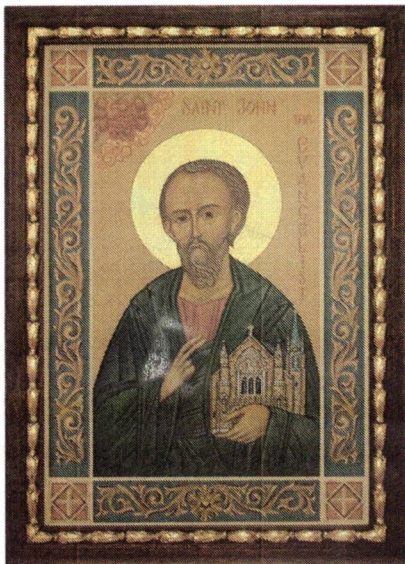




"Among those born of women
there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist."
(Matthew 11:11)

AUGUST 24, 2025



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

1501 8TH AVENUE
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WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND
METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA
HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE
OF OAKLAND , AND MID-ATLANTIC

REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

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***Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23)
When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ .***

We take this opportunity to welcome those guests worshipping with us.

Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer, please contact Fr. Seraphim

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshipping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread.

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DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2025

TONE 2 / EOTHINON 11; ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

Martyr Eutyches, disciple of John the Theologian; New Hieromartyr Cosmas Aitolos, equal-to-the-Apostles and evangelizer of southern Albania

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hades with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION FOR ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

O beloved Apostle of Christ God, Come quick and save a people with no recourse. He who let you rest your head on his breast. Will not reject your pleas on our behalf. Beseech Him then, O wise and holy Theologian, Dispel from us the dark and ominous clouds of disbelief. Grant us his peace and great mercy.

KONTAKION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

By your Nativity O most pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness. Adam and Eve from the corruption of death, and we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you. The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our life.

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THOUGHT OF THE DAY

**“Nothing leads more swiftly to the forgiveness of sins than this virtue or commandment: ‘Forgive and you will be forgiven.,’
Mt 6:14”**

(St. Peter of Damaskos)

THE EPISTLE

(For the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord is my strength and my song.

The Lord has chastened me severely.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (9:2-12)

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresh-er thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the Gospel of Christ.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Eleventh Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (18:23-35)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also My heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

THE SYNAXARION

On August 24 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Martyr Eutyches, disciple of John the Theologian and Paul the Apostle.

Verses

***Prosperously hast thou prospered, prosperity's namesake;
With God as thy portion, O Eutyches, hast thou prospered.
On the twenty-fourth, a stone hid Eutyches.***

Though not numbered among the Seventy Apostles, Eutyches is also called an apostle because he was a disciple of the great apostles and he displayed true apostolic zeal in his evangelical service. Consecrated a missionary bishop, Eutyches traveled much, having an angel as his companion. In prison, he received heavenly bread from an angel. When his body was scraped with a serrated iron rod, blood flowed from him with unusual fragrant myrrh. Eutyches was thrown into a fire and before wild beasts and finally beheaded with a sword in Sebastopol, where he had been born. He now resides with the Apostles in the Heavenly Kingdom.

On this day, we also commemorate the New Hieromartyr Cosmas Aitolos, equal-to-the-Apostles and evangelizer of southern Albania.

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FUTURE OF PARISH LIFE CONFERENCES SURVEY

LAST REMINDER: PLEASE RESPOND BY SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH.

MESSAGE FROM MARY BONNICI—Chair of the Eastern Dioceses Ministry Council.: IT is my firm belief that all activities we undertake (from hosting coffee hour to Parish Life Conferences) should be to the Glory of God, the building up of Christ's Church and the spread of Holy Orthodoxy. For many years, there has been an ongoing discussion regarding whether changes could be made to enhance the experience of Parish Life Conferences (or whether they are outdated endeavour of current time and should be retired). We are seeking your input and views on this matter through a 5 minute survey. A flyer has been provided in your bulletin for your responses.

Direct Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WZQC2GC>

What's a PLC? Watch this 2 min.YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/ooqNMZS6kJE>

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER SERVICES

ANNOUNCEMENT: FROM MAY 1ST THROUGH AUGUST 30TH

WE WILL NOT BE HAVING SATURDAY GREAT VESPERS.

(FR. SERAPHIM has too many Saturday's away.)

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AUGUST 24TH SUNDAY — MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

AUGUST 31ST SUNDAY — MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

SEPT. 3RD WEDNESDAY — SMALL COMPLINE @ 6PM followed by

Light meal and Study Session 7-8 PM

SEPT. 6TH SATURDAY — GREAT VESPERS— 5PM

SEPT. 7TH SUNDAY — SUNDAY BEFORE THE CROSS

MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

SEPT. 10TH WEDNESDAY — SMALL COMPLINE @ 6PM followed by

Light meal and Study Session 7-8 PM

SEPT. 13th SATURDAY — GREAT VESPERS — 5PM

SEPT. 14TH SUNDAY — ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

SEPT. 17TH WEDNESDAY — SMALL COMPLINE @ 6PM followed by

Light meal and Study Session 7-8 PM

SEPT. 20TH SATURDAY — Community Breakfast 8:30—10:30 AM

GREAT VESPERS— 5PM

SEPT. 21ST SUNDAY — MATINS 9 AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

COUNCIL MEETING 12 NOON

PRAYERS ARE OFFERED FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF:

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Carol, Debbie, Trish, Shannon, Justin,
Perry Sassic & family, Roddy, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Charlene, Cindi,
Harriet, Joann, Cindy, Ray, Marlene, Julianna, Elias, Margaret, Carrie,
Lori, Oliver, Pauline, Despina, Julius, John, and Bonnie.

Welcome to our newest members: Connor, Mira, Asher, Benjamin

FOR THOU ARE THE RESSURECTION, THE LIFE, AND THE REPOSE OF THY
SERVANTS WHO HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP ESPECIALLY:

Prayers are offered in memory of

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REVIEWING GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIPPING : PART 1

TIMES TO CROSS ONESELF:

+WHEN THE Holy Trinity (FATHR, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT) IS MENTIONED.

+When entering or leaving the Church (Sanctuary)

+At beginning of Liturgy.

+When passing in front of the Altar (whether in **front or back** of the Church).

+When venerating an Icon, the Gospel or Cross, and at the times for personal petitions

+When receiving Communion but before reaching the chalice as to not bump it.

*Prior to communion, one should venerate the Icon, have arms folded across the chest, right over left and let the arms free to bend near to receive the Sacrament.

*Those asking for a blessing during communion should say, "Bless Father" and bow the head as the priest will hold the chalice over one's head in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

*Kissing the Chalice is not required but if done, should be done carefully.

***NOTE: Communion is only for Orthodox prepared by prayer, fasting, and recent confession.**

I AM NOT WORTHY

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST played a vital role in the story of salvation for the human race. The son of Zacharias and Elizabeth, John lived his adult life as a recluse in the Judean wilderness. It had been foretold that "... he would be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God." (Luke 1:15-16) It is no wonder then that many who heard him preach and came to the Jordan River to be baptized by him thought that he might be the long-awaited Messiah.

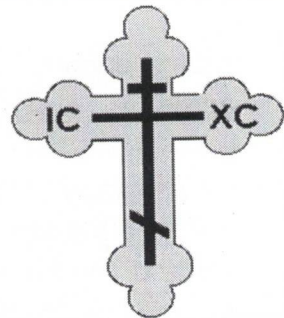
John, however, never lost sight of what his calling was. He had no "illusions of grandeur", for he fully understood that he was to be the "Forerunner of Christ" - the one who would prepare the world for the coming of the Savior. He was the "voice of one crying in the wilderness." Yes, John made it perfectly clear to all those who listened to his words: "There comes One after me who is mightier than I. I am not worthy to undo the strap of His sandal." (Mark 1:7) After baptizing Jesus - something that he thought himself unworthy to do - John was content to fade into the background and allow our Lord to begin His redemptive work.

As Christ embarked upon His Divine Mission, John continued to preach the message of repentance to all who would listen. Never afraid to speak the truth, John was arrested and cast into prison for criticizing King Herod for his adulterous relationship with his brother's wife Herodias. This eventually would lead to his execution by means of beheading.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

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**CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES
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**OFFICE HOURS
By Appointment**