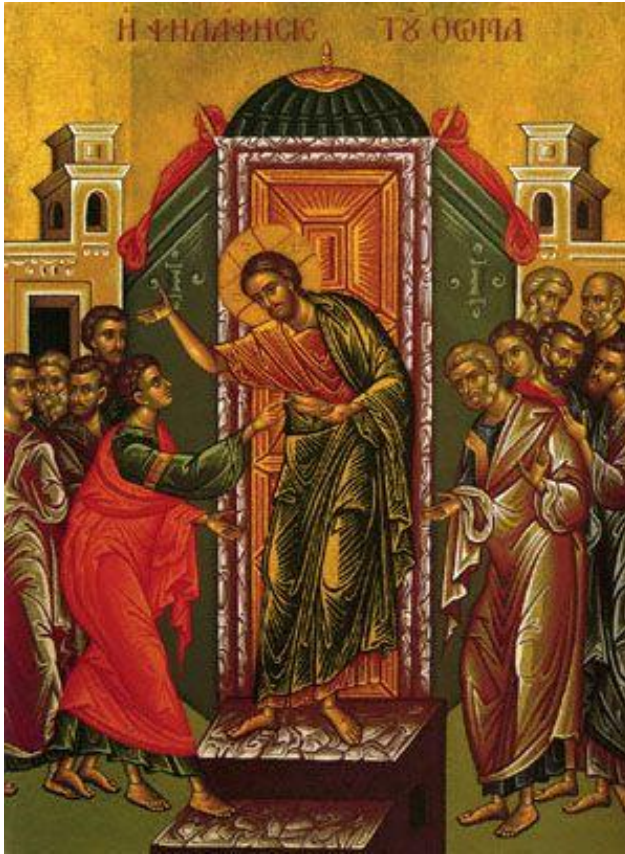


St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

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



Thomas Sunday

Sunday, May 12

*Thomas Sunday;
Martyrs Emmanuel, Theodore, George, Michael &
the other George of Samothrace; Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus;
Germanos, 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:

*Thomas Sunday; Martyrs Emmanuel, Theodore, George, Michael & the other
George of Samothrace; Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus; Germanos,
Patriarch of Constantinople*

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 the Resurrection:

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 St. Thomas:

With the tomb sealed securely, O Christ the Life, You rose from the grave, and with the doors tightly closed, You came to Your Apostles, O Resurrection of all, renewing in us a right Spirit through them, according to Your 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.

Trisagion Hymn:

O-si is Chris-ton e-vap-tis-thi-te Chris-ton e-ne-thi-sa-s-the. Alliluaia.

All those who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia

Megalinarion: *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. Alliluaia.*

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—*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.

Readings for Sunday, May 12

Epistle Lesson: Verse: Great is our Lord, and great is his power.
Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 5:12-20

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and My God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, you may have life in His name.

Divine Liturgy to begin at 10:00am, starting on May 12.

Beginning May 12, Orthros will be at 8:45am and Divine Liturgy will be 10:00am on Sundays. During the week, Orthros will be at 9:00am and Divine Liturgy will be at 10:00am.

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Today's Coffee Hour is sponsored by Men's Group

May 19
Parish Council

May 26
Veterans

OUR PHILOPTOCHOS CHAPTER NOW 67
MEMBERS STRONG!
BUT WE STILL NEED YOU!!

*See Presvytera Denise in the Bookstore to
complete your membership form.*

*We accept new members continually
throughout the year.*

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

Young At Heart Monastery Visit

*Young at Heart is sponsoring a bus trip to the Panagia
Vlahernon and Annunciation of the Theotokos
Monasteries located near Ocala on Saturday, May
18th. We will visit both monasteries and have lunch at
the women's monastery before heading home. A few
seats still remain. Cost is \$20.*

See Presvytera Denise for more information.





Ladies Philoptochos Society

End of Year Luncheon

Sunday, June 2nd – 1 pm

Byblos

2832 South Macdill Avenue

Tampa, FL 33629

Your choice of:

*Kafta (ground beef) Kabob or Chicken Kabob
with Veggies*

served with

Hummus, Salad, Labneh, and Pita

Baklava

Iced Tea, Soft Drinks, Water

(cash bar available)

\$35 per person all inclusive

***Space is limited so reserve your place with
your payment today!***

See Presvytera Denise for reservations.

Deadline May 26th.

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.

The Philoptochos would like to thank the following parishioners who have stepped up to make visitations. They are Fr. Stavros, Pres. Lisa, Fr. John, Pres. Denise, Julie Palios, Jim and Myra Armstrong, Georgia Diamantakes, Cindy Xenick, Vickie Peckham, Lisa Alsina, Kaliope Chagaris, Dora Morgan, Nancy Manikas, Aristotle Pantelis, Ourania Stephanies, Edie Kavouklis, and Elaine Daniels.

*Thank You for the generous donations of
bed sheets and bath towels received from
our parish during the 1st Responders/
Veterans & Community Outreach drive in
April. Our collections required 2 deliveries to
Tampa Hope. Seven collection barrels were
packed with donations. Your outreach pro-
vided some comfort to 90 folks in need.*

Thank you and God Bless you!

***"The residents of Tampa Hope
homeless shelter"***

St. John's Bookstore



Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Having risen from the grave, as He foretold,
He has given us Eternal Life and the Great Mercy. (The Resurrection Ode)

With gratitude for your support and with prayers for God's blessings
in this Holy Season of Pascha!

Presvytera Denise, Elaina Stefero , and Diane Trimis

"Your Bookstore Staff"

MORE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Sunday May 12– Thomas Sunday / Mother’s Day

The Church brings to our mind the unbelief of Thomas followed by his belief after seeing the scars of Christ. There will be Orthros 8:45 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Monday, May 13– Meeting of Ministry Heads

We will have a meeting of ministry heads on Monday, May 13, in the Kourmolis Center from 6:30-8:30 p.m.. We ask that each ministry send at least one representative. We meet periodically to check in and to look over the next few months in the life of our parish. This meeting in particular will be focusing on introducing our church expansion project.

Sunday, May 19– Men’s Group

Our men’s group will meet on Sunday, May 19 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. Any men of our community are welcome to join us for dinner, discussion. We meet at 5:00 p.m., walk to a local restaurant and get some food, then bring it back to the hall where we eat and have a discussion. Our topic for May will be “Reflections on our Recent Holy Week Journey.”

Sunday, June 2– GOYA Meeting– No Meeting in May

There will not be a GOYA meeting in May. 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 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.

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 also targeted the First Sunday of each Month as a bigger collection day. We were able to compile 12 boxes of food, from your donations, shared with Metropolitan Ministries & Tampa Hope in the past month! 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.

Graduates pictures

We look forward to receive your pictures from your graduates, so that we can post them on our Monthly Messenger. Please, send them as soon as possible at the office email: office@stjohntpa.org



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

YOU ARE INVITED TO TOUR OUR ENTIRE CAMPUS

**HONORING OUR PAST
BUILDING FOR OUR FUTURE**

WE ARE THRILLED TO SHARE THE VISION TO :

EXPAND THE CHURCH SANCTUARY

Add more seats, bathrooms, accessibility ramps, Narthex

UPDATE THE KOURMOLIS CENTER

Renovate and remodel the kitchen and bathrooms

REDESIGN THE PARKING AND GROUNDS

Create more parking, prayer garden, updated playground, covered walkway, green spaces

RELOCATE THE OFFICE INTO THE EXISTING SCHOOL
BUILDING/ESTABLISH MINISTRY FACILITIES

Develop Sunday school classrooms, a small hall, meeting rooms, church offices

SUNDAY 5/19/2024

Immediately following Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour will be held in the school library.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to come and see plans and renderings, as well as walk around our campus and our facilities, ask questions, offer suggestions, and most importantly, envision the possibilities for our parish.

A COMMUNITY THANK YOU!



Christos Anesti! Christ is Risen!

We experienced a beautiful Lenten Journey and Holy Week at St. John's the past few months. We are deeply grateful to our Clergy, Ministries and Parishioners that contributed their time, talents, and donations to make this happen. The behind-the-scenes effort is extensive. Even more so without a pastoral assistant but true to our Core Values the community came together giving of their Love and Service! If you would like to get involved in a ministry or give time individually but don't know where to start, please contact our church office with 'I want to help' in the subject line of an email or call direct. We will be happy to have a conversation about our ongoing and future needs!

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; Dora Kallas, 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 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.

Did You Know? - Our Photo Ministry captured the essence of Holy Week with their creative talents!

Hundreds of beautiful photos were compiled, and the best of the best are displayed on our Flickr account.

You can view these on the church website under

<https://stjohntpa.org/flickr-photos> and download your favorites.

If you would like to contribute your photo skills to future events, please contact Karina

Findlay at (813)-476-9632.



Altar Boy Schedule

May 19

Gabriel Gonzales
Michael Galin
Philip Kane
Kenny Kane
Peter Konstas

Captains

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

May 26

Anyone attending may serve

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & TOPICS

May 19

**Last Day of Sunday
School- Youth Sunday**



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

Upcoming Services & Events

Tuesday, May 14

Women's Bible Study
Bible Study

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

Wednesday, May 15

**Fr. Stavros' Anniversary
of Ordination**
Orthros 9:00 a.m.
Choir Practice
AHEPA Installation

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

Saturday, May 18

Community Outreach
Children's Greek School
Young at Heart Monastery Trip

Sunday, May 19

Orthros 8:45 a.m.
Youth Sunday
Campus Tour- Coffee Hour in library
Last day of Sunday school- Graduation, end of year party
Men's Group

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

Religious Education at St. John

Women's Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros

May 14: **Tuesday** at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John

May 14: **Tuesday** at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School

CANDY LAND

End of Year Party

Please Join Us

Sunday, May 19th, 2024

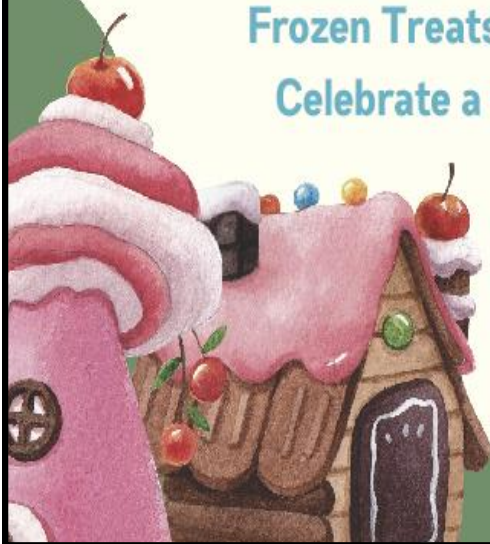
following Divine Liturgy on Campus

Burgers and Hot Dogs

Frozen Treats, Yard Games and More to

Celebrate a Great Year and Summer!

Please let us know if you would like to help with this event by contacting Zackie at 813.245.3813



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:	Thomas Sakaris, President	201-819-2319
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:	Η ΧΑΡΑ 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:	Elena Ketchum	813-229-0144
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