

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

2418 Swann Avenue – Tampa, FL 33609 – 813-876-8830 (office) - office@stjohntpa.org



~Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council – Sunday, June 1~

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2025

Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council; Justin the Philosopher and Martyr and his Companions ; Pyrrhos the Hieromartyr

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (Proistamenos)

Fr. John Stefero (Associate Priest)

Fr. Stratton Dorozenski (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:

Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council; Justin the Philosopher and Martyr and his Companions ; Pyrrhos the Hieromartyr

Second Antiphon:

Save us O Son of God, Who did ascend in glory from us to heaven, to Thee we sing: Alleluia.

uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the virgin woman bestowing the gift of Life. O You who rose from the dead, Lord, we give glory to You.

Entrance Hymn: *God has gone forth in jubilation: The Lord at the sound of the trumpet. Save us O Son of God, Who did ascend in glory from us to heaven, to Thee we sing: Alleluia.*

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.

Apolytikion of the Ascension: *You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, cheering up the Disciples, by the promise of the Holy Spirit; by assuring them through Your divine blessing, that You are indeed the Son of God, and the Redeemer of the world.*

Apolytikion of the Sunday of the Holy Fathers:

Supremely praised are You, O Christ our God, Who established on earth, our Fathers as luminaries; and through them You have guided all of us to the true faith, most Compassionate One, glory to You.

Kontakion: *Having fulfilled the dispensation for us, and uniting the earthly with the heavenly, You ascended in glory, O Christ, our God; being in no way separated, but remaining inseparable, and calling out to those who love You: I am with you, and no one can be against you.*

Resurrectional Apolytikion:

When the angelic powers appeared at the tomb and soldiers guarding You became as though dead and standing by Your sepulchre was Mary seeking Your pure and sacred Body. For You did vanquish Hades and

Communion Hymn: (Psalm 118:26)

God ascended with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. 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.

Order for Holy Communion:

1. Choir
2. Altar boys
3. Parents with recently Baptized children
4. Then the rest of the congregation (side areas then the main section).

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 1

BLESSED ARE YOU, O LORD, THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS.

VERSE: FOR YOU ARE JUST IN ALL YOU HAVE DONE.

THE READING IS FROM ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 20:16-18, 28-36

IN THOSE DAYS, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 17:1-13

At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify You, since You have given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know You the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which You gave me to do; and now, Father, You glorify Me in your own presence with the glory which I had with You before the world was made. "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; Yours they were, and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they know that everything that You have given Me is from You; for I have given them the words which You gave Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from You; and they have believed that You did send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Mine; all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, which You have given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Your name, which You have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to You; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

The Armstrong Family

June 8

Junior Olympics Luncheon

June 15

Available for someone to host

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN EASILY MAKE DONATIONS ONLINE???

Simply scan the following QR Code with your phone's camera and select your fund of choice, Stewardship, General, Memorial etc. You can include notes to provide more detail.

Thank you for your Generosity and Support!



PARISH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

PAP provides free and confidential counseling services when life's challenges become overwhelming. The PAP utilizes a network of faith-based providers that are sensitive to the values and beliefs of those they serve and provides compassionate care to children, adults, parents, and seniors. Parishioners can confidentially contact BayCare directly to request up to three free counseling sessions by a licensed mental health professional. BayCare helpline, **800-878-5470**, is answered **24/7 by mental health professionals.**



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

MEMORIAL SERVICE

- ♦ *Mary Nenos(3 years)*
- ♦ *Konstantinos Triantafyllopoulos (40 days)*

VISITATION MINISTRY

The **Philoptochos** encourages parishioners to visit our homebound seniors from St. John's. If you are interested in visiting and/or know of one of our seniors who would like some company, please e-mail Vickie Peckham at **vickiepeckham@gmail.com**

In our effort to support efforts for improved mental health, our parish is proud to support the 988 suicide hotline. Spread the word and you might help save a life!



MORE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Tuesday morning Bible Study with Fr. Stavros will be on hiatus for the summer. It will resume on September 9.

Tuesday night Bible study with Fr. John will continue meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Zaharias Room. Join us in person or via zoom for some very informative, lively and interactive discussions on how we apply Biblical principles in our everyday lives. **For June, the dates are: Tuesday June 3, Tuesday June 10, Tuesday June 17 & Tuesday June 24.**

"ORTHODOXY 201 CLASS" - Father John is having a class that began on Thursday, May 1st. This class is intended for Inquirers who are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Faith and for those interested in being received into the Orthodox Church. It will supplement Father Stavros' "Orthodoxy 101 Classes." Please contact the Church Office to sign up for the class. Materials will be provided for the course. The classes for June will be on **Thursday June 12 & Thursday June 26**. The classes will be from **6:30pm-8:00pm**.

GOYA Meeting Today, June 1- The June GOYA meeting will be today **Sunday, June 1**. We will welcome our new GOYAns and bid farewell to the graduating ones. We will also be planning for the Junior Olympics. The Junior Olympics deadline is June 2, for all of our GOYAns who are participating in the Junior Olympics.

BLS/AED TRAINING class for June 5 is cancelled and will be rescheduled on a later date.

Junior Olympics Help Needed- The annual GOYA Sunstate Junior Olympics will be held on **June 7-9**, hosted by our parish. Dwight Forde heads the ministry. We need help from volunteers for the weekend. A constant contact will be sent out to our entire community around May 15 letting you know what help is needed. Please utilize the SignUpGenius connected to this constant contact to volunteer some time that weekend. We need lots of help and you don't need to have a child in GOYA to help out.

Young Adults-Our Young Adult Group will meet for dinner/discussion on **Thursday, June 19 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.** in the Kourmolis Center. The group also meets informally for social events. If you are interested in getting notices via What's App, contact Aris Rogers at 813-309-5525.

Fr. Stavros will be out of the office from **June 11-13**(Clergy Laity Conference in Charleston) , **June 26-July 5** (summer camp), and from **July 21-July 30** .For any pastoral emergencies during this time, please contact Fr. John.

Food Pantry Update—We Need Cereal Donations to Support Feeding Tampa Bay!

Thank you for your generous donations of cereal, oatmeal, breakfast bars, and boxed milk in support of Feeding Tampa Bay—a vital organization in our local community. So far, we've collected over **50 boxes** and proudly answered the call for the **"Cereal for Summer"** campaign. Just one box can make a difference in a child's life this summer.

Please drop off your cereal donations at our designated collection area—located just inside the church hall entrance to the left. We are deeply grateful for your continued generosity and support of this important effort.

Need help or know someone who does?

We're here for that too. If you or someone you know could use a bag of groceries, we're happy to provide one. Simply call or text **Sandra Pappas at (813) 785-3747**.

Thank you for being part of this community of care!



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & TOPICS



**No Sunday School
Have a great summer!**



If you do not receive our weekly Sunday School Constant Contact every Friday afternoon, please email Vickie Peckham at vickiepeckham@gmail.com to let her know.

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Sunday, June 1	<u>HOLY FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL</u>	
	Orthros	8:45a.m.
	Divine Liturgy	10:00a.m.
	GOYA	5:00p.m.
Tuesday, June 3	Bible Study with Fr. John	6:30p.m.
Friday, June 6	Junior Olympics	8:00a.m.-11:00p.m.
Saturday, June 7	<u>Saturday Of The Souls</u>	
	Orthros	7:45a.m.
	Divine Liturgy	9:00a.m.
	Adult Greek School	
	Junior Olympics	8:00a.m.-11:00p.m.
Sunday, June 8	<u>PENTECOST</u>	
	Orthros	8:30a.m.
	Divine Liturgy	9:45a.m.
	Kneeling Vespers	11:00a.m.
	Junior Olympics Luncheon	

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. JOHN

Women's Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros
NO Bible Study

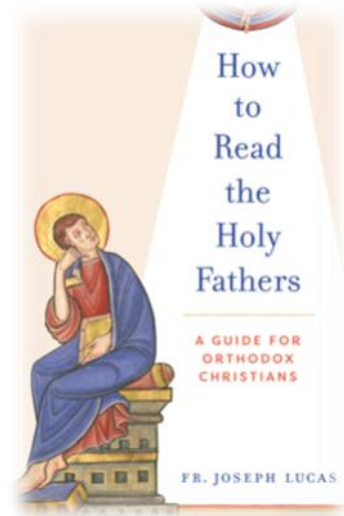
Tuesday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John
Tuesday, June 3 at 6:30p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: THE DIVINE LITURGY ON SATURDAY, JUNE 7 WILL BEGIN ONE HOUR EARLIER, AT 9:00A.M.
ON SUNDAY, JUNE 8 DIVINE LITURGY WILL BEGIN AT 9:45A.M.

ST. JOHN'S BOOKSTORE

Today we commemorate the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. In preparation for this, our book of the week "How to Read the Holy Fathers" by Fr. Joseph Lucas is most appropriate. See this book along with many with writings by the Holy Fathers of the Orthodox Church in our bookstore today.



Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Athena Felley, Melissa Romero, Sandra Reyes, Miltiadis, Kostadinis Booras; Michael I, Calliope Herman; Delaney & Alexis Johnson; Ron & Linda Ledet; Helen & Mike Mitchell, Elena, Ricky & Michael Gordenina, Tina Chakonas, Felix R., Ivco; Anna, Stavroula, George, Pam, and Liz; Christopher Labatos; Eva Coppalla; Christopher; Christopher; Peter Nenos; Patrick Carroll; Irina, Marina, Yuri, and Christophoros; Ashley Snyder; Evangelos & Caroline Critkas; Christine Alex, June, Lillian Thomas; Scotty; Desi Serriera; Ashley Kladakis; Kathy & Andrew Bouzinekis; Anastasia; Virginia Georgiou, Toul Tsaros, Nellie Pringle, Yolanda Webb, Angela Bougas, Ron, Jason Vickers, Rex Garrison, Ann Demas, Christina Noel Kouzes Houck, 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, 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, Valery, Jimmy, Timoleon, Elias, Anna, Damynos, Anna C., Anthony Welker, John Bella, Michele Blankebaker, Jonah, George Voulgaris, Carol Cretikos, Tina, Bob, Bonnie, Pelagia & family, Michael Spithoyanis, Maggie Trakas, Marcelle Triantafullou and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

Parish Priest:	Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (frstav@gmail.com)	813-394-1038
Associate Priest:	Rev. Fr. John Stefero (jwstefero50@hotmail.com)	678-637-4425
Retired Priest in Residence:	Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski	813-876-8830
Ministry Coordinator/Chanter:	Maria Xenick (Mariapxenick@stjohntpa.org)	813-765-3587
Bookkeeper:	Debbie Bowe (Debbie@stjohntpa.org)	813-876-8830
Administrative Assistant :	Elli Kehagias (office@stjohntpa.org)	813-876-8830
Parish Council:	Parish Council	
	Alexis Scarfogliero, President	813-892-1599
	George Ameres, Vice President	941-720-3494
	Marilyn Sandborn, Secretary	813-760-6289
	George Chagaris, Treasurer	727-420-1920
	John Carter	813-376-9196
	Peggy George	813-727-5587
	Peter George	781-910-9971
	Tony Magos	813-957-3206
	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855
	Marcelle Triantafilou	612-396-5026
	John Zelatis	813-727-2271
Arise & Build Capital Campaign:	Mike Xenick, Chair	813-340-8737
	Euripides Panos, Vice Chair	813-352-3972
Adult Greek School:	Magda Myer	813-523-5771
AHEPA:	James Sakaris	301-529-8857
Altar Angels:	Kalliope Chagaris	813-789-4134
Bible Study:	Fr. John Stefero	678-637-4425
Bookstore:	Pres. Denise Stefero	678-464-4833
Choir:	Tara Swartzbaugh, Director	813-313-0439
	Ruth Losovitz, Organist	727-688-2782
College Outreach:	Kathy Kaburis	813-240-6513
Community Outreach:	Greg Melton	813-967-2074
Dance Groups:	H XAPA ΜΑΣ, 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
Daughters of Penelope:	Ourania Stephanides	813-546-4711
Festival:	Mike Xenick	813-340-8737
Finance Committee:	Gary Ward	813-846-3898
Food Pantry:	Sandra Pappas	813-785-3747
Gasparilla Parking:	Fady Hakim	678-294-7732
GOYA:	Michael & Bessie Palios	813-523-0346
Greek Festival:	Mike Xenick	813-340-8737
Hope/Joy:	George & Zackie Ameres	813-245-3813
Joy Tweens	Maraquet Edquid	813-422-8963
Junior Olympics:	Dwight Forde	727-685-9028
Men's Fellowship:	Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis	813-394-1038
Nursing Ministry:	Marcelle Triantafilou	612-396-5026
Oratorical Festival:	Peggy Bradshaw	727-244-1374
Photography Ministry:	Karina Findlay	813-476-9632
Philoptochos:	Katherine Sakkis	813-309-1073
Stewardship:	George Mitseas	813-748-1220
Sunday School:	Vickie Peckham	813-758-3102
12 Disciples:	Theo Panopoulos	248-867-3697
Ushers:	Pete Trakas	813-505-2193
Technology:	Mike Wenditz	813-550-3099
Veterans/1st Responders :	Fr. John Stefero	678-637-4425
Website/Social Media/App:	Miguel Piniero Jr	305-632-4871
Welcoming Ministry:	Skip Higdon	813-391-6915
Women's Bible Study:	Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis	813-394-1038
Young Adults:	Aris Rogers	813-309-5525
Young at Heart:	Dora Morgan	813-613-3738
Youth Protection:	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855