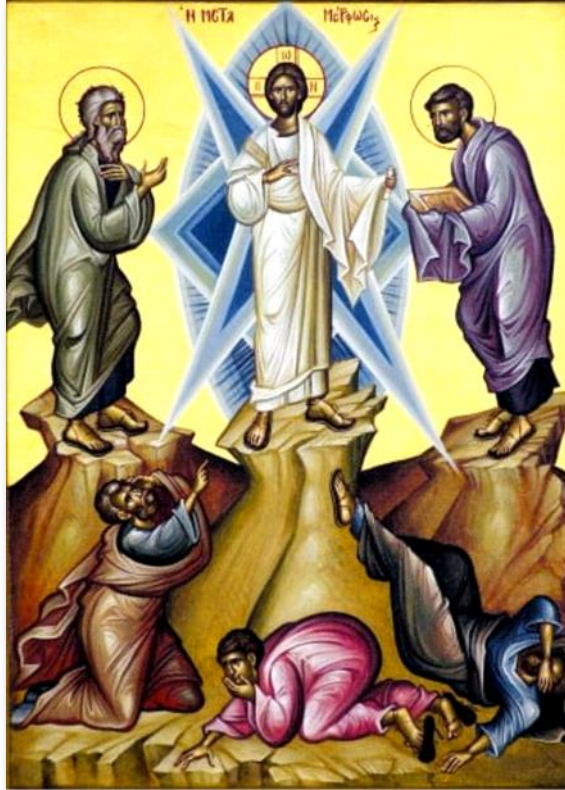


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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



~TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST- AUGUST 6

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024

7th Sunday Of Matthew–

*Euplus the Holy Martyr & Archdeacon of Catania;
Our Holy Father Niphonus, Patriarch of Constantinople*

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:

*7th Sunday Of Matthew—
Euplus the Holy Martyr & Archdeacon of Catania;
Our Holy Father Niphonus, Patriarch of Constantinople*

Second Antiphon:

Save us o Son of God, who was Transfigured on Mount Tabor, to Thee we sing: Alleluia. (Three times)

Entrance Hymn: *For with You is the Fountain of Life, and in Your Light we shall see Light. Save us, O Son of God, who is risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.*

Apolutikion of the Resurrection:

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 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.

Apolutikion of the Transfiguration:

You were Transfigured on the Mountain O Christ our God, showing to Your disciples Your Glory as far as they could understand; shine upon us the sinners as well, the Light of Yours, eternal, by the prayers of the Theotokos,

O Giver of Light, Glory to You.

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: *Upon the Mount, You were Transfigured and Your Disciples beheld Your Glory, as far as they were able to, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified, they would know that You suffered willingly; and thus proclaim to all the world: that You are truly the One who is the Father's Radiance.*

Communion Hymn: *We shall walk in the Light of the Glory of Your face, O Lord, forever. 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, AUGUST 11

EPISTLE LESSON:

*Verse: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.
To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.*

THE READING IS FROM ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS 15:1-7

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 9:27-35

At that time, as Jesus passed by, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

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 Chakonias, 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, Toulia 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 Evidemon, 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 Cretekos and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.



MEMORIAL SERVICES:

*Dolly Richards (40 days)
Demetra Kapasouris (5 years)
Peter Panoutsos (3 years)
John Boyles (3 years)*

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Today's Coffee Hour is sponsored by AHEPA

August 18

Hope & Joy/ Joy Tweens

August 25

Women's Bible Study/Fr. Johns Bible Study

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 unawares.*
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.

For God
so loved the world that
he gave his
one and only Son,
that whoever
believes in him
shall not perish
but have
eternal life.
- John 3:16

SAVE THE DATE – NOV 1-2, 2024



Opa ~ Planning is underway ~ Thank you for all who attended our Greek Festival Kickoff Meeting and confirmed your participation and leadership. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday **August 21 at 6:30pm**. We remain with many areas of need, so please stay tuned and consider stepping up to help make our Festival a Success once again!

Please contact **Mike Xenick** at 813-340-8737, mxenick@gmail.com to confirm your interest or share ideas.

MORE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Bible Study

Tuesday morning Bible Study with Fr. Stavros will be on hiatus for the summer.

It will resume **September 10th at 10:30am.**

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 August, the dates are; Tuesday August 13, Tuesday August 20 & Tuesday August 27.

Philoptochos General Assembly Meeting TODAY—Sunday, August 11th—12:15 PM—Zaharias Room—We encourage everyone to come (member or not). Will be discussing the calendar and our projects for this year. It's not too late to join!

Food Pantry Update

We are grateful for your ongoing contributions to our Food Pantry. We continue to help those in need, including Metropolitan Ministries and Tampa Hope. We welcome your donations any time and target the first Sunday of each month (**September 1st**) as a bigger collection day. Please keep this in mind when shopping especially those great BOGO offers at Publix! **Our greater need currently is for smaller items to create 'grab and go bags' - Bars (granola etc), Canned meat and Canned fruit (prefer with easy open access).**

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

Meeting of Ministry Heads on August 19

There will be a meeting of Ministry Heads on Monday, August 19 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. This one will be in person, so we can discuss ministry issues for the fall. Each ministry is asked to have at least one representative present at each respective meeting.

Prayers for School and College students

All school students and teachers (high school and below) are invited to participate in a special prayer that will be held at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on **August 11**, prior to the beginning of the public school year. Fr. Stavros will offer a special prayer for all of our students and teachers as they begin the new school year.

Young Adult Dinner/Discussion- Thursday, August 15

We will be resuming our once a month Young Adult Dinner/Discussion on **Thursday, August 15 from 6:30-8:30pm**. All young adults ages 18-40 are invited to participate. We will be having a monthly discussion based on some set topics. Please contact Aris Rogers at 813-309-5525 to be added to What's App and find out more details.

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 pls contact Alex DeMaio 813 340 9668 or email Alexandra.DeMaio@libertymutual.com.

Town Hall Meeting on August 18 Cancelled—The town hall meeting that was mentioned in the Messenger which had been scheduled for August 18 has been cancelled. It will be rescheduled in the near future.

Philoptochos Annual Fanouropita Sale—Sunday, August 25th—The Annual Fanouropita Sale for the benefit of our Metropolis Youth programs is on 8/25 after church. Help needed to bake cakes, set up and clean up. Contact Jeanie Nenos (Chair) 813-451-9116 jeanierrt@aol.com

News from the Church

We are happy to announce that we have a new Ministry Coordinator/Chanter in our church, Maria Xenick!

We wish her a long tenure and kindly ask from everyone to give her a warm welcoming. Maria can be reached at 813-765-3587 & mariapxenick@stjohntpa.org . **WELCOME MARIA!**

ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE

AUGUST 11

Anyone attending may serve

Captains

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

AUGUST 25

Anyone attending may serve

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & TOPICS



Sunday School starts on **August 18th!**
Please register your child(ren) in the hall on **August 4th, 11th, or 18th.**

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

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11	ORTHROS 8:45A.M. PRAYER FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS PHILOPTOCHOS GENERAL MEETING (ZAHARIAS ROOM) SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION	DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M.
MONDAY, AUGUST 12	PARAKLESIS	6:00P.M.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13	BIBLE STUDY	6:30P.M.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14	GREAT VESPERS CHOIR REHEARSAL	6:00P.M. 7:15P.M.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 15	<u>DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS</u> ORTHROS 8:45A.M. YOUNG ADULT DISCUSSION	DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 17	SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' SEMINAR COMMUNITY OUTREACH	
SUNDAY, AUGUST 18	ORTHROS 8:45A.M. 1ST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL GOYA	DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M. 5:00P.M.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. JOHN

Women's Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros
Resumes on September 10

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John
August 13: Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

WE ARE LIVE

*We have switched from LiveStream to Vimeo as the streaming platform for our church services You can easily access our Live and Recorded Events from the following URL link: <https://stjohntpa.org/live>
This link will be included in the weekly Constant Contact Bulletin Message and is also accessible from our Church Website and SJGOC App. The sermon portion of services will continue to be shared on YouTube as recordings. Happy Streaming!
Please call our Church Office with any questions.*



Philoptochos

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING TODAY

August 11th—12:15 PM—1 PM—Zaharias Room

We encourage everyone to come (member or not).

Will be discussing the calendar and our projects for this year.

It's not too late to join!

Come hear what it is all about.

Try it! You'll like it!



Philoptochos

Annual Phanouropita Sale

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25TH

On Sunday August 25th the Ladies Philoptochos Society will sponsor Phanouropita Sunday honoring St. Phanourios the Great Martyr. The Saint has become known for revealing lost things, hidden spiritual matters of the heart, actions that should be taken, and even restoring health. The sweet cake (Phanouropita) will be blessed by Fr. Stavros with prayers for the faithful. Afterwards the cake will be served and offered for purchase in the fellowship hall with all proceeds to benefit the Metropolis Youth Programs.

Would you like to bake a Phanouropita?

See Jeanie Nenos (Chair) (813) 451-9116 jeaniertt@aol.com .

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
Ministry Coordinator/Chanter:	Maria Xenick	813-765-3587
Bookkeeper:	Debbie Bowe	813-876-8830
Administrative Assistant :	Elli Kehagias	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
	Suzanne Pileggi	813-244-5855
	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 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
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 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	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