

Did you know...

The consecration of the Guardian Angel Chapel can be compared to the Baptism of a baby. There are so many similarities. By the end of a Baptism, a new Orthodox Christian has been created and become a member of the Body of Christ. When the Chapel has been consecrated, it will become a sacred space, a holy space the members of the Body of Christ will use for worship of the Lord, our God.

Everything on the Holy Altar will be removed; the tabernacle, candlesticks, vigil light, the embroidered coverings, and the under cloths. The scroll with the name of the Godparents will be placed inside the Holy Altar. The Relics of St Panteleimon, St Kyrikos and the Martyr Fathers of Dhaou Pentelis, placed in a small reliquary, will be placed inside the Holy Altar. Everything will be sealed with oil, spices and beeswax. The Altar will be washed and dried.

The same Holy Chrism that is used during the Baptism of every Orthodox Christian will be used to anoint the Holy Altar. The Metropolitan will also anoint the icons throughout the Chapel. Just like a baby, the Holy Altar will be dressed in new clothing and liturgical items will be placed on the Holy Altar.

The Consecration of the Guardian Angel Chapel is a once-in-lifetime blessing for our Church family in which we have a wonderful opportunity to participate.

How can we participate in the consecration?

First, by praying that the Holy Trinity will bless all our endeavors as the Chapel is consecrated to the Glory of God and our Church family will be filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Second, by attending Great Vespers on Saturday, Oct 26th; and the Consecration Service and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Oct 27th.

Third, by offering your support by donating a liturgical item for the Holy Altar or sponsoring an ad in the program book.

What liturgical items are needed?

A liturgical items booklet is available at the Consecration/60th Anniversary table on Sunday mornings, on the consecration page on the St John the Baptist website, and in the Church office. The booklet gives a detailed explanation and lists the cost of each item. Donations in any amount are most welcome.

How will donations be recognized in the banquet program book?

Each donation will be listed in the Consecration/60th Anniversary Program book available at the banquet.

Did you know...

The Consecration of the Guardian Angel Chapel and the celebration of our 60th Anniversary gives us a chance to experience and participate in a most holy event and to celebrate our life as a Church Family. 60 years after a small group of dedicated women sought an Orthodox Church in the north-west suburbs for the spiritual life of their families, St John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church is still worshipping, educating, and celebrating the fasts and feasts of our Church together.

This year, as we do every five years, we look back and forward to see the commitment we have come from and to pledge ourselves once again to keep our Church strong for each of us and our children. At every anniversary, we ask for your help in sponsoring the event and the Church.

On the other side of this page, there is information about the donation of liturgical items. On this side, there will be information about personal and business sponsorship.

What is the process of sponsorship?

Gifts in any amount are most welcome, however for businesses and those Church Family members who are able, the Consecration Committee is requesting gifts from \$1,000 to \$25,000. The Sponsorship Form outlines the levels, and types of ad and banquet seating each level receives.

What if I want to give a gift in honor or memory of someone?

Information about memorial and honor gifts are also outlined on the sponsorship form. You may also choose to give a gift anonymously.

What about a gift of stocks?

There is a section on the Sponsorship form that gives information about this type of gift.

Where will the ad be placed?

Ads will be in the Consecration/60th Anniversary Program Book available at the banquet and in a larger, more formal commemorative book that will be available later in the year.

May I ask vendors or other business partners to participate?

Yes, every parishioner is encouraged to ask anyone who might be interested to contribute by sponsoring an ad in the program book. We have been blessed by the response of our community members to requests for support for many years.

What if I am unable to give \$1,000 or more?

Every gift received will be recognized in the program book. There will be a donor section for liturgical gifts and monetary donations.

Father John, Father Athanasios, the Parish Council and the Consecration Team are extremely grateful for the support, spiritual and financial, we receive from all our Church family. Together we can make this a most memorable and blessed event.