

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

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



Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

Sunday, May 19, 2024

*Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women;
Joseph of Arimathea; Nikodemos*

(Coffee hour is in the school library today)

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 Myrrh-Bearing Women;
Joseph of Arimathea; Nikodemos*

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.

The angel stood by the tomb, and cried aloud to the myrrh-bearing women: myrrh is fitting for the dead, but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption. Cry out instead: Christ is risen granting great mercy to the world.

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. 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.*

Apolytikion of the Myrrh-Bearers:

When You descended to the realm of death, You as Life immortal, rendered to Hades a mortal blow, through Your Divine Radiance. And when You, from the depths of Hades and the darkness below, did raise the dead all the powers of heaven did proclaim and cry out: O life-giving Christ and our God we give glory.

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.*

The Noble Joseph, taking down Your most pure Body from the Tree, wrapped It in clean linen with sweet spices, and laid It in a new tomb. But You rose on the third day, O Lord, granting great mercy to the world.

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 19

Epistle Lesson: Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.
The Lord is my strength and my song.

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "it is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Gospel Lesson: Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Today's Coffee Hour is sponsored by Parish Council

May 26
Veterans

June 2
Adult Greek School/Youth Protection

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 ENTERED *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.

*~THANK YOU to the TEACHERS,
PARENTS, and especially the CHILDREN for
making our
Sunday School year so special.
Thank you Fr. Stavros for your leadership and
guidance.~*

OUR WONDERFUL TEACHERS:

Director of Sunday School: *Vickie Peckham*

Music Programs: *Maria Xenick*

Toddler TWO Program: *Jenny Paloumpis*

Pre-K THREE: *Zackie Ameres and Mary Guirguis*

Pre-K FOUR: *Denise Panos and Rachel Zaharis*

Kindergarten: *Debbie Nicklow and Donna Trakas*

Grade 1: *Maraquet Edquid and Doukissa Moshos*

Grade 2: *Nicole Mantzanas and Jaime Brewer*

Grade 3: *Amy Kafantaris and Stamie Garcia*

Grade 4: *Georgia Kane and Vivian Laliotis Samuel*

Grade 5: *Vickie Peckham*

Grade 6: *Stefanie Moran and Katherine Kyrus*

7th and 8th Grade: *Betty Katherine Katsamakias and Marina Choundas*

High School: *GIRLS: MaryAnn Konstas BOYS: Jimmy Konstas*



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.

THE AHEPA and the DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE 2024-2025

An installation was held in the Kourmolis Hall on Wednesday, May 15th for the newly elected leadership. Special guests from the Citrus District 2 Lodges of Florida included AHEPA District 2 Governor Jimmy Makris of New Port Richey and Lt. Governor William “Bill” Paul of Tarpon Springs. A delicious meal was provided for the event. Let’s thank the outgoing officers AHEPA President Tom Sakaris, DOP President Elena Paras Ketchum and DOP Treasurer Nicole Leontsinis and congratulate the new officers. Please consider joining their efforts in promoting the Hellenic ideals of Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence through community service and volunteerism. For more information about these organizations, please visit www.ahepa.org and www.daughtersofpenelope.org

AHEPA 2024-2025

Officers



President: Vasili Zaferos

Vice-President: James Sakaris

Secretary: Peter Theophanous

Treasurer: Tom Georgas

Daughter of Penelope

2024-2025 Officers



President: Ourania Stephanides

Vice-President: Maria Zabetakis

Secretary: Cindy Kladakis

Treasurer: Melissa Krinos

Upcoming Dates:

- June 2 AHEPA Day with an artoclasia after the Divine Liturgy.
- July 28 Coffee Hour hosted by the Daughters of Penelope.
- August 4 Coffee Hour hosted by AHEPA.

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 provided some comfort to 90 folks in need. Thank you and God Bless you!

“The residents of Tampa Hope homeless shelter”

MORE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

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.” **The Men’s group will not be meeting in June.** We will resume our meetings in August. Tuesday morning Bible Study with Fr. Stavros will be on hiatus for the summer. It will resume in late August or September.

St. John's Bookstore - Closed Today 5-19!

Due to change of venue for our fellowship today, our bookstore will be closed. If you need something immediately, please see Presvytera Denise and she will open the store for you. We will reopen on Sunday, May 26th.

Sunday, June 2– GOYA Meeting

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.

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 from May 22– May 25, 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

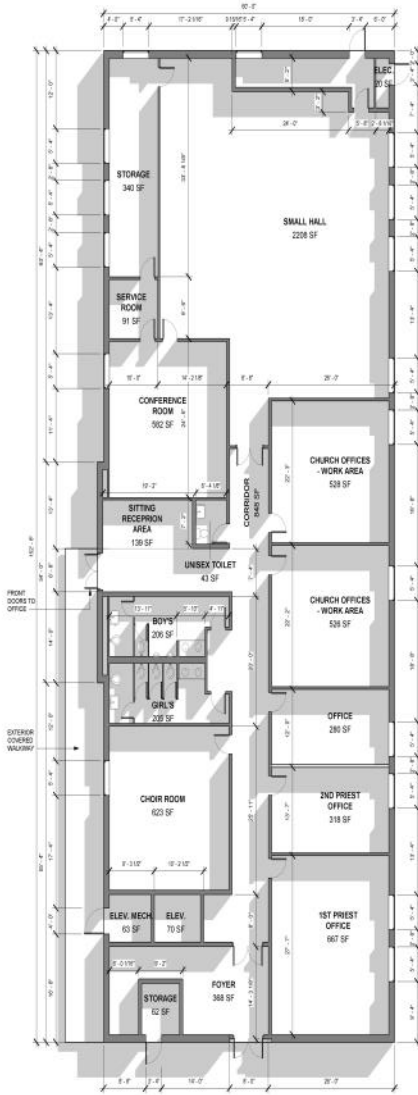
Thank you for your ongoing contributions to our Food Pantry. We welcome your donations any time and have a dedicated drop-off (left side) of the Church Hall Entrance area. We have also targeted the First Sunday of each Month as a bigger collection day. We were able to compile 12 boxes of food, from your 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.

“Greetings! Opa!

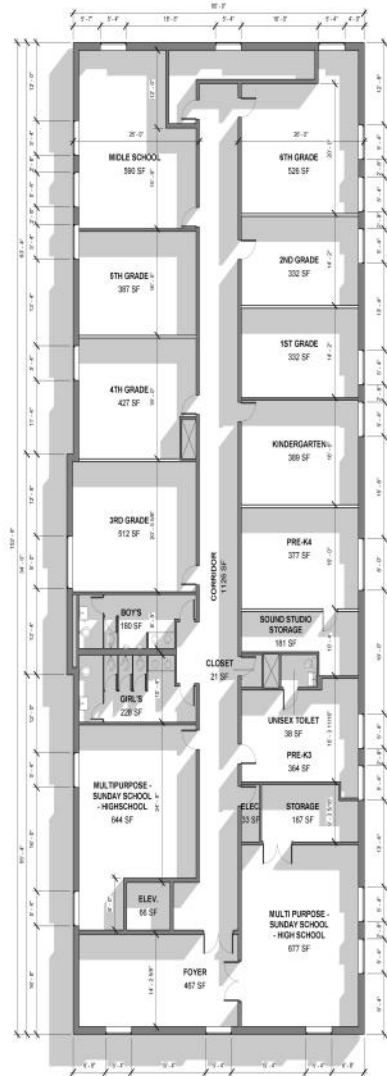
The adult Greek dance group Panigyri will begin dance practices in the near future for our Greek festival performances. Please look for updates in the Messenger and weekly Bulletins.

Any questions please contact Alex DeMaio 813 340 9668 or email Alexandra.DeMaio@libertymutual.com.

~Rendering of Ministry Building~



DAY SCHOOL ADDITION - 1ST FLOOR
 1 PLAN
 1/8" = 1'-0"



DAY SCHOOL ADDITION - 2ND FLOOR
 2 PLAN
 1/8" = 1'-0"



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.

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.



Altar Boy Schedule

June 2

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

Captains

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

June 9

GOYAns 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

Sunday, May 19

Orthros 8:45 a.m.

Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Youth Sunday

Campus Tour- Coffee Hour in library

Last day of Sunday school- Graduation, end of year party

Men's Group

5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 21

Sts. Constantine and Helen

Orthros 9:00 a.m.

Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study

6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 22

Choir Practice

7:15 p.m.

Thursday, May 23

Adult Greek School

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 25

Children's Greek School

Sunday, May 26

Orthros 8:45 a.m.

Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Veteran's Commemoration

Religious Education at St. John

Women's Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros

Resumes on **September 10**

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John

May 21: **Tuesday** at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School

CANDY LAND

End of Year Party

Please Join Us

Sunday, May 19th, 2024

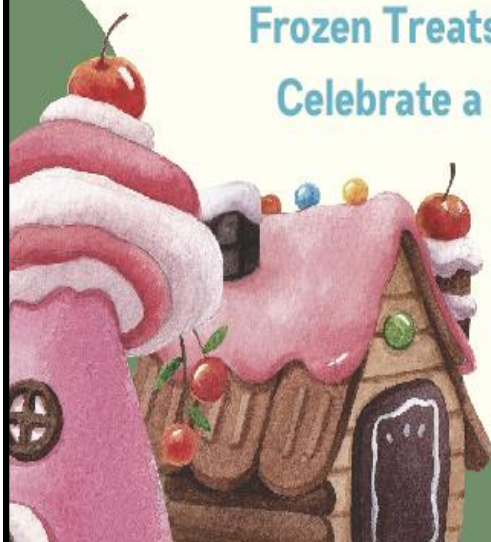
following Divine Liturgy on Campus

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