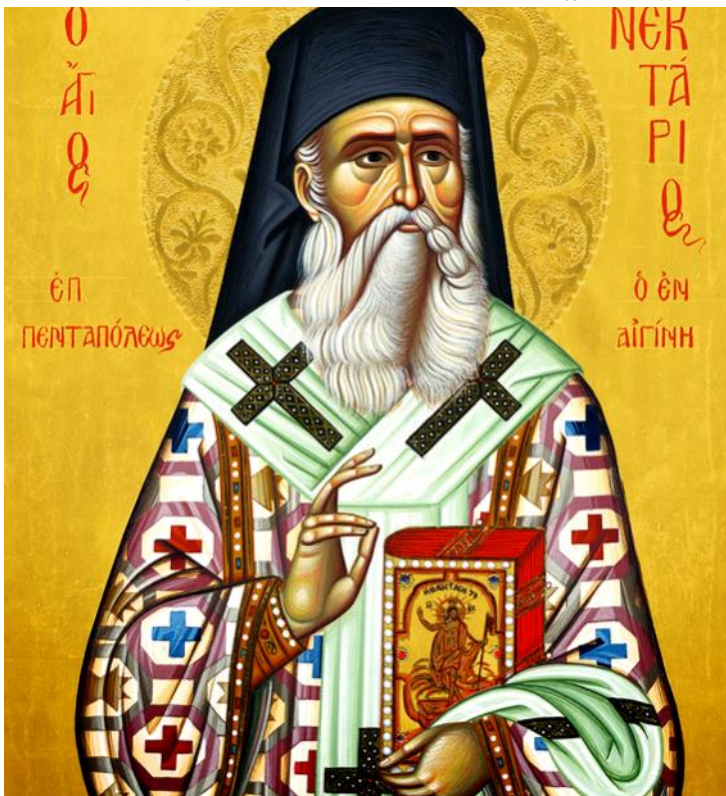


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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



~ST. NEKTARIOS THE WONDERWORKER- NOVEMBER 9~

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024

8th Sunday Of Luke—

Erastos, Olympas, Herodion, Sosipatros, Quartus, Tertios, Apostles of the 70; Orestes the Martyr of Cappadocia

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:

5th Sunday Of Luke—

*Acepsimas the Bishop, Joseph the Presbyter, & Aeithalas the Deacon, Martyrs of Persia;
George of Neapolis the New Martyr*

Apolytikion of the Resurrection:

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 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:

The very purest abode of the Savior, and the most priceless bridal chamber and Virgin, the most sacred treasure of the glory of God, today is led inside of the house of the Lord, bringing in the grace with her of the Holy Spirit. It is for her God's angels sing in praise: she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

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 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 (right) before Communion).
4. Sunday school students (who will line up in the middle aisle (left) before Communion)
5. Then the rest of the congregation (side areas then the main section).
6. Parents with recently Baptized children can line up before the Sunday School Teachers.

MEMORIAL SERVICE:

*Michael
Jennewein
(4 years)*

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

EPISTLE LESSON:

Sing praises to our God, sing praises.

Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations.

THE READING IS FROM ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE GALATIANS 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 LESSON: LUKE 10:25-37

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And He said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

PLEASE NOTE:

THE KOURMOLIS CENTER IS **OPEN ONLY FOR OVERFLOW SEATING FOR WORSHIP/**

BOOKSTORE/BATHROOMS. WHILE WE

HOUSE OUR OFFICES AND DISPLACED ITEMS.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE AS WE

NEGOTIATE THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. OUR

OFFICES ARE TEMPORARILY LOCATED IN

THE KOURMOLIS CENTER, WHICH HAS

RESULTED IN THE CANCELLATION,

POSTPONING OR ALTERING OF SEVERAL

SCHEDULED MINISTRIES AND MEETINGS.

PLEASE STAY TUNED FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES.

ST. JOHN'S BOOKSTORE - NATIVITY FAST

MEDITATIONS - FAST BEGINS NOVEMBER 15TH!

Our bookstore has three selections to assist you in your meditations during the Advent season. Each of the following offers readings and meditations for each day of the fast continuing through The Nativity of our Lord and into the season of Theophany:

- * Behold a Great Light - A Daily Devotional for the Nativity Fast through Theophany - Fathers De Young, Freeman, Gillis and more - \$15
- * Meditations for Advent - Preparing for Christ's Birth - Archimandrite Vassilios Papavassiliou - \$10
- * Let All Creation Rejoice - Reflections for Advent, The Nativity and Epiphany - Father Stavros Akrotirianakis - \$18

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

COFFEE HOUR UPDATE

Coffee hour will be held in the breezeway between the church and the Kourmolis Center temporarily. We expect the office situation to last at least four to six weeks, so thank you for your patience.

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!

DID YOU KNOW:

St. John has an App for easy access to many valuable resources. This includes the Live Stream Services, Liturgical Text, Bulletins, Monthly Messenger, Online Stewardship Pledge Form, Giving options and more. We will continue to expand the information on our App in the future. Be sure to download it today!



NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS SUNDAY

In 2019 His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros announced that the Sunday of the Good Samaritan be known as Philoptochos Sunday. We are so thankful for the efforts of our Philoptochos Chapter here at St. John. If any women of our parish are interested in joining this "army of agape" (love, charity, philanthropy), please see any of our Philoptochos members.

The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration

Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin

"A Lasting Memento of the Nation's Thanks!"



The Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin is presented on behalf of a grateful nation to living United States veterans who served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location of service. Each veteran is eligible to receive one lapel pin.

Symbolism:

- **Eagle** - The eagle represents courage, honor, and dedicated service to our Nation. As one of the most recognizable and notable American symbols, it is emblazoned with distinction on numerous military insignia.
- **Blue Circle** - The color blue matches the canton of the American flag and signifies vigilance, perseverance, and justice. The circle shape and blue color also match the official seal of the Commemoration.
- **Laurel Wreath** - A time-honored symbol representing victory, integrity, and strength.
- **Stripes** - The stripes behind the eagle represent the American flag.
- **Stars** - The six stars represent the six allies who served, sacrificed, and fought alongside one another: Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, and the United States.
- **Message** - "A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You" is embossed on the back, closest to the heart of the wearer. Also, the official name of the Commemoration is included to remind each veteran that this is a national initiative, and this lapel pin is the Nation's lasting memento of thanks.

Published: September 2019

www.vietnamwar50th.com

Veterans' Recognition – Today we honor all of our Veterans.

We thank them for their service to our nation.

In 2017, President Trump signed a bill making March 29 each year a recognition of those who served in the Vietnam War. Anyone that served in the military between 1959 and 1974, in country or not, if they served, they would be eligible for the Vietnam Lapel Pin. Those who served in Vietnam were treated bad both in Vietnam and in America. There has been an effort to make up for that and the lapel pin, gifted only to military veterans of that era, is a small token appreciation for their service. At the end of the Liturgy today, when we recognize our Veterans, we will present a pin to the following Veterans of that era: Thom Bougas, Ellie Georgiou, Spiro Georgiou, Tom Plakas, Bill Comminos, Michael Halikoytakias and Tom Georgas. Thank you to all of our Veterans for their service.

MORE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Bible Study

Women's Bible Study with Fr. Stavros will take place on most Tuesdays from 10:00-11:30a.m. either in person (in Father's office) or zoom. For **November** the dates are **Tuesday November 12 & Tuesday November 19**. We will **NOT** have Bible Study on **Tuesday November 26**.

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 **November**, the dates are **Tuesday November 12, Tuesday November 19 & Tuesday, November 26**.

Parish Assembly TODAY November 10—The Parish Assembly previously scheduled for Sunday, October 20, will be held **TODAY Sunday, November 10 after the Divine Liturgy**. Principal items on the agenda include the budget for 2025 and nominations for Parish Council.

Food Pantry Update

Do you know of a neighbor or friend in need after the recent Hurricanes? We have prepared 'Bags of Groceries' to Go, available today near the bookstore. Please take one and pass along! The First Sunday of each Month is our bigger collection day, but we welcome donations anytime to our dedicated drop-off in the Church Hall Entrance. Now more than ever, in this difficult time, your donations are greatly appreciated! We help support Tampa Hope, Metropolitan Ministries, Matthew 25 and many families in need.

Young Adult Dinner/Discussion-Thursday, November 14-Our young adult group meets once a month for dinner/discussion (and other times for fellowship and service). The meeting for November will be on Thursday, November 14, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. All young adults, ages 18-40, are invited to participate. We will be having a monthly discussion based on some set topics. The Topic for November is "how to read the Bible". Group Members use What's App for communication. Please contact Aris Rogers to be added to our what's app for young adults at 813-309-5525.

Fr. Stavros will be out of town **November 15-16**. Fr. John will celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Saturday, November 16.

JOY Tweens Group —Our next JOY Tweens meeting with Father Stavros will be on Sunday, November 17, from 12:15-1:45p.m. Lunch will be provided. This group is open to all 4-6th graders. Contact Maraquet Edquid at 813-422-8963 for more information. Sign up for text updates for JOY Tweens by texting @783gc6 to 81010 on your mobile phone!

GOYA-The GOYA Meeting for November will be Sunday, November 17, from 5:00-7:30 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. Dinner as always will be provided.

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; Kostadinou Booras; Michael I, Anna Maria & Thomas Reilly, 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 Christopheros; Ashley Snyder; Evangelos & Caroline Critkas; Christine Alex, June, Lillian Thomas; Scotty; Desi Serriera; Ashley Kladakis; Kathy & Andrew Bouzinekis; Anastasia; Virginia Georgiou, Toulia Tsaros, Nellie Pringle, Yolanda Webb, Angela Bougas, Ron, Jason Vickers, Rex Payne, Valery, Jimmy, Timoleon, Elias, Anna, Damynos, Anna C., Anthony Welker, John Bella, Michele Blankebaker, Jonah, George Voulgaris, Carol Cretekos and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

VETERANS/1ST RESPONDERS MINISTRY

Our Veterans/1st Responders Ministry will support the US Marines 'Toys for Tots' Program again this year!

Donations of unwrapped new toys may be dropped off at the Church Hall in the 'Toys for Tots' containers. The drive will run from November 10th through December 8th.

Monetary donations will also be accepted. Checks can be made out to 'St. John Greek Orthodox Church' - 'Toys for Tots' on the Memo Line.

Please share your love to help make this a special Christmas for kids!



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & TOPICS

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEMPORARY ROOM ASSIGNMENTS:

Toddler Twos & Pre-K3 - **Rm. 100**

Pre-K4 - **Rm. 204**

Kindergarten - **Rm. 101**

1st Grade - **Rm. 104**

2nd Grade - **Rm. 106**

3rd Grade - **Rm. 108**

4th Grade - **Rm. 201**

5th Grade - **Rm. 205**



6th Grade - **Rm. 207**

7th-8th Grade - **Rm. 208**

High School Girls - **Rm. 213**

High School Boys - **Media Center**

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, NOVEMBER 10

ORTHROS 8:45A.M.
(ALTAR BOYS TODAY —ST. LUKE)
VETERAN'S SUNDAY
PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING
MEN'S GROUP

DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M.

12:00P.M.
5:00P.M.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
BIBLE STUDY
PARISH COUNCIL

10:00A.M.
6:30P.M.
6:30P.M.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM
ORTHROS 9:00A.M.
CHOIR

DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M.
7:15P.M.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

YOUNG ADULT DISCUSSION

6:30P.M.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

ST. MATTHEW
ORTHROS 9:00A.M.
YOUNG AT HEART
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
ADULT GREEK SCHOOL
CHILDREN'S GREEK SCHOOL

DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M.
11:30A.M.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

ORTHROS 8:45A.M.
(ALTAR BOYS—ST. JOHN)
GOYA

DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M.
5:00P.M.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. JOHN

Women's Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros
November 12: Tuesday at 10:00am

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John
November 12: Tuesday at 6:30pm

Hope & Joy Fall Food Drive

Sun, Nov 3rd- Sun, Dec 15th

"HOPE starts with a MEAL. HOPE starts with YOU!"

Metropolitan Ministries helps 50,000+ families in need for Thanksgiving and Christmas and this year they need our help more than ever after hurricanes.

Please join St. John's Hope & Joy children's ministry in providing a meal to families in need through Metropolitan Ministries. Make this your family project and help us put together Boxes of Hope filled with the items needed for a Christmas holiday dinner. There are many ways you can help provide a Box of Hope:

- Shop for any of the items below and bring to church **Sun, Nov 3rd-Sun, Dec 15th.**
- Donate \$25 or more (cash/ check/ gift card) for a Box of Hope-
Checks payable to Metropolitan Ministries

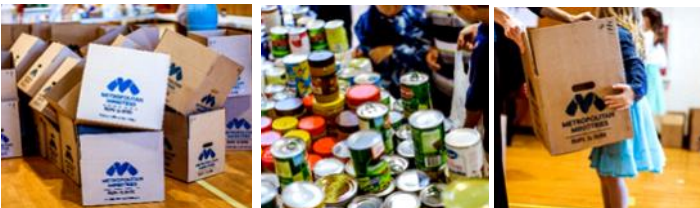
A BOX OF HOPE contains

Gift certificate for a turkey or ham	2 cans of black beans
1 box of cereal (hot or cold)	2 cans of cranberry sauce
2 cans of fruit	1 bag of dried beans
1 jar of peanut butter	1 box or bag of rice
2 cans of vegetables	1 can or packet of gravy
2 cans of yams	1 box dessert mix
1 bag or box of stuffing	1 bag cookie mix
1 box of potatoes	1 family box of Jell-O/ Pudding

BOLD items are Most Needed Items

Only non-perishable food donations please. Call Zackie Ameres at 813-245-3813 or email at zackiec@yahoo.com with any questions. Thank you!

"He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will reward him for what he has done." Proverbs 19:17



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

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Thank you to our 345 Families that have participated in our 2024 Stewardship Program. We have received donations totaling **\$669,000 thru 10/31/2024**. The church goal is **\$750,000**. There is still time to make an impact this year! Remember, also **December is Stewardship month.** Stewardship materials for 2025 will be in your mail soon. For any questions, please call or text George Mitseas at 813-748-1220.

Scan here to access our
Online Stewardship
Pledge Form



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!

988
Suicide Hotline
It's Never Too Late

Parish Priest:	Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (frstav@gmail.com)	813-394-1038
Retired Priest in Residence:	Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski	813-876-8830
Retired Priest in Residence:	Rev. Fr. John Stefero (jwstefero50@hotmail.com)	678-637-4425
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:	Euripides Panos, President	813-352-3972
	John Zelatis, Vice President	813-727-2271
	Marilyn Sandborn, Secretary	813-760-6289
	Alexis Scarfogliero, Treasurer	813-892-1599
	George Ameres	941-720-3494
	Peggy George	813-727-5587
	Peter George	781-910-9971
	Amin Hanhan	813-846-2957
	Tony Magos	813-957-3206
	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855
	Marcelle Triantafilou	612-396-5026
AHEPA:	James Sakaris	301-519-8857
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 Losoviz, Organist	727-688-2782
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
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
Philotochos:	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