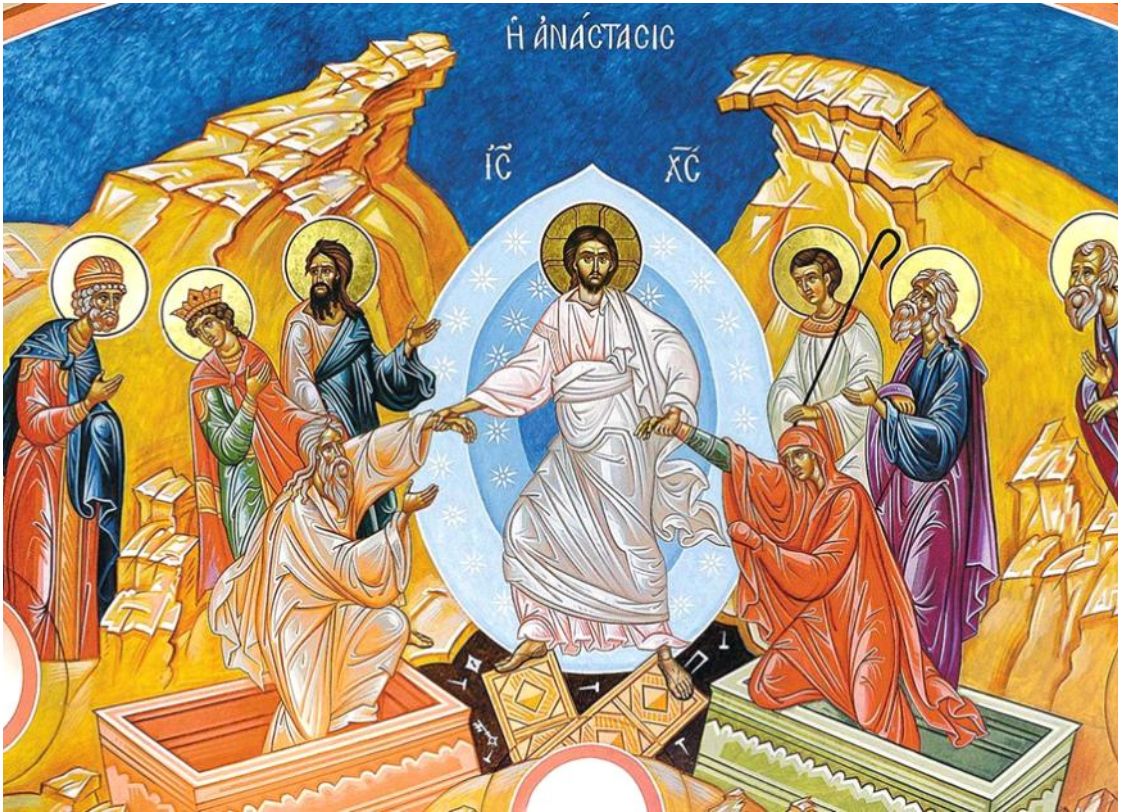


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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



~Great & Holy Pascha – Sunday, April 20~

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025

*Great & Holy Pascha; Theodore the Trichinas;
Zacchaeus the Apostle of Caesaria*

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:

*Great & Holy Pascha; Theodore the Trichinas;
Zacchaeus the Apostle of Caesaria*

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 for Holy Pascha: *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.*

Kontakion: *I ke en ta-fo ka-til-thes a-tha-na-te al-la tou A-dou ka-thi-leš tin thi-na-min ke a-ne-stis os ni-ki-tis Chri-ste o The-os yi-ne-xi Mi-ro-fo-ris ft-he-xa-me-nos: He-re-te. Ke tis Sis Apo-sto-lis i-ri-nin tho-rou-me-nos o tis pe-sou-si pa-re-hon A-na-sta-sin.*

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.

Megalinarion: *O an-ge-los e-vo-a ti ke-ha-ri-to-me-ni, Ag-ni par-the-ne he-re ke pa-lin e-ro he-re, o sos I-os a-ne-sti, tri-i-me-ros ek ta-fou. Fo-ti-zou, fo-ti-zou i Ne-a I-e-ru-sa-lim i gar do-xa Ky-ri-ou e-pi se a-ne-ti-le. Ho-re-ve nin ke a-ga-lou Si-on, si de ag-ni ter-pu The-o-to-ke, en ti e-ger-si tou To-kou sou.*

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: (Psalm 118:26)

So-ma Chris-tou me-ta-la-ve-te Pi-gis A-tha-na-tou yef-sas-the. Alliluia.

Receive the Body of Christ and partake ye of Him. He is an 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, APRIL 20

This is the day which the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Verse: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his mercy endures for ever.

THE READING IS FROM ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 1:1-8

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?" He said to them, "it is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 1:1-17

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Today's Coffee Hour Sponsored by Parish Council

APRIL 27

Available for someone to host

May 4

AHEPA

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

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 April the dates are: Tuesday April 22 & Tuesday April 29.**

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 April the dates are: Tuesday, April 22 at 6:45 pm & Tuesday, April 29 at 6:45 pm.**

Young Adults- Our young adult group meets once a month for dinner/discussion (and other times for fellowship and service). The meeting for April be on Thursday, April 24 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. All young adults, ages 18-40, are invited to participate. The Topic for April will be **"Keeping the joy of the Resurrection throughout the year"**. 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.

JOY Tweens— Mark your calendars! On Friday, May 9, 2024, 6:00pm to 9:00pm, JOY Tweens will celebrate the end of the school year with a fun activity and discussion with Father Stavros, dinner and a movie! All 4th to 6th graders are welcome! Keep a lookout in the coming weeks for the Sunday School flyer and SignUpGenius by email/text. Contact Maraquet Edquid, 813-422-8963, with any questions.

SAVE THE DATE...JUNE 5 for BLS/AED TRAINING

Nursing ministry will offer a FREE BLS, basic life support, class and everyone is welcome to attend. You will also learn how to use the AED and potentially save a life. To sign up for the class email Marcelle at Marcelletrianta@gmail.com

"ORTHODOXY 201 CLASS" TO BEGIN - Father John will conduct a 6-week class beginning Thursday, May 1st at 6:30 pm in the Church Hall. This class 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.

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Athena Felley, Melissa Romero, Sandra Reyes, Miltiadis, Konstantinos Triantafyllopoulos; 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, Toulou 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 Blankebaker, Jonah, George Voulgaris, Carol Cretekos, Tina, Bob, Bonnie, Pelagia & family, Michael Spithoyanis, Maggie Trakas and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & TOPICS

April 20
PASCHA—No Sunday School



April 27
Saints of the Orthodox Church & Doubting Thomas

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, April 20	<u>HOLY PASCHA</u> Agape Vespers Easter Egg Hunt	11:00a.m. 12:00p.m.
Tuesday, April 22	Women's Bible Study Bible Study	10:00a.m. 6:30p.m.
Wednesday, April 23	<u>ST. GEORGE</u> Orthros Divine Liturgy Choir	9:00a.m. 10:00a.m. 7:15p.m.
Thursday, April 24	Young Adult Discussion	7:00p.m.-9:00p.m.
Friday, April 25	<u>LIFE GIVING FOUNTAIN</u> Orthros Divine Liturgy	9:00a.m. 10:00a.m.
Saturday, April 26	Adult Greek School Children's Greek School Young At Heart	11:30a.m.-2:00p.m.
Sunday, April 27	Orthros Divine Liturgy Youth Sunday GOYA	8:45a.m. 10:00a.m. 5:00p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. JOHN

Women's Bible Study
Leader: Fr. Stavros
Tuesday, April 22 at 10:00a.m.

Tuesday Night Bible Study
Leader: Fr. John
Tuesday, April 22 at 6:30p.m.

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!

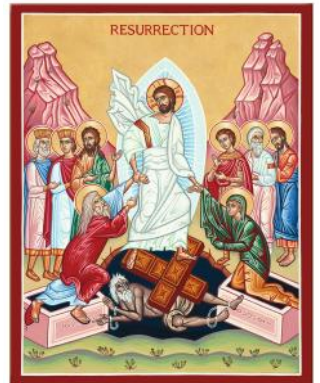
*Presvytera Denise, Elaina Stefero, Diane Trimis
Your Bookstore Staff*

YOUNG AT HEART APRIL GATHERING

*Saturday, April 26th
1pm-3pm*

The Icon of the Resurrection of Christ

Video Presentation and Discussion



***Catered Meal - \$13 per person
Roast Chicken, Sides, Dessert and Beverage***

*Contact Presvytera Denise no later than April 19th if you plan to attend.
Prepayment is preferred.*

Parish Priest:	Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (frstav@gmail.com)	813-394-1038
Associate Priest:	Rev. Fr. John Stefero (jwstefero50@hotmail.com)	678-637-4425
Retired Priest in Residence:	Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski	813-876-8830
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:	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
Arise & Build Capital Campaign:	Mike Xenick, Chair	813-340-8737
	Euripides Panos, Vice Chair	813-352-3972
Adult Greek School:	Magda Myer	813-523-5771
AHEPA:	James Sakaris	301-529-8857
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 Losovitz, Organist	727-688-2782
College Outreach:	Kathy Kaburis	813-240-6513
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
Gasparilla Parking:	Fady Hakim	678-294-7732
GOYA:	Michael & Bessie Palios	813-523-0346
Greek Festival:	Mike Xenick	813-340-8737
Hope/Joy:	George & Zackie Ameres	813-245-3813
Joy Tweens	Maraquet Edquid	813-422-8963
Junior Olympics:	Dwight Forde	727-685-9028
Men's Fellowship:	Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis	813-394-1038
Nursing Ministry:	Marcelle Triantafilou	612-396-5026
Oratorical Festival:	Peggy Bradshaw	727-244-1374
Photography Ministry:	Karina Findlay	813-476-9632
Philoptochos:	Katherine Sakkis	813-309-1073
Stewardship:	George Mitseas	813-748-1220
Sunday School:	Vickie Peckham	813-758-3102
12 Disciples:	Theo Panopoulos	248-867-3697
Ushers:	Pete Trakas	813-505-2193
Technology:	Mike Wenditz	813-5503099
Veterans/1st Responders :	Fr. John Stefero	678-637-4425
Website/Social Media/App:	Miguel Piniero Jr	305-632-4871
Welcoming Ministry:	Skip Higdon	813-391-6915
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