

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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



*~The Sunday of All Saints – Sunday, June 15~*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025**

*The Sunday of All Saints; Amos the Prophet;  
Our Righteous Father Hieronymus*

**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:**

*The Sunday of All Saints; Amos the Prophet; Our Righteous Father Hieronymus*

**Resurrectional Apolytikion:** *From Above did You descend O Christ our God. For us did You endure three days in the tomb, that we may be relieved from passions in this world. You who are our Resurrection and our Life: Glory to You, O Lord.*

**Apolytikion for All Saints:** *Your Church having bedecked herself, with the blood of all Your Martyrs in the world, as with the finest linen and purple robe, through them cries out to You, O Christ our God: Send down Your compassion upon Your people, grant peace to Your community, and to our souls Your 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:** *Unto You, O Lord, the Author of Creation, the universe does offer the God-bearing Martyrs as the first-fruits of nature. By whose prayers, through the Theotokos, do You preserve in profound peace Your Church, O most Merciful One.*

**Communion Hymn: (Psalm 118:26)** *Exalt, you just, in the Lord; from the upright, praise is fitting. 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 15

GOD IS WONDERFUL AMONG HIS SAINTS.

VERSE: BLESS GOD IN THE CONGREGATIONS.

### **THE READING IS FROM ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE HEBREWS 11:33-40; 12:1-2**

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

### **GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30**

The Lord said to His disciples, "Every one who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before My Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny him before My Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lord, we have left everything and followed You. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for My name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

## MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

### UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Nursing Ministry

June 22

Sorolis & Frey Family

June 29

Young At Heart

**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

### 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 date is: Tuesday June 17. There will be NO Bible Study on Tuesday, June 24.**

**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.

**"ORTHODOXY 201 CLASS"** - Father John is having a class that 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. There will be **NO classes for June**. The classes for July are on **Thursday July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31**. The classes will be from 6:30pm-8:00pm. We will continue our discussion of the book entitled "Know the Faith: A Handbook for Orthodox Christians and Inquirers".

**Men's Group**- Our men's group will meet on **Sunday, June 22 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.

### **Kitchen (Plus) Tidy & Organize Day - Wednesday, June 25 at 10:00 AM**

We're in need of extra helping hands, Wednesday, June 25 at 10:00 AM to help clean, organize, and refresh our Community Kitchen and other areas that need attention. With our many events your help will make a big difference in keeping things running smoothly. For more info or to volunteer, call or text Sandra Pappas at (813) 785-3747.

**Fr. Stavros will be out of the office** from **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 donations to date! We are collecting for the "Cereal for Summer" campaign until the end of June and kindly ask for donations of cereal, oatmeal, breakfast bars, and boxed milk in support of Feeding Tampa Bay – a vital organization in our local community. 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](mailto:vickiepeckham@gmail.com) to let her know.

## UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

<b>Sunday, June 15</b>	<u><b>All Saints Day/Father's Day</b></u> Orthros Divine Liturgy	8:45a.m. 10:00a.m.
<b>Tuesday, June 17</b>	Bible Study with Fr. John	6:30p.m.
<b>Wednesday, June 18</b>	Paraklesis Choir	6:00p.m. 7:15p.m.
<b>Thursday, June 19</b>	Young Adult Discussion	7:00p.m.
<b>Friday, June 20</b>	AHEPA-Daughters Scholarship Dinner	6:00p.m.
<b>Saturday, June 21</b>	Community Outreach	
<b>Sunday, June 22</b>	Orthros Divine Liturgy Men's Group	8:45a.m. 10:00a.m. 5:00p.m.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. JOHN

**Women's Bible Study**  
Leader: Fr. Stavros  
**NO Bible Study**

**Tuesday Night Bible Study**  
Leader: Fr. John  
**Tuesday, June 17 at 6:30p.m.**

## ST. JOHN'S BOOKSTORE



Summer isn't the time to take a vacation from your faith. Dig into God's Word and find deep refreshment for your heart, mind, and soul.

Whether traveling to a vacation destination, relaxing on the beach, or simply lounging on your lanai while sipping a glass of iced tea, you can renew your spirit in the study of Holy Scripture, our Holy Orthodox Faith, the lives of the Saints, Prayer and Meditation, and many other topics.

Set an example for your children and encourage them to choose books that get them away from the tablets and phones and closer to our Lord.

Stop into our bookstore soon and stock up on books for your Summer Reading!!



AHEPA LYCURGUS CHAPTER 12  
DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE ALCMAEON CHAPTER 167  
SONS OF PERICLES CHAPTER 39  
MAIDS OF ATHENA NIKKI CHAPTER 39

The AHEPA FAMILY OF TAMPA invites you to its

### **Scholarship Awards and Installation of Officers Ceremony**

Friday, June 20, 2025 @6:00PM **(UPDATED)**

St John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

Kourmolis Center

Dinner will be provided

PLEASE RSVP BY JUNE 7, 2025, to:

Jim Sakaris at [panathenikos@gmail.com](mailto:panathenikos@gmail.com) or

Ourania Stephanides at [stephanides.ourania@gmail.com](mailto:stephanides.ourania@gmail.com)

**\*Please consider a donation to the AHEPA Family of Tampa Scholarship Fund.**

**Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants:** Athena Felley, Melissa Romero, Sandra Reyes, Miltiadis, Kostadinos 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, Toulia 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 Blanckebaker, Jonah, George Voulgaris, Carol Cretikos, Tina, Bob, Bonnie, Pelagia & family, Michael Spithoyanis, Maggie Trakas, Marcelle Triantafyllou and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

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