

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

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



Third Sunday of the Triodion – The Last Judgement

Sunday, March 10, 2024

Third Sunday of the Triodion-The Last Judgement

Quadratus the Martyr and his companions; Anastasia of Alexandria

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:

*Third Sunday of the Triodion-The Last Judgement
Quadratus the Martyr and his companions; Anastasia of Alexandria*

Apolytikion of the Resurrection: *Lord by Your proclaimed. Therefore, you strove for truth, sacred cross You abolished death, and granted to proclaiming with joy the Good News, even to those the thief blessed paradise. The myrrh-bearers in Hades: that God was manifested in the flesh, ceased lamenting and turned to joy; the apostles and takes away the sins of the world, and grants to did preach the good news at Your command that us His great mercy.*
You are risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing Your mercy upon the world evermore.

Kontakion: *When You come O God, upon the earth with glory, and the universe will tremble, and the river of fire will bring men before Your*

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*

judgment seat, and the books will be opened and the secrets are disclosed; then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, and count me worthy to stand at Your right hand, O Most Righteous Judge.

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, March 10

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

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (I Corinthians 8: 8-13; 9:1-2)

Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 15:11-32

“When the Son of man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on his glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see Thee hungry and feed Thee, or thirsty and give Thee drink? And when did we see Thee a stranger and welcome Thee, or naked and clothe Thee? And when did we see Thee sick or in prison and visit Thee?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’ Then He will say to those at his left hand, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see Thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to Thee?’ Then He will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.’ And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

UPCOMING COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Today's Coffee Hour is Sponsored by Altar Angels & Daughters of Penelope

MARCH 17

Monday Night Bible Study

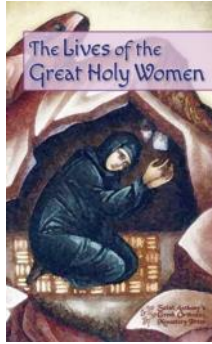
MARCH 24

Luncheon

St. John's Bookstore—

Now Available!

"The Lives of the Great Holy Women" – This volume contains the lives of eight women saints who battled against the passions and overcame the devil, emerging from the contest as triumphant victors. Included is the Life of St. Mary of Egypt by Saint Sophronios, Bishop of Jerusalem.



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

Philo托chos Membership Drive 2024

Our Ladies Philo托chos Society has kicked off its membership drive for 2024. Please consider becoming a member and assisting us in our many philanthropic missions locally, nationally, and internationally. Membership forms have been emailed to all current members. Please complete the form and return. Prospective members can pick up a membership form in our church bookstore. *Please contact Presvytera Denise Stefero - Membership Chair - with any questions and to complete your enrollment. New this year - submit your Philo托chos Stewardship donation online - <https://bit.ly/3tTEyF6>*

Did You Know - Constant Contact is how the church shares communications regarding services, ministry events, publications and other news impacting our parish community. In addition, Fr. Stavros Daily Prayer Message is also shared via Constant Contact. If you don't currently receive these emails please contact the church office at **813- 876-8830** or email us at office@stjohntpa.org and we'll be sure to get you signed up.



Seven Words:

THE LAST WORDS OF JESUS FROM THE CROSS

A SIX-WEEK LENTEN STUDY
JOIN US WEDNESDAY EVENINGS DURING GREAT LENT



MARCH 20
FORGIVENESS

*"Father, forgive them
for they know not what
they do."*

Luke 23:34

DINNER SPONSORED BY
THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

MARCH 27
SALVATION

*"Remember me when
you come into Your
kingdom."*

Luke 23:42

DINNER SPONSORED BY
THE CHOIR

APRIL 3
RELATIONSHIPS

*He said to His mother,
"Woman, behold, your
Son!" Then He said to
the disciple, "Behold,
your mother!"*

John 19:25-26

DINNER SPONSORED BY
THE AHEPA/DAUGHTERS

APRIL 10
ABANDONMENT/
DISTRESS

*"My God, my God, why
have You forsaken Me?"*

Mark 15:34

"I thirst."

John 19:28

DINNER SPONSORED BY
THE YOUNG AT HEART
AND WELCOME MINISTRY

APRIL 17
TRIUMPH

"It is finished."

John 19:30

DINNER SPONSORED BY
THE PHILOPTOCHOS

APRIL 24
COMMIT

*"Into Your Hands I
commit My Spirit."*

Luke 23:46

DINNER SPONSORED BY
THE YOUNG ADULTS AND
BIBLE STUDIES

EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE:

- 6:00 pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
- 7:15 pm Lenten Dinner provided by one of our ministries
- 7:45 pm Presentation by Father Stavros
- 8:05 pm Small group discussion
- 8:30 pm Concluding remarks and closing prayer



GREAT LENT 2024
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
TAMPA, FL

MORE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Sunday, March 10 – Judgment Sunday (Meatfare)-

Judgment Sunday is also called - Meatfare Sunday because it is the last Sunday, according to the fasting canons, that the faithful eat meat before Easter. During the following week, we do not fast on Wednesday and Friday (except for meat, of course). On this Sunday, we call to mind something that has not even happened yet: the Second Coming of Christ. Our Lord has promised us that He will come again, “to judge the living and the dead, and His Kingdom will have no end” (from the Nicene Creed). We call to mind the “criteria” of our entrance into Paradise, as our Lord said in today’s Gospel: “I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.”

Young Adults– Thursday, March 14-

Our young adult group meets once a month for dinner/discussion (and other times for fellowship and service). The meeting for March is on Thursday, March 14, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. All young adults, ages 18-40, are invited to participate. The Topic for March will be “Getting the Most out of Your Lenten Journey.” Also, we will be having a discussion on leadership for our group and planning activities for the remainder of this year, including a retreat in the fall. 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.

Saturday of the Souls – Saturdays, March 16 and 23-

It is a Tradition in the Orthodox Church to offer prayers for the souls of all of our loved ones who have departed this life, in the hope of the Resurrection to Eternal Life. There are four Saturdays of the year that are dedicated specifically to this purpose. There are three Saturdays at the beginning of Lent and the Saturday before Pentecost. Everyone is encouraged to submit the names of their loved ones to be commemorated at the services. Everyone is encouraged to attend one of these services (and bring Kolyva) if you are able, as a way of honoring the people in your family who have passed away, once a year.

Sunday School Pre-Lent Retreat/Parent Seminar-Sunday, March 17-

Our Sunday school students will be having a pre-Lent retreat next Sunday, March 17. Following Divine Liturgy, Fr. Stavros will lead a seminar for Sunday school parents on how to get more out of the Lenten journey in your homes. This seminar will last from 12-2. There will be a movie and snacks for the kids whose parents are going to this seminar.

Save the Date- Monastery Bus Trip-

Young at Heart will sponsor a bus trip to the Panagia Vlahernon and Annunciation of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Monasteries near Ocala on Saturday, May 18th. Cost is \$20 per person and space limited. If you are interested in participating, email Presvytera Denise as soon as possible- denises54@hotmail.com or text (678) 464-4833. OPEN TO ALL

Young at Heart -

The members of our "Young at Heart" family spent a wonderful morning and afternoon yesterday. We started the day with Divine Liturgy and a Memorial Service for Saturday of the Souls. Afterwards, we shared koliva and a delicious brunch. We concluded with a video presentation and discussion on "The Last Judgment" led by Fr. John. Jo in us next month on April 13th. Look for more information in upcoming bulletins.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PARENTS

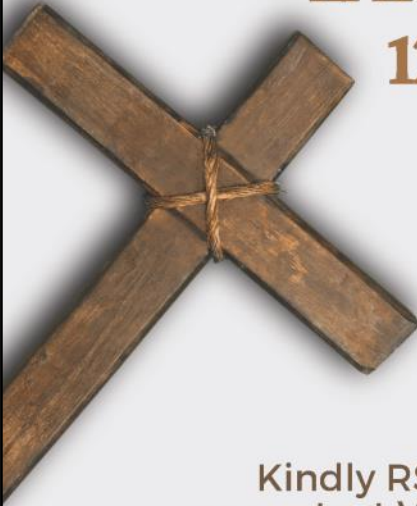
Pre-Lenten Retreat

HOW TO GET MORE OUT OF THE
LENTEN JOURNEY IN YOUR HOMES

03-17-2024

ZAHARIAS ROOM

12:30P-1:30P



Toddler 2s - 12th Parents are invited
to join a discussion led by Father
Stavros.

For those participating, your children
will be supervised, served lunch and
activities in the library during retreat.

Kindly RSVP by 3/13/24 to this email
or contact Vickie Peckham at 813.758.3102

IF WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH INTEREST by 3/13,
WE WILL NOT HAVE THE RETREAT

MORE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Nursing Ministry Presentation on Advance Health care Directives

Advance Health care Directives are legal documents that provide instructions for medical care and only go into effect if you cannot communicate your own wishes.

Who will make your last health care decisions when you no longer can?

The Nursing Ministry will be presenting a lecture on Advance Healthcare Directives **TODAY, March 10th** after the Liturgy.

Please join us for this opportunity to gain understanding on Advance Health care Directives to make sure your end-of-life health care wishes are what you want.

PHILOPTOCHOS IS COLLECTING ITEMS FOR THE SPRING

The Spring provides a safe space and empowering services to survivors of domestic violence and their children.

We will be collecting items for them throughout the month of March. Needed items are:

- Shampoo
- Conditioner Body Wash
- Toothpaste & toothbrush Deodorant
- Bedding (twin sheet sets & pillows)
Towels
- Female hygiene products Non-perishable food
- Umbrellas
- Phone chargers

Look for the donation bin in the church hall foyer. New items only please.

If you have questions or want to make a monetary donation please contact Vivian Samuel - (727) 823-0099 - viviansamuel444@gmail.com

Love thy Neighbor through our Monthly Community Outreach

We have the privilege to help serve the needs of our homeless community in East Tampa on the 3rd Saturday of each month. We partner with Matthew 25 (a local Charity), Metropolitan Ministries and USF to serve breakfast, provide clothing and medical needs for our guests.

Our next date (s) are March 16th, April 20th & May 18th.

What to expect: *A rewarding experience and we welcome new volunteers!*

To Volunteer: [ClickHere](#) (Link also below) or scan our QR code to access our Signup Genius - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48A5A62DA3F49-community1/8067245#/>

Place: Tampa Hope @ 3704 E. 3rd Ave.—Tampa East **Time:** 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Questions on Arrival: Look for Matthew 25 founders, Peggy & Mike Kanter or Greg & Victoria Melton, our dedicated parishioners that organize this ministry. They can help answer any questions or if you need direction when you arrive. **You may also call Greg directly at 813-967-2074.**



‘Whatever your task, work heartily, as serving the Lord and not men’ Colossians 3:23

The Philotochos Society of
St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church
is sponsoring a Women's Retreat



*Many Believed in Him Because of the Woman's
Testimony (John 4:39):*

The Important Roles of Women in the Bible

Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis - Retreat Leader

**Saturday, March 23 - Feast of St. Theodore
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

All women are welcome, Orthodox or not

**Starting with Divine Liturgy, followed by lunch,
presentations and group discussions**

Donations Accepted

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

2418 W. Swann Ave. Tampa, FL 33609

Kindly RSVP by March 18 to office@stjohntpa.org

Altar Boy Schedule

March 10

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

Captains

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

March 17

Christos Nenos
Constantine Ameres
Zachary George
Louis Mantzanas
Gianni Matassini
Nathan Moran
Michael Meadows

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & TOPICS

March 10

Last Judgement



March 17

Forgiveness Sunday
Pre-Lent Retreat during class

If you do not receive our weekly Sunday School Constant Contact every Friday afternoon, please e-mail Vickie Peckham to let her know.

Her e-mail address is vickiepeckham@gmail.com

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; Ourania Tziotis, 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, Toulou 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. and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, March 10	Third Sunday of Triodion Orthros 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Nursing Ministry Presentation on Advanced Health Care Directives (following Divine Liturgy)
Tuesday, March 12	Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 13	Choir Practice
Thursday, March 14	Young Adult Dinner/Discussion 6:30-8:30 p.m. Adult Greek School
Saturday, March 16	Second Saturday of Souls Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Memorial Service at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy Children's Greek School
Sunday, March 17	Fourth Sunday of Triodion Orthros 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Sunday School Lenten Retreat Parent Workshop 12-2 (with Fr. Stavros) Forgiveness Vespers 6:00 p.m.
Monday, March 18	Clean Monday-Beginning of Great Lent Canon of St. Andrew 10:00 a.m. Holy Unction 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 19	Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Great Compline 5:30 p.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 20	9th Hour 5:30 p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner/Discussion
Thursday, March 21	Adult Greek School
Friday, March 22	9th Hour 9:30 a.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Salutations to the Virgin Mary 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 23	Third Saturday of Souls Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Memorial Service at the Conclusion of the Divine Liturgy
Sunday, March 24	First Sunday of Great Lent—Sunday of Orthodoxy Orthros 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:45 a.m. Procession of Icons at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy Greek School Program for Greek Independence Day (After Divine Liturgy) GOYA 5:00 p.m.

Religious Education at St. John

Women's Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros

March 12: **Tuesday** at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John

March 12: **Tuesday** at 6:30 p.m.

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
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 Cyrus	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