

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

*Beheading of the
Holy Forerunner &
Baptist John*

Tone 1

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*Acts 13:25-33*

*Mark 6:14-30*

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Homily by

Fr. Thomas Frizelle

Epistle Reader:

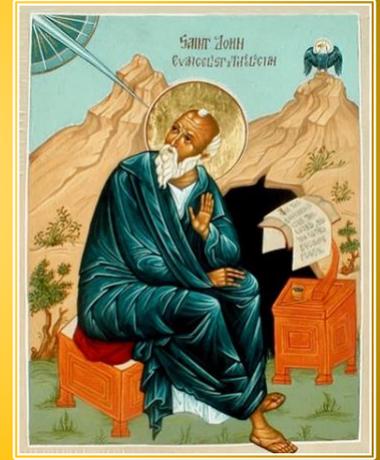
Steve Templeton

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, August 29, 2021

And the Days Following

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*O Apostle John, speaker of Deity, the beloved of Christ our God, hasten to deliver your people powerless in speech, for He on Whose bosom you lean accepts you as an intercessor. Beseech Him, therefore, to disperse the darkness of ignorance and pray for peace and great mercies to be shown upon us.*

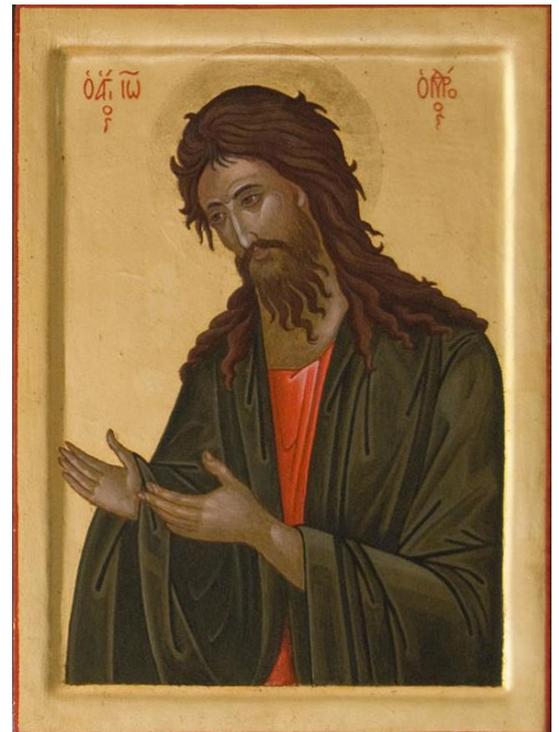
## *Feast Days and Services*

**August 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Remembering the Beheading of the Holy Forerunner and  
Baptist John**

Great Vespers - Saturday, September 13, 7:15pm  
Matins / Divine Liturgy - Sunday 9:00 / 10:00 am

This day is a strict fast day in the Church in honor and memory of the Righteous Forerunners suffering and death at the hands of Herod the King. (In some places, it has also been the custom not to eat anything on a plate on this day, since Herod ordered that Saint John's head be brought to him on a platter.)





## September 1 Beginning of the New Liturgical Year A Day to Pray for the Environment

In the church's liturgical year calendar we are including September 1, the first day of the church year, as being the Orthodox day of prayer for the environment, as instituted by our patriarchs starting in 1989, "to encourage us to embrace lives that honor and respect God's Creation".

Patriarch Ignatius IV of Antioch, in 'The Spirituality of the Creation', 1989: noted "The mystical way in Orthodoxy requires as a necessary stage the contemplation of nature, a vision of the 'secrets of the glory of God which is hidden in beings and things' [Isaac the Syrian]."

A good book on the deeper orthodox theology behind why and how we care for the Creation, is *'Man and the Environment'*, reflecting on the teaching of St. Symeon the New Theologian.

For further information here are some links related to this Day of Prayer submitted by Harold Parker:

<http://www.faceofgodfilm.com/>

<https://www.goarch.org/-/patriarch-bartholomew-and-pope-francis-release-joint-message-on-the-environment>

<https://www.orth-transfiguration.org/>

Please note that copies of the our 2021-2022 Liturgical Calendar can be found on the Narthex Table. You can also find it on our Website in two locations: 1) Services – Resources and 2) Bulletins

## Interview of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew regarding Covid Vaccine

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew spoke about the Covid Vaccine in an interview in Russia on Saturday (8/21/21)

"The refusal of vaccination and other protection measures is irrational and unjustified by theological or scientific criteria. I have said from the beginning that the pandemic threatens our faithful, but not our faith. It is true that a large number of believers who refuse protection measures are victims of this virus. That is why it is unacceptable to deny the existence of a pandemic, to regard it as created by someone, or to spread conspiracy theories in the face of so many victims and so much suffering. Unfortunately, this attitude shows indifference to others. However, anything that contradicts the commandment to love one's neighbor cannot be the will of God. The Church of Constantinople urges the faithful to consult with their doctors and to vaccinate according to their instructions. Naturally, all of us at Fanari, including me, were vaccinated."

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## *Parish Events and News*

### Needs for Clare House

We are in need of someone to bake 25 potatoes for Clare House on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. If you are able, please contact Cara Fletes for more details. Thank you!

### Out of the Church Office...

Maris Kelly will be out of the church office from August 22 through September 7-10. If you need a reimbursement from the church – please email [stjohnalaska@aol.com](mailto:stjohnalaska@aol.com) and Rhonda will be able to take care of you. For bulletin announcements, please contact Debbie Stallman at [dbdgd@yahoo.com](mailto:dbdgd@yahoo.com)." She would like the announcement no later than Friday 9am. The sooner the better.

## *Notes and Pictures from Parishioners*

### **Baptisms**

Three infants: Oliva Grace Fletes, Naomi Ruth Dunaway & Elijah Nathaniel Potts were baptized last Sunday, August 22. Many Years to them!



Profession of Faith: The Nicene Creed led by Fr. Tom Frizelle



The Litany with Dn. Kevin Dougherty



Fr. Marc baptizing Naomi Ruth



Elijah Nathaniel receives Communion

*Many Years!*



Elijah with Jessica & Chris Kyes ~ Naomi with Doreen Dougherty ~ Olivia with Amy & Dan Jenkins

## Dates to Remember



### Wednesday Reading Group

The Wednesday reading group will resume their weekly get-together this coming Wednesday, September 1, at 10am. We will meet at JoAnn Webster's home until further notice. Everyone is invited, so please come and see what we will be reading. Please let me know if you have read any good books lately, that we all may enjoy. JoAnn

## Birthdays This Week

August 31 - Lillian Peters

September 4 - Marina Rogers

September 3 - Monica Johnson

*M A N Y Y E A R S !*



## Anniversaries This Week



Joe & Tisha Dunham - September 1, 1990

Dn. Kevin & Doreen Dougherty - September 3, 1978

Dan & Melinda Kendall - September 5, 1976

*M A N Y Y E A R S !*

## Remembering in Prayer...



*Tisha Dunham  
Eloise Lamb  
Helen Gillquist  
Laura Temple  
Tom Johnson  
Mother Galina*

*Anna Haley  
Preston Collier  
Gwyn Jones  
Bruce Johnson*

*Those Suffering with Covid*

## Remembering Those Who Have Fallen Asleep This Month



- \* - Priest Thomas Moffatt - September 2, 2008
- \* - Dorothy Keating - September 11, 2012
- \* - Laura Scott - September 13, 2014
- \* - Agileen Lund - September 17, 1983
- \* - Infant Mary Elizabeth Dunaway - September 20, 1984
- \* - Russell Labrecque - September 30, 1986

*M E M O R Y E T E R N A L !*

## Clare House Meal - 4th Saturday of Each Month

For the Month of **September** – our scheduled meal that we provide Clare House is: **Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



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## THE SYNAXARION

Beheading of the Forerunner - August 29



On August 29, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the beheading of the holy, honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John.

### *Verses*

*A defiled and blood-stained hand now cuts off with  
the sword*

*The head of him who placed his hand on the head of  
the Lord.*

*On the twenty-ninth, a bronze edge cut the neck of the  
Forerunner.*

Herod Antipas, the son of the same Herod who slew the young children in Bethlehem at the time of the Savior's birth, ruled in Galilee when John the Baptist preached. The evil Herod put away his lawful wife, who was the daughter of Prince Aretas, and took Herodias, who was his brother Philip's wife, to live with him while Philip was still alive. John the Baptist stood up against this lawlessness and strongly denounced Herod, at which Herod threw him into prison and eventually ordered him beheaded. This

event is recalled in today's Orthros and Liturgy Gospel readings. John's disciples took the body of their teacher by night and buried it. God quickly punished the evildoers. Prince Aretas, in order to avenge his daughter's honor, attacked Herod with his army and brought him to his knees. As exiles, Herod and Herodias lived in need and debasement until the earth opened and swallowed them up. Salome, Herodias' daughter, came to a bad end in the river Sikaris. In time, the Emperor Constantine and Empress Helena built a church over John's grave in Sebastia. The Church commemorates the beheading today because this is the day that this same church was consecrated.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Theodora of Thessalonica; and Theopistis and Joseph the Sanctified of Samaka. By their intercessions of St. John the Baptist, and of all the saints, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us, and save us. Amen.

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### **Saint John Orthodox Cathedral**

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Assistant Priests: Fr. Robert Polson / Fr. Thomas Frizelle / Fr. John Rogers