



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΤΩΝ ΤΑΞΙΑΡΧΩΝ
TAXIARCHAE/ARCHANGELS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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January 7, 2024

Synaxis of John the Holy Glorious Prophet, Baptist, & Forerunner

Orthros 8:45/Liturgy 9:30 AM.

Epistle Reading

The Reading is from Acts of the Apostles 19:1-8.

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from John 1:29-34.

Memorial

1 year - Zoe Colt

1 year - George Kokinidis

May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η Μνήμη!

WEEKDAY SERVICES - Καθημερινές Λειτουργίες:

**Paraklesis to the Panagia Gorgoipikoos - Thurs. 1/11 @ 6 PM.
January 18th & 25th are canceled.**



HYMNS OF THE DAY

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

O Christ, the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the guards were as dead, and Mary stood by the sepulcher, seeking Your sacred body. You destroyed Hades yet remained untouched by it. You encountered the Virgin and through her, bestowed Life. Glory to You who has risen from the dead!

Ἀγγελικαὶ Δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμᾳ σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωροῦμενος τὴν ζωὴν, ὁ ἀναστάς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Theophany in the First Mode

Lord, when You were baptized in the Jordan, the veneration of the Trinity was revealed. For the voice of the Father gave witness to You, calling You Beloved, and the Spirit, in the guise of a dove, confirmed the certainty of His words. Glory to You, Christ our God, who appeared and enlightened the world.

Ἐν Ἰορδάνῃ βαπτιζομένου σου Κύριε, ἡ τῆς Τριάδος ἐφανερώθη προσκύνησις, τοῦ γὰρ Γεννήτορος ἡ φωνὴ προσεμαρτύρει σοί, ἀγαπητόν σε Υἱὸν ὀνομάζουσα, καὶ τὸ Πνεῦμα ἐν εἶδει περιστεράς, ἐβεβαίῳ τοῦ λόγου τὸ ἀσφαλές. Ὁ ἐπιφανείς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, καὶ τὸν κόσμον φωτίσας δόξα σοί.

Apolytikion for Synaxis of John the Forerunner in the Second Mode

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner; for thou hast proved to be truly even more venerable than the Prophets, since thou was granted to baptize in the running waters Him Whom they proclaimed. Wherefore, having contested for the truth, thou didst rejoice to announce the good tidings even to those in Hades: that God hath appeared in the flesh, taking away the sin of the world and granting us great mercy.

Μνήμη δικαίου μέτ' ἐγκωμίων, σοὶ δὲ ἀρκέσει ἡ μαρτυρία τοῦ Κυρίου Πρόδρομε, ἀνεδείχθης γὰρ ὄντως καὶ Προφητῶν σεβασμιώτερος, ὅτι καὶ ἐν ρεῖθροις βαπτίσαι κατηξιώθης τὸν κηρυττόμενον. Ὅθεν τῆς ἀληθείας ὑπεραθλήσας, χαίρων εὐηγγελίσω καὶ τοῖς ἐν ἄδῃ, Θεὸν φανερωθέντα ἐν σαρκί, τὸν αἴροντα τὴν ἁμαρτίαν τοῦ κόσμου, καὶ παρέχοντα ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Receiving Holy Communion - We welcome to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy those Christians who are from other Christian Denominations and who are not fully united with us. Sadly, it is a consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend to you an invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is the work or action of the celebrating Community signifying a oneness of faith, life, and worship of the believing Community. Reception of Holy Communion by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, and for which we must pray. **However, all present** are welcome to partake of the Antidoro (blessed bread) which is distributed at the end of the Liturgy.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

You appeared to the world today, and Your light, O Lord, has left its mark upon us. With fuller understanding we sing to You: "You came, You were made manifest, the unapproachable light."

Ἐπεφάνης σήμερον τῆ οἰκουμένη, καὶ τὸ φῶς σου Κύριε, ἐσημειώθη ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, ἔν ἐπιγνώσει ὑμνούντάς σε. Ἦλθες ἐφάνης τὸ Φῶς τὸ ἀπρόσιτον.

Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. Grave Mode. Psalm 63.11,1.

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord.

Verse: Oh God, hear my cry.

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 19:1-8.

In those days, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve of them in all. And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, arguing and pleading about the kingdom of God.

Epistle Reading

Προκείμενον. Grave Mode. ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 63.11,1.

Εὐφρανθήσεται δίκαιος ἐν Κυρίῳ.

Στίχ. Εἰσάκουσον, ὁ Θεός, τῆς φωνῆς μου.

τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων 19:1-8.

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμεραῖς ἐκείναις, ἐγένετο δέ, ἐν τῷ τὸν Ἀπολλῶ εἶναι ἐν Κορίνθῳ, Παῦλον διελθόντα τὰ ἀνωτερικὰ μέρη ἐλθεῖν εἰς Ἔφεσον· καὶ εὗρών τινας μαθητὰς εἶπεν πρὸς αὐτούς, Εἰ πνεῦμα ἅγιον ἐλάβετε πιστεύσαντες; Οἱ δὲ εἶπον πρὸς αὐτόν, Ἀλλ' οὐδὲν εἰ πνεῦμα ἅγιον ἐστίν, ἠκούσαμεν. Εἶπεν τε πρὸς αὐτούς, Εἰς τί οὖν ἐβαπτίσθητε; Οἱ δὲ εἶπον, Εἰς τὸ Ἰωάννου βάπτισμα. Εἶπεν δὲ Παῦλος, Ἰωάννης μὲν ἐβάπτισεν βάπτισμα μετανοίας, τῷ λαῷ λέγων εἰς τὸν ἐρχόμενον μετ' αὐτόν ἵνα πιστεύσωσιν, τοῦτ' ἐστίν, εἰς τὸν Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν. Ἀκούσαντες δὲ ἐβαπτίσθησαν εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ. Καὶ ἐπιθέντος αὐτοῖς τοῦ Παύλου τὰς χεῖρας, ἦλθεν τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον ἐπ' αὐτούς, ἐλάλουν τε γλώσσαις καὶ προεφήτευον. Ἦσαν δὲ οἱ πάντες ἄνδρες ὡσεὶ δεκαδύο. Εἰσελθὼν δὲ εἰς τὴν συναγωγὴν ἐπαρρησιάζετο, ἐπὶ μῆνας τρεῖς διαλεγόμενος καὶ πείθων τὰ περὶ τῆς βασιλείας τοῦ θεοῦ.

GOSPEL

The Reading is from John 1:29-34

At that time, John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

GOSPEL

Κατὰ Ἰωάννην 1:29-34

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, βλέπει ὁ Ἰωάννης τὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐρχόμενον πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ λέγει· ἴδε ὁ ἀμνὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ ὁ αἴρων τὴν ἁμαρτίαν τοῦ κόσμου. οὗτός ἐστι, περὶ οὗ ἐγὼ εἶπον· ὀπίσω μου ἔρχεται ἀνὴρ ὃς ἔμπροσθέν μου γέγονεν, ὅτι πρῶτός μου ἦν. καγὼ οὐκ ᾔδειν αὐτόν, ἀλλ' ἵνα φανερωθῇ τῷ Ἰσραὴλ, διὰ τοῦτο ἦλθον ἐγὼ ἐν τῷ ὕδατι βαπτίζων. καὶ ἐμαρτύρησεν Ἰωάννης λέγων ὅτι τεθέαμαι τὸ Πνεῦμα καταβαῖνον ὡς περιστερὰν ἐξ οὐρανοῦ, καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐπ' αὐτόν. καγὼ οὐκ ᾔδειν αὐτόν, ἀλλ' ὁ πέμψας με βαπτίζειν ἐν ὕδατι, ἐκεῖνός μοι εἶπεν· ἐφ' ὃν ἂν ἴδῃς τὸ Πνεῦμα καταβαῖνον καὶ μένον ἐπ' αὐτόν, οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ βαπτίζων ἐν Πνεύματι Ἁγίῳ. καγὼ ἐώρακα καὶ μεμαρτύρηκα ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ.

Saints and Feasts



January 07

Synaxis of John the Holy Glorious Prophet, Baptist, & Forerunner

Today we celebrate the Synaxis in honour of the most sacred Forerunner, since he ministered at the Mystery of the Divine Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rest from labor. Fish allowed.

Sermon

THE LAMB OF GOD

Today's Gospel passage is dedicated to the holy person of Saint John, the Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of our Christ. He was called "Forerunner", because he prepared and pointed out to people the coming of the Messiah as a redeemer and liberator of man from sin. He was called "Baptist", because he was granted to baptize Christ in the River Jordan, pointing out to the people; "behold, the lamb of God who carries the sin of the world". But he was also called "Prophet", as the last of the Righteous and Saints of the Old Testament who spoke of the coming of Christ, who was now a reality and they saw Him in the Jordan.

Christ As A Lamb

John calling Christ "Lamb" reminds Jews at this time of the prophecies of their fathers, who for centuries were speaking of the present time when they were living seeing Christ. In the Book of Exodus, in the Old Testament, it is mentioned that when God decided to free His people from the captivity to the Egyptians, He gave orders to every family, to slaughter a whole male sheep, one year old, to be eaten at night and to paint the upper part of the door with its blood. The angel of the Lord, seeing this mark on the door, would not harm the first-born children, as he would do to those of the Egyptians.

This blood of the lamb, which saved the children of the Jews, but also marked the time of the exit to freedom, acquired a spiritual significance. It was identified with the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, and man's freedom from sin and death. Christ was sacrificed, as the lambs were sacrificed in Egypt. However, John was also well aware of Isaiah's prophecy, who spoke of the "Lamb of God" and his sacrifice; "like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, not wanting to defend himself". That is precisely what Christ did on the Cross.

The "Lamb of God" Takes Away the Sin of the People.

Just as the prophets saw Christ as a paschal and saving lamb, thus the Church also lives and experiences Christ daily in worship. She experiences Him as a true lamb, which symbolizes not only guilelessness, innocence, and calmness, but mainly His sacrifice, and through this, our salvation.

Let us keep from the great Prophet his word also about Christ. When he says "who carries", let's pay attention to the time. It does not say that Christ carried our sins when he

Sermon continued

was crucified, or he will carry them at some time. The carrying of the sin of each one of us by Christ is a continuous and timeless work, as long as each of us is living. As Saint John Chrysostom teaches us, "...Christ did not take our sins only then, but from then until today, He carries our sins, not by being continually crucified, but continually cleansing man from sin, thanks to His crucifixion".

So, Christ saves us and cleanses us in our whole life, so long as we want it. Today the Prophet calls us in essence to give our sins to Christ. To offer Him our heart truly. Let us trust Him with all our souls, so that He will show us the path of our salvation, which begins with His Church, the Mysteries, and mainly the Divine Liturgy, where we really meet the Lamb.

We Welcome all who worship with us today.

Memorial

1 year - *Zoe Colt*

1 year - *George Kokinidis*

May their memory be eternal. Αιώνια η Μνήμη!

Coffee Fellowship is sponsored by the ***Kokinidis family*** in memory of their loved one.

TODAY - The 2024 Parish Council will be taking the Oath of Office.

Sunday, January 14th - Stewardship & Vasilopita Sunday.

2023-2024 Capital Improvement Campaign Fund

— \$150,000

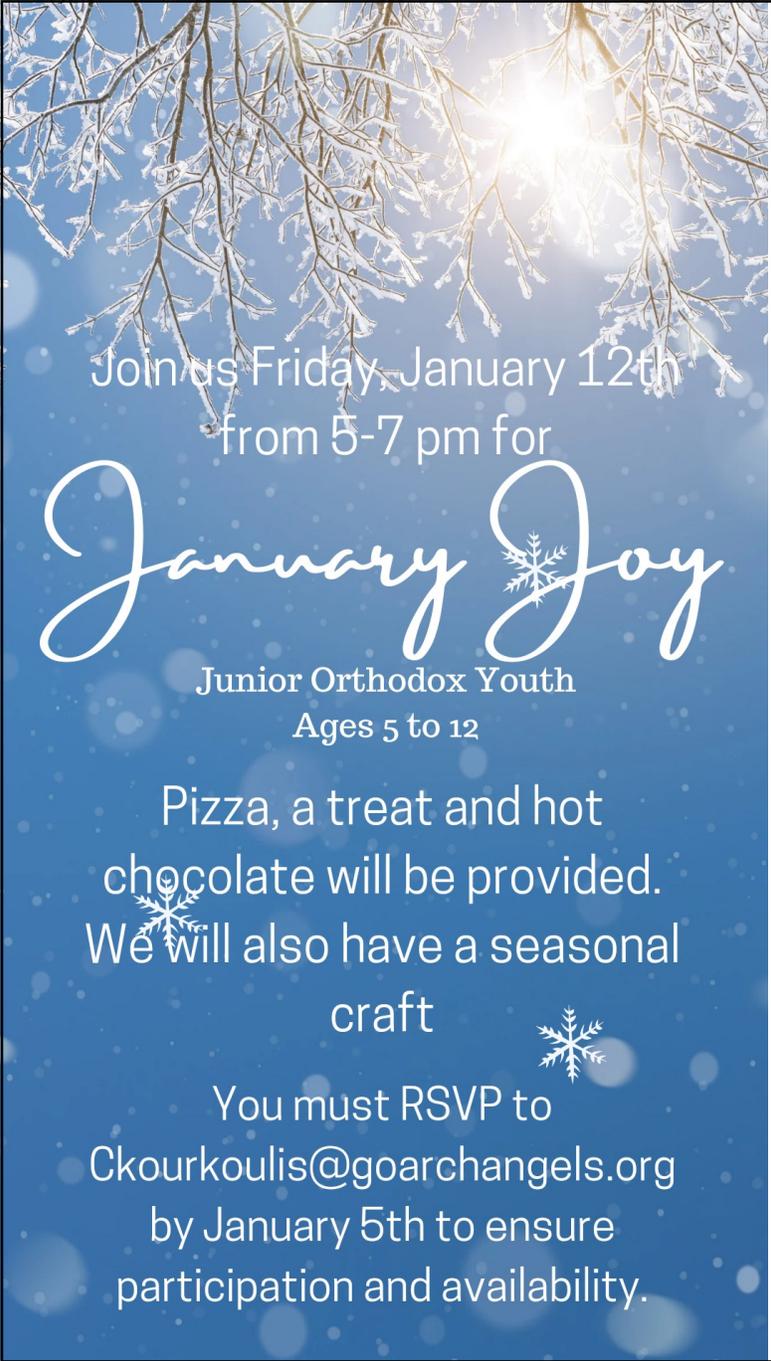
— \$75,000

— \$0



Church Capital Improvement Campaign update. To date we have raised \$29,000 of the \$150,000 we need to raise for much needed improvements to our Church. We used approved monies from the operations account for the parking lot improvement but need to repay the operations account once we have raised the money. Thank you to those that have donated! If you would like to donate please visit the Church website, click on Donate, then Capital Improvement Campaign.





Join us Friday, January 12th
from 5-7 pm for

January Joy

Junior Orthodox Youth
Ages 5 to 12

Pizza, a treat and hot
chocolate will be provided.
We will also have a seasonal
craft

You must RSVP to
Ckourkoulis@goarchangels.org
by January 5th to ensure
participation and availability.



FAMILY MINISTRIES
A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

SLIME PARTY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26TH 6-8 PM

PIZZA AND A TREAT
WILL BE PROVIDED

YOU MUST RSVP TO
CKOURKOULIS@GOARCHANGELS.ORG BY
JANUARY 19TH TO ENSURE PARTICIPATION
AND AVAILABILITY.



TAXIARCHAE/ARCHANGELS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ · ΟΙ ΤΑΞΙΑΡΧΑΙ

January 4, 2024

Re: 2024 Stewardship

Dear Parishioner:

The Taxiarchae Church has served its community for many decades in keeping Christian teachings and the ancient traditions of the religion alive and meaningful. The Church serves the spiritual needs not only of its own parish, but also the wider community through its many ministries.

We are all blessed with certain gifts. The call to stewardship gives us an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves, and to grow in grace.

To preserve the Church now and for generations to come, we ask every year that parishioners contribute financially toward stewardship. Funds are needed to cover the cost of the general operations of the Church, so that its ministries may continue.

The decisions we make in giving to the Church speak to who we are. By supporting it financially, stewards help make the ministries of the Church possible. In addition, stewards contributing financially to the Church are eligible to participate in General Assemblies, vote in elections, and serve in leadership roles.

The Parish Council asks that every family and individual member of the Church Community contribute in 2024 to help keep the Church alive. With rising costs, the Parish Council asks that everyone able to do so, contribute more in 2024 than they have in recent years.

Stewardship Sunday is on January 14th. On that day you may make your donation and pledge for the year in person or online.

All contributors will be acknowledged for their generosity. All contributions to the Taxiarchae are tax deductible.

Sincerely,

Reverend Fr. Athanasios Nenes
Pastor

Evelyn A. Haralampu
Stewardship Chair

HELLENIC BOSTON BUSINESSES UNITE

invites you to our first Annual

WINTER WHITE *Gala*

Saturday February 3, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Oakley Country Club
410 Belmont St. Watertown, MA

Silent Auction proceeds to benefit
Metropolis Camp of Boston & The Sotir Center Thessaloniki, GR

Dinner & Dancing
Music by Salonica Boys

RSVP by January 27, 2024
Early bird pricing available until January 15, 2024

To order tickets scan the QR code

Cocktail attire - Optional Black/Winter White





METROPOLIS of BOSTON CAMP

WINTER CAMP 2024

SO CHILL, WE NEEDED TWO
Grades 6-12 | Register on November 27th

Winter Camp Session 1 Winter Camp Session 2
 ARRIVE: Friday, January 19 ARRIVE: Saturday, February 17
 DEPART: Sunday, January 21 DEPART: Monday, February 19

**FALL CAMP SOLD OUT IN LESS THAN 60 SECONDS!
 DON'T DELAY IN REGISTERING!**



WINTER CAMP FIELD TRIP OPTIONS

TOUR DE TOOKY	PAT'S PEAK SKI MOUNTAIN
Maple Syrup Factory	Skiing
Cow Milking Farm	Snowboarding
Ice Skating / Ice Fishing	Tubing

metropolisofbostoncamp.org



CROSSROAD

Are you a high school **junior** or **senior**?

Fill your
summer
 with what **counts**

Join one of our **four sessions:**

SESSION 1 | Boston June 8-18
SESSION 2 | Northern California June 18-28
SESSION 3 | Boston June 22-July 2
SESSION 4 | Chicago July 6-16

APPLICATION DEADLINES
 Priority: January 16, 2024
 Regular: February 20, 2024



Youth Ministry

Ongoing FOOD DRIVE - Collecting for the Watertown Food Pantry

Your donation of food items can be put on the table, located in the Lobby.

We will deliver them to the Watertown Food Pantry every Tuesday.

Thank you for helping your local community!

ESPECIALLY NEEDED - CANS OF TUNA & BREAKFAST CEREAL.
As always, the Food Pantry is still in need of school snacks.

LOVE DOES NOT HURT.

INCREASED STATISTICS ON INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
[HTTPS://WWW.NEJM.ORG/DOI/FULL/10.1056/NEJMP2024046](https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMP2024046)

A pandemic within a pandemic: There are more cases of violence in the home than ever before. This means more families living in crisis.

We are collecting for monthly drop-offs each second Monday of the month, beginning with December 14th.

Items requested are:

Sanitary napkins
Shampoo
Vaseline
Cocoa butter
Baby shampoo
Baby lotion
Deodorant
Tooth brushes
Tooth paste

With any questions, please contact
Christina Kourkoulis at CKourkoulis@goarchangels.org

**RECOGNIZE.
REPORT.
PREVENT.**

FINEX HOUSE

+Finex House
PO Box 300670
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
<https://www.finexhouse.org>

Taxiarchae Hellenic Cultural Center

Planning a party or reception? Our beautiful venues are now updated and ready for any & all of your event needs, up to 500 people.

For information and assistance in planning your future event, please call Irene Apostolou Cobb at the Church Office at 617-924-8182 or email: functionmanager@goarchangels.com



DREAM IT AND IT
CAN COME TRUE!
YOUR EVENT CAN BE
EVERYTHING
YOU WISHED.

