

THE FORERUNNER

VOLUME XXVII NUMBER 3 MARCH 2011

FRIGHTENED BY CONFESSION - PART 3 MY FIRST CONFESSION

As the Great Lent is about to start, and Fr. X speaks again on Confession, Nick begins to realize that Confession should be part of his regular Christian life as a divine given tool that is indispensable for his continuing spiritual growth and the strengthening of His relationship with God. Overcoming the anxiety that is common before a first Confession, he sets up an appointment with Fr. X. However, the more he thinks about it the more he realizes that he does not really know what to say or do during Confession.

We have all been there and we have all struggled. Any beginning is difficult and particularly the first Confession, a very important step in the life of any Orthodox Christian, more so if one commences it at an adult age. The Church elders liken this sacrament with a second Baptism in which we are given the opportunity to be put back in our baptismal garments, and, with a clean soul and sins forgiven, we are made ready to re-start our life in Christ. For such an important moment advance preparation will help anyone go through it in a more timely and meaningful way. The following suggestions are meant to help in this very respect.

Talk with your Father Confessor. In preparation for one's first Confession a discussion with the chosen Father Confessor will be of great help. A more casual conversation will alleviate many of the "beginner's" fears and will make the entire process less painful. The Father

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COUNCIL CAPSULE

It's hard to believe that just one year ago we were in the midst of planning the expansion of the Paulos Center addition. The idea of building a beautiful new place of worship was just a dream and now that dream has become a reality. Despite the harsh weather, we are back on or near schedule with the construction and anticipate a blessing of the foundation by Fr. Vasile sometime in March.

With Great Lent rapidly approaching, we must prepare, as it is a time of sacrifice and commitment. With the construction of our new church well underway, we need to remember not only to make our commitment to the Capital Campaign Fund but also to make a pledge of stewardship. Living as a steward is not expressed in a simple action or even in a number of actions, but in an entire way of life. If you have filled out a 2011 Stewardship Card we thank you, if not, take a moment to do so. St. John's needs your support.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 2011 Stewardship info
- *Frightened by Confession Part 3: My First Confession*
- *Gladsome Light Dialogues Temptations of the Youth*
- *New Church Construction updates*
- *Church School Greet soldiers at DFW Airport*
- *Philoptochos Scholarship*
- *Church Events Calendar*
- *GOYA News*

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COUNCIL CAPSULE



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St. John's has finally joined in on the push to go green. Starting this month, we should all take advantage of the computer age and read our Forerunner on line. There will be only a very limited number of copies available in the Narthex for those who do not have the availability of a computer. Now more than ever, we need

to conserve especially with the ever rising cost of printing and mailing.

As of this printing, we are still in need of a chairman for the Food Festival. Last year, the festival added approximately \$45,000 toward the building of our new church. It would be a shame to cancel the festival and lose out on a significant amount of money for the building fund due to a lack of a volunteer

chairman or chairpersons. I am currently in discussion with Joe Sullivan with regards to the difficulties we would face holding a festival this year but am hopeful that we will be able to overcome these issues.

Barbara Vittas

Parish Council President

FINANCIAL REPORT YTD THRU 01 31 11

	2010	2011	Budget
Stewardship	12439	15302	14583
Total income	26059	17932	17217
Total exp	15673	16923	14706
Net	+10386	+1009	+2511

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET MADE YOUR PERSONAL OR FAMILY COMMITMENT TO THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, NOW IS THE TIME.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE REPORT

By about mid-year 2011 the structure and finished exterior of the church will have been completed. Through the total commitment of many parishioners, the Capital Campaign Fund contains the cash necessary to complete this first stage of construction.

A contract has been signed and initial payments made for the iconostasis, the icons for the iconostasis and the painting of iconographic murals on the Altar Apse and Vault as a minimum for services to begin in the new church when the project is finished. These long lead time items contribute about \$200,000 to the cost of the project for a total project cost of approximately \$2,200,000. In particular, the iconostasis will be a stunning

work of Orthodox design using hand cut Syrian stone with mosaic inlays and icons installed in wooden panels. Metropolitan Isaiah has approved the iconostasis and iconography concepts which have been developed by Father Vasile in coordination with our iconographer, Vladimir Grygorenko.

Your Capital Campaign Committee has turned to the task of raising the balance of funds needed to complete the church interior and related site improvements on our property. Our goal is to provide a continuous cash flow to enable completion of the project in 2011. Approximately one-half, only, of our parishioners have committed close to 75% of the funds needed to complete the project and many have already

made substantial payments on their commitments. With that record of parish commitment to date, we are hopeful others among our fellow parishioners will also now join in supporting this historic undertaking.

To complete the project this year, we need to raise approximately \$500,000 in cash. This amount, however, is inclusive of remaining commitments yet to be paid, leaving a total of about \$388,000 in new commitments and cash to be raised in order to hold services in the new church before year end.

We will be pursuing various approaches to raising the funds needed to complete the project this year, including new commitments, accelerated payments on existing commit-

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FRIGHTENED BY CONFESSION-PART 3: MY FIRST CONFESSION

(Continued from page 1)

Confessor can point to prayers to be read before, materials that will help in preparation, and can explain the way he generally conducts first Confessions, so one will know what to expect. This conversation alone will make everything more manageable.

Read the Prayers before Confession. Confession is a deep spiritual exercise that goes to the root of our spiritual failings. What better way to start our reconciliation with God but through prayer? The prayers will help one acquire a state of contrition by setting before one's eyes the remembrance of one's many failings. In the same time they also bring hope reminding that God can forgive any sin if there is true repentance. God does not rejoice in the death of the sinner, but He wants him to repent and live. (Eze 18:23).

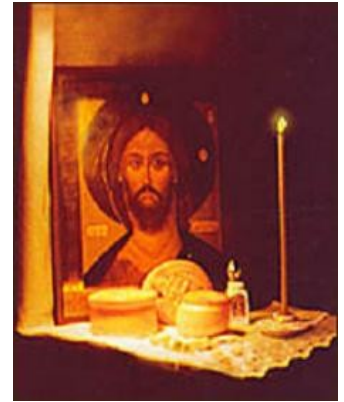
Meditate upon your sins. This is probably the most im-

portant piece in one's preparation for Holy Confession. It is the time when, with a heart softened by prayer, one starts recollecting past errors. For an adult person that confesses the first time it may be a difficult task, as years have gone by, fading from memory many things that one might have committed. One shouldn't despair however but try to go back in memory as far back possible and slowly unearth the deeds of one's youth, so they can be washed in the Holy Spirit that is present during this Sacrament. Some people find it easy to use guides for Confession that help one examine his/her conscience by using questions. Others take as guides the ten commandments of the Lord and the commandments of the Church. Whatever is chosen, there should be no rush through this important task. One can write the sins down to make sure they are remembered in Confession. This is however not a laundry list to be recited without heart, but is

the list of one's shortcomings for which one seeks healing. Meditating upon them and the ill consequences they had in one's spiritual life will lead to true repentance and will fill one's eyes with tears of compunction.

Acquire a contrite heart. Once decided upon Confession, with a conscience properly searched, one should approach the sacrament with a contrite heart. The model of Confession should be the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee. The repentance of the Publican, the self-consciousness of the low estate of his soul and his hope in the mercy of God to guide him in his new, changed life should be the blueprint for a good Confession. Above all one should avoid bragging about any good deeds, like the Pharisee from the Gospel. The role of Confession is to affect the cure of the ailing, is to seek spiritual healing. The Father Confessor

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“FORMING FOR THE FOUNDATION CONCRETE WORK IS IN ITS LAST STAGES TO COMPLETE”

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Our Church construction activities could not escape the harsh winter weather in February as we lost approximately 1-1/2 weeks of schedule due to the snow and ice. However, Asthon Wynne got back on track to complete all pier drilling, finish out the retaining wall along the creek and install all of the underground utilities.

Forming for the foundation concrete work is in its last

stages to complete, and as soon as we receive a mechanical buy-off from the City of Euless Engineering department for the undergrounding plumbing lines we will be able to pour the foundation.

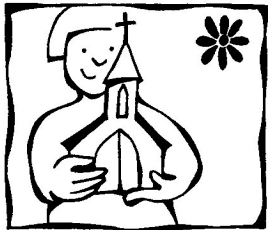
Continue to follow the weekly bulletin as Fr. Vasile will be scheduling a blessing of the foundation. Steel erection will begin soon afterward where we will see the structure of the Church taking shape. As you

see the physical progress of the Church construction and realize that our new Church is developing quickly, please contemplate your personal contribution to the Capital Campaign program if you have not done so already.

Our hope is to have all parishioners participate in the growth of our Church.

Joe Sullivan





STEWARDSHIP NEWS

We're off to a good start in 2011. As of 2/20/11 we have **80 pledges** for a **total of \$143,874**. Our **goal** this year is **\$175,000**.

The church needs your help! If you have not yet submitted

your stewardship pledge, please do so as soon as possible.

A big thank you goes out to those who have already made their commitment to our church.

REMEMBER: *If your intention is to be a pledged member of St. John, a new card must be submitted each year.*

Please submit your 2011 card today!

2011 STEWARDS

Alexander, Leo & Teresa	Genovezos, George & Olympia	Nugent, Phyllia
Anderson, Dr. Anthony	Gianulis, Adam	Pachares, Mark & Marie
Arlington, Linda	Gianulis, Bill & Bertha	Pachares, Tony & Athena
Ball, David	Gigliotta, Leonard	Papadopoulou, Olga & Theoni
Ballas, Andy & Pat	Grumbos, Dr. Peter	Papaliadis, Louie
Ballas, Chris	Henry, Michael & Julie	Petercsak, Steve & Esther
Beebe, Sharie	Hooe, Jane	Peters, Paun & Lynn
Began, John	Johnson, Marshall & Velva	Plock, Eleni
Berca, Sorin & Carmen	Karegeannes, Harry & Ginny	Poletes, Bill & Rena
Blake, John & Harriett	Katsikas, Constantinos	Poriotis, Michael
Bogdos, George & Sotera	Kerbow, Joe & Maria	Poriotis, Terry & Gail
Bogordos, George & Kasandra	Kinman, Buck & Karen	Rafailedes, Connie
Bond, Tina & George	Leeders, Larry	Ruppel, John & Joanie
Brandon, Roberta	Leeders, Stacia	Russo, Joseph & Athena
Chokas, Margaret	MacPherson, Doug & Andi	Samaras, Johnny
Cline, Tim & Angela	Manos, George & Vicki	Shah, Raj & Kirsten
Cramb, Kristina	Matheson, Trevor & Sherri	Snegirov, Aleksandr & Oksana
Cramb, Matthew	Mavias, Michael & Mary	Steffaro, Bob & Karen
Dempsey, Walt & Dorothy	Mavias, Lisa	Sullivan, Charles & Ann
Eftimie, Michael	Medvic, Allison	Sullivan, Joe & Nina
Feichtinger, Pavlina	Medvic, Nancy	Talleos, Peter
File, Russ & Hope	Mihalakeas, Andreas & Laura	Tudora, Fr. Vasile & Pres. Mirela
Fondulis, Paul	Molhoek, Mike & Tina	Vittas, George & Barbara
Forcum, Ana	Morcovescu, Serban & Anca	Wright, Bill & Christine
Fox, Mike & Kathy	Moutafis, George & Khanh	Yiantsou, Dr. Chris & Margo
Gavras, Billie	Naval, Marc	Zingas, Ari & Olga
Geil, Chris & Sandra	Nicholas, Toni	

IF YOUR INTENTION IS TO BE A PLEDGED MEMBER OF ST. JOHN, A NEW CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED EACH YEAR.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE REPORT (CONT)

(Continued from page 2)

ments and a program of dedications of various spaces, fixtures and ecclesiastical features in the new church and in the new Paulos Center Addition. The Dedications Program, as introduced at the February 27th General Assembly, will provide opportunities to parishioners who desire to make special contributions in honor or in memory of loved ones or who simply want to make a donation for a special purpose or part of the church project, even if anonymously. We will be providing more information and details of the Dedications

Program during the month of March.

As a Parish, we are on the way to bringing the vision of "Building Our Future" to reality. **If you have not yet made your personal or family commitment to the Capital Campaign, now is the time.** Please see any member of the CCC for a commitment card... **If you have already made your personal or family commitment, please strive to make your payments as timely as possible** under the terms you have set for your commitment, or earlier if pos-

sible so that we may complete the project this year.

All of our parishioners should want to participate in this historic endeavor and, when we are done, share in offering glory to God for what we, together, each and every one of us as a Greek Orthodox Community, have accomplished as our lasting legacy and our gift to the future generations of St. John the Baptist here in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

Your Capital Campaign Committee - Paun Peters, Dr. Chris Yiantsou, Nancy Medvic, Louie Papaliadis, Margaret Chokas, George Vittas...



BECOMING A STEWARD IN 2011

On Sunday November 14, 2010 we held our annual stewardship Sunday. It was for all a moment of reflection about our contribution to the Church for the year to come. Many thanks to all that participated and became stewards of our church.

Of course not everyone had an opportunity to come, but it is not too late! So here is some information on what it means and why is important to become a steward.

You become an Orthodox Christian Steward by giving yourself to Christ, by participating in the Sacramental Life of the church and by giving of your Time, Talent and Treasure; all of which require commitment. A commitment to worship, to attend liturgy and to pray regularly, a commitment to be an active part of your church community giving

of your time and talent, and, yes, a commitment to give back a portion of the treasure God has given you – a financial commitment.

A written statement of your intentions is just one of the things that will help you feel committed to Christ and His Church. If we submit nothing in writing it is easy to just walk away and become a spectator. If, however, we have committed to help support the church, we feel an obligation to do so. That commitment comes by way of our Stewardship Commitment Card.

Filling out a Stewardship Card enables the church to keep a record of the number of parishioners in our congregation, to update addresses and phone numbers that are needed for various purposes and to assess the talents of our parishioners to be utilized when needed.

The card is absolutely necessary to determine expected income for budgetary reasons and to create a list of church members who are eligible to vote, serve on the parish council, hold an office, share their talents etc.

So, please, don't stand on the outside looking in. Become an active part of St. John the Baptist community for 2011.

New cards are available in the pews and in the narthex.

Don't be afraid; the card is not a contract, but a promise of intentions. And remember: If your intention is to be a pledged member of St. John, a new card must be submitted each year.

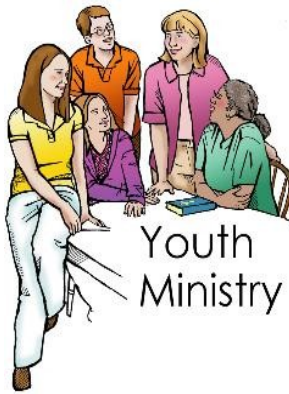
We appreciate everyone's understanding and cooperation in helping to make the stewardship process more meaningful and efficient.

BECOME AN ACTIVE PART OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST COMMUNITY FOR 2011 BY FILLING A STEWARDSHIP CARD



Make your talent grow today

YOUTH MINISTRIES IS ON THE MOVE



What a beautiful experience for those in our Church School who made the trip to DFW Airport to "send off " our soldiers with smiles and little gifts. The military men and women were surprised and offered many warm smiles in return. It was an

eye and heart opening event as they watched the families saying their good-bye's . Sadly it was missed by most of our absent students but we will hope for better participation next time. Thanks to Father Vasile who is devoting the March Dialogue

sessions to our teens and the many situations they face with parents, peers and the general world out there. Please check the Wednesday schedule so both you parents and students will not miss this well planned event.

CHURCH SCHOOL STEWARDSHIP

This year the Sunday School teachers decided to begin a stewardship program for our youth. This program was designed to teach our children the value of Christian Stewardship. Much like the adults, the children filled out a pledge card. The intent was to instill a sense of giving to the church from an

early age. Through the end of May, twenty of our children donated a total of \$209. Although only approximately one-third of our students committed this year – it's a start. We look forward to better participation next year. The children have received their new cards on Stewardship Sunday, No-

vember 14. Most of the commitments received this year were from the younger students. We would like to encourage our pre-teen youth and GOYA to also become active members in 2011.

CHURCH SCHOOL GREETING OF RETURNING SOLDIERS AT DFW AIRPORT

CHURCH SCHOOL TRIP—SOLDIER GREETING



The soldiers were greeted with posters made by our kids and offered treats as well as toothpaste and toothbrushes to put in their backpacks. Our children were very persistent, whether the soldiers wanted the goodies or not - oftentimes accepting the candy bars and crackers with a smile and a hug.

Our kids -- especially the younger ones - are hard to resist! It's a great community service project for the kids of St. John's. Thanks to all who joined us.



St. Demetrios
A soldier of Christ

On Sunday, Feb. 13, our church school made its second trip to the Dallas/Fort Worth airport to say goodbye to soldiers who were departing for Afghanistan and Iraq.

We had about 20 students of all ages participate along with six parents. It was heartwarming and heartbreaking to shake the hands of these men and women who are voluntarily putting themselves in harm's way on our behalf.



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Students and Parents,

What a successful event “sending-off” our soldiers for Valentine’s Day! I want to send many thanks to our teachers and parents who transported the children to the airport. Thank you to those of you who brought goodies for distribution. We had approximately 20 children who distributed goodies and cheered for the soldiers. It was beautiful to see the huge smiles on the children and the soldiers as they hived each other.

We will have a procession of the icons on the Sunday of Orthodoxy – March 13th. The children should bring their Saint’s icon for the procession which will be after Liturgy.

Due to Spring Break, we’ll not have church school on March 20th

This month we will focus on the season of Lent and Easter. Our children will learn why we observe this Holy event.

Additionally, we will distribute the Orthodox Christian Mis-

sion Center’s Mission Coin Boxes. We’re using this tool to assist the children in learning about missions in other countries and how they can support these efforts. At the end of Lent, we will collect the Mission Coin Boxes and will celebrate the amounts collected by our children. Please help reinforce the importance of missions to other countries.

– With His Blessing,
Khanh Moutafis



Christ teaching in the Temple

CHOIR NOTES

Have you heard the beautiful angelic voices of our youth choir? How fortunate we are to have a dedicated group that start the Divine Liturgy singing in Greek and English, *Tes Presvies Tis Theotokou*, *Soson I Mas Yie Theou*, *Agios O Theos* and

Allelouia before the Gospel Reading. They sing in the choir to praise God, pray, and learn. Hymns are teaching tools that enrich the Orthodox experience. This helps you to grow in personal spirituality singing the beautiful hymns of the Liturgy.

Please join the youth choir and experience a new way to participate in the Liturgy.
Lea Poletes,
Youth Choir Director

APPLICATIONS
FOR THE ST.
IRENE
PHILOPTOCHOS
SCHOLARSHIP
ARE NOW
AVAILABLE.

ST. IRENE PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for the St. Irene Philoptochos Scholarship are now available. The scholarship is given each year to a graduat-

ing high school senior entering an institution of higher education (two-year, four-year or trade school) as a full-time

student. Please contact Harriet Blake 214-995-4290, 682-223-1344
email: hlblake@aol.com

GOYA NEWS

Our GOYA is growing and is constantly busy. Several of the members have prepared papers on the Oratorical Festival topics and we will be hearing some in church soon.

Others are very busy checking out colleges and filling out the application paperwork as they look forward to their May graduation. Remember to mark May 15th on your calen-

dars and help us honor these graduates at our GRADUATION CELEBRATION LUNCHEON.

Congratulations to the new all male slate of officers; Peter Pursley, President; Ovi Berca, Vice President; John Molhoek, Secretary; and Savas Zingas, Treasurer.

Watch for information regard-

ing Camp Emmanuel this summer. That camp continues to grow and even though there are two sessions this year, space will probably be limited. We hope to have more of our students attend this year.

Y.M. members, please plan on our next meeting for March 27 after Liturgy. There is much to be discussed and plan .





FRIGHTENED BY CONFESSION-PART 3: MY FIRST CONFESSION

(Continued from page 3)

should hear what's rotten and causing pain not what's healthy and good. The way of true repentance goes through humility. God, as the psalm says, does not despise a broken and humble heart (Ps. 50:17) but quickly brings restoration and salvation through His divine grace.

Be concise. During Confession all sins should be described briefly, without getting into many particulars. The Father Confessor might ask questions to assess the depth and width of a particular sin that he deems important. One should answer those questions without going into inappropriate details. One should not stay too general either, trying to paint a nicer picture about any particular situation. Staying with the facts is the best middle ground. Based on these answers one will receive fitting treatment seeking the restoration of the soul.

Tell everything and do not despair. It is extremely important to reveal all the sins without hiding anything. One should always remember that that the purpose is not to look good, but to present the true state of oneself, no matter how difficult or ugly that may be. There is no point in going to a doctor and hiding important symptoms. Otherwise one may go home unhealed, rendering all the efforts spent meaningless. Remember that God loves the greatest sinner more than the greatest saints could ever love God. No matter how grave our sins may be, God's

mercy exceeds our wickedness.

Receive the healing gift of the "epitimia". Based on your confession, the Father Confessor might choose sometimes to recommend what the Church calls "epitimia". This may consist of certain prayers, fasting, prostrations, good deeds, pious readings etc. *Epitimia* may also involve abstinence from Holy Communion for a period, until the consequences of sin have healed in one's soul and full repentance has been achieved. It is important not to consider any of these as repay for sin, or as a punishment. No one can repay the sins committed but we are freely forgiven in God's grace. The purpose of Confession is also not punishment but reconciliation with God. *Epitimia* is merely a medication for the soul that the Father Confessor dispenses with a gentle hand bringing one in a closer relationship to God. One should agree with and embrace this treatment with joy, as it will ensure a fast and proper recovery.

Confession is a new beginning. The sins confessed are now forgiven; the priest has sealed the sacrament with the laying of the hands. Is this the end? No. This is only a new beginning. True repentance means not just a confession of one's sins, but also the affirmation of one's intentions for the future. A true "*metanoia*" means a change of mind, a change of one's ways that will ensure collaboration, *synergia*, with the saving grace of God. Confession is not an end in itself, but only a mean for spiritual growth.

The first Confession should not be the last.

Once our sins are forgiven at our first Confession we should try to stay as close as we can to the promise of change we have professed. Being weak however, most certainly we will fall back into sin, sometimes in the very sin that we have just confessed. We shouldn't despair however because Confession is not a one-time event, like Baptism; it is something that God has left for us to use at any time as needed. A regular evaluation of our conscience is indispensable for our spiritual growth and Confession is the blessed way to do it. The Great Lent and all the fasting times of the year are opportunities to enhance our life in Christ. Beside fasting, prayer and good deeds, Confession is another way of getting closer to God, by actively seeking and elimination sin from our lives

First Confession is a difficult step in one's spiritual life, but also a very important one. It is the moment when one starts answering the calling of God: "*you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.*" (Mat 5:48). This work of *askesis*, as the Greek Fathers call it, cannot be completed without examining oneself regularly in the mirror of Holy Confession. The true reflection one will see every time will help adjust the course of one's life moving from merely carrying the image of God to achieving His likeness.

Fr. Vasile Tudora

Parish Priest

“WORK FOR
YOUR
SALVATION AND
PRAY THAT GOD
WILL FULFILL
WITH HIS GRACE
OUR LIMITED
AND INCOMPLETE
WORKS ”



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Kali Sarakosti,

Firstly, let me thank the entire St. John's community for their wonderful support of our Valentine's Day Luncheon. We thoroughly enjoyed having each of you with us and participate so faithfully. Special thank you's go to those that gave up their weekend to prepare for this event. May God grant you many years.

Also, a big THANK YOU to Dr. Karen Kinman, our guest speaker at our February meeting. She prepared a beautiful presentation and we were encouraged by her dedication and accomplishments.

One last thank you, to Joanie Ruppel, our membership chair, who so graciously coordinated a beautiful Membership Tea. We truly appreciated each and every one of you who attended and have made a commitment

to our army "Dynamis"! We will continue our campaign for membership thru the month of March, so please contact Joanie Ruppel or a board member for details.

Just a reminder that Kathy Fox and Robert Brandon work so diligently at recruiting individuals to participate in our Lenten Soup Suppers, this year we ask for the same support from our community. I encourage you all to consider signing up to bring a Lenten dish when called upon to do so. We only host 3 suppers and all proceeds are forwarded to Holy Cross School of Theology.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, March 20, 2011 following Liturgy. We hope to see you all there, especially some new faces.

Due to the diligent efforts of several individuals we now have our Chapter's dates, times, forms and information on our Philoptochos page at: <http://www.stjohndfw.info/philoptochos.html>. Please reference this page for any and all information regarding dates, events, meetings, calendars and of course we welcome your comments as well.

One last note, we have reserved a shelf in the book rack within the inner Narthex for Philoptochos. Please note that we hope to have all our pertinent forms and information available for you to take.

With Christ's Love,
Bertha



St. Irene The Great Martyr

PLEASE JOIN THE YOUTH CHOIR AND EXPERIENCE A NEW WAY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LITURGY.

"YES, CHRISTOULI LOVES ME" - LEA POLETES

During my time in Denver, I was blessed to sing with the Assumption of the Theotokos choir. Charissa Gianos, one of the lead sopranos, approached me one day regarding singing back-up on her two Orthodox music compilations. I of course jumped at the chance and the honor of singing with such an accomplished soprano. Charissa is blessed with an angelic voice, and there were many times during choir and the recordings, I was overtaken with emotion.

Because I believe in Charissa's voice and her gift to sing praises in His name, I have been working with our bookstore to start promoting her book/CD, "Yes, Christouli Loves Me." This is her first book and her overriding message is to encourage Orthodox children to work toward building their relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If you are interested in learning more or if you have questions about Charissa's book/CD, "Yes, Christouli Loves

Me" please contact me or Kathy Fox. Charissa also has another CD available in our bookstore "Akathist to the Mother of God, Nurturer of Children" and this is the project I was also so very honored to be a part of.

Charissa's work inspires me and brings God's lightness into my heart, and therefore, I hope it will do the same for you. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it". Proverbs 22:6

Yes! Christouli Loves Me

FIRST TIME RELEASE

Get Your Copy Today!
\$14.95
YOU GET A COLORFUL BOOK AND STUDY GUIDE

\$19.95
YOU GET A COLORFUL BOOK SING ALONG CD AND STUDY GUIDE

Delightful 3-in-1 children's book!

- 96 pages of full-color illustrations
- Wonderful story about Christ and our Orthodox church
- Easy to read
- One along CD for adults and children
- Includes study guide for Sunday School and RCIA classes
- Excellent tool for children's lessons of all ages
- Great gift idea for baptisms, wedding, birthdays, new members, birth of new baby and so much more!

charissa
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT CHARISSA GIANOS AT charissa@q.com



<http://denver.goarch.org/youth/campemmanuel>

www.campemmanuel.blogspot.com

**Camp Emmanuel
2011**

CAMP EMMANUEL

Youth of St. John the Baptist, don't miss this great opportunity to learn more about your faith, meet new friends and enjoy this beauty of this mountain retreat. See GOYA advisers or Rena Poletes for more info.

Camp Emmanuel 2011 will convene at the [Manzano Mountain Retreat](#) near Albuquerque, New Mexico from June 12 through June 18 (Juniors-Ages 11-14), and June 19 through June 25 (Seniors-Ages 15-18).

Online registration for both sessions will open March 1, 2011

AGELESS WONDERS

The Ageless Wonders are going to meet on Friday, March 4th, 2011 to go to the "Lightcatcher Winery & Bistro" for lunch and tasting. We will carpool from the church {for those who need to} and go to North Ft. Worth. The Winery is located at 6925 Confederate Park Rd. 76108..off Hwy 199 {Jacksboro Hwy}. Lunch will be at 12:30. We will meet at the church at 11:30 to carpool. This should be a fun day for us and pray for good weather. I'll be calling y'all soon, so check your calendars and join us for a good time!! Margaret

GLADSOME LIGHT

Gladsome Light Dialogues resumes in March with the highly expected theme "*The temptations of the youth*".

We will hold a series of four meetings. Two will be dedicated exclusively to the youth (March 23 and April 6), one for parents (March 30) and a final joint meeting (April 13th). More details in the Sunday Bulletins.

The meetings will be held Wednesday nights after the Presanctified Liturgy.

Don't forget to visit our blog at <http://dialogues.stjohndfw.info>

*2011 MID-CITIES
GREEK FOOD
FESTIVAL
CHAIRPERSON
OR PERSONS
NEEDED !!*



USHER SCHEDULE

- 1st Sunday: Barbara Vittas, Bob Steffaro
- 2nd Sunday: Hope File, Terry Poriotis
- 3rd Sunday: Harry Karegeannes, Karen Kinman
- 4th Sunday: Michael Eftemie, Raj Shah
- 5th Sunday: Allison Medvic, Nancy Medvic

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

- 1st Sunday : Phillip Sullivan, Alex Genevesos, John Molhoek, Bennet Kerbow
- 2nd Sunday : Chris Eftemie, Ovidiu Berca, Phillip Sullivan, Chris File
- 3rd Sunday : Jackson Wright, Alex Shah, Alex Genevezos, Michael Beebe
- 4th Sunday : Luca Tudora, James Seals, Alex Genevesos, Alex Shah
- 5th Sunday: Michael Beebe, James Seals, Philip Sullivan, Ovi Berca

COFFEE HOUR HOST

- 1st Sun.: Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Matheson
- 2nd Sun: Philoptochos
- 3rd Sun: Parish Council
- 4th Sun: Ageless Wonders
- 5th Sun: Parish Council (If Applicable)

COFFEE HOUR DUTIES

SETUP

Arrange pastries/food in a desirable manner on the appropriate tables in the parish hall.

You are responsible for making the coffee. Make two pots: one regular, one decaf. Plug in be-



fore going into church. The instructions are in the kitchen.

Prepare a tray with sugar, creamer, sugar substitute, mixing straws, a few spoons. Set with trash bucket.

Put donation basket out with appropriate sign.

CLEAN UP

Wash all dishes soiled, including coffee pots.















Return sugar tray to kitchen and replenish it.

Wash off hall tables and kitchen counters.

Thank-You

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

March 2011

<i>SUN</i>	<i>MON</i>	<i>TUE</i>	<i>WED</i>	<i>THU</i>	<i>FRI</i>	<i>SAT</i>
		1	2	3	4	5
			 <i>Paraklesis</i> 6:00PM			 <i>Great Vespers</i> 6:00PM
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Forgiveness Sunday</i> <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM <i>Forgiveness Vespers</i> 6:00PM	+	+	 <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> 6:00PM	+	+	 <i>Great Vespers</i> 6:00PM
	Great Lent Begins	<i>Great Compline</i> 6:00 PM		<i>Great Compline</i> 6:000 PM	<i>Salutations to the Theotokos</i> 6:00PM	
	<i>Great Compline</i> 6:000 PM					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<i>Sunday of Orthodoxy</i> <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy with Icon Procession</i> 9:30 AM <i>Pan-Orthodox Vespers</i> 6:00 PM (<i>Holy Trinity</i>)	+	+	+	+	+	 <i>Great Vespers</i> 6:00PM
	<i>Great Compline</i> 6:00 PM		<i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> 6:00PM		<i>Salutations to the Theotokos</i> 6:00PM	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<i>Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas</i> <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM <i>Philoptochos Meeting</i> <i>Pan-Orthodox Vespers</i> 6:00 PM (<i>St. Barbara</i>)	+	+	+	+	 <i>Annunciation of the Theotokos</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 6:00 AM <i>Salutations to the Theotokos</i> 6:00PM	 <i>Great Vespers</i> 6:00PM
	<i>Great Compline</i> 6:00 PM		<i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> 6:00PM <i>Gladsome Light Dialogues</i> 7:00 PM	<i>Vigil for Annunciation</i> 6:00PM		
27	28	29	30	31		
<i>Sunday of The Holy Cross</i> <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM <i>Parish Council Meeting</i> <i>Pan-Orthodox Vespers</i> 6:00 PM (<i>Sts. C-tine and Helen</i>)	+	+	+	+	<i>Dates to Remember:</i> <i>March 13</i> <i>Procession of Icons</i> <i>March 20</i> <i>No School</i>	
	<i>Great Compline</i> 6:00 PM		<i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> 6:00PM <i>Gladsome Light Dialogues</i> 7:00 PM			
		+				
		<i>Strict Fast</i>	<i>Fish</i>	<i>Dairy, Eggs, Fish</i>	<i>Fast Free</i>	<i>Wine & Oil</i>



**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

303 Cullum Dr.
Euless, TX 76040
Tel 817 283-2291

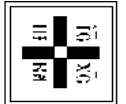
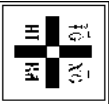
Return Service Requested

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Sponsorship for This Month's Forerunner



**WE'RE ON THE WEB AT
[HTTP://STJOHNDFW.INFO](http://stjohnndfw.info)**



March 13th
Sunday of Orthodoxy



THE FORERUNNER
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