patron Saints of Teachers and Education.

Wednesday, February 2 - The Presentation of Our Lord into the Temple

The Presentation of Christ is a major feast day of the church and commemorates the day, 40 days after the Nativity, when Christ was brought to the temple when He was 40 days old. According to the Law of Moses, every male child was brought to the temple on its 40th day, together with a sacrifice of pigeons or turtle doves by the parents, and the child was “consecrated Holy to the Lord.” Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the temple on His 40th day, because it was the law to do so. In the temple was a priest named Simeon, who was an older man, who had been promised by God that he would not die until he saw the Christ. When Simeon saw the baby Jesus, he knew in his heart that this was the Lord’s Messiah. He took the child in his arms and prayed “Lord, now let your servant depart in peace according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light to enlighten the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel.” (Luke 2:29-32) This prayer is recited over every child in the Orthodox Church when they are brought to church for the first time when they are 40 days old. That’s where this beautiful tradition comes from.

**Sunday, February 6 – St. Photios the Great** - Saint Photios was the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople from 858-867 and from 877-886. He is regarded as the most powerful and influential church leader subsequent to St. John Chrysostom. He led a renaissance in the spread of Christianity, helped quell a schism, and was instrumental in missionary work. St. Photios is the patron saint of the shrine in St. Augustine.

Altar Boy Schedule

January 30  
(St. Luke Team)

Teddy Kafentaris  
Andrew Thatcher  
Kris Christopher  
Vasilios Panos  
Jonah Blankenbaker  
Lucas Elly  
Liam Elly

Captains

John Palios  
Genaro Scarfogliero  
Nicholas Akrotirianakis  
Yanni Trimikliniotis  
James Magos  
Demetri Passalaris

February 6  
(St. John Team)

Christos Nenos  
Constantine Ameres  
Zachary George  
Alex Findlay  
Gianni Matassini  
Grayson Borgeas-Beech  
Gryphon Borgeas-Beech  
Nathan Moran

Happy Birthday and Happy Nameday!

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

Birthdays

January 30		Vasili, Gregory, John (Chrysostom) Avra, Chrysi, Mavros, Trion, Ierarhon
January 31	Ana Lakic	Endoxia, Kyros
February 1	Walter & Nina L’Hommedieu Nicholas Reddie, Paraskevas Serbanos	Bridget, Filikita, Tryfon
February 2	Sophia Crassas, Natalie Guzman	Ipapanti
February 3	Peter Hanhan, Max Malatin	Asimakis, Asimina, Simeon, Stamatia, Stamatis
February 4	Sameer Al Diffalha, Taylor Parker	Iasimos, Isidoros
February 5	Andrew Findlay, Louis Mantzanas, Pheobe Sengsouvanha	Agathi

Namedays

Orthodoxy 101 Class  
Continues!

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 remaining sessions will be done as follows:

**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.

**GO RED SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13** - February is healthy heart month. We celebrate Valentine’s Day. We get our hearts ready for Great Lent. And we recognize the need to live healthier lives. As a show of support for our hearts and an opportunity to do something together, everyone is asked to wear RED on Sunday, February 13, for Valentine’s Day and for healthy hearts. We did this last year and it was great. See you in red on February 13.

**OCMC Super Bowl Luncheon Sponsored by Philoptochos** - On Sunday, February 13, Philoptochos will host the annual Super Bowl Chili Dog luncheon to benefit Orthodox Christian Mission Center. O.C.M.C’s mission is to make disciples of all nations by bringing people to Christ and His Church. We hope you will join us in the Koulouris Center and help support the Mission Center.



**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
- ☐ Body Wash
- ☐ Gluten Free Foods and

- Flours
- ☐ Cereal
- ☐ Whole wheat rice and pasta
- ☐ Men's and Women's razors and shaving cream (travel size)
- ☐ Toothbrushes
- ☐ Granola & Protein Bars