

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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



SUNDAY OF THE HOLY PENTECOST

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

*Sunday of the Holy Pentecost–
Agrippina the Martyr of Rome; Holy Martyrs Aristocleus the Priest,
Demetrius the Deacon and Athanasius the Reader*

**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 Holy Pentecost-
Agrippina the Martyr of Rome; Holy Martyrs Aristocleus the Priest, Demetrius the Deacon and
Athanasius the Reader*

Second Antiphon:

*Save us O Good Paraclete, to Thee we sing:
Alleluia.*

*So-son i-mas, Pa-ra-kli-te A-ga-the, psa-lon-tas
Si: Alliluia.*

Entrance Hymn:

*Be exalted, O Lord in Your Power; we will sing
and praise Your mighty deeds. Save us o Good
Paraclete, to Thee we sing: Alleluia.*

Apolytikion of Pentecost:

*Ev-lo-gi-tos i Chris-te O The-os i-mon O pan-so-
fous tous a-li-is a-na-thi-xas, ka-ta-pem-psas af-tis
to Pnev-ma, to A-gi-on, ke di af-ton tin i-kou-me-
nin sa-yi-nef-sas, Fi-lan-thro-pe do-xa Si.
Blessed are You, O Christ our God, O Christ our
God, who by sending down the Holy Spirit upon
them, made the fishermen wise and through them
illumined the world, and to You the universe was
ever drawn, O Lover of Mankind, glory to You!*

Kontakion: *When the Most High God came
down and confused the tongues, He divided the
nations. When He distributed the tongues of fire,
He called all to unity. And with one voice we
glorify the All-Holy Spirit.*

*O-te ka-ta-vas tas glo-sas sin-e-he-e di-e-mer-i-sen
eth-ni O I-psi-stos; o-te tou pi-ros tas glo-sas di-e-
ni-men is en-o-ti-ta pan-tas e-ka-le-se; ke sim-fo-
nos do-xa-so-men to Pan-a-gi-on Pnev-ma.*

Trisagion Hymn:

*O-si is Chris-ton e-vap-tis-thi-te Chris-ton e-ne-
thi-sa-sthe. Alliluia.
All those who have been baptized into Christ have
put on Christ. Alleluia.*

Megalinarion:

*You conceived and gave birth in virginity; the
Word Who created all, through you became
incarnate. O Mother who knew not man, Virgin
Theotokos, the boundless One was held by you, the
dwelling of your infinite Creator; we magnify you.
Mi tis ftho-ras di-a-pi-ra ki-o-fo-ri-sa-sa ke pan-te
hni-mo-ni Lo-go sar-ka da-ni-sa-sa, Mi-ter a-pi-
ran-dre, Par-the-ne The-o-to-ke, do-hi-on tou a-
stek-tu, ho-ri-on tou a-pi-ru Plas-tur-gu sou, se
me-ga-li-no-men.*

Communion Hymn:

*To Pnev-ma sou to A-ga-thon o-di-gi-si me en yi
ef-thi-a. Alliluia.
Let Your Good Spirit lead me along a path that is
sure and straight. 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 23

Epistle Lesson: Verse: Their voice has gone out into all the earth.
The heavens declare the glory of God.

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

WHEN THE DAY of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

Gospel Lesson: John 7:37-52; 8:12

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nikodemos, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

We have a special Service at the end of the Liturgy. Please, make sure to pick up a special Service book at the narthex and then please leave the book on the pews at the end of the service.

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

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

June 30

Greek Dancers/Photo Ministry

July 7

Parish Council

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

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.

St. John's BOOKSTORE

*"Wisdom from the
Holy Mountain"-*

Life Lessons from the Monks of Mt. Athos is now available in our bookstore. This book of quotes and lessons from the Monks of Mt.

Athos compiled by Steven Michael Rakes is both instructional and inspirational. Pick up your copy today!

TIES TO THE PAST!!!

The Daughters of Penelope is looking forward to having the YiaYia Table of Arts and Crafts in December. In the month of June, NOW, we are collecting men's ties, especially unique ones. It's time to clean out your closet, put them in a bag and give to **Ourania Stephanides (813.546.4711 for more information)**. She will welcome the donated ties to make an interesting craft for our sale. Those ties that are not used will be donated to Hospice Thrift Store. If you want a remembrance or keepsake of a loved one that has passed away (Papou, Dad, Brother, Friend) and have a particular tie that was theirs, give it to Ourania with your name and phone number paper clipped to that specific tie and she will craft it (one per family, no charge) into something for your Christmas tree! Remember that all donations of the December event will go to SCHOLARSHIPS for the Youth of THIS CHURCH COMMUNITY. Please clean out your closets and give those old ties a new purpose!



YOUNG AT HEART JUNE GATHERING *Saturday, June 29th*



*Celebrate the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul
the Holy Apostles
with Young at Heart next Saturday.*

ORTHROS	9:00 AM
DIVINE LITURGY	10:00 AM
BRUNCH	11:30 AM

*Followed by a presentation and discussion
on Saints Peter and Paul. Contact
Presvytera Denise for last minute
reservations.*

For Sale:

We have a limited supply
of iPads (only used at the
Greek Festival) **Available
for Sale iPad 4 - 16GB -
Black (Wifi only no
Cellular)- \$50 each,**
while supplies last!

If you are interested please
contact the
church office at
813-876-8830.



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; 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, Michele Blankebaker, Jonah and all victims of war,
terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.



MORE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Bible Study

Tuesday morning Bible Study with Fr. Stavros will be on hiatus for the summer. It will resume in late August or September. 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 July, the dates are Tuesday, July 2; Tuesday, July 9; Tuesday, July 16; Tuesday, July 23; and Tuesday, July 30.

Fr. Stavros will be out of the office 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 targeted the First Sunday of each Month as a bigger collection day. Our greater need currently is for Publix Gift Cards— \$20 Denomination, Canned meat and Canned fruit (prefer with easy open access). We were able to compile 12 boxes of food, from your donations, shared with Metropolitan Ministries & Tampa Hope in the past month and help other individuals! 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.

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

Chanter/Ministry Coordinator Update

It has been nearly one year since we've had a full-time pastoral assistant. We've advertised for a pastoral assistant, ministry coordinator and chanter on Orthodoxjobs.com. We have interviewed four candidates, none of whom were a fit for what we are looking for. Fr. Stavros and the Parish Council have decided to pivot and look for a chanter/ministry coordinator for our parish and wanted to see if there is anyone inside of our parish who can fill this role. Chanting is the first and most essential requirement. This person would be chanting at all the services and sacraments of our parish. Second, the person would interface with all of our ministries, and work closely with Fr. Stavros providing logistical support for both. This would be a full-time, salaried position. For a full job description, please contact **Marcelle Triantafilou at marcelletrianta@gmail.com.** and to apply please see **Fr. Stavros.** We will hold this opportunity open until **July 1** for any members of our community who wish to apply.

Independence Day

On 4th of July(Independence Day), our office will remain closed. We will reopen on Friday 7/5.

Choir Practice

There will be no Choir Practice on 6/19 & 6/26 and all of July. It will resume August 7.

Kitchen Tidy/Organize Day!

If you love to tidy/organize, please join our dedicated volunteers next Wednesday **June 26th** to participate. We Tidy/Organize & Clean the Kitchen and Storage areas the last Wednesday of each month. We start at 10am and work just for a few hours. Many helping hands make for light work. Please call or text **Sandra Pappas at 813-785-3747.**

ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE

June 23

Anyone attending may serve

Captains

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

June 30

Anyone attending may serve

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

PENTECOST

ORTHROS 8:30A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY 9:45A.M.

VESPERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT 11:00AM

MONDAY, JUNE 24

NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN/HOLY TRINITY

ORTHROS 9:00A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

STS. PETER AND PAUL

ORTHROS 9:00A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M.

YOUNG AT HEART

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

HOLY APOSTLES/ALL SAINTS

ORTHROS 8:45A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY 10:00A.M.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. JOHN

Women's Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros

Resumes on September 10

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John

July 2: Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Did you Know- Coffee Hour is typically hosted by our dedicated Ministry Groups, but anyone can participate on an open day or request a day to honor a loved one. The church provides snacks, coffee and water. Help is needed to setup, make coffee (instructions are provided) and clean up the paper goods. Coffee Hour brings good fellowship! If you would like to get involved, please reach out to our church office!

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:	Vasil(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 MAΣ, 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 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