

If you would like to follow along with the liturgy service,  
you may do so on your tablet or smart phone at the following link:  
<http://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/dcs.html>

#### A NOTE TO OUR VISITORS

Please understand that Holy Communion is a sign of unity of our faith.  
Only Orthodox Christians that have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting,  
and periodic confession are permitted to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

We are glad to have you worshipping with us today. Please join us for fellowship  
immediately following the Liturgy in the Fellowship Hall coffee room.



**St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church**

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**Sunday, August 4, 2019**  
**Seventh Sunday of Matthew**

**Commemorating: Seven Holy Youths of Ephesus**

**Epistle Reading: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 15:1-7**

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**Gospel Reading: The Gospel According to 9:27-35**

At that time, as Jesus passed by, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

**Seven Holy Youths of Ephesus**

The Seven Youths hid themselves in a certain cave near Ephesus in the year 250, to escape the persecution of Decius. By divine grace, a sleep came upon them and they slept for 184 years, until the reign of Saint Theodosius the Younger, when the doctrine of the resurrection was being assailed by heretics. They then awoke, that is, were resurrected, confirming in the sight of all the bodily resurrection; and again after a short time, by divine command, they reposed in the Lord in the year 434.

**HOLY TRANSFIGURATION (AUGUST 6TH)**

Prior to Christ's Crucifixion, Jesus displayed a metamorphosis from a human and divine nature to that of purely divine. To convince His apostles of His Divinity, Christ took Peter, James, and John to Mt. Tabor and was transformed in front of them. At this time, He was uplifted with Moses on one side, representing the Law of the Old Testament, and the Prophet Elias on His other side, representing the prophecies of the Old Testament. Christ's face became bright as the sun. His clothing became white as light, and the voice of God said "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear Him." This event reminds all Christians of the brilliance of Christ and His light brings hope and change to mankind.

**Orthros Gospel: Seventh**  
**Tone: Plagal Second**

**Thank You to the Following Stewards of St. John's Parish:**

Parish Council Member on Duty: Vernon Rondeau  
Prosforon brought by: Athina Paraschos / Aristou Eleftheriou  
Coffee Hour by: Carolyn Kefalas & Ashleigh Kefalas Orrock  
Today's Second Tray will benefit the Building Fund

**Schedule of Services and Community Events**

**Sunday, August 4th:**

- Orthros 9:00 am, Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am
- 40 Day Memorial Service: Ioannis (John) Paraschos ~ May his memory be eternal

**Tuesday, August 6th:** Holy Transfiguration

- Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
- Greek Festival Meeting: 7:00 pm

**Wednesday, August 7th:** Small Paraklesis: 6:00 pm

**Thursday, August 8th:** Great Paraklesis – 6:00 pm

**Friday, August 9th:** Small Paraklesis – 6:00 pm

**Dormition Of The Theotokos**  
**Fast Days**  
**August 1st – August 14th**

**Community News and Events**

**GOYA BINGO: Saturday, August 17** – Come join us for Bingo fun and dinner for all ages. The entrance fee will be \$10.00 and will begin at 5:00 pm. Children 12 and under are free. Admission includes 2 Bingo Cards and dinner. (Additional cards will be available for purchase) Great prizes, good food and great fellowship. Call Alex Vlandis for more info. (843) 497-5607.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School begins on September 8th.** If anyone is interested in teaching Sunday School, please contact the church office. A registration form for the upcoming school year is in the August "The Voice".

**BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC: Save the Date** - September 8, 2019 at 3 pm.

**GREEK SCHOOL:** The Greek School is accepting students for the 2019-2020 School Year. All youth are encouraged to take Greek Classes in the Fall. Call Ted Kesoglou at (843) 503-3893 if you are interested in your children attending Greek Classes. Classes begin Aug. 25th. See "The Voice" for the Registration form.

**YOUTH GREEK DANCING:** Instruction for Greek dancing will be on Saturdays at 10:00 am. Katherine Wright will be the instructor. For more information, please contact Katherine Wright at 843-267-9857.

**GREEK FESTIVAL REMINDER:** Dates for festival this year are October 17 thru 20. Our next meeting will be August 6th at 7:00 pm in the coffee room. All are welcome to attend and give us your ideas. We need everyone's help!

**ST. JOHN'S RELIGIOUS BOOKSTORE AND GIFT SHOP:** A variety of books, icons, instructional guides, Orthodox literature, worship greeting cards, bracelets, olive oil soap, "A Voyage in Greek Cooking", St. John's parish cookbook is available. Contact Loretta Siotka at 843-399-8955. (Moved to the Library in Community Center)

**STEWARDSHIP:** Please return stewardship form as soon as possible. Additional forms are available at the pangari.

**PARISH COMMITTEES BEING FORMED:** As you know, "it takes a village". We are establishing three committees within the church. The first is the Stewardship Committee, which will work with Fr. Demetrios and the Parish Council to grow our parish. The second is a Kitchen Staff Committee, which will handle the Kitchen during Festival. Third is a Youth Committee, which will explore improving our Sunday School, Greek School and other programs for our children. Please contact the church office or Perry Koustenis 301-807-9243 or Penny Vlandis 843-222-3979 if you would like to join one of the committees. Your help is always needed and so are your ideas.

**"THE VOICE":** "The Voice" is being sent to parishioners by email. If you did not receive the August electronic version, please contact the office with your email address. "The Voice" is available on the church website and a limited number of hard copies will be placed in the narthex.

**CHURCH OFFICE MAIL:** If you are the head of a ministry or on the church council, please remember that you have a mail box in the office. Please check and clear them out. Office open during the day or you can check on Sunday, following church services.