



# Main Church Iconography

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

TOGETHER, LET US ADORN OUR PARISH

*Sponsor an Icon today!*



## ***St. Justin Popovich***

*June 1*



Saint Justin Popovic was born to pious parents in South Serbia. At baptism, he was given the name Blagoje, after the Feast of the Annunciation. Seven previous generations of the Popovics were headed by priests. Blagoje Popović completed nine-years of studies at the Theological Faculty of St. Sava in Belgrade in 1914. During World War I, he served as a student nurse, primarily in South Serbia. He entered the monastic order in the Orthodox cathedral of Skadar, and took the name of Justin, after the great Christian philosopher and martyr for Christ, St. Justin the Philosopher.

Father Justin traveled to Petrograd, Russia, and studied theology at Oxford, but his doctoral thesis under the title was not accepted. In 1923, Fr. Justin became the editor of the Orthodox journal *The Christian Life*, and in this journal appeared his doctoral dissertation, "The Philosophy and Religion of Dostoevsky," which was not accepted at Oxford. He edited the periodical, *The Christian Life*, for twenty years. In 1926, he was promoted to the title of Doctor of Theology in the Faculty of Theology, University in Athens. He was an associate and escort of Bp. Joseph of Bitola in reorganizing the Church of the Carpatho-Russians in Czechoslovakia. Fr. Dr. Justin was chosen, in 1934, as Professor of Dogmatics at the Theological Faculty of St. Sava in Belgrade. Saint Justin fell asleep in the Lord on March 25, 1979, his birthday, the Feast of the Annunciation.

*Apolytikion: As Orthodox sweetness and divine nectar, Venerable Father thou dost flow into the hearts of believers as a wealth: by the life and teachings thou didst reveal thyself to be a living book of the Spirit, most wise Justin; therefore pray to Christ the Word that the Word may dwell in those that honor thee.*