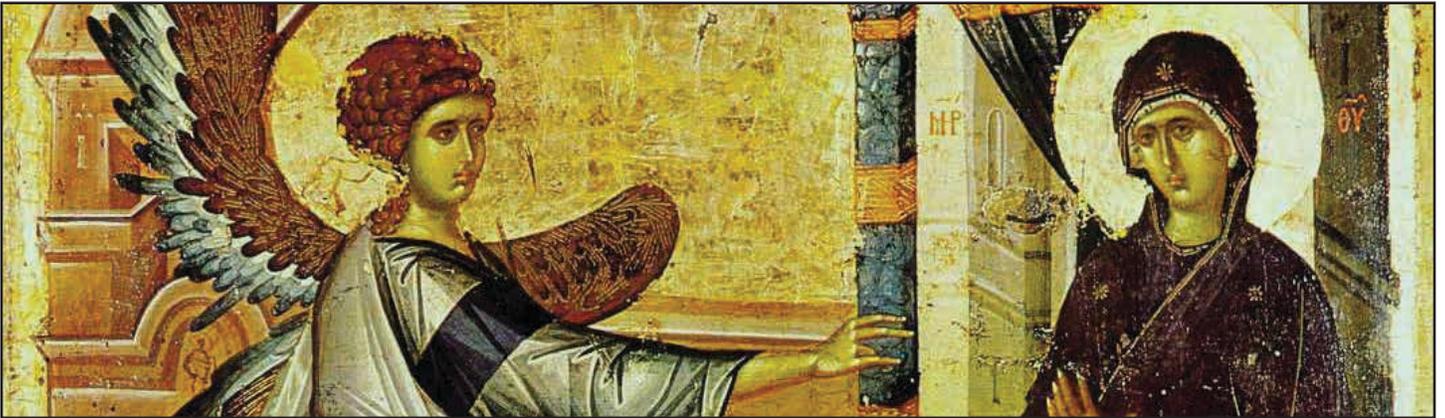


St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church -- Des Plaines, Illinois

# the Forerunner

March - April 2016



## The Annunciation To The World

*By Fr. Athanasios Papagiannis*  
*Associate Pastor*

“Today is the summation of our salvation and the manifestation of the mystery from all eternity.”

This is one of the more beautiful and meaning-packed hymns chanted on the Feast of the Annunciation. When the archangel Gabriel makes the proclamation that “The Lord is with you”, the most Holy Theotokos responds by saying: “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” (Luke 1:38).

With this short exchange, the workings of our salvation are set in motion. God’s plan of action, which was prepared from the foundation of the world, comes to fruition in the union of divine and human natures in the person of Jesus Christ. The Annunciation of the Theotokos is an announcement for humanity and it makes some very important statements for humanity.

First, Christ was conceived through the cooperation of both the heavenly and the divine. Both God and the most holy Theotokos were willing participants in this salvific plan. Nothing was forced and both had

to choose. The simple fact that they consented to this mystery of mysteries speaks to their immense love for God and humanity. Thus this collaboration is one of transcendent power and humble free will.

At the same time, we can see in God’s decision, not only how much He loved the Most Holy Virgin Theotokos, but how special and important she is. God was not going to choose any vessel to for His son to enter the world in – he choose a specific woman. The Most Holy Theotokos comprised in her being all the virtues. She was humble and obedient, loving and meek, innocent and pure. And yet she was so much more. In his commentary of the Annunciation, St. Bede states: “Truly full of grace was she, upon who it was conferred by divine favor that, first among women, she should offer God the most glorious gift of her virginity. She who strove to imitate the life of an angel was rightfully worthy to enjoy the experience of seeing and speaking with an angel.” This then is why the most Holy Theotokos is commonly referred to as a ladder, for through the virtuous and sanctified life she led we can reach the freedom we are seeking.

*Continued on Page 2*

## theForerunner

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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](mailto:forerunner@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org)

## *The Annunciation to the world*

*Continued from Page 1*

Lastly, as Christ enters the world to become in essence the new Adam, God chooses the most holy Virgin to become the new Eve. Now because of this special woman the impact of the Fall is reversed. Through a woman, man lost his salvation, but now through a woman, man wins his salvation; through a woman, man was kicked out of paradise; but now through a woman, who was raised in the confines of a sanctuary, man returns. Whereas Eve was disobedient, the Virgin Mary was obedient; whereas Eve introduces death into the world, the Theotokos introduces life. Just as Christ becomes who Adam was supposed to be, the Theotokos becomes who Eve was supposed to be like.

This is why the Feast of the Annunciation is so important in the ecclesiastical year. We celebrate, in the Feast of the Annunciation, the beginning of our freedom. And for the Greek Orthodox Church and her people, March 25th also marks the anniversary of liberation of the Greek nation from a four hundred year period of Turkish slavery. Bishop Germanos raised, in the Peloponnese, the flag of liberation on the Feast of the Annunciation, marking a new chapter in the history of the Greek people. It marked the time the Greek people were set free.

Years earlier, through the Most Holy Theotokos, God Himself, marks a new chapter into humanity and sets into motion the door to salvation, the greatest of all freedoms.





## Pure in Heart

By Jim Kandilas

“ Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God” \*  
How do we gain purity in heart in this corrupted and immoral world?  
How can we block off the challenges , moral impurity, and temptations?  
the answer lies only in pure love that knows no exemptions.

If we choose to sin, we will close our spiritual eye and shut God out of our heart.  
We will consider all human beings impure and defiled.  
But, if we listen to St Basil’s admonition to keep the commandment of love,  
We should yield ourselves to the Father up above.

Let us keep the pure garment of baptism shining and spotless.  
Let us nail on the cross our weaknesses , pride, and all passions.  
If we soften the hardness of our heart with tears of repentance,  
We will purify our bodies and minds with God’s priceless fragrance.

We can purify our hearts with ascetic efforts of working off evil thoughts.  
A clear path leading to His Church is available to all of us,  
If we reject the tempter’s invitation to self-will,  
We will see Him in the silence when all is calm and still

If we recognize the original divine nature of the passions, we will all gain purity in heart with prayer, vigilance, and fast.  
Our aim then will be to focus our lives entirely to God.  
And our inner Moses will lift us up from the sinful pit of mud.

\* Matt5:8



## Εξασφάλισε την Σωτηρίαν σου

Δημήτρης Κάνδηλας

Ποιος πατήρ ( καθώς λέγει ο Χριστος, ) οταν του ζητήσει ο υιός τον άρτον του διδει λίθον η οταν ζητήσει οψαριον του διδει όψιν;  
Πολυ περισσοτερον ο Ουράνιος Πατήρ με ποικίλους τρόπους,  
θα σε αμείψει με την σωτηρία της ψυχής για τους επίμονους κόπους.

Μην γογγίζεις μην δυσανασχετείς και μην χάνεις την υπομονή σου,  
οταν φιλονικίες, θλίψεις, και αγωνίες κτυπουν την ζωη σου.  
Υψωσε προ τον Ουρανό τα χέρια σου με μεγάλη ευγνωμοσύνη.  
Ο φιλόστοργος Θεος θα σε περιβάλει με απέραντο καλωσύνη.

Μην θωρηβεισε και μην ταραζεσε με τις ανισότητες της ζωής,  
εαν ενας ειναι πτωχος και ο άλλος πλούσιος, ενας υγιείς και ο άλλος άρρωστος.  
Ο πολυεσπλαγχος Θεος φροντίζει με διαφορετικές δοκιμασίες,  
να σε σώσει απο τις πονηριες και δυσβάστακτες αμαρτίες.

Γνώριζε όπως και να σου έρχονται τα πράγματα, οτι αυτό ειναι το θέλημα του Θεου δια την σωτηρίαν σου.  
Πειρασμοί και δυστυχίες έρχονται είτε απο αμαρτίες η χωρις αιτίες.  
Εξασφάλισε την Σωτηριαν σου ευχαριστώντας τον Θεον για τις δυστυχίες.

Μην απαγοητευεσε. Μην αφήνεις το παράπονο να σε κυριεύσει.  
Αγκάλιασε τις θλίψεις, τις συμφορές, και τις δοκιμασίες.  
Δοξασε και ευχαρίστησε τον Θεο για ολες τις κακουχίες σου.  
Σίγουρα η υπομονή και μεγαλοψυχία σου θα εξαλείψουν τις αμαρτίες σου.



## 2016 Dive for the Cross

On Saturday, January 9, 2016, the youth groups of St. John the Baptist - Faith, Joy, Jr. Goya and Goya - gathered together for our annual Dive for the Cross. The event took place at Maine East High School in Park Ridge. There were approximately 50 children in attendance. There was joy and energy in the air while parents and loved ones watched the different age groups competed to be the first to retrieve the Cross, which was thrown by Father Athanasios. There were 10 winners, and the winners got to keep their Cross. We received many *thank you's* from parents on how much fun was had by the children and how beautiful the variety of crosses were. It was a joyful event with good memories for our children.

Congratulations to all the winners! May we all experience a Blessed Lent+.



## Pythagoras Greek School celebrates dual holiday

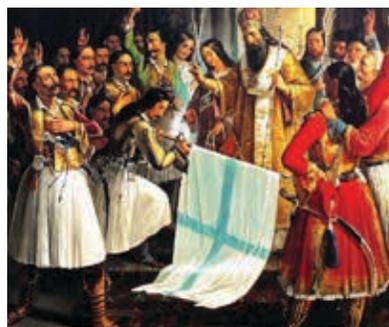
by Maria Vassiliades Zachariou  
Pythagoras Greek School

It was no accident that the heroes of the Greek War of Independence chose March 25th, the feast of the Annunciation, to begin their united efforts for independence from the Ottoman Turks in 1821. They recognized the significance for mankind of the Archangel Gabriel's news that revealed to the Virgin Mary the upcoming birth of Our Lord. Their hope was that their fight for independence would also be blessed with a great outcome.

Pythagoras Greek School of St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church recognizes the historical importance of these two holidays, as well as the importance of teaching our students—the future of our Greek Orthodox community abroad—about them. In honor of these two historical events, the students of Pythagoras Greek School will celebrate Greek Independence Day and the feast day of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary with poetry, songs, and

traditional Greek dances. The GSL program will take place on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 5:30 pm and the Saturday program on Saturday, March 26, 2016 at 11:30 am in the church hall.

Everyone in the community is invited to attend these celebrations of our dual religious and national holiday. It is a wonderful opportunity to show support for our children as they showcase their efforts towards their spiritual and intellectual growth! Ζήτω η Ελλάδα, ζήτω η θρησκεία!



# Save the Date!

St. John the Baptist Philoptochos  
presents the Mad Hatter Luncheon

## Paris in Springtime

Saturday, May 14, 11 a.m.

at the Glen Club  
2901 West Lake Avenue in Glenview

Guest Speaker:

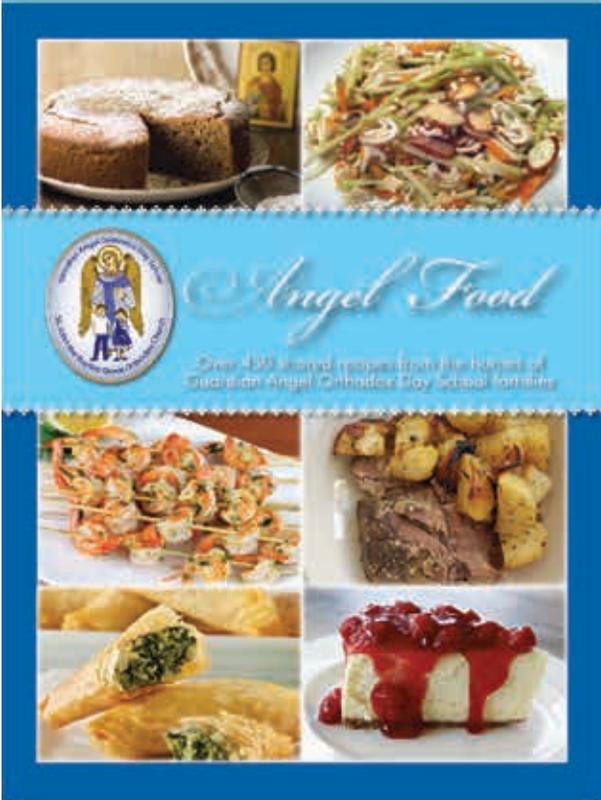
*Amelia Bartholomew, M.D.*

Chief of Translational Research,  
Department of Surgery,  
University of Illinois

Speaking on Nutritional  
and Spiritual Health

# Angel Food

**The GAODS Cookbook with over 450 recipes!**



- ❖ A hardcover 3-ring binder book
- ❖ Categories easy to locate with hard dividers
- ❖ Over 75 **Lenten** recipes, including:
  - Breads
  - Soups & Sides
  - Main Dishes
  - Desserts
- ❖ Over a dozen Slow Cooker recipes

**Perfect gift for Easter & Mother's Day!**

*Expected delivery mid-April*

Order yours today at the Pre-Sale price of \$25  
After March 15, 2016, cost will be \$30

*ALL proceeds of this cookbook to benefit our beloved school  
Please include payment with this form - Checks payable to St. John the Baptist*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Cookbooks: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

GAODS families, cookbooks will be delivered home with students.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

If you do not have a GAODS student, you will be contacted at the telephone number provided to schedule pick up of cookbook.

## **“We Knew not whether We were in Heaven or on Earth...”**

*by Phillip Anast  
Parish Council*

The words above, uttered by the envoys of Prince Vladimir of Kiev after they had visited Agia Sophia in the 10th Century, were also the sentiments of Father John and Parish Council members during their trip out West to start the year.

In January, Father John and Parish Council members had the privilege of making a pilgrimage to venerate the relics of St. John Maximovitch at Holy Virgin Cathedral – Joy of All who Sorrow (New Cathedral) in San Francisco.

Led by our host, Rev. Hieromonk James Corazza, the St. John the Baptist pilgrims experienced the worship of the Russian Church, visits to the Old Cathedral of the Holy Virgin, and to the orphanage that St. John, Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco, established following the communist revolution in China in 1949. They also enjoyed brunch at a restaurant overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

Among the key highlights was being enveloped in the saint’s mandya. Father James prayed over Father John, and then several Parish Council members at a time, reading the Akathist to St. John Maximovitch. Pilgrims also visited the saint’s small living quarters (cell) and sat in the chair from which he heard confessions. Suffice it to say, no one felt worthy to sit

in the chair, but Father James told us to do so and give thanks to God for the blessing.

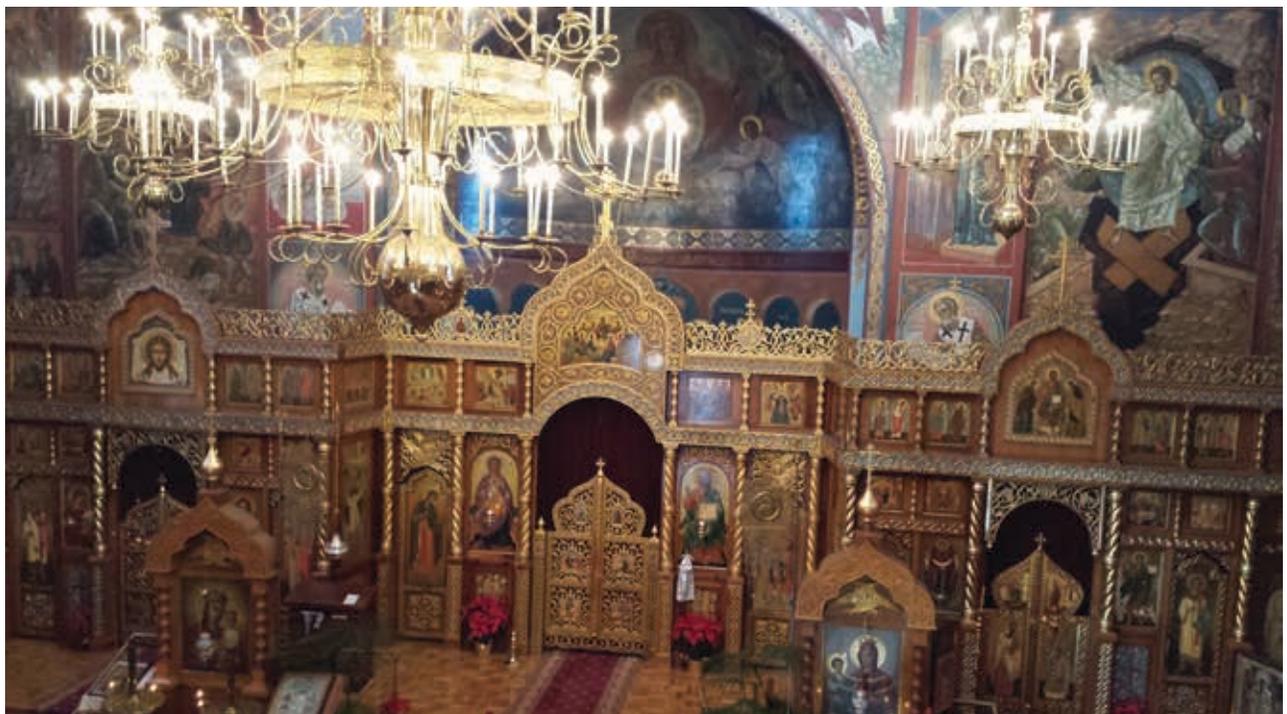
During our visit, he also instructed us on the magnificent iconography of the new cathedral, built under St. John’s direction and prayers, in 1965. The iconography in this cathedral literally covers every square inch of the sanctuary and Holy Altar – top to bottom.

Father James explained that icons are the interaction of divine grace with the human race. They are depictions of holy people who have attained theosis, and we are called to glorify God in the same manner. The writing of icons in a church is a labor of love and an offering to every generation that follows.

He said that the importance of icons cannot be minimized. God made us out of love. He shares His nature with us. God wants us to become by grace what He is by nature. Iconography is a true expression of gratefulness for life.

The Psalmist writes, “Lord, I have loved the beauty of thy House and the place where Thy Glory dwells.” Parish Council pilgrims, paying their own way to embark on this pilgrimage, were richly rewarded.

Through the prayers of St. John Maximovitch, may our beloved community of St. John the Baptist endeavor to complete the iconography in the Guardian Angel Chapel and Main Church.



# March and April Feast Days

by Marguerite Gribogiannis and Mary Meletsis  
Library Ministry

We celebrate the following saints in March and April.

**March 1. St. Eudokia** was a Samaritan woman, during the reign of the Roman Emperor Trajan. She was reputed to be one of the richest women in the world and had many suitors. Her journey to a life as a Christian started when she met a monk whose name was Gerasimos. Eudokia soon became influenced by the monks's teachings and was baptized. She gave her fortune to the poor and needy. Her reputation changed from being the richest woman in the world to a woman of miraculous healing powers, who brought thousands of pagans to the Faith.

**March 25. The Feast day of the Annunciation of the Theotokos** is very important for all Christians, because with the acceptance of the Blessed Virgin Mary, all of humanity has a chance to be saved. Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to the Blessed Virgin Mary to announce that she would give birth to the Christ Child, Who would save the world. She allowed herself to become an instrument of God's will. She let the Holy Spirit dwell within her and let the Baby Jesus be born.

**March 26** is dedicated as the *Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel*, the messenger of God.

**April 1. St. Mary of Egypt** had lived a life of slavery to the passions. One year, while she was in Jerusalem, she approached the Church to witness the Exaltation of the venerable Cross, and found an invisible force that would not allow her to enter but allowed others to enter the Church. She decided to repent and dedicate her life to

Christ. She prayed to Our Lady the Theotokos for protection. And, returning once again to the Church, she entered easily. Then she departed to the desert across the river Jordan. For 47 years, she lived in a harsh environment, surpassing human strength and praying to God alone. Toward the end of her life she met a hermit named Zosimas, who recorded her life story. The following year, Zosimas brought the Holy Mysteries to the saint on Holy and Great Thursday. When he returned to the desert the next year, he found the saint's dead body with a message written in the sand that she died on that Holy Thursday. She is also commemorated on the fifth Sunday of Lent as a reminder to all Christians about the virtue of repentance.

**April 23. St. George** is called the "Victorious Great Martyr." As an officer in the Roman army, he refused to sacrifice to the pagan idols and gave up his military commission. He was tortured, beaten and bound to a wheel with spikes. These tortures had no effect on his faith in Christ.

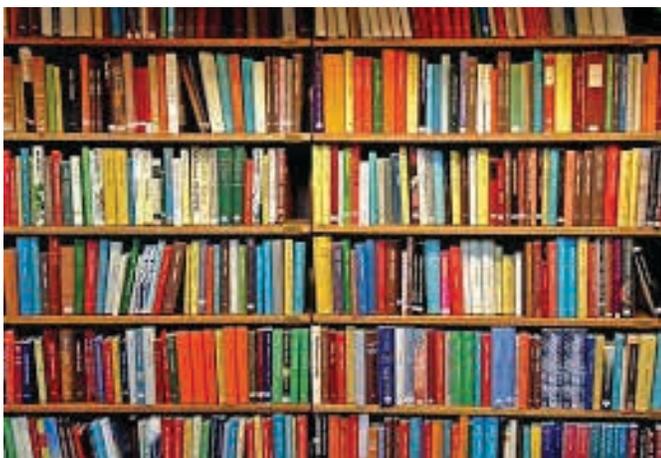
St. George converted many pagans. His fame spread throughout the world. St. George symbolizes the struggle between good and evil. He is often depicted in icons slaying the Dragon of Darkness.

**April 24. St. Mark** was one of the four Evangelists of the New Testament Gospels.

He became the first Bishop of Alexandria. He was an eloquent speaker and delivered some of the most fervent and dynamic sermons in Church history. He converted thousands of pagans, for which he was imprisoned and tortured. He gave his life for Christ.

*Reference: Poulos, George Rev., Lives of the Saints and Major Feastdays, 1974.*

## Library Ministry calls for assistance



The St. John the Baptist Church Library is looking for assistance in cataloging the holdings and reordering books lost during the Hurricane Ike flood.

Please contact:

Mary Meletsis                      Marguerite Gribogiannis  
Meletsis@sbcglobal.net      mail4margeg@yahoo.com  
and/or 847-298-4187

Please help this ministry which serves to enlighten individuals, families and children about our Orthodox Faith.

# From the Stewardship Committee

by Jerry Pavlatos  
Stewardship Chairman

On behalf of Fr. John Rallis and the Stewardship Committee, I would like to thank you for the sacrificial offerings made by each of you this past year. By God's grace and through the intercessions of our patron saint, St. John the Baptist, the Stewardship offerings to our parish continue to increase year over year. The love each of you have for our parish is evident not only through the generosity of your treasures, but also through the sacrifice of your time and of your talents which are all equally important and necessary to allow the works of God to be manifested within our parish.

This year's Stewardship theme is, "Those that seek the LORD SHALL NEVER be in want of any GOOD THING". Last November, a stewardship packet was mailed to your home. The contents of the packet included a letter written by Fr. John, a pledge card, and the 2016 Stewardship Brochure. A letter was written back to Fr. John by one of our parishioners in response to their receipt of this year's packet. The family has remained anonymous however, the committee would like to share their letter with each of you.

I was personally moved and inspired by the contents of the letter written to Fr. John and I hope and pray you will be as well. Our parish has the blessing of being named for the one who God himself describes as "great" in the Gospel of Luke. Together, we can continue to achieve "great" works within our parish. Let us therefore strive to "exert all of our strength" to God and allow his works to be manifested within our community.

*Fr. John:*

*I write to you being in receipt of the 2016 Stewardship packet and your letter in which you ask our family to increase our Stewardship offering for 2016. In addition to your letter, this past week I also received an email message from someone expressing his Thanksgiving wishes. The message stated, "Thanksgiving is a time to look back, reflect, and give thanks for all of our blessings." This short and simple phrase had me think about the many blessings which have been given to me and to my family. It also reminded me about our parish, your letter to the parishioners, and the contents within the Stewardship Brochure which is themed, "Those that seek the LORD SHALL NEVER be in want of any GOOD THING". I read your letter "more carefully" this year, and I also I read through the Stewardship Brochure in its entirety.*

*As I read through the Stewardship Brochure, I connected the email message, "giving thanks for all of our blessings," to the message within the Stewardship Brochure which states, "It takes faith to give of what we have been given. . . and to know that our God who gave will not stop giving." As I reflected on these words, I asked myself a question. Have I faithfully given what has been given to me? The unfortunate answer is, NO. I have not given proportionally what has been given to me.*

*The Stewardship Brochure references the writings of Saint Gregory the Theologian, "You will never overcome God's generosity, even if you give away all that you have. . . And however much you bring to him, always more remains. Nor, will you give anything that is your own; for all things flow from God". If I can never overcome God's generosity then what can I do? The answer to this question stared at me from within the Stewardship brochure, "You cannot do everything, but you can do something. God wants each of us to do our best and leave the rest to him."*

*Fr. John, this year my family and I have chosen to "do something" and "leave the rest to him." Rather than pledge the suggested offering you asked of us, my family and I will double our 2015 pledge offering to our parish for 2016. In doing so, we pray that our Lord sees this as a step towards offering back a fraction of what He has given to us.*

*In closing, I leave you with the words of St. Theophan which are contained within the Stewardship Brochure, "Exert all your strength, but rest your concern for success on God."*

*In Christ,  
– Anonymous –*

# Registry of Sacraments



## Baptisms

**January 2nd:** Haralambos  
Parents: Irene Georgalidis  
Sponsors: Michael & Kate Monaxios

**January 3rd:** John Ignatius  
Parents: Anthony & Elpida Platis  
Sponsors: Chris & Sophia Christofer

**January 3rd:** Peter Joseph  
Parents: Thomas & Megan Spathis  
Sponsors: Paul & Catherine Gorecki

**January 16th:** Ephraim  
Parents: Gary & Linda Rihani  
Sponsors: Aaron & Vana Chupp

**January 24th:** Nektarios  
Parents: Dragan & Maria Bec  
Sponsor: Andonia Gountanis

**January 30th:** Maria  
Parents: Kenneth & Athena Catlett  
Sponsor: Georgia Novak

**February 7th:** Athanasios  
Parents: Konstantinos & Danielle  
Douvikas  
Sponsors: Matheos & Ioulia  
Douvikas

**February 27th:** Evangelos  
Parents: Peter & Eleni Lamperis  
Sponsors: Jim & Katrina Kemperas

**February 28th:** Miltiadis  
Parents: Kyriako & Stacy Alexakos  
Sponsor: Patricia Pipikios



## Weddings

**January 2nd**  
Apostolos Bellos & Lilliana Garcia  
Sponsors: Emmanuel & Athanasia  
Ladas

**January 2nd**  
Jason Frangos & Rachel Scheid  
Sponsor: Alex Horemis

**February 20th**  
Randal Esposito & Christine Bennett  
Sponsor: Timothy Bennett



## Funerals

**January 11:** Nicholas W. Bellas  
**January 19:** Hiede Doudalis  
**January 21:** John Venetsanopoulos  
**February 24:** Kostas Papantoniou

# Prayer List

For any prayer concern (salvation, health, employment, stress and anxieties, etc.) please send baptismal names only to [stjohn@stjohnthebaptistgoc.org](mailto: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:** Angelo, Chrysanthy and family, Chris, Helen, and family, Mary Ellen and family, James and family, Eudoxia, Paraskevi, Maria, Panagiotis, Hristos

**For guidance:** Ekaterini, Renee, John, Angela

**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

**For healing of an illness:** Helen, Mary Ellen, Angeline, Mary, Bill, Katherine, George, Athanasios, Tom, Makrina, Eric, Scott, Veronika, Nicoletta, Nicholas, Helen, George, Judy, Elaine, Nicoletta, Anastasios, Aristidis, Mary Ellen, Mary, and Ioanna

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

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

**For faith and hope:** Evagelia

**For good health and recovery from illness:** Christopher

**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, Chrysanthy, Helen, Mary, Iosefia, Dean and Helen (cancer), Sophie, Stafford, Theodora, Ekaterini

**For illness and survival of world circumstances:** Mary Ellen, Jennie, Helen, George/family, Judy, Christ, Mary

**For forgiveness:** John, Angela, Ioannis, Evagelia

**For battling cancer:** Stavros, Dimitri

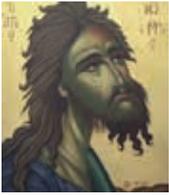
# Six Week Calendar • March 27 - May 7, 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>March 27</b> 8:30 am Orthros 9:15 am Sunday School 9:45 am Divine Liturgy (Main Church)  SUNDAY OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS 2 SUNDAY OF LENT	<b>March 28</b> 5:00 pm Great Compline  Hilarion the New, Herodian of the 70	<b>March 29</b> 9:30 am HOPE 2:00 pm GAODS Oratorical Festival 7:00 pm Jr. GOYA Mtg.  Mark Bishop of Arethusa, Cyril the Deacon	<b>March 30</b> 9:45 am Martha & Mary 4:30 pm GSL 5:30 pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy 7:30pm Parish Oratorical Festival  John Climacus, Sosthenes	<b>March 31</b>  Hypatios the Wonderworker, Innocent Enlightener of Siberia & Alaska	<b>April 1</b> 8:30 am 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Salutations C'  Mary of Egypt, Gerontios & Vasilides	<b>April 2</b> 9:00 am Greek School 6:00 pm Great Vespers  <i>Family Synaxis Lenten Retreat</i>  Titus the Wonderworker, Theodora of Palestine
<b>April 3</b> 8:30am Orthros 9:15am Sunday School 9:45am Divine Liturgy (Main Church)  SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS, 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT	<b>April 4</b> 9:00 am GAODS PTO Meeting 5:00 pm Great Compline  George of Maleon, Plato the Studite	<b>April 5</b> 9:30 am HOPE 7:00 pm GOYA  Martyrs Claudius, Diodor, Victor and Victorinus	<b>April 6</b> 9:45am Martha & Mary 4:30pm GSL 6:00 pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy  Eutychios Patriarch of Constantinople, Methodius Enlightener of the Slavs	<b>April 7</b>  Kalliopios & Akylina, Martyrs, Savvas the New in Calymna	<b>April 8</b> 8:30 am 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Salutations D'  Agavos, Roupfos, Asynkritos, Phlegon, Herodion & Hermes, Rufus the Obedient	<b>April 9</b> 9:00 am Greek School 3:30pm Sisters of Faith 6:00 pm Great Vespers  Eupsychios the Martyr, Vadin the Righteous of Persia
<b>April 10</b> 8:30am Orthros 9:15am Sunday School 9:45am Divine Liturgy (Main Church) 7:00 pm Solemn Vespers  SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS, 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT	<b>April 11</b> 5:00 pm Great Compline  Antipas Bishop of Pergamon, Pharmuthios the Anchorite	<b>April 12</b> 9:30am HOPE 7pm Jr. GOYA  Basil the Confessor of Parium, Anthoussa of Constantinople	<b>April 13</b> 9:45am Martha & Mary 4:30pm GSL 6:00 pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy  Martin Pope of Rome	<b>April 14</b> 6:00 pm Canon of St. Andrew  Aristarchos, Pudens, Trophimos, Thomais of Alexandria	<b>April 15</b> 8:30am 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy 7:00pm Akathist Hymn  Crescens the Martyr, Leonidas Bishop of Athens	<b>April 16</b> 9:00 am Greek School 6:00 pm Great Vespers  Agape, Chionia, Irene, Martyrs
<b>April 17</b> 8:30 am Orthros 9:15 am Sunday School 9:45 am Divine Liturgy (Main Church) Sunday School Talents in Great Hall <i>Greek Parade</i>  SUNDAY OF ST. MARY OF EGYPT, 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT	<b>April 18</b> 5:00 pm Great Compline  John the Righteous disciple of Gregory of Decapolis	<b>April 19</b> 9:30am HOPE 7:00 pm GOYA 7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting  Pamphnoutios the Holy Martyr, George the Confessor	<b>April 20</b> 9:45am Martha & Mary 4:30pm GSL 6:00 pm 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy  Theodore the Trichinas, Zacchaeus of Caesaria	<b>April 21</b> 7:00 pm GAODS School Board Meeting  Ianouarios and Companions, Alexandra the Empress	<b>April 22</b> 8:30am 9th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy  Theodore the Sykeote, Nathaniel, Luke & Clemente	<b>April 23</b> 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 9:00 am Greek School 11:00 am JOY & Faith Make Palms 6:00 pm Great Vespers  Lazarus Saturday, Great Martyr George
<b>April 24</b> 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Divine Liturgy (Main Church) 10:00am Divine Liturgy (Chapel) 7:00pm Nymfios Service  PALM SUNDAY, Symeon Bishop of Persia	<b>April 25</b> 9:00 am Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy 7:00pm Nymfios Service  HOLY MONDAY, Mark the Apostle & Evangelist, Emmanuel, Theodore, Gregory, Michael, Gregory New Martyrs	<b>April 26</b> 9:00 am Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy 7:00pm Nymfios Service  HOLY TUESDAY, Basil of Amasea, Glaphrya the Righteous	<b>April 27</b> 8:00 am Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy 2:00 pm Holy Unction 3:00 pm Holy Unction 6:30 pm Matins of Holy Thursday, Service of the Washing of the Feet  HOLY WEDNESDAY, Symeon the Holy Martyr	<b>April 28</b> 7:00am Vespereal Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm 12 Gospels 11:00 pm Supplicatory Canon to Holy Cross  HOLY THURSDAY, 9 Monk-Martyrs of Cyzikos, Memnon the Wonderworker	<b>April 29</b> 8:00 am Royal Hours 12:00 pm Holy Friday Retreat 3:00 pm Apokathelosis 7:00 pm Service of the Lamentations  HOLY FRIDAY, Jason & Sosipater of the 70, Martyr Ceryra	<b>April 30</b> 7:00 am & 8:15 am Vespereal Divine Liturgy 10:45pm Service of the Resurrection 12:00 am Anastasis, Resurrectional Orthros & Divine Liturgy  HOLY SATURDAY
<b>May 1</b> 12:00pm Agape Vespers  GREAT & HOLY PASCHA	<b>May 2</b> 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy  Great Martyr George (observed), Removal of Relic of Athanasios, Herperos & Zoe the Righteous	<b>May 3</b> 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy  Timothy & Mavra the Martyrs, Peter the Wonderworker, Raphael, Nicholas, Irene	<b>May 4</b> 9:45 am Martha & Mary Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm GSL  Pelagia the Nun martyr, Hilarion the Wonderworker	<b>May 5</b> 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy  Irene of Thessaloniki, Neophytos, Gaius & Caianus	<b>May 6</b> 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy  Life-Giving Spring, Job the Prophet, Seraphim the Struggler	<b>May 7</b> 9:00 am Greek School 6:00 pm Great Vespers  Commemoration of the Precious Cross, Cyril of Jerusalem

Strict Fast Days

Oil & Wine are permitted

Fish is permitted



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church  
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# the Forerunner

March - April 2016

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