

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

602 Park Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska

Rev. Peter J. Pappas, Presbyter - Phone (402) 871-6241



Sunday, March 25, 2012

**Annunciation of the Most Holy *Theotokos* and Ever-Virgin Mary**

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent: St. John Climacus,  
author of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*

The Bread of the Offering (*Prosporo*) was prepared by Nitsa Argyrakis and Connie Petrihos.

Parish Council Ushers: Elizabeth Haddad / Niki Kuvetakis / Cathy Miedl / Joe Potratz

Community Ushers: Michael and Dr. Irina Popa Newcomb

The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Hymns of the Entrance



Hymn of the Annunciation (Fourth Tone)

Today is the crown of our salvation and the manifestation of the mystery that is from all eternity. The Son of God becomes Son of the Virgin, and Gabriel announces the good tidings of grace. Therefore let us also join in the cry unto the Theotokos singing, "Hail to you who are filled with grace. The Lord is with you."

Entrance Hymn (Second Tone)

Tell forth from day to day the glad tidings of the salvation of our God. Save us, O Son of God, who are risen from the dead. We sing to You, "Alleluia!"

Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the Fourth Tone)

From on high did You descend, O Merciful Lord. For us did You endure three days in the tomb, that we may be released from passions in this world. You who are our resurrection and our life, glory unto You, O Lord.

Hymn of the Annunciation (Fourth Tone) - Repeat

*Kontakion* Hymn of the Annunciation

To you the champion commander, I your city inscribe victorious anthems of thanksgiving, for deliverance from sufferings, Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, from all manner of dangers set me free; that I may cry out to you: "Rejoice, Bride unwedded."



Please plan to attend our  
**Annual Palm Sunday Dinner**

Sponsored by St. John's Philoptochos Society

**April 8, 2012**

Following Divine Liturgy



Menu

*Fish Plaki* - *Fish Sticks* (Children) - *Spaghetti*  
*Salad* - *Dessert* - *Bread* - *Beverage*

Adults \$10.00

Children \$5.00



Because this falls on Western Easter and conflicts for some,  
we are asking that you make reservations so that we can  
prepare for those planning to attend. Thank you.

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church presents...

# A GREEK FISH FRY

ADULTS: \$9

Children: \$3  
(12 and under)  
Shrimp with  
Mac 'n Cheese  
Dinner



Every Friday  
February 17  
through March 30  
4:30 ~ 8:00 PM

Enjoy a twist on the  
Traditional Fish Fry!

Featuring Baked Fish (Plaki) covered with Mediterranean Sauce, Classic Breaded Fried Fish, or Shrimp Dinners, served with Rice or Potato, Coleslaw, Fruit, Bread, and Drink.

Also Available: Greek Pastries, Baklava Sundaes, and Assorted Desserts.

St. John the Baptist  
Greek Orthodox Church  
602 Park Avenue  
Omaha, Nebraska  
Phone: 402/345-7103

Located on the corner of St. Mary's Avenue and 30th Street. Enter through the South side of the building. Handicapped Accessible.



Dine In or  
Take Out

Historic Church  
Tours Available  
at 5:30 and  
6:30 PM

Visit our website for a FREE Baklava Sundae Coupon  
[www.StJohnsGreekOrthodox.org](http://www.StJohnsGreekOrthodox.org)



## The Readings

Epistle: Hebrews 2:1-18 (p. 236 in the pew Bibles)

Reader: Emmanuel Vlassakis

Gospel: Luke 1:24-38 (p. 61 in the pew Bibles)

Megalynarion: O earth, announce the good tidings of great joy; You heavens, praise the glory of God. Now let no uninitiated hand approach the living Ark of God to touch it. Rather let the lips of believers sing out in exultation the Angel's salutation unceasingly to the Theotokos and cry out: "You, O pure and virgin Maiden, are truly superior to all."

Communion Hymn: The Lord has chosen Zion. He chose her for His dwelling. Alleluia!

Welcome, Visitors! Please join us for refreshments following the Divine Liturgy in the fellowship hall. Today's fellowship hour is sponsored by the Greek School.

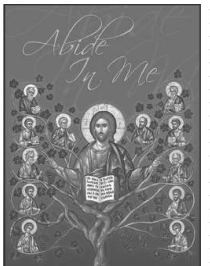
Church School classes will meet today following Holy Communion until 12:00 noon.

Join us for the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on Wednesday, March 28 at 6:00 p.m. and bring a dish to share for a potluck supper following. Come and hear a presentation during supper by Demetria Panopoulos, student at Creighton University, who will be participating in a youth ministry missions team to Guatemala this summer through the Orthodox Christian Mission Center.

Keeping in touch - Those who wish to contact Gus Sinos may do so at the following address: Stayton at Museum Way \* 2501 Museum Way, #310 \* Ft. Worth, TX 76107 \* Phone (817) 632-3691

Condolences to Dr. Teri Barkoukis whose father, Gregory Barkoukis, fell asleep in the Lord recently in Ohio. May his memory be eternal!

Stewardship 2012: Please prayerfully consider your commitment of time, talents, and treasures to our parish for the coming year and return your commitment card today. Help us meet our goal of \$172,000 which is necessary to sustain the ministries of our community. Watch for details regarding online contributions. For additional information regarding our stewardship program, contact Elaine Schall at (402) 498-0306 or e-mail [eschall@aol.com](mailto:eschall@aol.com).



**Philoptochos Paschal Project:** The Open Door Mission has asked our Parish to help support an easy and very meaningful project for homeless men, women, and children again this Paschal season. Hope Tote bags will be available in the Fellowship Hall for us to fill with personal care items for delivery the week of Pascha. Suggested items are toothbrushes, toothpaste, facial tissues, toilet paper, shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, underwear, socks, combs, brushes, feminine products, pain relievers (ibuprofen and acetaminophen), non-alcoholic cough medicines, hand sanitizers or lotion, disposable razors, and shaving cream. Any assistance will be appreciated.

## ANNUNCIATION / GREEK INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM

Celebrate our faith and heritage at the Annunciation / Greek Independence program **today** following the Divine Liturgy.

The celebration of Greek Independence Day on March 25<sup>th</sup> draws inspiration from one of the holiest days for Greek Orthodox Christians, the Annunciation of the *Theotokos*. This feast recalls the day that the Archangel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary that she would bear the Savior of the world. While the revolution began in various places in March of 1821, a later legend places the declaration on March 25 in the Monastery of *Aghia Lavra* by the Archbishop of Patras Germanos.



### OCMC Guatemala Youth Ministry Team

I want to thank the St. John's parish for their hospitality this year. I have truly grown to love the community and all they have to offer me, and how I have been able to use my talents for the benefits of others - I love singing in the choir and attending the services during this Lenten season. It has been very nice having a place to go off campus where I can come closer to God and feel at home.



With that being said, I was wondering if the family of St. John the Baptist could help me with my OCMC trip to Guatemala this summer through their prayers and financial support. The trip to Guatemala is a ten-day experience working with the children at the Hogar Rafael Ayau Orphanage in Guatemala City, Guatemala. While there, I will be helping with their summer camp, getting to know the girls, visit the Monasterio Ortodoxo Labra Mambre, and develop a better understanding of the culture, among other tasks.

This trip will cost me \$910 from Jacksonville, Florida. With a flight to Florida the cost will be just over \$1,000. Thank you for your consideration and your prayers.

**Demetria Panopoulos**, Creighton University School of Nursing, 2015

To assist Demetria with this ministry, forward contributions (with checks payable to OCMC) to the church office. During the Lenten season, please consider helping the children of the Hogar Rafael Ayau Orphanage in this personal way.

Come and hear more details from Demetria this Wednesday and next Sunday.

Pan Orthodox Christian Council of Omaha Presents

## Lenten Retreat 2012 Relics Tour Revisited March 31, 2012



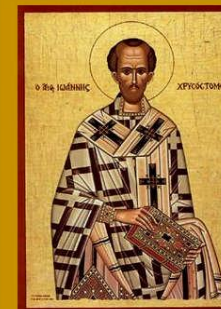
Explore the Orthodox context for holy relics while enjoying the fellowship of our Orthodox community in this three session series. Free lunch provided.

**Where:** All Holy Spirit Greek Orthodox Church  
9012 Q Street, Omaha Nebraska 68127

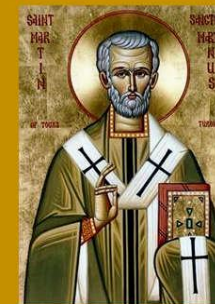
**When:** March 31, 2012  
Registration begins at 8:45 a.m.  
Presentations are from 9:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with lunch following

**Cost:** Free (Donations welcome and accepted)

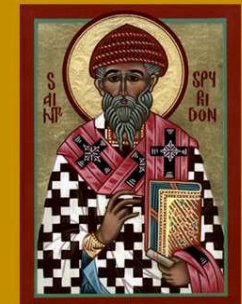
\*Please RSVP to [tkbk2454@yahoo.com](mailto:tkbk2454@yahoo.com) or your parish POCCO representative.



St. John Chrysostom



St. Martin of Tours



St. Spyridon

[www.pocco.org](http://www.pocco.org)

### Looking Ahead...

Today	3/25	Annunciation / Greek School Program	12:15 p.m.
Wednesday	3/28	Presanctified Liturgy and Potluck	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	3/29	Greek School	6:00 p.m.
Friday	3/30	Fish Fry	4:30 p.m.
		<i>Akathist</i> Hymn	7:15 p.m.
Saturday	3/31	POCCO Retreat at All Holy Spirit (90th & Q)	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	4/1	Matins (Ushers: Team B)	9:00 a.m.
		Divine Liturgy ( <i>Prosporo</i> : Anna / Stella Sideris)	10:00 a.m.
		(Ushers: Steve Nick / Adam Oleson)	
		Fifth Sunday of Great Lent - No Fooling!	