

Dynamis



July-August 2011

“... Since the kingdom of God is not just words, it is power.”

1 CORINTHIANS 4:20

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL + PORTLAND + OREGON

ST. SYMEON AND THE CHRIST CHILD

When Symeon saw the Theotokos bringing the baby Jesus to the Temple on the 40th day, inspired by the Holy Spirit, he recognized Jesus as the Messiah, and taking Jesus in his arms, he prayed,

Lord, now let thy servant depart in peace according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation which You have prepared in the presence of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for the glory of your people Israel.

-Luke 2:29-32

Commenting on Symeon’s famous prayer, Bishop Gerasimos has written, “This (prayer) of Symeon is repeated by our Church at the end of every Vesper Service, and by the priest to himself at the end of every liturgy to reassure us that in going to church and in worship we have seen with the eyes of our soul the Savior Lord; we have talked with Him. After that experience, we leave filled with peace and spiritual joy. We can consider our church attendance a failure if we do not experience this emotion.” Just as Symeon saw Jesus and held Him in His arms, we, too, can experience His presence personally in prayer and in the worship services of the Church. Through the Eucharist we can take Jesus in our arms and embrace Him as did Symeon. Unless our faith is personal as that, it will not be real.

What is more joyful than an encounter, a meeting with someone we love? To truly live is to look forward, to anticipate. What are we anticipating? What are we waiting for? Are we, like Symeon, anticipating, waiting, pondering, praying for our ultimate meeting with God? If we are, then we, too, shall experience Symeon’s joy: “Let me now depart. I have seen the light of revelation in the face of Jesus. I have met the Child Who has brought God’s salvation, His love, and peace in the world. I am fulfilled and ready to leave this world.”

Fr. Alexander Schmemmann wrote the following about how deeply personal our Christian faith must be:

Faith, in its very nature and essence, is something deeply personal, and therefore it is only really alive when seen in the context of personal experience. Only when a particular teaching of the Church – or, as we say, a dogma, an affirmation of some particular truth – becomes my faith and my experience, and therefore the main content of my life, does this faith come alive. If one reflects on faith and thinks about how it passes from one person to another, it becomes

obvious that what really convinces, inspires and converts is personal experience. This is especially important in Christianity, because in its essence, Christian faith is a personal encounter with Christ, an acceptance not of this or that teaching or dogma about Christ, but of Christ Himself. In other terms, Christianity is extremely personal. This in no way implies that it is individualistic, for all believers encounter, recognize and love exactly one and the same Christ. But Christ addresses Himself to each person, so that each faith is at the same time unique.

If a friendship does not grow it will stagnate and die. So, too, our relationship with Jesus. Unless we daily try to grow closer to Him, we will find ourselves falling into indifference, or possibly losing our faith in Him altogether. As Christians we must always strive to know Christ Jesus, to know Him personally as one person knows another. If some people complain that Orthodoxy is too abstract, it is because they do not really know Jesus in a personal way.

I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES

For Orthodox Christians, religion is a relationship with God in the Person of Jesus. It is on this personal relationship to Jesus that the happiness and the purposefulness of life depends. And it shall be on the basis of this relationship to Christ that our eternal destiny shall be decided. Jesus is the door Who leads us to the Father and the Holy Spirit.

What kind of a relationship do we have to Jesus? Is it a relationship that is kept alive through faith, prayer, the sacraments and obedience to His commandments? Or is it a relationship kept dead by sin and indifference? It was concerning this relationship that Jesus said, “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If a man does not abide in me he is cast forth as a branch and withers...If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will and it shall be done for you” (John 15, 5-8).

-Father Anthony Coniaris

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
3131 NE Glisan St., Portland, OR 97232
DIRECTORY

All names without prefix are (503)

Fr. Jordan Brown...234-0468 or..... 705-7929
Fr. Demosthenis Paraskevaïdis...234-0468 or706-1974
Fr. Deacon David Cole.....287-0475
Parish Council President, Nick Triantafillou 234-8948
Holy Trinity office, Gail Morris, Secretary.....234-0468
Holy Trinity web site: www.goholytrinity.org
Holy Trinity fax.....236-8379

Dynamis is the monthly newsletter of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Portland, Oregon. Articles for the next month's issue of *Dynamis* are due in the church office on the 11th of the current month. Deadlines will be strictly adhered to.

Dynamis Editorial Guidelines

How to contribute: Email to: Gail@goholytrinity.org or on a CD with a hard copy to the church office. If you do not use a computer, please fax submissions to 503-236-8379 or bring a typed copy to the church office.

Content and length: Church-related organizations maximum 500 words; non-church related and articles by private persons maximum 300 words. We reserve the right to edit or decline a submission. All inserts must be approved by the church office and the postal service.

Announcements policy: Unpaid announcements for church-related events are limited to a half page. Non-church-related community event announcements are limited to a quarter page.

The back cover is reserved for paid advertisements, at these rates:

Full advertising section – half of back page\$400
Half advertising section – ¼ of back cover\$225
Quarter advertising section – 1/8 of last page\$125

Treasurer's Report
May 16th, 2011 - Parish Assembly

Jace Thompson

Executive Summary : Parish Income and Expenses through May of 2011 are trending fairly closely to the Net Income trend from 2010. Stewardship YTD is essentially flat to 2010, while increases in expenses due to the pastoral transition are being offset by lower administration costs and a slower pace of program and activities spending. Looking forward through 2011, the Parish Council is planning on funding our deficit spending trend leading up to Festival using a combination of sources including Maintenance, Endowment and hopefully dramatically increased gifts of Stewardship.

A look ahead at issues in 2011 :

- 1) Stewardship : 2011 Stewardship to date through May is roughly (\$5K) behind this same time period in 2010. Although a year is always full of uncertainty, I reported in the 2010 May Assembly, just like was reported in the assembly this year that we could be looking at a low side estimate of ~ \$430K in Stewardship for the year versus our budgeted goal. We essentially ended just above that low point estimate last year, and I'm afraid I stand here again, looking at our trend through May that there is the potential that we are looking at a low side estimate again in the \$430K range versus our more conservative budgeted goal of \$476K. I want to be proven wrong. I urge each of you, all of our stewards and non stewards, to please, review your best gift to Holy Trinity, now, this year. It is imperative that we all pick up the challenge, together, to invest in our Church and its community in a loving and thoughtful way, with our blessings in treasure, as with our time and talents. We are very near to falling into a steady declining state with regards to Stewardship. I know this is not how we, the Stewards of this parish, want our commitment towards all that we have been blessed with here to be remembered. The time is now for each of us to contemplate on our own best gifts, and make them a priority.

(continued next page)

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL	LAST YEAR YTD MAY 2010	THIS YEAR YTD MAY 2011	2011 Budget YTD	Delta to Budget	Summary Comments
Member Contributions	\$216	\$232	\$222	\$10	Stewardship (\$3K YoY), Incl Other Donations of ~\$25K FDF, Greek School, Community Activities, Church Hall
Youth, Rentals, Misc	\$50	\$48	\$54	(\$7)	
Income	\$266	\$280	\$276	\$4	
Pastoral & Admin	\$153	\$180	\$180	(\$0)	On Track to date, will climb over budget with Arch Stewardship increase On Track EFB Payback Pending, seasonal exp have us over budget, on track
Youth, Music & Community	\$41	\$54	\$53	\$2	
Buildings & Grounds	\$112	\$115	\$98	\$17	
Expenses	\$305	\$349	\$331	\$19	On Track to budget
Net Income	(\$40)	(\$70)	(\$55)	(\$15)	Generally running to budget plan at this point in the year
* All \$'s in Thousands					
** Festival not included					

Rasanayagam Papachristopoulos. The Godparent is Stephanie Nonas
June 26, 2011 ~ Caitlyn Self, daughter of Brad Self and Christy Soulakis Self. The Godparent is Andrew Soulakis.

Chrismations:

May 28, 2011 ~ Will (John) Stenberg was Chrismated into Orthodoxy. He was formerly baptized as an Episcopalian.

June 25, 2011 ~ Santia Rasanayagam Papachristopoulos was Chrismated into Orthodoxy. She was formerly baptized as a Methodist.

Weddings:

June 11, 2011 ~ Tina Maria Vlachos and Kyle Ernest Bradbury. Tina is the daughter of Emmanuel Vlachos and Roula Vergikos and Kyle is the son of Leslie Bradbury and Diane Kirsch. The Sponsor was Mike Vlachos.

High School Graduates:

Matthew Belesiu, son of Jim & Ellen Belesiu, graduates from Lake Oswego High School with honors and plans to attend Santa Clara University School of Engineering.

Zoey Bourgazas, daughter of Nick & Becky Bourgazas, graduates from Grant High School and plans to attend the University of San Diego, majoring in Marketing and Communications.

Erica Collins, daughter of Nadia Collins Drakos, graduates from Lakeridge High and will attend the Science Department at the University of Arizona in the fall.

Nikki Drakos, daughter of Jimmy Drakos, graduates from Lakeridge High and will attend the University of Arizona majoring in Geriatric Psychology

Ryan Harris, son of Dirk & Kathy Harris, graduates from Rex Putnam High School and plans to attend Western Oregon University in Monmouth and major in Sport Management or Engineering

Michael Karambelas, son of George & Mari Faye Karambelas, graduates from Southridge High School and plans to attend PCC in the fall majoring in Physical Fitness.

John Lampus, son of Jim & Diana Lampus, graduates from Lake Oswego High School and plans to attend the University of Puget Sound majoring in Vocal Music.

Julia Lampus, daughter of Jim & Diana Lampus, graduates from Lake Oswego High School and plans to attend Willamette University in the Liberal Arts program.

Jordan Mason, son of Kevin & Joanna Mason, graduates from Beaverton High School and plans to attend Oregon State University and take general Studies.

Lisa Nicholson, daughter of Paul and Karen Nicholson, graduates from Camas High School and plans to attend the University of Washington majoring in Psychology & Business.

George Panaretos, son of Bill and Linda Panaretos graduates from Cleveland HS, plans to attend the University of Redlands in S. California.

Maria Phoutrides, daughter of Steve & Kathy Phoutrides, graduates with honors from Grant High School and plans to attend University of Southern California majoring in International Relations.

Eleni Psihogios, daughter of George & Lisa Psihogios, graduates from Lake Oswego High School and plans to attend Ionian Village in Greece this summer, then Oregon State University majoring in Business.

Ally Rumpakis, daughter of John and Sarah Rumpakis, graduates from Lake Oswego High School and plans to attend Oregon State University in the honors program in Business Marketing.

Nick Stoumbos, son of Chris and Heidi Stoumbos, graduates from

Eastlake High School and will attend the University of Washington Foster School of Business.

Demetri Stoumbos, son of Zach & Vassie Stoumbos, graduates from Oregon Episcopal School and plans to work in Yellowstone National Park for the summer, then attend Oregon State University in the fall in the honors program of Bio-Chemistry and Bio-Physics.

Spiro Tzakis, son of Denny & Helen Tzakis, graduates from Westview High School and plans to start at the NYU Steinhardt School in their Theater Education Program.

Andrew Tymchenko, son of Viktor & Mari Tymchenko, graduates from Lake Oswego High School and will enter the United States Air Force Academy in the fall.

College Graduates:

George Demas, son of Spiro & Rita Demas, graduates from Holy Cross Seminary with a Masters of Divinity degree and he plans to seek his Ordination.

Alexis Gianopoulos, daughter of Andy & Stacy Gianopoulos, graduates from Oregon State University and plans to pursue an advanced degree and seek employment.

Spyros Kollias, Jr. graduates from Eastern Oregon University w/ Bachelors degree in Business Administration. He plans to work and/or continue his education.

MANY THANKS for the lovely cards, good wishes and to everyone who joined us on June 26th after church services to celebrate our 60th anniversary. It was very heartwarming. Special thanks to Fr. Jordan for the blessing. Christ and Katy Vokos

Thank you to the Holy Trinity Community for your prayers and support after my recent surgery and hospitalizations. Pano and I are so grateful for your loving kindness, especially to Fr. Jordan for his visits and comfort. We also want to send special appreciation to my dear sisters in Priscilla Circle for their gourmet meals, phone calls, flowers and encouragement. I am learning patience and slowly recuperating and getting stronger every day. Thank you again for all your prayers. ~
Jan Vlahos

Parish Council Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It would be an understatement to say we are living in uncertain and unsettling times. There is likely not any segment of society either, individuals or institutions, who are not experiencing a degree of fear and anxiety regarding the financial future of our country. Or, for that matter the world.

The media hounds us daily with stories of economic gloom and doom. It is only natural for us to become anxious and distressed; we are human. The messages of the world encourage us to focus on scarcity and worry about not “having enough.” The world makes us blind to the abundance we do have in our lives. Nevertheless, we as Orthodox Christians have something far greater than worldly fear. We have the gift of the Holy Spirit. Nothing is impossible with God’s help.

During times of economic crisis we need to reach for the gospel and not just the newspaper. Throughout scripture we are reminded about God’s unswerving love for us and our needs. In turn, He asks for very little –

our total faith in Him and His providence for us. How are we not like birds of the sky and the lilies of the field? God will not forget our physical needs if we trust Him first.

Amid economic hardship come economic choices. We may repair our existing vehicle and hold off on a purchase of a new car. The new stereo may have wait in lieu of a roof repair for our home. In other words, we make rational decisions on how to use our assets and treasure. We understand that if our home’s roof does not get repaired we may face greater problems later. So, we do not ignore taking care of our homes.

However, here at Holy Trinity, our True home, we seem to be missing the mark (collectively) when it comes to setting on priorities given the level of current Stewardship giving. We continue to rely on the Greek Festival to make ends meet. Would you ask your neighbor to fix your roof? Of course not. It’s your home and your responsibility. Then, my friends why are we asking our fellow citizens in Portland to take care of what is our True home and our responsibility? The festival is a wonderful way to share our culture and faith with Portland, but we should strive to not depend on the Festival to support our Church and our ministries.

Your Sister in Christ, Sophia Stamatis

Greek School

On behalf of all the teachers of our Greek School and our Parish, we extend a big THANK YOU to Florence Protopapas and Pota Kahl, Directors of this year’s Greek School Program! These ladies have done an outstanding job all year long, dedicating countless hours to the program, building it and getting it to where it is today. Who would have ever thought that we would have over 70 students enrolled in this year’s program? The numbers alone show that our program is a successful addition to our parish and community. This past May, we were selected to host members of the Greek Education and Culture Committee of the Metropolis of San Francisco for an

informative one-day seminar. Our Greek School teachers, several members of our Parish and members of the Greek School Program in Seattle were fortunate enough to attend this successful seminar. Several great ideas, resources and suggestions were exchanged that will help in organizing and growing our programs for next year.

The Greek School Program in Portland is very fortunate to be a part of a Parish and a community who have a passion for Greek culture! We thank you all for your support of our Greek School Program. Specifically, we would like to thank Father Dimosthenis and Presvytera Magdalene for taking time out of their already busy schedules to teach in our program; John Sarigiannidis, our Parish Council Liaison, for all of his assistance throughout the year; Isidoros and Maria Garifalakis for their gracious hospitality for hosting the Greek Education and Culture Committee for dinner; all of the parents who value their culture and heritage to bring their children to class each week and who also volunteered their time for events; and of course to all our students who were a joy to teach because they enthusiastically came to class each week eager to learn our mother tongue.

We wish everyone a wonderful summer and cannot wait to see you all in September! Καλο Καλοκαιρι!

The Order of Ahepa would like to congratulate this year’s Plato Award recipient, Presvytera Effy Stephanopoulos. Presvytera Effy was honored for her tireless work given through her visitation ministry, as well as for her years of service as Presvytera in Portland, Salt Lake City and Raleigh, NC. It was our great pleasure to recognize her efforts, and our Holy Trinity family has been truly blessed by her devotion.



Pan-Orthodox Consensus on Same-Sex Unions

NEW YORK – In light of recent events, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America reminds the faithful of the very instructive statement issued already in 2003 by the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas (SCOBA), which was at the time the Pan-Orthodox representative body in the Americas. The same statement, which follows, still stands today.

SCOBA Statement of Moral Crisis in
Our Nation

Wednesday, August 13, 2003

As members of the Standing Conference of the Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas (SCOBA), representing more than 5 million Orthodox Christians in the United States, Canada and Mexico, we are deeply concerned about recent developments regarding “same sex unions.”

The Orthodox Christian teaching on marriage and sexuality, firmly grounded in the Holy Scripture, 2000 years of church tradition, and canon law, holds that marriage consists in the conjugal union of a man and a woman, and that authentic marriage is blessed by God as a sacrament of the Church. Neither Scripture nor Holy Tradition blesses or sanctions such a union between persons of the same sex.

Holy Scripture attests that God creates man and woman in His own image and likeness (Genesis 1:27-31), that those called to do so might enjoy a conjugal union that ideally leads to procreation. While not every marriage is blessed with the birth of children, every such union exists to create of a man and a woman a new reality of “one flesh.” This can only involve a relationship based on gender complementarity. “God made them male and female...So they are no longer two but one flesh” (Mark 10: 6-8).

The union between a man and a woman in the Sacrament of Marriage

reflects the union between Christ and His Church (Ephesians 5:21-33). As such, marriage is necessarily monogamous and heterosexual.

Within this union, sexual relations between a husband and a wife are to be cherished and protected as a sacred expression of their love that has been blessed by God. Such was God’s plan for His human creatures from the very beginning. Today, however, this divine purpose is increasingly questioned, challenged or denied, even within some faith communities, as social and political pressures work to normalize, legalize and even sanctify same-sex unions.

The Orthodox Church cannot and will not bless same-sex unions. Whereas marriage between a man and a woman is a sacred institution ordained by God, homosexual union is not. Like adultery and fornication, homosexual acts are condemned by Scripture (Rom 1:24-27; 1 Cor 6:10; 1 Tim 1:10). This being said, however, we must stress that persons with a homosexual orientation are to be cared for with the same mercy and love that is bestowed by our Lord Jesus Christ upon all of humanity. All persons are called by God to grow spiritually and morally toward holiness.

As heads of the Orthodox Churches in America and SCOBA, we speak with one voice in expressing our deep concern over recent developments.

And we pray fervently that the traditional form of marriage, as an enduring and committed union only between a man and a woman, will be honored.

August 13, 2003

Archbishop DEMETRIOS, Chairman
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of
America

Metropolitan HERMAN
Orthodox Church in America

Metropolitan PHILIP, Vice Chairman
Antiochian Orthodox Christian
Archdiocese

Archbishop NICOLAE
Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese of
North American America and Canada

Metropolitan CHRISTOPHER,
Secretary
Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA
and Canada

Metropolitan JOSEPH
Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church

Metropolitan NICHOLAS of
Amissos, Treasurer
Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese
in the USA

Metropolitan CONSTANTINE
Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the
USA

Bishop ILIA of Philomelion
Albanian Orthodox Diocese of
America

Published on the web:

<http://www.scoba.us/articles/2003-08-13-moral-crisis.html>

Kolyva

“Amongst the many and varied church rites, the Church Fathers have included a special service for the departed souls of the faithful. This is the ‘mnemosinon,’ or Memorial Service. . . . The boiled wheat symbolizes the resurrection. . . . Just as the grain of wheat must first be planted in the ground in order to take root and bring forth fruit, so is man buried in the earth because of death—but with the promise of the Risen Lord that one day he too will be resurrected. When we receive kolyva . . . it is to recall to mind the departed soul, and the bereaved make a special appeal to us to pray with them. . . . According to Church tradition, kolyva is offered in the Church three days, nine days, forty days, six months, one year after death, and whenever desired thereafter.”

*The Reverend Father Harry J.
Magoulas*

Please call the church office to schedule a Memorial for a loved one. The name will appear in the Sunday bulletin for that Sunday. You will also need to make Kolyva for the church or call the church office for one of the ladies in Philoptochos to make it for

you. The cost is usually \$75-100 for this.

After the Divine Liturgy, the ushers/acolytes will bring the Kolyva into the hall for the coffee hour and place it on the table. Please remember that you are also responsible for cups or baggies, spoons, napkins, someone to serve it and clean it up afterwards.

Kidney Donor urgently needed

Melody Sanders, a Philhellene and an accomplished photographer of Greek events, has end-stage renal disease. She is about to undergo peritoneal dialysis and desperately needs a new kidney. If you are between 18-60 years old and in good health, have type A or O blood and wish to be tested to see if you are a match to donate one of your kidneys, contact the church office. **There is no cost to a potential donor.**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
LIMNES/ PORTLAND
ASSOCIATION'S 13th ANNUAL
PICNIC/LAMB ROAST**
The ladies and gentlemen from
the Limnes/Portland
Association invite you and
your family to join us at the
barbeque pits at Camp Angelos
on
SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2011
Souvlakia served at noon, and a
feast of roast lamb and all the
trimmings served at
approximately 3:00 pm soft
drinks provided.

Be sure to join the fun with
raffle prizes for kids and adults.
Tickets will be available after
church each Sunday beginning
June 27 until picnic day
or call Christina Meletis
(503-640-9306) or
Stan Tsoumas (503-287-2196)
Ticket prices are \$20/adults,
\$6/children 6-12,
free for children under 5

News from AHEC:

The AHEC Board thanks Greg and Polly Malby for their service to Camp Angelos for the last thirteen years. We wish them the best as they move on to other pursuits.



We welcome Doug Smith to the camp. Doug is a native Oregonian born in Oregon City. He is very excited to be taking on the role of Camp Ranger at Camp Angelos. He worked six sessions for Multnomah Co. ES Outdoor School in the mid-1980's. He worked at Camp Collins, Adams, Arrah Wanna and Trestle Glen. Doug also spent time working as a volunteer with the Forest Service in the ZigZag District. He owns a small home and 4.7 acres outside of Estacada.

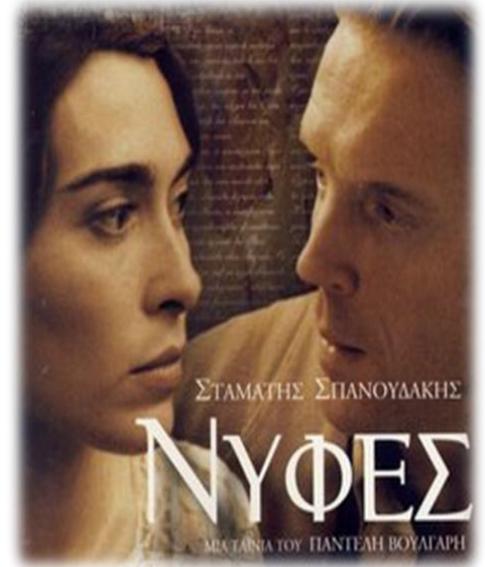
Doug feels the position is a great fit for him and he looks forward to a long career taking care of the beautiful facility that has been created by the Greek Community.

From the Office

We want to update our Youth information. If your child is not receiving mailing about youth events, please notify Gail or Debbie in the church office with your child's birth date, grade, phone & email address. (We pull lists of kids by their birth dates.) We also need Baptismal names for our data base. Thank you!

Priscilla Circle Meeting

The Priscilla Circle meeting for July will be a luncheon meeting on July 12 at Mary Maletis' home at 1:00. Please RSVP to Sophie Ely at 503-297-7338.



*Directed by Pantelis Voulgaris.
Produced by Martin Scorsese.*

The Hellenic-American
Cultural Center & Museum
presents the film
NYFES
(Brides)

**Saturday, August 13, 2011 @
7pm**

St. Dimitrios Hall,
Fr. Elias Stephanopoulos
Center

Free Admission
Hors d'oeuvres served

This drama, set in 1922, tells the story of a picture bride – one of 700 aboard the SS King Alexander – who falls in love with an American photographer. While she is bound for her new husband in New York, he is on his way home to a failed marriage.

For questions or information,
please call (503) 858-8567 or
email HACCMpdx@gmail.com.



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
3131 N.E. Glisan Street
Portland, OR 97232

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Change Service Requested

July 1 ~ Sts. Kosmas & Damian
8:30 AM Orthros
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
July 20 ~ Prophet Elias
8:00 AM Orthros
9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy
July 27 ~ St. Panteleimon
8:00 AM Orthros
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
August 1 – August 12 ~ Paraklesis ~ 6:30 PM
August 6 ~ Transfiguration of Jesus Christ
8:00 AM Orthros
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
August 14 ~ Great Vespers ~ Panayia ~ 6:30 PM
August 15 ~ Dormition of the Theotokos
8:00 AM Orthros
9:00 Am Divine Liturgy
August 24 ~ St. Kosmas Aitolos
8:00 AM Orthros
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
August 28 ~ 6:00 PM Vespers @ St. John the Baptist
August 29 ~ Beheading of St. John the Baptist
8:30 AM Orthros & Divine Liturgy @ St. John
the Baptist

YOUTH CORNER

Thursday, July 28 ~ GOYA Mt. Hood hiking trip

Thursday & Friday, August 18 & 19 ~
Sr. GOYA (9th-12th grade) Monastery Trip (8th graders are welcome)

Tuesday, August 23 ~ GOYA (6th-12th grade) Jr. and Sr. GOYA Kick-off BBQ at the Avgerakis Ranch ~ 5:00 PM

Saturday, August 27 ~ Sunday School and Youth worker Seminar ~ 9:00 AM