

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 Katzaras 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

College Ministry: Vasili Panagopoulos 414-254-5134
Community Outreach: Greg Melton 813-967-2074
Dance Groups: H XAPA MAΣ, 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: 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
Joy Tweens Maraquet Edquid 813-422-8963
Men's Fellowship: Fr. Stavros 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 Kyros 757-672-1920
George Mitseas 813-748-1220

Sunday School: Vickie Peckham 813-758-3102
Ushers Pete Trakas 813-505-2193
Veterans/1st Responders Fr. John Stefero 813-876-8830
Welcoming Ministry: Maria Xenick 813-765-3587
Young Adults Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-876-8830
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

October 30, 2022 - Sts. Zenobios & Zenobia
Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (Proistamenos)
Fr. Stratton Dorozenski (Retired Priest In Residence)
Fr. John Stefero (Retired Priest In Residence)

(Icon of St. Zenobios - October 30)

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:

Sts. Zenobios & Zenobia the Martyrs; Cleopas and Artemas of the 70 Apostles; Joseph, Patriarch of Constantinople

Resurrectional Apolytikion (Third Mode):

Let all things above in heaven rejoice, and let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm, an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet He has trampled down death by death, and first born of the dead has He become. From the womb of Hades has He delivered us, and to all the world has granted His great mercy.

Apolytikion for the Holy Apostle (4th Mode):

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. * Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

Apolytikion of St. John the Baptist:

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 (Second Mode):

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 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, October 30

Orthros 8:45 a.m.
Men’s Group

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

Monday, October 31

Monday Morning Bible Study

10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, November 1

Sts. Cosmas and Damian
Orthros 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
6:30 p.m.

Friday, November 4

Orthros 9:00 a.m.
Greek Festival

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Saturday, November 5

Orthros 8:00 a.m.
Greek Festival

Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.
11 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Sunday, November 6

Orthros 8:45 a.m.
Greek Festival Community Party - Following Divine Liturgy

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Monday, November 7

Bible Study

6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 8

Archangels
Orthros 9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Education at St. John

Women’s Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros

Day: Monday 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John

Day: Tuesday 6:30 p.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

Artoklasia following Divine Liturgy

At the conclusion of today’s Divine Liturgy we will be having an Artoklasia service. We will ask God to send down his blessing upon all of us and the festival.

St. John’s Bookstore - Books in Greek Language Now Available!

We have had a few requests for books in Greek and these are now available in our bookstore. Included are books on Achieving Virtues, Tales of Visions, Miracles and the End Times, Excerpts from the Writings of St. Simeon the New Theologian, The Presence of God in the Universe, The Beauty and Uniqueness of the Orthodox Faith, Interesting Topics concerning the Orthodox Faith, and The Resurrection of the Dead according to the Holy Fathers. Sincere appreciation goes out to Dora Morgan for her assistance in translating and advising me on these selections.



Greek Festival Community Day—On Sunday, November 6, we are going to celebrate our community. We will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at the regular time, 10:00 a.m. (Orthros 8:45 a.m.) and it’s daylight savings Sunday, so we get an extra hour of sleep. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, we will have a memorial service for everyone who passed away since our last Festival. And after that, we’ll have a community party in the Kourmolis Center, with food, dancing, live music and entertainment. Around 2:30 or so, we will all pitch in to clean up the center and hopefully we all go home by 3:30 or so. You can come to church CASUAL next Sunday. Wear your OPA shirt and let’s make this a community day!

Photo Ministry - Love to take photos? Come join our Photo Ministry!

It’s a fun and creative way to serve and to show the community all of the beautiful services and wonderful activities we have here at St. John. All abilities are welcome! Please call or text at Karina Findlay at (813) 476-9632.

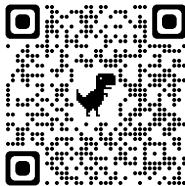
Men’s Group

Our men’s group will meet on Sunday, October 30, from 5:00-7:30 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. Any men of our community are welcome to join us for dinner, discussion. Please bring \$20—we will order in for dinner. Please mark down our dates for men’s group for this academic year—Sunday, Octo-ber 30; Sunday, November 20; Sunday, December 11; Sunday, January 29; Sunday, March 26; Sunday, April 30 and Sunday, May 21.

Community Outreach - Metropolitan Ministries Holiday Volunteering

Below, find the dates, times, address, and sign up website for St John Greek Orthodox Church volunteers. Anyone from our parish can volunteer by registering on the Metropolitan Ministries website below. First come, first served as the sign up slots fill up fast and our slots will be given to other people if we do not sign up.

Thanksgiving Holiday - November 22	2:00 - 5:30 PM
Christmas Holiday - December 22	3:00 - 6:30 PM



Philoptochos - Collecting donations for our troops through the end of November

We will be collecting items and sending them to our troops that need our thoughts and prayers. We will provide cards in the hall, please feel free to write them a note.

Food items such as: beef jerky, canned tuna/chicken, trail mix, granola bars, fruit snacks

Hygiene items such as travel size body wash and shampoo, deodorant, lip balm, wet wipes

Miscellaneous items such as: pens, pencils, travel games, cards, pads of paper, earbuds, footballs

Prohibited items such as: pork, tobacco, alcohol, bars of soap, aerosol sprays, nail polish, perfume

Nursing Ministry Thanks You!

The nursing ministry would like to thank all who donated blood at the blood drive. In total, we had 8 donors who saved 24 lives!

3-Day Vigil Candles

In order to preserve our icons and prevent the emission of soot from going up and harming them, we have new 3-Day vigil candles. The ushers will place them in the windowsills along the isles in front of the icon of your choice. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, the candles will be blown out, and you can bring it home to relight and use. This practice of placing candles in front of the saints is quite ancient, and one that is still practiced throughout the Orthodox world. Use this prayerful and devout practice here at St. John’s to ask for the intercessions of a saint of your choice.

Readings for the Sunday, October 30

Prokeimenon: Sing praises to God; sing praises; sing praises to our King; sing praises. Oh, clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with the voice of rejoicing.

The Epistle Reading according to Paul’s Letter to the Galatians (Gal. 1:11-19)

Brethren, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

Gospel Reading according to the St. Luke (16:19-31)

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazaros, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazaros in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazaros to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazaros in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses, and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to them, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.' "

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Anna, Stavroula, George, Pam, and Liz; Christopher Labatos; Sylvia Michos; Eva Coppalla; Christopher; Christopher; Peter Nenos; Tony Ekonomou; 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, Vasili, Moriah, Andoni, and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATE

October 30

Topic: Sts. Cosmas & Damian
Serving with Love

November 6

Topic: Talents and Gifts

Liturgical Notes

Monday, November 1 - Sts. Cosmas and Damian, the Unmercenary Healers Sts. Cosmas and Damian are the Patron Saints of the Philoptochos, as they went from place to place healing people and not taking any money for their services. Sts. Cosmas and Damian (called the Agii Anargyri) are also saints we pray to for intercession when we are sick, and are also patron saints of doctors (in addition to St. Luke).

Friday, November 4 and Saturday, November 5 - Divine Liturgy on BOTH DAYS OF THE FESTIVAL
The Divine Liturgy can be celebrated any day of the year except Good Friday. As we have done in previous years, all days of the Greek Festival begin with the Spiritual Glendi, which is the Divine Liturgy. Before we welcome one guest or serve one meal, we invite the most important guest, the Holy Spirit, down on the most important meal, the Eucharist. The Divine Liturgy on Friday, November 4 will be held at 10:00 a.m. (Orthros 9:00 a.m.) and on Saturday, November 5 at 9:00 a.m. (Orthros 8:00 a.m.). On Sunday, November 6, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at the regular time, 10:00 a.m. and conclude the service with a memorial service honoring those who have passed away since we last held the Greek Festival.

Fifty-Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project
October 30 - November 5

Pray then like this: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.
Matthew 6:9

This verse was chosen to coincide with Halloween. You can read an article on the origin of Halloween elsewhere in this issue of “The Messenger.” At one point, the holiday was called “All Hallows Eve” and was the celebration of All Saints Day. To Hallow something means to make it holy, to regard something as sacred. All Hallows Eve was the commemoration of all of the holy people who had passed on. Now it has just become a feast of frivolity. In the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus teaches us to pray by first calling upon the name of our Father, God, who is in heaven. When Jesus says we should pray “Hallowed be Thy name,” it is a prayer that the name of God, that God Himself and the things of God would be revered; recognized as holy, and worthy and beautiful. By extension, then, if we are God’s children, who are hallowing His name, we then should also be working to set ourselves apart, to be holy, to be sacred, to be dedicated to Him. It seems that the world, especially at Halloween, but really throughout the year, is encouraging us to do and be anything but hallowed and sacred. The Christian life is supposed to be a journey to holiness, recognizing the name of God as Holy, recognizing ourselves as His children, and hallowing ourselves, making ourselves holy.



FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 4th
4:00 pm - 11:00 pm

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 5th
11:00 am - 11:00 pm

Let’s get excited to share our faith and our culture with the Tampa Bay area!

FOR 2022 GREEK FESTIVAL UPDATES, TEXT @TPAGRKFEST TO 81010

We are proud to be donating 100% of the profits to benefit LifePath Hospice, Love, INC, and relief efforts for Hurricane Ian

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER EACH SUNDAY AFTER LITURGY
contact mike xenick at mxenick@gmail.com or 813-340-8737 to find out how you can get involved!

St. John Greek Orthodox Church ~ 2418 W. Swann Avenue ~ Tampa, FL 33609
(813) 876-8830 ~ www.stjohntpa.org

Altar Boy Schedule

October 30 St. Matthew	Captains	November 6
Thanos Kantaras	John Palios	Anyone
Michael Galin	Genaro Scarfogliero	Attending
Leo Sengsouvanna	Nicholas Akrotirianakis	May
Kenny Kane	Nicholas Carter	Serve
Philip Kane	James Magos	
Gabriel Gonzalez	Demetri Passalaris	
	George Xenick	
	Nicholas Magos	
	PJ Zelatis	