



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church -- Des Plaines, Illinois

the Forerunner

February/March 2018

The Synaxis of St. John the Forerunner and Baptist, January 7th, 2018

By Fr. John Rallis
Protobresbyter

There is no true wisdom without love and love without wisdom.

Wisdom without love is selfish and poisonous.

Love without wisdom is a cloudburst when the dry earth is looking for a gentle shower.

Our Lord is Born. He comes to heal, to renew, and to raise the world from the dead. He comes as a Leader, whose army goes before and after Him, but who and where is His army? They are the splendid angelic hosts, who see in Christ their Leader and King. They want to carry Him on the Cherubic chariot; to clothe Him with royal garments; to sound the trumpets; to open the eyes of all people to see their Lord; but He will not allow them. He decides to come down into the web of time, into the prison of sin and death. He goes into the enemy's camp, taking the form of a captive. He moves cautiously and wisely in order to catch and bind those who run that prison, free His brother captives, and raise them into the Kingdom of God with the immortal angels.

The earthly life of the Lord is marked by three beginnings:

- a. His conception and birth,
- b. His baptism, and
- c. His resurrection.

At His conception, birth and resurrection, angels were seen by others. On His Baptism, only one angel appeared. His name: John, the son of Zacharias the High Priest and his wife Elizabeth. He was not an

angel, as the others, but prophet Malachi calls him so. "Behold, I will send My messenger (αγγελιαφορο) and he shall prepare the way before Me." This is how the Gospel of St. Mark begins; by announcing the public preaching and ministry of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and giving emphasis to the prophet Malachi's prophecy about John the Forerunner as an angel who will go before the face of the Lord.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, let us look closer into the character and work of St. John. From both, we can acquire valuable lessons.

His Character

The scriptures call John an angel. We see him in many icons wearing wings, but why? In what way was John like an angel?

- a. In his obedience to God;
- b. In his freedom from the world;
- c. In his lack of concern about his physical life.

St. John was perfectly obedient to God from his early youth. An orphan from early childhood, he was left with God as his only Parent, his only support and his only love. But his father Zacharias the High Priest taught him well. John knew how he was conceived and what happened in his mother's womb when she met Mary, the Mother of the Lord. He knew of the angel's prophetic words before Luke wrote them down. "He [John] shall be great in the sight of the Lord...and he shall be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his

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theForerunner

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a parish of the Greek
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of Chicago

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Schedule of Services

Saturday

Great Vespers 6:00 pm

Sunday

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy

Main Church 9:45 am

Chapel 10:15 am

Weekday Liturgies

Orthros 8:00 am

Liturgy 9:00 am

All articles, ministry information, and
news for theForerunner can be sent to

forerunner@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org

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mother's womb...and he shall go before Him [Jesus] in the spirit and power of Elias." (Lk 1:15-17)

All this was carved on the heart of the young John. God revealed the dominant threads of his life to him from the earliest childhood. It was clear to him what he had to do and what kind of life he had to live.

He withdrew into the desert to attune his spirit to the will of the living God. He gave himself completely to God and God revealed His will to him. He glued himself to God, as the heavenly angels do, and drew wisdom, power, and love, and for this cause the prophet Malachi called him angel.

Again, John was like the heavenly angels in his freedom from the world and from men, for him men were a confused flock that had lost sight of its shepherd. He was not fearful of the world, therefore he passionlessly thundered against the sinful elders of Jerusalem "generation of vipers..." He rebuked Herod for all the evils which he had done. He made no distinction among men: clothing, power, honour, wealth. His eyes only show men's naked souls. He had such freedom from the world and from men as the angels of God have! For this reason the prophet called him an angel.

Again, John was like the angels in his freedom from the care about his earthly life, free from the care of themselves, what to eat and drink, what to wear and where to stay. Absolute trust on God that will provide bodily nourishment and physical shelter.

He knew well that a fully satisfied body generally means a completely empty soul. He who fasts nourishes his soul. The more a man accustoms himself to fasting, the greater the joy in his soul. John did not worry where to live or what to wear. Girted with a leather belt as a

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Idle Talk and Gossip

By Jim Kandilas

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, says: “By thy words thou shall be justified, and by thy words thou shall be condemned.” (Matt. 12:37)

Idle talk, produces quarrels, conflicts, gossip, madness.

We don't let our God-given speech to give us hope and gladness.

Our gift of speech was given to us to understand each other.

To conduct intelligent conversations and exchange ideas.

Let us not use it to judge, slander, and condemn our neighbor.

Because we will not find in God any favor.

Idle talk is a sin, which gives birth to a multitude of sins.

It leads us to empty and unnecessary sinful conversations.

It attacks every age and gender, every class, and social position.

And our struggles are unsuccessful to find a useful solution.

Apostle James says: “Even so the tongue is a little member and boasteth great things; it is a fire....”

(James 3:5,6)

A word can be a small spark and can turn into a great fire.

Then, our life's difficulties will not win our heart's desire.

Let us use our God-given speech to glorify and thank Him.

Do not bless and curse out of the same mouth.

Seek God's love which rises far above the crowd.

Then, the sunshine will break through the threatening cloud.



Σήκωσε τον Δικό σου Σταυρο

Δημήτρης Κάνδηλας

Ο Άγιος Ιωάννης της Κλιμακος μας προτρέπει να
δεχόμαστε
τους ονειδισμούς ως φάρμακο και γιατρικό για την
ασθένεια της ψυχής.
Παρατηρήσεις, ταπεινώσεις, και δολίως κινούμενα
λάθη
καθαρίζουν την ψυχή μας από τα βασανιστικά πάθη.

“Εί εμε έδιωξαν, και υμας διωξουσιν” (Ιω. ιε 20)

Μην αναμένεις να εξαρθείς από τις επικείμενες
εκδιώσεις.

Ανέμενε και υπέμενε τις ύβρεις, διώσεις, και
περφρονησεις.

Και ποτε με τους δόλιους όρους του εγωισμού να
συμφωνήσεις.

Μην ηττηθείς από εγωισμό και πληγωμένη
φιλαρέσκεια.

“Εί ονειδιζεσθε εν ονόματι Χριστου, μακάριοι” (Α
Πέτρ. δ 14)

Κράτησε σφιχτά τα πνευματικά ωφέλη της υπομονής.
Και απέκρουσε τα δηλητηριώδη βέλη της αλαζονικής
ηδονής.

Σήκωσε τον δικό σου σταυρο χωρίς γογγυσμο και
παράπονο.

Δέξου τις ύβρεις και περιφρονησεις όπως ο Χριστος τις
δέχθηκε.

Οι ειρωνίες στην αιωνιότητα θα λογιστούν ως
παράσημα.

Και θα εδραιώσουν ακλόνητα το πνευματικό σου
παράστημα.

The Synaxis of St. John the Forerunner and Baptist (cont.)

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symbol signifying the death of the passions and readiness to fulfil the will of God. He lived among the animals of the desert without fear. He saw himself in terms of his soul, not his body. Saint John was free of all earthly cares. He was like the heavenly angels and for this cause the prophet called him an angel.

WORK

The great prophet Isaiah calls John a voice crying in the wilderness: *Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight*. What was his work?

a. To be a voice to the wilderness i.e. to the whole of humanity and throughout human history. A human soul separated from God lives in the wilderness sunk in the darkness of death. St. John, with his voice as

messenger of the Lord, awakes human conscience, and conscience is the precursor of love as John is of Christ.

b. Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight. How? Repent and confess your sins. Do these two things quickly for the Lord is coming. He will knock at the door of every soul, he who repents and makes confession will hold the door of his soul open and the Lord will enter in bringing eternal life. But the door of him who does not repent and confess his sins, being rusted by sin, will remain shut and the Lord will pass him.

c. John's whole ministry was the baptism of repentance. For the forgiveness of sins, he calls people to bring forth fruits worthy of repentance. He is well aware that sinful thoughts, words and deeds are the root of evil in man. He calls the obstinate "wise men" of Jerusalem to show repentance, but also calls men and women of every socio-economic level to show true fruits of repentance "He that has two coats, let him impart to him that has none, he that has meat do likewise" giving alms sharing with poor expands our narrow hearts.

St. John's recommendation to bring forth the fruit of repentance is not enough to save the soul from sin, but it is enough to make men worthy to appear before Christ. The Forerunner's task was to sound the alarm for men, even in a small way; to cleanse themselves and be made worthy to appear before the divine face of the Saviour.

John, the prophet from the desert, knew the very depth of human nature, all its weakness and its inclination to evil and inconstancy. He learned it during his thirty years of solitude in the wilderness. His victorious battle over himself brought him an inexhaustible knowledge of human nature. His knowledge did not come from books but first hand from God through his own experience. He is aware of our unstable character and asks the penitents to witness their words with deeds and cries out to bring forth fruits worthy of repentance. If any one of us says Christ is too high an example for me, then look at the Forerunner - an ordinary man, a mortal man with humility and obedience. We are blessed to be in his presence today, to be his children. There is no greater man born of woman than Saint John the Forerunner and Baptist of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!

*** These are extracts from the homily of St. Nikolai Velimirovitch on the Sunday before Theophany.

Archival Ministry

The St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church Archival Ministry is in the process of updating the archival document the:

MEMORABILIA OF MINISTRIES FROM its INCEPTION
ON PHASES OF CHURCH GROWTH FROM 1954 TO PRESENT.

We are looking for St. John Church-related news and events, such as programs, invitations, flyers, tickets, reports - from its inception in 1954 to the present. Some examples of events are: our first dinner dance in May 1958; the Hellenic Northwest Suburban Women's Club 1956 "June Jamboree" For the Benefit of a Future Greek Orthodox Church in the Northwest Community; St. John's Hellenic Men's Club 1958; St. John's Sunday school 1958; luncheons; fashion shows in the 80's, Philoptochos Society; any or all of our anniversary events up to present.



We will also accept copies made of these events for the archival information of our Church.

A box marked "*St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church Archival drop-off-box for DONATIONS - MEMORABILIA OF MINISTRIES*" will be available for your drop-offs from January to July 2018, on the bottom Church library shelf in the conference room.

We so humbly appreciate and thank you for your time and effort in our endeavor to preserve our St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, the first Orthodox Church in the Chicago suburbs.

Mary G. Meletsis, Parish Librarian/Archivist
Meletsis@sbcglobal.net

Church Library



The Church library announces that it will hold a
Book Sale on Sun, March 4 after Divine Liturgy

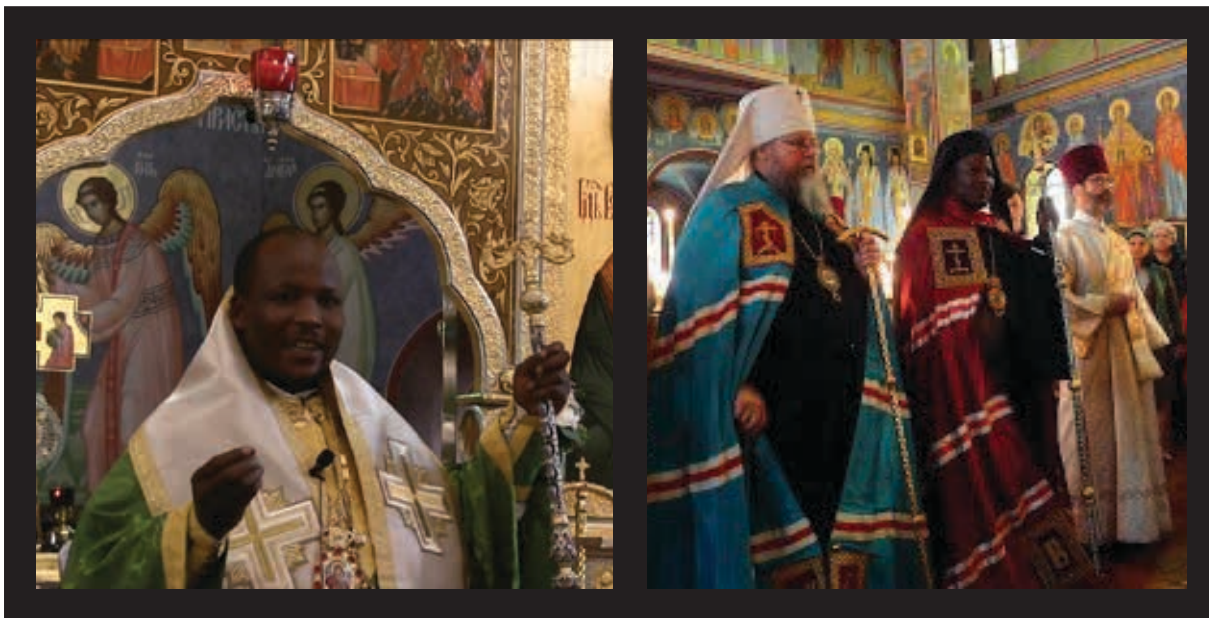
Volunteers are needed. If you are able to volunteer, please e-mail Lambrini Papangelis at lambrini.papangelis@gmail.com.

Thank you,
Church Library Committee

Please join us for the 21st Annual
Mission Team Chicago Benefit Dinner

with guest speaker

**Bishop Athanasius (Akunda)
of Kisumu and all Western Kenya**



Thursday, March 15, 2018

Doors Open at 6:30 pm

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church
2350 East Dempster Street, Des Plaines, Illinois, 60016

\$35 donation requested per person

(Proceeds to benefit the work of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center
in Kenya and throughout the world.)

Reserve your place or make your donation by:

Mail: return the enclosed card

Email: send your info to MTCBenefit@yahoo.com

Phone: call (317) 709-0168

Online: register at www.MissionTeamChicago.org



Kindly reply by March 8, 2018.

Thank you for your support!
We look forward to seeing you at the benefit!



Family Synaxis

METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO

Invites you to the Annual Lenten Retreat

Transforming our
Baptismal garments
into the **ARMOR OF GOD**

Saturday, March 10, 2018

8:30 am – 3 pm • St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
2727 W Winona St. • Chicago, IL • www.stdemetrioschicago.org

A retreat for the whole family!

- Two workshops, discussions, breakfast, lunch, and worship time
- Fun activities & lessons for children, 'coffee talk' for teens, and childcare for toddlers not yet in preschool (9 months and older)

Support for children with special needs will be available upon request

Workshops by Fr. Ephraim Peters

Rev. Fr. Ephraim Peters began his pastoral experience in 1994. He currently serves at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Chicopee, Mass. He has served the Eastern Orthodox community throughout New England in various jurisdictions, with extensive involvement assisting families and individuals in crisis.

Register now!

www.gocfamilysynaxis.org

\$80 per family by Feb 26

\$100 per family after Feb 26 until March 5
(registration closes 11:59 pm on March 5)

Questions? chicago.family.synaxis@gmail.com
or Eleni Anast 708.250.0034

 Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Family Synaxis



*Stand, therefore, having
girded your loins with
truth, and having put
on the breastplate
of righteousness, and
having shod your feet
with the equipment of
the gospel of peace;
...taking the shield of
faith, with which you can
quench all the flaming
darts of the evil one.
And take the helmet of
salvation, and the sword
of the Spirit, which is the
word of God.*

— Ephesians 6

Philoptochos

Blessed fruitful new year to you and your families!

I want to sincerely thank all who prepared and assisted for the feast day of our beloved parish and saint, Saint John the Baptist. Everything went well and turned out beautifully. Glory to God for everything!

Our Philoptochos completed our celebration with an evening gathering and a quick general meeting at the Plateia Restaurant on Thursday, January 18. It was a beautiful evening enjoying one another's pareia and fellowship.

SAVE THE DATE!

Put on your fun or fancy hat for Philoptochos' Mad Hatter Luncheon on Saturday, May 5 at 11:30am at the Hilton Hotel Rosemont.

The following are the remaining Philoptochos events for the year.

- March TBD - Monastery visit to Saint John Chrysostomos
- March TBD - Prophoro and artoclasia lessons
- Thursday, March 8, 2018 - Board Meeting followed by General Meeting
- Sunday, April 1, 2018 - Palm Sunday Bake Sale
- Sunday, April; 8, 2018 - Pascha
- Thursday, April 19, 2018 - Board Meeting
- Saturday, May 5, 2018 - Mad Hatter Luncheon
- Tuesday May 8, 2018 - Board Meeting followed by General Meeting
- Sunday, May 13, 2018 - Koliva and Artoclasia for Mother's Day
- Saturday, June 9, 2018 - National Oratorical Festival at our parish

May you and your families have a Blessed Lent!

With Love in Christ,

Anthoula Tsiampas
Philoptochos President



SAVE THE DATE

St-John the Baptist Philoptochos presents the

Mad Hatter Benefit Luncheon

Saturday, May 5, 2018

St Irene of Thessaloniki

11:30 am

Hilton Hotel Rosemont

Guest Speaker Dr. Peli Galiti

M.Ed., Ph.D Research Scholar
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Speaking on
"Thank You God"

Guardian Angel Day School Happenings

Geography Bee



Students in grades 2-6 had an opportunity to participate in an after school geography club. With guidance from our principal and parent volunteers, students engaged in various fun learning activities where they learned all about the amazing Earth our God has created. The culmination of hard work and fun learning was their participation in GAODS first National Geographic Bee Competition. Students in grades 4-6 put their knowledge to the test. After many rounds of difficulty geography questions, the winners were determined to be Evan Skoulikaris (4th grade)-First Place and Maria Grigorakos (5th grade)-Second Place. Evan will prepare for the next round which will entail a qualifying exam to determine eligibility for the Illinois State Geographic Bee. Congratulations to all our participants for their efforts and to our parent volunteers for their time and talents.



Medieval Day



Spelling Bee

First-place winner of the Spelling Bee, Paraskevi Melnick with her yiayia Evdokia Karras. Paraskevi won by spelling the word *Putrifraction*.



Sundays of Lent

Each Sunday of Lent is dedicated to remind us of our Christian values and provide us with strength to fast and repent and do good deeds of faith.

February 11 Meat Fare Sunday

The second Sunday before Lent is called Meat Fare Sunday. It receives its name from the fact that during the early days of the Church, the tradition was not to eat meat from Monday following this Sunday until Easter Sunday.

February 18 - Cheese Fare Sunday

On this Sunday, the Church commemorates the sending away of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Paradise. The Holy Fathers selected this Sunday to remind us of our obligations to God and the benefits of fasting and Christian behavior.

February 25, First Sunday of Lent - Sunday of Orthodoxy

Icons have graced our Churches since the age of the Apostles. During the seventh century, a Byzantine Emperor tried to remove all the icons from our Churches, believing that icons should not be worshipped or venerated. For over 150 years, icons were banned. The Empress Theodora finally ordered the restoration of icons in the Churches on March 11, 843 A.D. In the Church of St. Sophia. The position of iconography in Orthodox worship was defined to allow icons to be venerated. Only God is worshipped. Icons are spiritual mirrors through which we see the Heavenly Saints.

March 4, Second Sunday of Lent - St Gregory of Palamas

St. Gregory as a monk on Mt. Athos who studied Christian teachings and became one of the Church's greatest scholars. He was appointed Archbishop of Thessaloniki in 1349. His Holy relics rest in Salonica.

March 11, Third Sunday of Lent - Adoration of the Holy Cross

The forty days of Lent is a time for self-denial, self-sacrifice and repentance. The Cross is a symbol of

victory of good over evil, life over death and eternal life. By pausing during mid-Lent, we receive courage and reassurance of God's grace by viewing the Cross of Christ. The service is the same as the "Elevation of the Cross" service of September 14.

March 18, Fourth Sunday of Lent - Feast Day of St. John of the Ladder

This Sunday is dedicated to one of the holiest men of the Christian Church. During the latter part of his monastic life at St. Catherine's monastery at Mt. Sinai, Egypt, he wrote a famous book of spiritual exercises, entitled, the "Ladder to Perfection". Thus, he became known as St. John of the Ladder. He described the ladder as a spiritual symbol leading from earth to heaven. This book is considered one of the most inspiring gems of Christian literature.

March 25, Fifth Sunday of Lent - St. Mary of Egypt

This Sunday is dedicated to one of the most penitent Saints in the Orthodox Church.

She was an unbeliever, until one year she visited Jerusalem on September 14. As she tried to enter the Church, a presence did not allow her to enter the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. A sudden change came over Mary of Egypt and she prayed to the Blessed Virgin Mary to help her repent. Mary of Egypt became a nun and lived for 40 years in the desert near the Jordan River. Mary of Egypt provides Christians with a wonderful example of virtue and repentance.

March 25 Feast Day of the Annunciation of the Theotokos

This is a very important Feast Day for us, because with the acceptance of the Blessed Virgin Mary, all of mankind had a chance to be saved. We have hymns and prayers which remind us of this important event and how special the Blessed Virgin Mary, Theotokos is to all Christians.

*Source: Lives of the Saints. Rev Fr. George Poulos

Why Iconography?



“If These Walls Could Speak”

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...”
(Hebrews 12:1)

Join us for an informative presentation on the meaning and importance of icons within our Faith. Learn how icons inspire, teach and help us to worship the Lord, the Theotokos, and all of the Saints.

Date:

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

+ Finding the Precious Cross by St. Helen

Note: There will be two sessions: Greek from 6:30pm - 7:15pm & English from 7:15pm - 8:00pm

Time:

6:30pm-8:00pm

A light reception will follow for all.

Location:

Guardian Angel Chapel
St. John the Baptist Church

Please RSVP by Friday, March 2 to Angela at (847) 827-5510 ext. 221 or via email at angelike@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org.

*An icon is much more than the image we see on the wall...
it's a window to Heaven.*

Γιατί Αγιογραφία;



«Εάν αυτοί οι τοίχοι μπορούσαν να μιλήσουν»

«Τοιγαρούν και ήμεις, τσούτον έχοντες περικείμενον ήμιν νέφος μαρτύρων...»
(Προς Εβραίους Επιστολή 12:1)

Ελάτε σέ μια ενημερωτική παρουσίαση γιά τη σημασία τών εικόνων στην Ορθόδοξη πίστή μας. Μάθετε πώς οι εικόνες έμπνέουν, διδάσκουν και μας βοηθούν νά λατρεύουμε τόν Κύριο, τή Θεοτόκο και όλους τούς Αγίους.

Ημερομηνία:

Τρίτη 6 Μαρτίου, 2018

+Μνήμη τής ευρέσεως τού τιμίου Σταυρού

Σημείωση: Η παρουσίαση θα γίνει στην Ελληνική γλώσσα από τις 6:30μμ έως 7:15μμ και στην Αγγλική γλώσσα από τις 7:15μμ έως 8:00μμ

Ωρα:

6:30μμ-8:00μμ

Θά ακολουθήσει μία μικρή δεξίωση

Τοποθεσία:

«Φύλαξ Άγγελος»

ΕλληνοΟρθόδοξη Εκκλησία Αγ. Ιωάννη τού Βαπτιστή

Κρατήσεις θέσεων έως τήν Παρασκευή, 2 Μαρτίου στην Αντζελα στό (847) 827-5510 ext. 221 ή στην ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση angelike@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org.

Photos from Theophany & St. John Feast Day



Theophany 2018



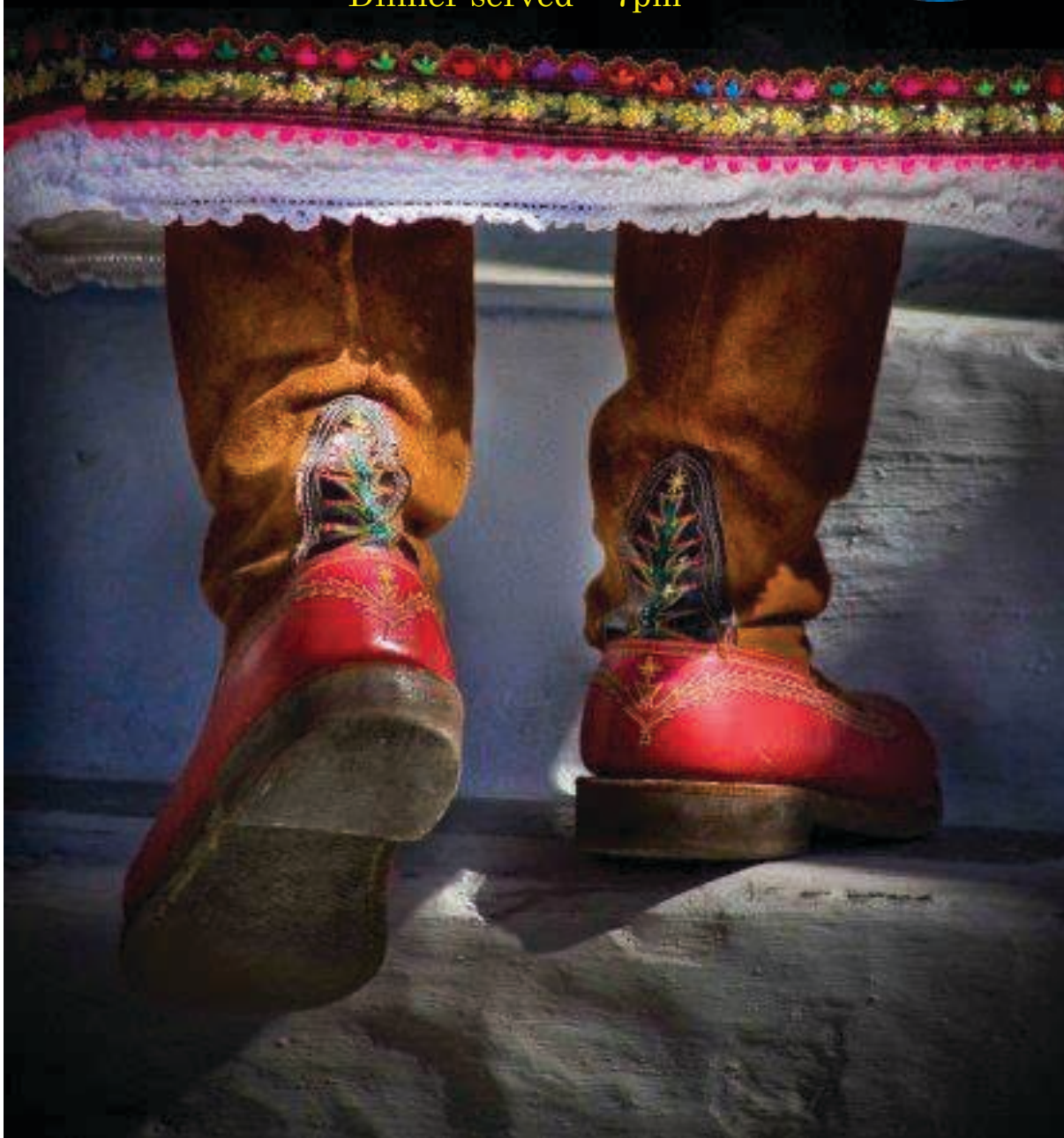
St. John the Baptist Feast Day 2018

Pythagoras Greek School invites you to attend the
St. John Bright Friday Feast
Friday, April 13th



Live music with **ENDASI**

Doors open – 6pm
Dinner served – 7pm



Price - \$25 | \$10 – Pythagoras Greek School students and children under 12
Children 3 and under free | RSVP with preferred seating to pythagorasjb@gmail.com



Baptisms

November 5th:

Adamantios

Parents: Demetrios &

Georgia Rizos

Sponsors: Nick & Ioanna Nastos

November 11th:

Maria Sofia

Parents: Nick & Olga Hatzis

Sponsor: Eleni Kouvaris

November 11th:

Demetris (Stratis)

Parents: Christos &

Anna Athillides

Sponsors: Pete &

Constantina Koulis

November 25th:

Lucas

Parents: Scott &

Fotini Nottingham

Sponsors: Nick & Maria Colic

December 16th:

Amelia

Parents: Mohit &

Anthi Arora

Sponsor: Anna Gordon



Funerals

November 3rd:

Vasiliki Sakkos

November 7th:

Ann Stryker

November 18th:

Annette Gianopulos

November 22nd:

Argyro Davilis

November 22nd:

George Stavropoulos

December 13th:

Catherine Volakakis



Weddings

December 30th

Logan Grzesiek &

Sophia Rigopolous

Sponsor: Juliette Pirpiris

Prayer List

For any prayer concern (salvation, health, employment, stress and anxieties, etc.) please send baptismal names only to:

stjohn@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org

We may not be able to help others materially or medically, but God does hear our prayers and always asks us to pray for each other and so build up the Body of Christ (Eph. 4:11-16).

For health and stability in the work place:

Eudoxia, Paraskevi, Maria, Panagiotis, Hristos, Ioannis, Angeline

For guidance: Ekaterini, Renee, John, Angela

For comfort: Vasiliki

For high blood pressure: Theodora

For peace: Maria, Karen, Ropalo, Stavroula, Christoforos

To let go of anger: Petros, Ioannis, Angela, John, Angela, Georgia, Ioannis, Evagelia

For health: Christos, Penelope, Theofani, Basilios, Thomay, Pappoulas, Ioannis

For good health and healing of an illness:

Helen, Mary, Bill, Katherine, George, Tom, Makrina, Eric, Scott, Veronika, Nicoletta, Nicholas, Helen, George, Judy, Elaine, Nicoletta, Anastasios, Mary, Ioanna, Christopher, Athanasio, Nick

For spiritual edification: Michael, James, Helen, Cynthia, Lillian.

For spiritual guidance: Veronika, Alexander, John, Ioannis, Evagelia, Maria

For faith and hope: Evagelia, Maria

For general well-being: Tom, Anne, Helen, Lillian, Katherine, Mary, Lillian, Carol, Angeline, Mary, Chris, Frank, Anna

For health and well-being: Dennis, Mary, Lilly, Philip, Carol, Judy, Anne, and Helen, Dimitri, Georgia, Christina

For heart health: Stiljan

For illness and surgery: Judy, Mary Ellen, Phillip, Carol, Johnny, Alexandra, Austin, Panayiota, Mary, Makrina, George, Judy, Mary, Joan For health: Judy, Anne, Chrysanthi, Helen, Mary, Iosefia, Dean and Helen (cancer), Sophie, Stafford, Theodora, Ekaterini

For illness and survival of world

circumstances: Jennie, Helen, George/family, Judy, Christ, Mary

For forgiveness: John, Angela, Ioannis, Evagelia

For battling cancer: Stavros, Dimitri, Panagiota

For employment and spiritual strength:

Mariam

For health and happiness: James, Cynthia

Six Week Calendar • February 18 - March 31, 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 18 8:30am Orthros & Divine Liturgy (Main Church) 9:15am Sunday School 6:30pm Forgiveness Vespers Forgiveness Sunday	February 19 6:30am Orthros 9:00am Service of the 1st & 3rd Hours 12:00pm Service of the 6th Hours 3:00pm Service of the 9th Hours 7:00pm Great Compline Clean Monday	February 20 9:45am HOPE 7:00pm Great Compline First Tuesday of Lent Leo, Bishop of Catania Agathus of Rome	February 21 9:45am Martha & Mary Women's Bible Study 4:30pm GSL 6:00pm Bball Practice 6:00pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:45pm Philoptochos Sponsoring OCF Meal First Wednesday of Lent St. Timothy the Righteous	February 22 7:00pm Great Compline First Thursday of Lent Uncovering of Relics at Eugenius	February 23 8:00am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00pm Salutations A' & Great Vespers First Friday of Lent Hieromartyr Polycarp	February 24 8:00am Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9:00am Greek School 1:30pm Adult Greek Advanced 6:00pm Great Vespers 1st & 2nd Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist Third Saturday of Souls
February 25 8:30am Orthros & Divine Liturgy (Main Church) 9:15am Sunday School Sunday of Orthodoxy	February 26 7:00pm Great Compline St. Porphyrius of Gaza St. Photine, the Samaritan Woman	February 27 9:30am HOPE 7:00pm Parish Council Meeting St. Procopius the Confessor St. Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn	February 28 9:45am Martha & Mary Women's Bible Study 4:30pm GSL 6:00pm Bball Practice 6:00pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7pm Metropolis Camp Meeting 7:45pm GAODS Sponsoring OCF Meal	March 1 7:00pm GAODS School Board Meeting St. Eudocia Andonina the New Martyr	March 2 9:00am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00pm Salutations B' St. Andronikos St. Euthalia of Sicily	March 3 9:00am Greek School 1:30pm Adult Greek Advanced 6:00pm Great Vespers Sts. Eutropius, Cleonicus & Basiliscus St. Theodoretos
March 4 8:30am Orthros & Divine Liturgy (Main Church) 9:15am Sunday School Library Book Sale St. Gregory Palamas	March 5 9:00am GAODS PTO Meeting 5:00pm Great Compline Righteous Fr. Mark of Athens St. Eulogios the Martyr	March 6 9:45am HOPE 6:30pm Iconography Presentation & Reception Finding of the Holy Cross by St. Helen	March 7 9:45am Martha & Mary Women's Bible Study 4:30pm GSL 6:00pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:45pm Parish Oratorical Festival St. Lavrentios of Megara St. Paul the Simple	March 8 9:30am Philoptochos Board Meeting 11:00am Philoptochos General Meeting St. Paul the Confessor St. Hermas of the 70	March 9 9:00am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00pm Salutations C' Holy 40 Martyrs of Sebastia St. Caesarios	March 10 Family Synaxis Lenten Retreat 9:00am Greek School 1:00pm YAL St. John Chrysostom Trip 1:30pm Adult Greek Advanced 6:00pm Great Vespers St. Anastasia of Alexandria
March 11 8:30am Orthros & Divine Liturgy (Main Church) 9:15am Sunday School Sunday of the Holy Cross	March 12 5:00pm Great Compline St. Theophanes the Confessor St. Symeon the New Theologian	March 13 9:45am HOPE 7:00pm Greek School Board Meeting St. Nicephorus St. Pouplios Bishop of Athens	March 14 7am, 9am, 12pm, 3pm Service of the Hours 9:45am Martha & Mary Women's Bible Study 4:30 pm GSL 6:00pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy St. Benedict of Nursia St. Euschimonus	March 15 6:30pm OCMC/Team Chicago Dinner Martyr Agapius & Companions Manuel, Martyr of Crete	March 16 9:00am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00pm Salutations D' St. Christodoulos Martyr Sabine	March 17 8:00am Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9:00am Greek School 1:00pm Prosfora & Artoclasia Baking 1:30pm Adult Greek Advanced 6:00pm Great Vespers St. Alexios St. Patrick of Ireland
March 18 8:30am Orthros & Divine Liturgy (Main Church) 9:15am Sunday School Sunday of St. John Climacus	March 19 5:00pm Great Compline Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria St Demetrios, the New Martyr	March 20 9:00am 40 Day Divine Liturgy 9:30 am HOPE 7:00 pm Jr. GOYA Fathers of the Monastery of St. Savas St. Cuthbert the Wonderworker	March 21 9:45am Martha & Mary Women's Bible Study 4:30 pm GSL 6:00pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy St. James the Confessor	March 22 6:00pm Canon of St. Andrew The Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete Sts. Kalliniki & Vassilisa the Martyrs	March 23 9:00am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 10:30am Family Synaxis Meeting 7:00pm Akathist Hymn St. Nicon and his 199 Disciples	March 24 9:00am Greek School 6:00pm Great Vespers Forefeast of the Annunciation St. Theonas, Archbishop of Thessalonica
March 25 8:30am Orthros & Divine Liturgy (Main Church) 9:15am Sunday School Annunciation of the Theotokos St. Mary of Egypt	March 26 9:00am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 5:00pm Great Compline Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel 26 Martyrs in Crimea	March 27 9:45am HOPE 7:00pm Parish Council Meeting St. Matrona of Thessalonica St. Paul, Bishop of Corinth	March 28 9:45am Martha & Mary Women's Bible Study 4:30 pm GSL 6:00pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy St. Hilarion the New St. Stephen the Wonderworker	March 29 7:00pm GAODS School Board Meeting St. Cyril St. Eustathios the Confessor	March 30 9:00am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy St. John Climacus Sts. Sosthenes, Apollos, Cephas, Caesar, & Epaphroditos, the Apostles of the 70	March 31 8:00am Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9:00am Greek School 11:00am JOY/Faith Making Palms 6:00pm Great Vespers Lazarus Sunday St. Innocent, Enlightener of Siberia & Alaska

Strict Fast Days

Oil & Wine are permitted

Fish is permitted

Dairy is permitted



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church
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2018 Parish Council members
are sworn into office.

the Forerunner

February/March 2018

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