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.

Matthew 3:11

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."



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

METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

August 24, 2025

Rev. Fr. Nicholas Halkias
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Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
(Closed noon-1pm for lunch)

Sunday Services
Orthros 8:30 AM
Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM

Orthros Liturgy

Epistle
1 Corinthians 9:2-12

Gospel
Matthew 18:23-35

Attendance
8/17/25
136

Today's Prosfora & Communion Wine

Donated by Anatole Willoughby
In Loving Memory of Voula Kalaitsides, Paris, Jordan, & Curtis

Upcoming Memorials

September 7
1-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Fred Brumfield &
11 Yr. Memorial - George Simionides

2025 Orthodox Build Habitat for Humanity®

East Central Ohio



Join the 2025 Orthodox Build through Habitat for Humanity and build with the **Johnson Family!** The build begins in August at **314 Tyler Ave SE, Canton, OH 44707.** There are numerous opportunities to help and assist with this build joining our Stark County Orthodox Churches! **Monetary donations are also needed for this build.** Scan the QR codes below for sign up dates and availability for volunteers on each date or visit the following for additional work dates for this build:

https://give.habitateco.org/campaigns/39786-2025-orthodox-build-open

Ready to volunteer? Scan to sign up!



Mark Your Calendar...

Sunday School Starts September 14th!

We hope you are having a great break from class. But can't wait to see all the kids in September.

If you have any questions about Sunday school, please contact Kelly Antoniades at kellyantoniades@gmail.com or 330-704-4473.

See you all in class soon!



ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ANNUAL RETREAT



Saturday, November 15, 2025

Retreat Theme: "Be Watchful – Be Sober: St. Paul's Wisdom for Spiritual Maturity"
Speaker: Fr. Barnabas Powell

Orthodoxy 101 and 201 Classes



For anyone interested in taking our classes on Orthodoxy 101 or 201, please call the Church Office this week to be added to our rosters. **Classes begin on Wednesday, September 3 at 7:00 PM, following our evening service.** Classes are open to all and for anyone interested in learning more about our Orthodox Faith. ***Remember to sign up for refreshments on one week too!***

Annual House Blessings



Father Nick begins his yearly House Blessings for all parishioners on **Tuesday, September 2**. All homes will be included on routes. Lists are on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. Please contact the Church Office if the day you are scheduled has a conflict or if you are interested in riding along on a day to get your name on the ride along list!

Join us for our **first GOYA meeting of the year, Sunday, September 14th** immediately following Divine Liturgy. GOYA is open to all youth who are 12 years old and in 7th grade through high school. Please make plans to attend our first meeting to elect officers and plan events for the upcoming year. We look forward to seeing you!



Diana Kuty & DeeDee Amentas

K-2

The kickoff **HOPE meeting** for 2025-2026 will be on **Sunday, September 14** following Divine Liturgy. Children in Kindergarten through 2nd Grade are welcome to join. I look forward to seeing all of you!
MaryAnn Anastas Rundo



Sunday, October 12th following liturgy
Please support Sunday school's fall bake sale during coffee hour.





Koraes Ladies Society Presents

A Tribute to Legends

Featuring Melanie, Michael & The MJB Orchestra with Special Guests!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025

TICKETS $65.00

Call Betty (330) 705-5181
or
Annamarie (330) 209-8372

5:30 PM - Cocktail Hour
6:30 PM - Dinner
7:30 PM - Show followed by Silent Auction
Holy Trinity Cultural Center
4705 Fairhaven Avenue NW
Canton, OH 44709



GOYA PIZZA LUNCHEON

September 28, 2025

$10.00 per person

Lunch includes pizza, salad, chips & drink
All parishioners are invited!



Calendar for the Week

All Services are streaming online @ *www.htgoc.net/live*

Sunday, August 24
40-Day Memorial & Coffee Hour - Calypso Toumanios

Monday, August 25
No Scheduled Events

Tuesday, August 26
No Scheduled Events

Wednesday, August 27
St. Phanourios the Great Martyr
Orthros 8:30 AM
Liturgy 9:30 AM
Bible Study 11:00 AM
Paraklesis 6:00 PM

Thursday, August 28
Wedding Rehearsal 5:30 PM

Friday, August 29
Set up for Wedding
Beheading of St. John the Baptist
Orthros 8:30 AM
Liturgy 9:30 AM

Saturday, August 30
Wedding 3:00 PM

Sunday, August 31
Kitchen Closed - Rental
Parish Council Coffee Hour

Have you turned in your 2025 Stewardship Commitment Card?
It's not too late!!!

Faithful Steward

2025 Stewardship Cards are available at the Pangari, on the wall by the Church Office and in the Church Office.

NO CASH? NO PROBLEM!
Scan code with smart phone to make a payment instantly!
SCAN ME

Resurrectional Apolytikion.
Mode 2.

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, “O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!”

Apolytikion of Our Church
Mode pl. 4.

Blessed are You, O Christ our God; Who did show forth the fishermen to be all-wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit. And through them You drew the world into Your net, O Friend of man, glory to You!

Kontakion.
Mode 4.

Both Joachim and Anna from their sterility’s stigma, and Adam and Eve from their mortality’s ruin have been set free, O immaculate Maid, by your holy nativity. For this do your people hold celebration, redeemed from the guilt of transgression as they cry to you, “The barren one bears the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life.”

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 9:2-12

Prokeimenon. Mode 2

Psalm 117.14,18

The Lord is my strength and my song.

Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter 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 thresher 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 According to Matthew 18:23-35

The Lord said 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 till 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 torturers, till 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."

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον.
Ἦχος β΄.

Ὅτε κατῆλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ᾅδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Τοῦ Ναοῦ.
Ἦχος πλ. δ΄.

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἁλιεῖς ἀναδείξας, καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας, Φιλάνθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

Κοντάκιον.
Ἦχος δ΄.

Ἰωακεὶμ καὶ Ἄννα ὀνειδισμοῦ ἀτεκνίας, καὶ Ἀδὰμ καὶ Εὔα, ἐκ τῆς φθορᾶς τοῦ θανάτου, ἠλευθερώθησαν, Ἄχραντε, ἐν τῇ ἁγίᾳ γεννήσει σου· αὐτὴν ἑορτάζει καὶ ὁ λαός σου, ἐνοχῆς τῶν πταισμάτων, λυτρωθεὶς ἐν τῷ κράζειν σοι· Ἡ στεῖρα τίκτει τὴν Θεοτόκον, καὶ τροφὸν τῆς ζωῆς ἡμῶν.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 9:2-12

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος β'
ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 117.14,18

Ἰσχύς μου καὶ ὕμνησίς μου ὁ Κύριος.
Στίχ. Παιδεύων ἐπαίδευσέ με ὁ Κύριος.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 9:2-12 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, ἡ σφραγὶς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀποστολῆς ὑμεῖς ἐστε ἐν κυρίῳ. Ἡ ἐμὴ ἀπολογία τοῖς ἐμὲ ἀνακρίνουσιν αὕτη ἐστίν. Μὴ οὐκ ἔχομεν ἐξουσίαν φαγεῖν καὶ πιεῖν; Μὴ οὐκ ἔχομεν ἐξουσίαν ἀδελφὴν γυναῖκα περιάγειν, ὡς καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ ἀπόστολοι, καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ τοῦ κυρίου, καὶ Κηφᾶς; Ἢ μόνος ἐγὼ καὶ Βαρνάβας οὐκ ἔχομεν ἐξουσίαν τοῦ μὴ ἐργάζεσθαι; Τίς στρατεύεται ἰδίοις ὀψωνίοις ποτέ; Τίς φυτεύει ἀμπελῶνα, καὶ ἐκ τοῦ καρποῦ αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἐσθίει; Ἢ τίς ποιμαίνει ποίμνην, καὶ ἐκ τοῦ γάλακτος τῆς ποίμνης οὐκ ἐσθίει; Μὴ κατὰ ἄνθρωπον ταῦτα λαλῶ; Ἢ οὐχὶ καὶ ὁ νόμος ταῦτα λέγει; Ἐν γὰρ τῷ Μωϋσέως νόμῳ γέγραπται, Οὐ φιμώσεις βοῦν ἀλοῶντα. Μὴ τῶν βοῶν μέλει τῷ θεῷ; Ἢ δι' ἡμᾶς πάντως λέγει; Δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγράφη, ὅτι ἐπ' ἐλπίδι ὀφείλει ὁ ἀροτριῶν ἀροτριᾶν, καὶ ὁ ἀλοῶν τῆς ἐλπίδος αὐτοῦ μετέχειν ἐπ' ἐλπίδι. Εἰ ἡμεῖς ὑμῖν τὰ πνευματικὰ ἐσπείραμεν, μέγα εἰ ἡμεῖς ὑμῶν τὰ σαρκικὰ θερίσομεν; Εἰ ἄλλοι τῆς ἐξουσίας ὑμῶν μετέχουσιν, οὐ μᾶλλον ἡμεῖς; Ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐχρησάμεθα τῇ ἐξουσίᾳ ταύτῃ, ἀλλὰ πάντα στέγομεν, ἵνα μὴ ἐγκοπήν τινα δῶμεν τῷ εὐαγγελίῳ τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 18:23-35 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ὡμοιώθη ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν ἀνθρώπῳ βασιλεῖ, ὃς ἠθέλησε συνᾶραι λόγον μετὰ τῶν δούλων αὐτοῦ. ἀρξαμένου δὲ αὐτοῦ συναίρειν προσηνέχθη αὐτῷ εἷς ὀφειλέτης μυρίων ταλάντων. μὴ ἔχοντος δὲ αὐτοῦ ἀποδοῦναι ἐκέλευσεν αὐτὸν ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ πραθῆναι καὶ τὴν γυναῖκα αὐτοῦ καὶ τὰ τέκνα καὶ πάντα ὅσα εἶχε, καὶ ἀποδοθῆναι. πεσὼν οὖν ὁ δοῦλος προσεκύνει αὐτῷ λέγων· κύριε, μακροθύμησον ἐπ' ἐμοὶ καὶ πάντα σοι ἀποδώσω. σπλαγχνισθεὶς δὲ ὁ κύριος τοῦ δούλου ἐκείνου ἀπέλυσεν αὐτὸν καὶ τὸ δάνειον ἀφῆκεν αὐτῷ. ἐξελθὼν δὲ ὁ δοῦλος ἐκεῖνος εὗρεν ἕνα τῶν συνδούλων αὐτοῦ, ὃς ὤφειλεν αὐτῷ ἑκατὸν δηνάρια, καὶ κρατήσας αὐτὸν ἔπνιγε λέγων· ἀπόδος μοι εἴ τι ὀφείλεις. πεσὼν οὖν ὁ σύνδουλος αὐτοῦ εἰς τοὺς πόδας αὐτοῦ παρεκάλει αὐτὸν λέγων· μακροθύμησον ἐπ' ἐμοὶ καὶ ἀποδώσω σοι. ὁ δὲ οὐκ ἤθελεν, ἀλλὰ ἀπελθὼν ἔβαλεν αὐτὸν εἰς φυλακὴν ἕως οὗ ἀποδῷ τὸ ὀφειλόμενον. ἰδόντες δὲ οἱ σύνδουλοι αὐτοῦ τὰ γενόμενα ἐλυπήθησαν σφόδρα, καὶ ἐλθόντες διεσάφησαν τῷ κυρίῳ ἑαυτῶν πάντα τὰ γενόμενα. τότε προσκαλεσάμενος αὐτὸν ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ λέγει αὐτῷ· δοῦλε πονηρέ, πᾶσαν τὴν ὀφειλὴν ἐκείνην ἀφῆκά σοι, ἐπεὶ παρεκάλεσάς με. οὐκ ἔδει καὶ σὲ ἐλεῆσαι τὸν σύνδουλόν σου, ὡς καὶ ἐγώ σε ἠλέησα; καὶ ὀργισθεὶς ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ παρέδωκεν αὐτὸν τοῖς βασανισταῖς ἕως οὗ ἀποδῷ πᾶν τὸ ὀφειλόμενον αὐτῷ. Οὕτω καὶ ὁ πατήρ μου ὁ ἐπουράνιος ποιήσει ὑμῖν, ἐὰν μὴ ἀφῆτε ἕκαστος τῷ ἀδελφῷ αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν καρδιῶν ὑμῶν τὰ παραπτώματα αὐτῶν.