

SUNDAY BULLETIN

MARCH 26, 2023

SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS

SYNAXIS OF ARCHANGEL GABRIEL,
26 MARTYRS IN CRIMEA



SUNDAY SERVICES

Matins/Orthros 8:30am
Divine Liturgy 9:45am

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

2350 E. Dempster Street, Des Plaines, IL 60016
(847) 827-5510 www.StJohntheBaptistGOC.org

Come and See the Risen Lord

Join us each Sunday morning for Orthros/Matins from 8:30-9:45am, conducted in Greek & English. Please use the Orthros Binders located in the narthex. Proper attire is required during church services.

Today is the first day of the week, an opportunity to offer the first fruits of your weekly labors to the Lord.

A tray for your gifts is located in the narthex.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν καὶ προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ. Σώσον ἡμᾶς, Υἱέ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστάς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς Σοι, Ἀλληλοῦϊα.

Come let us worship and bow down before Christ. Son of God, who rose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee, Alleluia.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLITIKION

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφὴν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃς τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and condescended to be buried for three days, so that from the passions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You.

FESTAL APOLITIKION

Ταῖς τῶν δακρῶν σου ροαῖς, τῆς ἐρήμου τὸ ἄγονον ἐγεώργησας, καὶ τοῖς ἐκ βάθους στεναγμοῖς, εἰς ἑκάτον τοὺς πόνους ἑκαρποφόρησας, καὶ γέγονας φωστὴρ τῇ οἰκουμένῃ, λάμπων τοῖς θαύμασιν· Ἰωάννη Πατὴρ ἡμῶν ὅσιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O John, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST APOLITIKION

Μνήμη δικαίου μετ' ἐγκαμιῶν, σοὶ δὲ ἀρκέσει ἡ μαρτυρία τοῦ Κυρίου Πρόδρομε. Ἀνεδείχθης γὰρ ὄντως καὶ προφητῶν σεβασμιώτερος ὅτι καὶ ἐν ρείθροις βαπτίσει κατηξιώθης τὸν κηρυττόμενον. Ὄθεν τῆς ἀληθείας ὑπεραθλήσας, χαίρων εὐηγγελίσω καὶ τοῖς ἐν Ἀδῇ Θεὸν φανερωθέντα ἐν σαρκί, τὸν αἴροντα τὴν ἁμαρτίαν τοῦ κόσμου καὶ παρέχοντα ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

The memory of the just is blessed, and the witness of the Lord shall be sufficient for you, O Forerunner, for you were shown forth as more venerable than the prophets, and found worthy to baptize in the waters Him, Whom you proclaimed. Therefore, you were a champion for the truth, and pleased to bring the good tidings, even to those in Hades: that God made manifest in the flesh, taking away the sins of the world and granting us great mercy.

KONTAKION

Τῇ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, Ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, Ἀναγράφω σοι ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Ἄλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, Ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσον, Ἴνα κράζω σοι· Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.

O Champion General, to you belongs our prize of victory! And since you saved us from adversity, we offer you our thanks. We are your people, O Mother of God! So, as you have that invincible power, continue to deliver us from danger that we may cry out to you: Hail O Virgin and Bride ever pure!

EPISTLE READING

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους στ' 13 - 20

Ἀδελφοί, γιατί ὅταν ὁ Θεὸς ὑποσχέθηκε στὸν Ἀβραάμ, ἐπειδὴ δὲν εἶχε κανένα μαγαλύτερό του στὸν ὅποιο νὰ ὀρκισθεῖ, ὀρκίσθηκε στὸν ἑαυτό του λέγοντας, "Ἀλήθεια, θὰ σέ εὐλογίσω

μέ τό παραπάνω καὶ θὰ σοῦ δώσω πολλοὺς ἀπογόνους". Καὶ ἔτσι ὁ Ἀβραάμ μετὰ τὴν ὑπομονή του πέτυχε τὴν ἐκπλήρωση τῆς ὑποσχέσεως. Γιατί οἱ ἄνθρωποι ὀρκίζονται στό μεγαλύτερο ἀπ' ὅλους (στό Θεὸ δηλαδή), καὶ ὁ ὄρκος δίνεται γιὰ νὰ τεθεῖ γι' αὐτοὺς τέρμα σέ κάθε ἀμφισβήτηση καὶ σέ ἐπιβεβαίωση (αὐτῶν ποὺ λέγονται). Γι' αὐτό καὶ ὁ Θεὸς θέλοντας νὰ δείξει μὲ μεγαλύτερη βεβαιότητα στοὺς κληρονόμους τῶν ὑποσχέσεών του ὅτι ἡ ἀπόφασή του ἦταν ἀμετάκλητη, τὴν ἐγγυήθηκε μετὰ ὄρκου, ὥστε γιὰ δύο πράγματα ποὺ εἶναι ἀμετάκλητα (δηλαδή τὴν ὑπόσχεση καὶ τὸν ὄρκου) γιὰ τὰ ὅποια εἶναι ἀδύνατον νὰ ψευσθεῖ ὁ Θεός, ἐμεῖς ποὺ καταφύγαμε σ' αὐτόν, νὰ ἔχουμε μεγάλη ἐνθάρρυνση στό νὰ κρατήσουμε τὴν ἐλπίδα, ποὺ βρίσκεται μπροστά μας. Τὴν ἐλπίδα αὐτὴ τὴν ἔχουμε σάν ἄγκυρα τῆς ψυχῆς, ἀσφαλὴ καὶ βεβαία, ἡ ὅποια μᾶς ὀδηγεῖ στό "ἑσώτερο τοῦ καταπετάσματος" (στό ἐσωτερικὸ τμήμα τοῦ ναοῦ τῶν Ἑβραίων, τῆς Σκηνῆς τοῦ Μαρτυρίου, στὰ Ἅγια τῶν Ἁγίων στὸν οὐρανὸ δηλαδή), ὅπου εἰσήλθε πρὶν ἀπὸ μᾶς γιὰ χάρη μας ὁ Ἰησοῦς, "ὅπως ὁ Μελχισεδέκ", καὶ ἐγίνε "αἰώνιος" ἀρχιερέας.

Hebrews 6:13-20

Brethren, for when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

GOSPEL READING

Κατὰ Μάρκον θ' 17 - 31

Καὶ ἓνας ἀπὸ τὸ πλῆθος ἀποκρίθηκε καὶ εἶπε, "Διδάσκαλε, σοῦ ἔφερα τὸ γιό μου, ποὺ ἔχει καταληφθεῖ ἀπὸ πνεῦμα πονηρό, ποὺ τὸν κάνει νὰ χάνει τὴ λαλιά του. Καὶ ὅταν τὸν πιάσει, τὸν ρίχνει κάτω καὶ ἀφρίζει καὶ τρίζει τὰ δόντια του καὶ μένει ξερός. Καὶ εἶπα στοὺς μαθητὲς σου νὰ τὸ βγάλουν ἀλλὰ δὲν μπόρεσαν". Ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς ἀποκρίθηκε καὶ εἶπε, "Γενιὰ ἄπιστη, ἕως πότε θὰ εἶμαι μαζί σας; Ἔως πότε θὰ σᾶς ἀνέχομαι; Φέрте τὸν μου ἐδῶ". Καὶ τοῦ τὸν ἔφεραν. Καὶ μόλις τὸ πνεῦμα (τὸ πονηρό) εἶδε τὸν Ἰησοῦ, ἀμέσως τάραξε μετὰ σπασμούς τὸ νέο, ποὺ ἀφοῦ ἔπεσε στή γῆ, κυλιόταν καὶ ἔβγαζε ἀφρούς. Καὶ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ρώτησε τὸν πατέρα του, "Πόσος καιρὸς εἶναι, ἀπὸ τότε ποὺ τοῦ συμβαίνει αὐτό"; Καὶ ἐκεῖνος εἶπε, "Ἀπὸ μικρὸ παιδί. Καὶ πολλές φορές τὸν ἔριξε καὶ στή φωτιά καὶ στὰ νερά γιὰ νὰ τὸν ἐξοντώσει. Ἄλλὰ ἂν μπορεῖς νὰ κάνεις τίποτε, βοήθησέ μας, σπλαγχνίσου μας". Ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς τοῦ εἶπε, "Ἐάν μπορεῖς νὰ πιστέψεις, ὅλα εἶναι δυνατὰ σ' ἐκεῖνον ποὺ πιστεύει". Καὶ ἀμέσως φώναξε ὁ πατέρας τοῦ παιδιοῦ μετὰ δάκρυα καὶ εἶπε, "Πιστεύω, Κύριε, βοήθησέ με, γιατί ἡ πίστη μου δὲν εἶναι δυνατὴ". Ὅταν δὲ εἶδε ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι μαγεύεται ὁ κόσμος, πρόσταξε τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἀκάθαρτο καὶ τοῦ εἶπε, "Πνεῦμα ἄλαλο καὶ κουφό, ἐγὼ σέ διατάσσω, ἔβγα ἀπ' αὐτόν καὶ νὰ μὴ ξαναμπεῖς πιά σ' αὐτόν". Τὸ πνεῦμα δὲ, ἀφοῦ φώναξε δυνατὰ καὶ ἀφοῦ συντάραξε τὸ νέο, βγήκε. Ὁ νέος τότε ἔμεινε ἀναίσθητος σάν νεκρός, ὥστε πολλοὶ νὰ λένε ὅτι πέθανε. Ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅμως ἀφοῦ τὸν ἔπιασε ἀπὸ τὸ χέρι, τὸν σήκωσε καὶ ἐκεῖνος στάθηκε ὀρθός. Καὶ ὅταν ὁ Ἰησοῦς μιλήσε σέ κάποιο σπῆτι, τὸ ρωτοῦσαν οἱ μαθητὲς του ἰδιαιτέρως, "Γιατί ἐμεῖς δὲν μπορέσαμε νὰ βγάλουμε τὸ δαιμονικὸ πνεῦμα"; Καὶ αὐτὸς τοῦς εἶπε, "Τὸ γένος αὐτό (δηλαδή οἱ δαίμονες), δὲν εἶναι δυνατόν νὰ βγεῖ μετὰ τίποτε ἄλλο παρά μόνον μετὰ προσευχὴ καὶ νηστεία". Καὶ ἀφοῦ ἔφυγαν ἀπ' ἐκεῖ, προχωροῦσαν ἀθόρυβα διασχίζοντας τὴ Γαλιλαία. Καὶ ὁ Ἰησοῦς δὲν ἠθέλε νὰ μάθει κανεὶς ὅτι περνοῦσε ἀπ' ἐκεῖ. Γιατί δίδασκε τοὺς μαθητὲς του καὶ τοὺς ἔλεγε, ὅτι ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου θὰ παραδοθεῖ σέ χεῖρια ἀνθρώπων καὶ θὰ τὸν θανατώσουν καὶ ἀφοῦ θανατωθεῖ, τὴν τρίτη μέρα θὰ ἀναστηθεῖ.

Mark 9:17-31

At that time, one of the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him,

STEWARDSHIP WISDOM

"Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything. The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed." Proverbs 11:24-25

WHY ICONOGRAPHY?

"The Icon is a song of triumph, and a revelation, and an enduring monument to the victory of the Saints and the disgrace of the demons."

St. John of Damascus

Saints Commemorated This Week

March

Mon, 27

Matrona of Thessaloniki, Paul Bishop of Corinth

Tues, 28

Hilarion the New, Herodion of the 70

Wed, 29

Mark Bishop of Arethusa, Cyril the Deacon

Thurs, 30

The Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, John Climacus

Fri, 31

Hypatios the Wonderworker, Innocent, Enlightener of Siberia & Alaska

Sat, 1

Mary of Egypt, Gerontios & Vasilides

April

it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” And he answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, “How long has he had this?” And he said, “From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us.” And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible to him who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again. “And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting.” They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise.”

Today's Memorials

- 40-day: Sophia Goularas
- 40-day: Andreas Vasilakos
- 6-mo: Nicholas Bolos
- 3-yr: Anna Kondilis

Calendar of Events

- SundayMarch 26**
8:30am Orthros 9:45am Divine Liturgy
9:15am Sunday School
2pm Greek Parade on Halsted
- MondayMarch 27**
5:30pm Great Compline followed by potluck dinner, fellowship and a presentation by Fr. John with the theme of: “Contemporary Lessons from the Life of St. Mary of Egypt.”
- TuesdayMarch 28**
7pm Parish Council Meeting
7pm GOYA Meeting
- WednesdayMarch 29**
4:30pm Wednesday Greek School
6:00pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy followed by Lenten Potluck meal sponsored by the Guardian Angel Orthodox Day School
- Thursday.....March 30**
5:15pm Great Compline and Canon of St. Andrew
- Friday.....March 31**
9:00am Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy
7:00pm Akathist Hymn
- Saturday April 1**
9:00am Greek School
9am GAODS Strategic Plan Presentation
12pm Pan-Orthodox Choir Practice
6pm Great Vespers
7pm Trivia Night
- Sunday April 2**
8:30am Orthros 9:45am Divine Liturgy
9:15am Sunday School

Community Focus

- Jr. Olympics registration:** Visit the Athletics link in the parish website or email youthministry@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org.
- Palm Sunday Bake Sale Bakers Wanted!** Can you bake, donate ingredients or assemble orders? See the flyer on the church website. Contact the chairs: Pat Kladis 847-682-3915, Vickie Syreggelas vickiesyreggelas@hotmail.com or Vivi Topalis 847-927-8982.
- Golden Agers Making Palms** on Friday, April 7. A light Lenten lunch will be provided. Join us!
- Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos Lenten Retreat 2023:** Sat 4/1 9am to 1:30pm at St. Athanasios, Aurora. *Seeking Peace and Love in an Anxious and Confusing World.*

Philoptochos Palm Sunday Bake Sale: Order baked goodies for Pascha: Kourabiedes, koulourakia, tiropitakia, red eggs and more. Lenten sweets also available. Order due by April 2. Order online at stjohnthebaptistgoc.org/philoptochos or pick up an order form at the church.

Holy Friday Retreat: Theme: *Whose Will Be Done? Jesus in Gethsemane.* Holy Friday, April 14. Registration link will be available next week. Volunteers also needed. Please email: sundayschool@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org.

Congratulations to all the Participants of the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival for making this year's Oratorical festival such a success. They shared their Faith within all categories of Oratory, Essay, Poetry, Iconography and Vocal Chant. Visit the church website for further details. Also, congratulations to the representatives of our parish to the Metropolis Oratorical Festival that will be held at Ascension of Our Lord in Lincolnshire, IL on Saturday April 29, 2023.

The Hellenic Foundation has been caring for our community since 1953. **Our Senior Care Services:** Are you looking for a caregiver for a loved one? Are you currently caring for a senior family member? **We are hiring!** We have job opportunities with competitive rates and benefits. Contact us today! 773-631-5222 or visit: hellenicfoundation.org.

Palm Sunday Fish Fry

Sunday, April 9 after Divine Liturgy

Meal Price -	After April 2 -
\$25 adults \$15 kids	\$30 adults \$20 kids
(12 and under)	

RSVP to
GOYA@STJOHNTHEBAPTISTGOC.ORG
or in Great Hall after Divine Liturgy

TSOUREKIA SALE - \$15

PRE-ORDER BY APRIL 3

LIMITED SALE FOR
LAZARUS SATURDAY
AND PALM SUNDAY

PRE-ORDER PICK UP:
APRIL 8
APRIL 9

PRE-ORDER TO
GOYA@STJOHNTHEBAPTISTGOC.ORG
OR IN GREAT HALL AFTER
DIVINE LITURGY

ALL PROCEEDS
SUPPORT GOYA
ENDEAVORS

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST YOUNG ADULTS PRESENT

TRIVIA NIGHT

St. John the Baptist VCS 2023

June 12-16
9:00AM-12:30PM

THEME: Contemporary Saints

For youth entering grades K-8th

Sat April 1
6:00 Vespers
7:00 Dinner
7:30 Trivia

MUST REGISTER BY TEAMS OF 5-8 PEOPLE

\$20 per person by Sun, Mar 26 (Dinner included)
Price will increase to \$25 after Mar 26

PRIZES AWAIT OUR WINNERS!
Register online using QR Code

Email youthministry@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org for more information



Scan QR Code to register online by May 15th

Donations: Please consider a \$50 per child or \$100 per family donation

T-Shirt Cost: \$13 before May 15th \$15 after May 15th

Questions? Email youthministry@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org

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