

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

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



Sunday of the Samaritan Woman– St. Fotini

Sunday, June 2, 2024

*Sunday of the Samaritan Woman– St. Fotini;
Nicephorus the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople;
Demetrios the New Martyr of Philadelphia;*

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

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman- St. Fotini;

Nicephorus the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople; Demetrios the New Martyr of Philadelphia

Entrance Hymn:

Bless God in the congregations; praise the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us o Son of God, who rose from the dead; to Thee we sing: Alleluia.

Apolytikion of Pascha:

Chri-stos a-ne-sti ek ne-kron, tha-na-to tha-na-ton pa-ti-sas, ke tis en tis mni-ma si, zo-in ha-ri-sa-me-nos.

Christ is risen from the dead. By death, trampling down upon death and to those in the tombs, He has granted life.

Apolytikion of the Resurrection:

When the tidings of the Resurrection from the angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the apostles, with boasting did they proclaim: that death is vanquished evermore and Christ our God is risen from the dead, granting to the world His great mercy.

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: *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.*

Megalarion: *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*

Communion Hymn: *So-ma Chris-tou me-ta-la-ve-te Pi-gis A-tha-na-tou yef-sas-the. Alleluia. Receive the Body of Christ and partake ye of Him. He is an Immortal Fountain. Alleluia 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.

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 2

Epistle Lesson: Verse: O Lord, how manifold are your works. You have made all things in wisdom. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 11:19-30

In those days, those apostles who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to none except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabos stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world; and this took place in the days of Claudius. And the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea, and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Gospel Lesson: John 4:5-42

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Just then his disciples came. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but none said, "What do you wish?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to him.

Meanwhile the disciples besought him, saying "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest?' I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony. "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard ourselves, and we know that this is indeed Christ the Savior of the world."

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Today's Coffee Hour is sponsored by Adult Greek School/Youth Protection

June 9
Junior Olympic Luncheon

June 16
Sunday School

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

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO VISIT OUR HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS FROM ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

*I was sick and you visited me.
Matthew 25:36*

*As you did it to one of the least
of these my brethren, you did it to me. Matthew
25:40*

In Matthew 25, Jesus tells us that one of the ways that He will judge our lives is based on visiting the sick. One of the best ways to serve God is by caring for our elderly. A number of our parishioners are homebound, which causes them to miss church and their friends. On behalf of the Philoptochos ministry, we have community-wide ministry of visiting those who are homebound. We would like to invite you to participate in this ministry.

Please e-mail **Vickie Peckham** at vickiepeckham@gmail.com if you would like to be part of this important ministry. This is not meant to be a time-intensive commitment, but rather an opportunity to love our neighbor and make sure that our fellow parishioners are not forgotten.

ST. JOHN'S BOOKSTORE - BOOK OF THE WEEK

"6 Hours, 7 Lessons - How Christ's Light Transcends Our Darkness by Rev. Dr. Nicholas G. Louh and Dr. Roxanne K. Louh"

There is no darkness so dark that our Lord hasn't already experienced it. Feeling alone, forgotten, and unable to surrender, forgive or let go of our mistakes? Christ's final words direct us toward the light of His love and protection while giving us the guidance we need to the find hope and healing.

NATIONAL AHEPA DAY

The AHEPA Family of Tampa will celebrate National AHEPA Day on June 2nd with an Artoklasia service.

The following passage describes the Artoklasia service and its meaning.

Artoklasia Service

The Artoklasia service is held at the end of the Liturgy. Five round loaves of bread are offered by individual faithful (in this case the AHEPA Family of Tampa) as a sign of devotion for personal or family anniversaries such as name days and other occasions (National AHEPA Day). The five loaves are reminiscent of the five loaves that Jesus Christ blessed in the desert by which five thousand of His bearers were fed. The Artoklasia also symbolizes and brings into practice the Agape meals of the very early Christian communities. Then, after the faithful received the Body and Blood of Christ, they would gather in a common meal, thus signifying the brotherly association established between them by their common faith and by their receiving the same sacramental Lord. Also, the Agape meals served as a charitable purpose by providing meals to the poorer from among them. As part of the service the priest prays for the members of the group that has provided the artos.

There will be rows of pews reserved for the AHEPA Family. You are all invited and encouraged to come forward and be seated in this area to be recognized as part of the AHEPA Family.

Please join us to participate in this blessing.

MORE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival—Two of our three participants in the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, Kaitlin Zelatis and Kenny Kane, will present their speeches at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in lieu of the sermon this morning. We congratulate them, along with Vasilios Panos, for their participation in this wonderful event. Kaitlin Zelatis made it all the way to the Metropolis level competition. Special thanks for Peggy Bradshaw for again organizing this.

AHEPA Sunday—An Artoklasia (blessing of the loaves) will be held at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy **today 6/2**.

Bible Study

Tuesday morning Bible Study with Fr. Stavros will be on hiatus for the summer. It will resume in late August or September. Tuesday night Bible study with Fr. John—will continue meeting at 6:30 p.m. on most Tuesday evenings. 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 4; Monday, June 10; and Tuesday, June 18. For July, the dates are Tuesday, July 2; Tuesday, July 9; Tuesday, July 16; Tuesday, July 23; and Tuesday, July 30.

Sunday, June 2—GOYA Meeting

The June GOYA meeting will be Sunday, June 2. 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.

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 has been sent out to our entire community 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 13 from 6:30-8:30 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 June 26-July 6 (summer camp), and then again July 17-20 (vacation) and some additional days that will be mentioned in the weekly bulletin. For any pastoral emergencies during this time, please contact Fr. John.

Food Pantry Update

Thank you for your ongoing contributions to our Food Pantry. We welcome your donations any time and have a dedicated drop-off (left side) of the Church Hall Entrance area. We have targeted the First Sunday of each Month as a bigger collection day. Our greater need currently is for Bars (granola etc), Canned meat and Canned fruit (prefer with easy open access). We were able to compile 12 boxes of food, from your donations, shared with Metropolitan Ministries & Tampa Hope in the past month and help other individuals!

If you know of someone in need or wish to take a bag of groceries to go, we can make that happen!

Please call or text Sandra Pappas at 813-785-3747

Panigyri Dancers—"Greetings! Opa!"

The adult Greek dance group Panigyri will begin dance practices Wednesday July 10th 7pm in the church hall for our Greek festival performances. We will continue every Wednesday night EXCEPT for the dates of 8/14/24 and 9/11/24. We will not have dance practices those nights. The Greek Festival dates are November 1st and 2nd. Please look for any further updates in the Messenger or weekly Bulletins. **Any questions please contact Alex DeMaio 813 340 9668 or email Alexandra.DeMaio@libertymutual.com.**

Kitchen Tidy/Organize Day!

If you love to tidy/organize, please join our dedicated volunteers this Wednesday and the last Wednesday of each month. We Tidy/Organize & Clean the Kitchen and Storage areas. We start by 10a and work for just a few hours. Many helping hands make for light work! Please call or text Sandra Pappas at 813-785-3747 .



**VOLUNTEER
S NEEDED!
SIGN UP VIA
SIGNUP
GENIUS!**



JUNIOR OLYMPICS JUNE 7-9 2024

ACTIVITIES

**DODGEBALL
BASKETBALL
VOLLEYBALL
PING PONG
CORN HOLE
and more!**



*For more information
contact Dwight Forde
at: 561-310-5034*



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL

Archepiscopal Encyclical on AHEPA Sunday

My beloved brothers and sisters and in the Risen Lord,

Christ is Risen!

On this AHEPA Sunday, when the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America celebrates the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, let us give thanks to God for AHEPA's resilience and commitment to Hellenic causes worldwide. Not only is AHEPA a tremendous supporter of our Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Mother Church of Constantinople, but the members and friends of AHEPA champion both Greece and Cyprus in the halls of American power. Especially this year, when we observe the tragic fiftieth anniversary of the unjust and illegal Turkish invasion of the sovereign island Nation of Cyprus, the voice of AHEPA is needed now more than ever. We all know the members of AHEPA to be faithful members of our Church and parishes. They are our neighbors, our friends and our family. That is why we reserve the third Sunday of May as AHEPA Sunday, to recognize these fellow Hellenes of the Diaspora for the amazing contributions they have made to the Omogeneia and to our Hellenic roots. Therefore, let us take this opportunity to acknowledge AHEPA in every parish across the country, celebrating the history and impact of this marvelous organization of the Greek-American experience with gratitude and appreciation for their most significant contributions to the Church and the Omogeneia.

***With paternal love in our Risen Lord,
† ELPIDOPHOROS Archbishop of America***

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

Athena Felley, Melissa Romero, Sandra Reyes, Miltiadis, Larry Maas; Konstantinos Triantafyllopoulos; Kostadinos Booras; Michael I, Anna Maria & Thomas Reilly; Jim Armstrong, Calliope Herman; Delaney & Alexis Johnson; Ron & Linda Ledet; Helen & Mike Mitchell, Elena, Ricky & Michael Gordenina, Tina Chakonas, Felix R., Ivco; George Joseph; 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, Toula Tsaros, Nellie Pringle, Yolanda Webb, Angela Bougas, Ron, Jason Vickers, Rex Garrison, Ann Demas, Christina Noel Kouzes Houck, Evangeline Xeroteris, 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 and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.



Altar Boy Schedule

June 2

Teddy Kafentaris
Andreas Stefanou
Kris Christopher
Vasilios Panos
Jonah Blakenbaker
Theodore Edquid

Captains

Demetri Passalaris
Nicholas Akrotirianakis
Nicholas Magos
Nicholas Carter
George Xenick
PJ Zelatis

June 9

GOYANS may serve

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & TOPICS



ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!
WE WILL SEE YOU AGAIN IN THE FALL!



If you do not receive communications for Sunday School,
please e-mail Vickie Peckham to let her know. E-mail address is vickiepeckham@gmail.com

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, June 2	Orthros 8:45a.m.	Divine Liturgy 10:00a.m.
	AHEPA Sunday	
	GOYA meeting	5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, June 4	Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
Friday, June 7	Junior Olympics	
Saturday, June 8	Junior Olympics	
Sunday, June 9	Orthros 8:45 a.m.	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
	Junior Olympics Luncheon	

Religious Education at St. John

Women's Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros

Resumes on **September 10**

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John

June 4: **Tuesday** at 6:30 p.m.

YOUNG AT HEART JUNE GATHERING

Saturday, June 29th



*Celebrate the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul the Holy Apostles
with your friends from Young at Heart*

ORTHROS 9:00 AM

DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM

CATERED BRUNCH 11:30 AM

(\$12 PER PERSON)

Presentation to follow: Trivia Quiz focused on Saints Peter and Paul
Reservations and payment due no later than June 23rd.

See Presvytera Denise for more information and/or to reserve your place.

NOTE: Young at Heart will have no gathering during the month of July

Did you Know— We have a lost & found cart located in the Kitchen near the Fridge.
Please come take a look and claim your lost items today!

Parish Priest:	Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis	813-394-1038
Retired Priest in Residence:	Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski	813-876-8830
Retired Priest in Residence:	Rev. Fr. John Stefero	678-637-4425
Bookkeeper:	Debbie Bowe	813-876-8830
Administrative Assistant :	Elli Kehagias	813-876-8830

Parish Council:	John Zelatis, President	813-727-2271
	Euripides Panos, Vice President	813-352-3972
	Marilyn Sandborn, Secretary	813-760-6289
	Mike Xenick, Treasurer	813-340-8737
	George Ameres	941-720-3494
	Peggy George	813-727-5587
	Peter George	781-910-9971
	Amin Hanhan	813-846-2957
	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855
	Alexis Scarfogliero	813-892-1599
	Marcelle Triantafilou	612-396-5026

12 Disciples

AHEPA:	Vasili(Bill) Zaferos	414-737-9103
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 Losoviz, Organist	727-688-2782
College Ministry:	Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis	813-394-1038
Community Outreach:	Greg Melton	813-967-2074
Dance Groups:	H XAPA MAΣ, 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
Finance Committee:	Gary Ward	813-846-3898
Food Pantry:	Sandra Pappas	813-785-3747
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	813-394-1038
Nursing Ministry:	Marcelle Triantafilou	612-396-5026
Photography Ministry:	Karina Findlay	813-476-9632
Philoptochos:	Katherine Sakkis	813-309-1073
Stewardship:	Chris Kyrus	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	678-637-4425
Welcoming Ministry:	Maria Xenick	813-765-3587
Women's Bible Study:	Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis	813-876-8830
Young Adults	Aris Rogers	813-309-5525
Young at Heart:	Dora Morgan	813-613-3738
Youth Protection:	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855