

St. John Greek Orthodox Church

Sterling Heights, Michigan

Phone: 586-977-6080/Emergency 513-508-0386

Web site: www.stjohngoc.net/ Email: parish@stjohngoc.net

Parish Priest: Father Nicolaos Tzetzis

August 2nd , 2026 ~ 9th Sunday of Matthew

TODAY AT ST. JOHN

8:45AM Orthros ~ 10:00AM Divine Liturgy

Memorials: Despina Kyprianides, Theodosios Kyprianides, Michael Makrides, Nicos Makrides, Costas Makrides, Theophano Makrides, Penelope Makrides, Elissea the nun

Mark your Calendars

August 17 ~ St. John Golf Outing

Please support St. John Summer Survival!

give.tithe.ly Summer Survival



As you all know St. John has updated both our website and our online credit card processing system for stewardship and donations.

Please note that our current recurring online stewardship **service has been discontinued** since July 20, 2026. We kindly ask you to set up your recurring donation on our new system.

To do so, please visit www.stjohngoc.net/give and click the "DONATE NOW" button. From there, you can create your account and set up your recurring stewardship donations in the new system.

Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful support of our church!

If you have any questions or need assistance with the transition, please contact the church office at 586-799-6080.

Epistle Lesson

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 4 Psalm 75.11,1

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.



Gospel Lesson

The Gospel According to Matthew 14:22-34

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

The Transfiguration ~ August 6

We can find the whole event of Christ's Transfiguration in Matthew 17:1-9, Luke 9:28-35 and 2 Peter 1:16-21.

Jesus Christ leads His disciples to a high mountain and shows them His divine glory. Like Theophany, Transfiguration is a feast of light. "Today in Tabor we have seen the Father as Light and the Holy Spirit as Light guiding with Light the whole creation", we sing on that day.

The Transfiguration is a revelation of the Holy Trinity. On Tabor, as at the baptism in Jordan, the Father speaks from heaven, testifying to the divine Sonship of Christ. The Spirit is also present, on this occasion not in the likeness of a dove, but under the form of dazzling light, surrounding Christ's person and overshadowing the whole mountain. This dazzling light is the light of the Holy Spirit.

The Transfiguration took place 40 days before Christ's passion. He chose this particular moment to reveal to His disciples something of His divine glory to be ready to bear His suffering on the cross. But our Church celebrates that great event on August 6th. This is also celebrated 40 days before the elevation (raising) of the Holy Cross (September 14), a feast of crucifixion.

What has happened to human nature in Christ can happen also to the humanity of Christ's followers. The transfiguration, then, reveals to us the full potential of human nature. It shows us the glory which our manhood once possessed and the glory which, by God's grace, it will again recover.

The three disciples, Peter, James and John became witnesses of Christ's glory. They saw the face of Christ "shine as the sun".

According to St. Gregory of Nazianzus, this light was the divinity manifested to the disciples. The Evangelists compare the divinity with the light of the sun, but this comparison is quite inadequate, because uncreated reality cannot be expressed by a created image.

The Church Fathers tried to formulate the Orthodox definition of grace founded on the dogmatic distinction between the inaccessible essence and the communicable energy of God. So, the light is not God's essence but His energy. The light of the Lord's transfiguration had no beginning and no end; it remained uncircumscribed and imperceptible to the senses, although it was contemplated with bodily eyes. Christ appeared to the disciples, on mount Tabor, as the second Person of the Holy Trinity. The incarnation remained inseparable from His divine nature, which is common to the Father and the Holy Spirit. So, the manifestation of the divinity of Christ is then, at the same time, a Theophany (manifestation of God) of the Trinity: "The Father by His voice bore witness to His Beloved Son, the Holy Spirit, shining with Him in the bright cloud".

Christ showed the glory of His divinity to the extent that the Apostles could receive the grace of this vision. They saw Christ's glory "according to their capacity", so that later, when they would see their Master crucified, they should be able to understand that His passion could only be voluntary. He encouraged them, and all of us, to look beyond the suffering of the Cross to the glory of the resurrection.

The glory which shone from Jesus on Tabor is a glory in which all mankind is called to share. According to Mark's and Matthew's Gospels, the Apostles fell down after having heard the voice of the Father and seen the bright cloud. St. Luke says: "they awoke from their sleep and saw the glory of Christ". The Church Fathers say that this "sleep" was a kind of narcosis by the vision.

SUPPORT SUMMER SURVIVAL 2026

Lawn Care \$800	Mary & Nick Souris	Steve & Angela Kotsonis	Ted & Mary Tangalos*	Katherine Kotsis*	Mike & Betty Raphtis *	
Building Maintenance \$750	Nicholas & Erin Papakonstantinou and Family		Daniel & Paulette Szajna*		John & Katina Papakonstantinou and Family*	
Dear Friends Front Cover \$650						
Dear Friends Back Cover \$600						
Youth \$550	Yanni & Becky Patouhas and Family*	George & Ellene Balalas*	In memory of John & Suzanne Aretakis			
	Sotiri & Shanelle Kalliantasis and Family*					
Electric \$450	George & Kathy Demetriou and Family*		Alex & Irene Kourtesis		Nick Prantzalos Family*	
	Georg, Zoe, Alexander & Niko Wainz*		Arthur & Anastasia Hariskos*			
Consumers Energy \$350	Andreas & Marina Kyprianides*		Arthur & Anastasia Hariskos*			
	The Kosmas Family*		The Milonas Brothers*			
Water \$250	John & Kiki Hanjiantoniou*		Sophia Bargaonkar*		George & Jennifer (Glacken) Singos*	
	Demetrios & Afroula Dionisopoulos*		Demetrios & Afroula Dionisopoulos*		Mike & Betty Raphtis *	
	Senior Citizens*		Senior Citizens*		Mike & Betty Raphtis *	
Office Supplies \$200	Alex, Linda, Felicia Boosalis		Koutelas Family*		Joanne Paul*	Katherine Kanon*
	Ed & Georgia Mansell*		Ipsilantis Moschos Family*	Mike Syropoulos*		Katherine Kotsis*
Phone \$150	Andreas Demetriou*		Alexander Demetriou*		Tasso & Terry Ayan*	
	Jeff Bontsas*		Jeff Bontsas*		Pete & Josie Lazaris*	
Cleaning Supplies \$125.00	Taylor & Kristina Sourvelis*		Angie Lazaris*		Gregory Sintakis*	
	Demetrios & Elisa Sboukis*					
Insurance \$100	Bariatakis Family*	Kathy Stewart Family*	Paula Terenzi*			

\$25.00 donation for 18 yrs. and under

Kosta Patouhas*	Niko Patouhas*	Thanasi Patouhas*	Dimitri Patouhas*	Kosta Kourtesis	Anna Kourtesis	Liana Cusumano
Thomas Tzetzis	Elpida Tzetzis	Felicia Boosalis	Charlie Stewart*	Eva Stewart*	Jimmy Stewart*	
Anastasia Stavropoulos*	Evangelos Stavropoulos*	Evangelia Harder*	Paraskevi Harder*	Alek Polyzois*	Scotty Lionas	Eleni Lionas
Other Donations	Spiro & Sharon Sassalos Family*	Anonymous*	Dionisios & Evangelia Bekris*			
Other Donations						

ΑΓΙΟΣ ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ
ST JOHN
GOLF OUTING

21ST ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026
12:30 PM SHOTGUN START

\$250 PER PLAYER ENTRY FEE

INCLUDED IN THE PLAYER ENTRY FEE

Driving range, valet, and locker room

18 Holes – Scramble format

Coney Cart at the Turn

Beer and soft drinks on the course

Greyson Apparel (\$130 value)

Dinner Buffet and
Awards Ceremony

GOLF OUTING CONTESTS

“Vegas Hole”: Double your
50/50 tickets

Putting Contest

Longest Drive Contest

Closest to the Pin

Raffle to win a brand new set of
irons, golf bag, and range finder

Many more prizes!

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER YOUR FOURSOME @ STJOHNGOC.NET/2026-GOLF-OUTING



**GREAT OAKS
COUNTRY CLUB**

777 Great Oaks Blvd.
Rochester, MI 48307

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:

Spiro Pliakos

248-872-4382

pliakos.spiro7@gmail.com

ST. JOHN GREEK SCHOOL

SUMMER CLASSES

Dear Parents,

Our school is willing to form summer classes if we have enough students. If you are interested, please return this form to the church or call the office (586) 977-6080.

Summer classes: for July and/or August. The classes will be 1 hour on

Tuesdays – Conversational Classes for children, grades 1st – 6th, starting

July 7 – July 28, and August 4 – August 25, from 5-6 pm

Also,

Tuesdays – Conversational Classes for adults, starting

July 7 – July 28, and August 4 – August 25, from 6:30-7:30 pm

Tuition is \$40 per class per month, prepaid when you sign up.

Deadline is Friday, June 26, 2026.

Yes, I am interested in _____ class.

Name _____ Phone Number _____



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH · STERLING HEIGHTS, MI



An open call from the Byzantine Chant Ministry

Cantors Wanted

Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν

“COME, LET US WORSHIP”

This art is not a relic, and it is not fading.

It is a living tradition, two thousand years unbroken, and it endures only through hands willing to take it up.

◆ **No Experience Required** ◆
Beginners are welcome.

I

THE CALLING

We are seeking stewards of an art form. Those who hear in Byzantine chant a tradition worth a lifetime, and who will treat it as such. Reverence outweighs talent; resolve outweighs all.

II

THE TRADITION

You will be trained in the Patriarchal method of Byzantine chant: the Eight Modes, the neumatic notation handed down from the Fathers, and the hymnography of the Orthros and Divine Liturgy in both Greek and English.

III

THE DEMAND

Weekly group Psaltic Sessions. Faithful attendance at Sunday services and the major feasts of the liturgical year. Personal practice between sessions. This is the work of a lifetime.



IF YOU ARE CALLED

Speak with one of the cantors after Divine Liturgy, or write to parish@stjohngoc.net.
Include your name, age, and phone number.

"Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises unto our King, sing praises." (Psalm 47:6)

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST · STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMITTEE, ALONG WITH
ENDOWMENT IS PLEASED TO HOST.....

KOLIVA DEMONSTRATION

PRESVYTERA TINA VARLAMOS WITH ASSUMPTION WILL DEMONSTRATE...



TUESDAY AUGUST 11, 2026 | 11AM-1:30PM

**ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
760 W. WATTLES ROAD | TROY, MI 48098
IN THE EVENT CENTER FOYER**

**Lenten lunch will be served.
Cost: \$15 per person**

PLEASE ADD SLC KOLIVA DEMO IN THE MEMO FOR ALL PAYMENTS

**WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF
FELLOWSHIP, LEARNING, AND SHARED TRADITION!**

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& Service Project
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Divine Liturgy & Workshop Exhibition



METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT



www.detroit.goarch.org/xoros



Annual Stewardship Pledge

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Sterling Heights, MI

**Stewardship is how we manage the gifts God gives us:
time, talent, and treasure.**

We share our time by **volunteering** where help is needed.

We share our talent by using **our special skills** to help the Church.

We share our treasure by sharing our **resources**.

This stewardship pledge form is for committing to share our **resources**. It helps the parish to be able to plan our budget ahead of time, when we know what we are able to give. It also asks for some info like ages and religion for planning what ministries may need extra focus.

It costs roughly \$450,000 per year to run our parish.

My Information

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Are you an Orthodox Christian? _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

My Spouse's Information

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Are you an Orthodox Christian? _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

My Children's Information

Name: _____ DOB: _____ Baptized Orthodox? ☐ Y ☐ N

Name: _____ DOB: _____ ☐ Y ☐ N

Name: _____ DOB: _____ ☐ Y ☐ N

Name: _____ DOB: _____ ☐ Y ☐ N

My household wants to commit to donating...

☐ \$_____ per month

☐ \$_____ per year

Credit Card _____ Exp: _____ CSV: _____

Signature _____ Date _____