

# St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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Send announcements for the bulletin and/or website to [bulletin@stjohnorthodox.org](mailto:bulletin@stjohnorthodox.org)

Send announcements to be emailed to all members to [announce@stjohnorthodox.org](mailto:announce@stjohnorthodox.org)

## October 3, 2010



### Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite the Bishop of Athens

The Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite, Bishop of Athens St Dionysius lived originally in the city of Athens. He was raised there and received a classical Greek education. He then went to Egypt, where he studied astronomy at the city of Heliopolis. It was in Heliopolis, along with his friend Apollophonos where he witnessed the solar eclipse that occurred at the moment of the death of the Lord Jesus Christ by Crucifixion. "Either the Creator of all the world now suffers, or this visible world is coming to an end," Dionysius said. Upon his return to Athens from Egypt, he was chosen to be a member of the Areopagus Council (Athenian high court).

When the holy Apostle Paul preached at the place on the Hill of Ares (Acts 17:16-34), Dionysius accepted his salvific proclamation and became a Christian. For three years St Dionysius remained a companion of the holy Apostle Paul in preaching the Word of God. Later on, the Apostle Paul selected him as bishop of the city of Athens. And in the year 57 St Dionysius was present at the repose of the Most Holy Theotokos.

During the lifetime of the Mother of God, St Dionysius had journeyed from Athens to Jerusalem to meet Her. He wrote to his teacher the Apostle Paul: "I witness by God, that besides the very God Himself, there is nothing else filled with such divine power and grace. No one can fully comprehend what I saw. I confess before God: when I was with John, who shone among the Apostles like the sun in the sky, when I was brought before the countenance of the Most Holy Virgin, I experienced an inexpressible sensation. Before me gleamed a sort of divine radiance which transfixed my spirit. I perceived the fragrance of indescribable aromas and was filled with such delight that my very body became faint, and my spirit could hardly endure these signs and marks of eternal majesty and heavenly power. The grace from her overwhelmed my heart and shook my very spirit. If I did not have in mind your instruction, I should have mistaken Her for the very God. It is impossible to stand before greater blessedness than this which I beheld."

After the death of the Apostle Paul, St Dionysius wanted to continue with his work, and therefore went off preaching in the West, accompanied by the Presbyter Rusticus and Deacon Eleutherius. They converted many to Christ at Rome, and then in Germany, and then in Spain. In Gaul, during a persecution against Christians by the pagan authorities, all three confessors were arrested and thrown

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS

**Sunday, October 3** – Orthros 9:00am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Sunday School following Liturgy; Lunch following

**Tuesday, October 5** – Inquirer's/Catechism Class at Townsend's 7:00pm

**Wednesday, October 6** – Vespers 6:00pm

**Friday, October 8** – Spiritual Circle 9:30am

**Saturday, October 9** – Great Vespers 6:00pm

**Sunday, October 10** – Orthros 9:00am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Sunday School following Liturgy; Lunch following

### EPISTLE READERS

Oct 3 - Joy Corey

Oct 10 - Sbdcn. Barnabas Schaefer

Oct 17 - Tabitha Townsend

Oct 24 - Sbdcn. Mark (Eric) Townsend

### CHURCH CLEANING

Week of Oct 4 – Goolsby

Week of Oct 11 – Townsends

Week of Oct 18 - Fellegy/Holman

Week of Oct 25 - Corey/Rush

\*Contact Adam Roth if you would like to help.

### LUNCHEON & CLEANUP

Oct 3 – Team 5 - Poland, Townsend, Schaefer, Gallatin, Nolan, Milojevic, Johnson

Oct 10 - Team 1 - Tsalaky, Ayoub M., Holmen, Goolsby, Vlahos, Fellegy

Oct 17 - Team 2 - Corey, Tecca, Roth, Ranson

Oct 24- Team 3 - Garbinski, Horton L., Tourous, Jenkin, Ayoub D., Weddle, O'Daniel

\*Contact Mark Ayoub if you would like to join a lunch team, or have questions or comments.

### PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING:

Paul Truebenbach, Mike Kerr, Jim Ayres, Moses (Michael) Fillmore, Brian Finegan (husband of Shirley Jenkin's cousin), Mark & Christina Bischoff (friends of Bartimaeus), Sam (friend of Karen Karres' daughter), Mike Allen, Bonnie Christensen, Tammy (cousin of Nanette Sanman), Jess Akins & her daughter Hallee (friends of Trudy Olinger), Johanna Barnett, Lois (Mary Jo Neyman's sister), Steve Kane (working in Alaska for the summer), Heather and her mother (friends of Chelsea Stillman), Bill Brisbane (Nanette's father), Jacob Hunter (Dan Monaghan's cousin in Afghanistan), Pamela Olsen, Mat. Michaela Fenn (wife of Fr. Mark Fenn), Fr. Michael Lewis, Mary-Claire Roth, Loraine Gross (grandmother of Mary Claire Roth), Jill Foss (friend of Jeane Wood), Annie Cusella (friend of Caldaroni's), Joan (Allyson Gross' Mother), Nancy Schrom (Mary Charles' mother), Nancy Corey (Ed Corey's sister), Wanda (Mother of Lavonne Ayoub), Moses Kemper, Nikolay (Oksana Johnson's father), Jamie Landers, Nikolai Kupcow, Cheyenne, Lynda (Michelle Fellegy's mother), George Kucera, Bonnie (Jenny Dancy's mother).

### PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED:

Nikolay, (father of Oksana Johnson), Sam (friend of Karen Karres), Archbishop Augustinos of Florina, Devin Austin & Ryan Reinhardt (friends of John Charles and Nanette Sanman), George Al Hayek, Jim Parker (Chammy Ott's father), Fr. Matthew MacKay.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Icon Workshop Hosted by Eleni Shumacher + Diane Nolan – Nov 8 – 12th**

Please consider coming to a four-day Icon Workshop hosted by two local iconographers, Eleni Schumacher and St. John's own Diane Nolan.

The workshop will be held November 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>, from 10am to 4pm at Holy Trinity Church in Spokane. The cost is \$250, which includes all materials. If you are interested, or have any questions, please call Diane at 208.667.2222 or Eleni at 208.88.5361.

### **Sunday School - "The Way"**

This year has gotten off to a wonderful start! We have decided to call our Sunday School program "The Way". This is a term used in ancient times to depict Christianity and the life lived by a Christian – The scripture says "Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life" - Hence the name "The Way". May God grant us the wisdom and knowledge to be faithful and accurate in our teaching.

A special thanks to Rebecca, Chelsea and Josiah for the wonderful job they have done on the new Sunday School project! If you haven't looked at the beautiful transformation please go down and see. We are now surrounded by the beauty of God's creation because of them!

On one wall we have the Mountain of Prayer, on another we have a meadow with a giant Tree of Virtue and on another we have the Ocean of Life. And they aren't finished yet!

Thanks also to all of our drama participants, SOYO helpers and parent teachers! You guys are the best! Our children are nurtured and loved because you care!

Lastly, thank you to all the children! If it weren't for you, we (the helpers, drama team, and teachers) wouldn't be having such a great time!

Thank God for His Grace, LaVonne

### **Hospitality - Greeters Team**

For the past six weeks it has been my pleasure to get to know the other members of our little community on a first name basis - and not just face only . It has been a joy to be there when new visitors come in and I get to be a part of their first time experience, hopefully making them feel welcome so they will come back again, if they are ready for this journey we call Orthodoxy Christianity.

However since beginning the new Sunday School year I have found that I am not always able to be at greeters post on time...

So If you like people and you can smile, hand out a bulletin and wish someone a good morning, than you just might be ready to become a greeter! Get to know the people of our community better - by first name, meet and greet visitors that come for the first time! Easy, simple and enjoyable.

Time investment is **9:45am - 10:15am** on Sunday mornings for Divine Liturgy service. We would like to rotate this between 2-4 people, depending on the interest level.

If you would like to be a part in creating this team let me know. It is one of the most rewarding things I have done in a very long time. God Bless!

Contact LaVonne 208-818-3641

into prison. By night St Dionysius celebrated the Divine Liturgy with angels of the Lord. In the morning the martyrs were beheaded. According to an old tradition, St Dionysius took up his head, proceeded with it to the church and fell down dead there. A pious woman named Catulla buried the relics of the saint.

According to another tradition, he was killed at Lutetia (ancient name of Paris, France) in the year 96 during the persecution under the Roman emperor Dometian (81-96). Today most scholars and theologians believe that St Dionysius the Areopagite did not die in Gaul, and that St Dionysius (or Denys) of Paris is a different saint with the same name. St Demetrius of Rostov says that the Hieromartyr Dionysius was beheaded in Athens, and that many miracles were worked at his grave.

The writings of St Dionysius the Areopagite hold great significance for the Orthodox Church.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Winter Youth Retreat 2011 – January 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>**

Attention all 7th through 12th Graders: Save the date for the 2011 Pan-Orthodox Youth Winter Retreat: Martin Luther King Weekend, January 14-17

We are looking forward to seeing you and are planning a great weekend. The Retreat will be held at Cedar Springs Camp (same camp as last year) and we will be skiing (or playing games in lodge) at Stevens Pass!!!

Come see old and new friends, hang out, play games, challenge yourself on the ropes course, play laser tag, watch or perform in the talent show, and soak in spiritual truths.

Pan-Orthodox Youth Ministry Team  
heartwood@premier1.net

### **Sisterhood Dues**

It is that time of year again for the Sisterhood to send in dues to the diocese. Please give your dues of \$10.00 to Barbara Garbinski. Each parish is expected to send in \$200 to the diocese by November 1. Thank you!

### **Inquirer's/Catechism Class - Tuesday**

Our Inquirer's/Catechism Class meets each Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Eric & Joanna Townsend! All are invited to please attend! This is an opportunity to learn (or re-learn!) the basics of Holy Orthodoxy in the context of a discussion format. Fr. Basil will be teaching the Symbol of our Faith, the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed which we confess every Sunday just before the Holy Anaphora in the Divine Liturgy. We hope to see you there! **Townsend Residence: 4471 E. Canvasback Ave. Post Falls.**

**The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (11:31-12:9)**

Brethren, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He Who is blessed forever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who 14 years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.” I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (6:31-36)**

The Lord said: “As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.”

**APOLYTIKION OF ST. DIONYSIOS THE AREOPAGITE IN TONE FOUR**

Since thou hadst been instructed in uprightness thoroughly and wast vigilant in all things, thou wast clothed with a good conscience as befitteth one holy. Thou didst draw from the Chosen Vessel ineffable mysteries; and having kept the Faith, thou didst finish a like course, O Hieromartyr Dionysios. Intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

**KONTAKION FOR ORDINARY SUNDAYS IN TONE TWO**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

# St. John the Forerunner Greek Orthodox Monastery Fourth Annual Benefit Dinner

An Evening of Inspiration and Fine Dining  
prepared by the Sisters Of St. John's.

Sunday Evening, October 10, 2010,  
5:30pm

Civic Auditorium Ballroom,  
The Dalles, Oregon

For directions, please visit  
[www.monasterybuilders.org/directions](http://www.monasterybuilders.org/directions)



TICKETS \$65 PER PERSON. RESERVE YOUR SPOT BY MAILING PAYMENT TO:  
BENEFIT DINNER COMMITTEE  
PO BOX 662, GOLDENDALE, WA, 98620  
[UNDERMERCY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:UNDERMERCY@GMAIL.COM) - 509.773.9944