



Main Church *Iconography*

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

TOGETHER, LET US ADORN OUR PARISH

Sponsor an Icon today!



Saint John Maximovitch

July 2



The Holy Hierarch John Maximovitch, was born in the Kharkov region in 1896, and reposed in Seattle in 1966. In 1921, during the Russian Civil War, his family fled to Belgrade, joining the ranks of Russian exiles in Serbia, where he later became a monk and an ordained priest. In 1934, he was made Bishop of Shanghai, where he served until the Communists came to power. Later, he ministered in Europe, serving as Bishop first in Paris, then in Brussels, until he became Archbishop of San Francisco in 1962. Throughout his life, he was revered as a strict ascetic, a devoted man of prayer, and a truly wondrous unmercenary healer of all manner of afflictions and woes. He served the Divine Liturgy daily, slept little more than an hour a day, and kept a strict fast until the evening. It is doubtful that any one man gave so much protection and

comfort as he to the Russian Orthodox people in exile after the Revolution of 1917; he was an unwearied and watchful shepherd of his sheep in China, the Philippines, Europe, and America. Since his repose in 1966, he has been especially glorified by God through signs and miracles, and his body has remained incorrupt to this day. His relics were transferred to the Cathedral of the Most Holy Theotokos, the "Joy of All Who Sorrow", in San Francisco, during his glorification in 1994, and are the only intact relics open for veneration in North America. Pilgrims come from all over the world to pray at his reliquary, and oil from the continually burning lampada is sent globally to all those that seek St. John's help. The Liturgy is performed daily, and there is access during services to the holy relics.

*Apolytikion: Like a spiritual daystar in heaven's firmament, * thou didst encompass the whole world and didst enlighten men's souls. * Hence, thy name is glorified throughout the East and West, * for thou didst shine forth with the grace * of the Sun of Righteousness, O John, our beloved shepherd. * Wherefore, cease not to entreat Christ, that He show mercy and redeem our souls.*