

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

602 Park Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska

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



Sunday, December 11, 2011

**Sunday of the Holy Forefathers of Christ;** Daniel the Stylite of Constantinople; Luke the New Stylite of Chalcedon; Martyr Mirax of Egypt; Venerable Nikon of the Kiev Caves; Barsabas in Persia; Martyrs Akepsios and Aeithalas in Assyria

The Bread of the Offering (*Prophoro*) was prepared by Cleo Hatjinos.

Parish Council Ushers: Elizabeth Haddad / Nick Koliopoulos / Cathy Miedl / Joe Potratz

Community Ushers: Paul and Annie Kosel

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Hymns of the Entrance



Resurrectional Hymn (First Tone)

The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred body. O Savior the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life, whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ. Glory unto Your Kingdom. Glory to Your dispensation, O You alone who love all.

Entrance Hymn (Second Tone): Come, let us bow down to Christ, as we worship Him, the Son of God. Save us, O Son of God, who are risen from the dead. We sing to You, "Alleluia!"

Resurrectional Hymn (First Tone) - *Repeat*

Hymn of the Forefathers of Christ (Second Tone)

By faith You justified the Forefathers and through them betrothed Yourself to the Church, called out from among the nations. The Saints boast in glory that from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: she that bore You without seed. By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

Hymn of St. John the Baptizer (Second Tone)

A righteous man is remembered with praise, for you Forerunner the Lord's witness is enough. You were shown to be greater in honor than the prophets, being privileged to baptize in the stream the One you had foretold. Therefore, rejoicing, you suffered for the sake of truth, and proclaimed the good news to those in Hades, that God had appeared in the flesh to take away the sin of the world, and grant our souls His great mercy.

*Services for the Nativity of our  
Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ*

*Christmas Eve*

**Saturday, December 24**

**Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.**

*Christmas Day - The Nativity of Christ*

**Sunday, December 25**

**Matins 9:00 a.m.**

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.**

*New Year's Day*

*Feast of St. Basil – Circumcision of our Lord*

**Sunday, January 1, 2012**

**Matins 9:00 a.m.**

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.**

*Thursday, January 5 - Fast Day*

*Friday, January 6, Holy Theophany*

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.**

(with the Blessing of Water)

**Great Vespers of St. John the Baptizer 6:30 p.m.**

*Saturday, January 7, Synaxis of St. John the Baptizer*

The Nativity of Christ (Julian Calendar)

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.**

*Sunday after Theophany, Sunday, January 8*

**Matins 9:00 a.m.**

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.**

Baptism: Dimitri, Robin, and Nicholas Sourtas invite you to witness the reception of their family into the Orthodox Church through the sacraments of baptism and chrismation on Sunday, December 18, at 3:00 p.m. here at St. John's.

Community Meal: St. John's will be serving the community meal at First Baptist Church on Saturday, December 31 at 11:00 a.m. Volunteers, please join us at 10:00 a.m.

Make plans now to attend the Metropolis of Chicago Western Region Family Basketball Tournament, February 10-12, 2012 in St. Paul, Minnesota. For more information, please contact Charlie Tsatsos. Team Spirit ... Pass it on!



### Remember the Food Pantry!

During the month of December, please bring baby food, baby cereal, formula, and diapers. All food items are always welcome. It's a baby shower for the Savior!

## St. John's Church School Christmas Pageant



### *The Incarnation: Prophecy Fulfilled*

*Sunday, December 18*  
*following the Divine Liturgy*

Please come and support our youth as they show us the greatest gift of all.

*Kontakion* Hymn of the Nativity of our Lord (Third Tone)

The virgin on this day comes to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, therefore, O earth, at the message. With the angels and the shepherds give glory to Him who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He who is God before the ages.



### The Readings

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11 (p. 219 in the pew Bibles)

Reader: Emmanuel Vlassakis

Gospel: Luke 14:16-24 (p. 84 in the pew Bibles)

### *Memorial Prayers - May His Memory be Eternal!*

George Barelos, Sr. (20 years), beloved husband of Theodora Barelos; father of Louise (Sheldon) Turkel and George (Debra) Barelos; grandfather of Anastasia, Alexandria, and Nicholas Barelos, Jay (Dina) Mulkey, and Niki Mulkey.

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

Church School classes will meet following Holy Communion and end at 12:00 noon. All children and families should plan to attend a mandatory rehearsal for the Christmas program today following classes. Our children and staff will present the Christmas program next Sunday, December 18.

Attention, Ladies! Please plan to attend a Philoptochos meeting today following the Divine Liturgy at 12:00 noon in the second floor Krin meeting room.

Share in the Spirit of the Season: Our Philoptochos will distribute a limited number of food baskets from the SHARE food program to neighborhood families for Christmas. The Christmas dinner packages come with all the fixings to cook a meal for six. Please contact the church office if you would like to donate \$28 for a basket.

Congratulations to Craig S. Clawson, Jay Mulkey, Christopher Sinos, and Jon Bergren who were elected to the 2012-2014 Parish Council of St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church. They will join continuing members Elizabeth Haddad, Nick Koliopoulos, Cathy Miedl, Joe Potratz, Elaine Poulos, Zach Sideris, and Elaine Schall on the 2012 council. We thank outgoing members George Barelos, Lou Sinos, and Judy Stom for their dedicated service on the Parish Council over the past several years.

Feast of St. Spyridon: We will celebrate the Divine Liturgy together with the Blessing and Breaking of Loaves (*Artoklasia*) on Monday, December 12, 10:00 a.m. here at St. John's.

Parish Christmas Card: Take the opportunity to convey Christmas greetings to our entire community. The deadline is December 19. 'Tis the Season to decorate our house of worship! You may sponsor poinsettias for \$10 / each. Please sign up today.



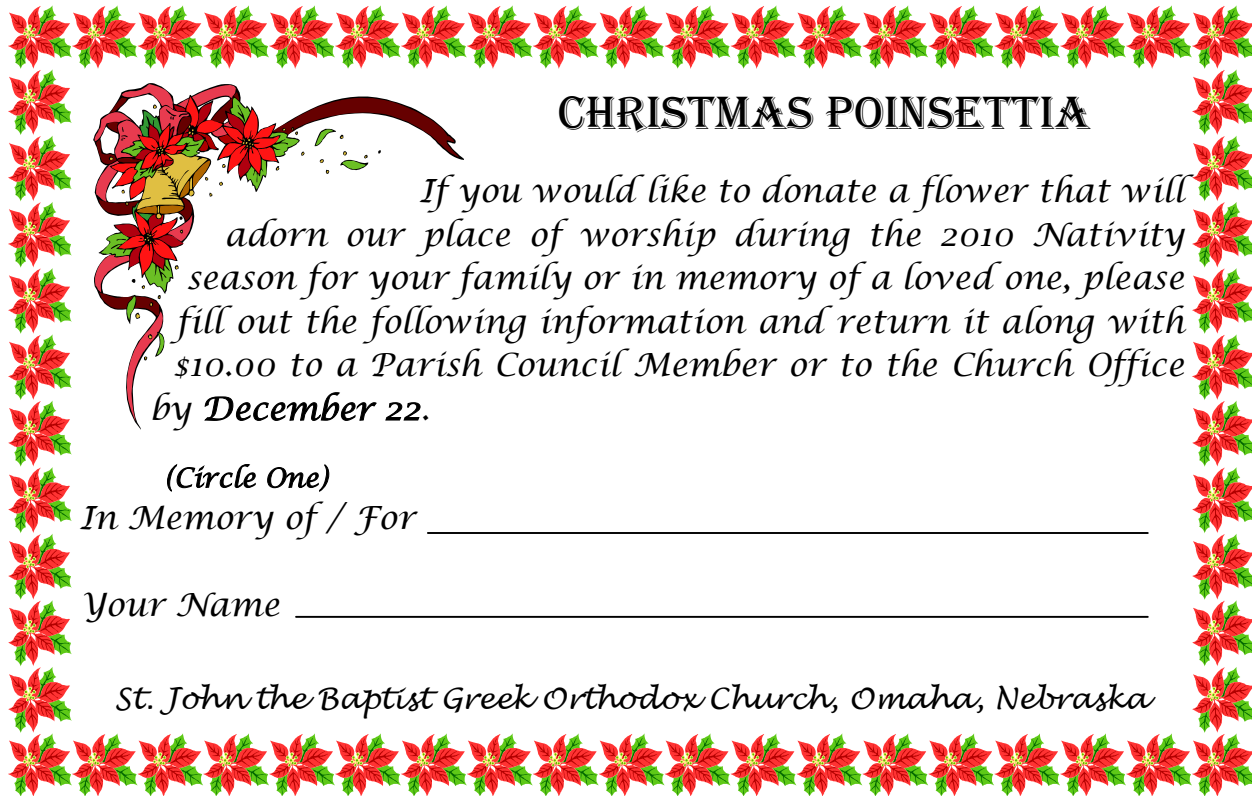
## St. John's Community CHRISTMAS Card

We are preparing the Annual Community Christmas Card at St. John's. For \$25, you and your family can be included in the beautiful expression of joy and unity in our faith that is mailed out to the entire community for the Christmas season.

Please sign your name in the way you want it to appear on the card and return this form, along with \$25 to a Parish Council Member or to the Church Office by **December 19, 2011.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Omaha, Nebraska



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

If you would like to donate a flower that will adorn our place of worship during the 2010 Nativity season for your family or in memory of a loved one, please fill out the following information and return it along with \$10.00 to a Parish Council Member or to the Church Office by **December 22.**

(Circle One)

In Memory of / For \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Omaha, Nebraska

## Saint John's Christmas Cookie Walk

### Today!

following the Divine Liturgy

Pick your selections  
from a variety of  
Cookie delights  
at only  
**\$10.00 a pound!**

Great for Holiday Parties  
or Santa Treats!



\* Proceeds to the Renovation Fund.

### Looking Ahead...

Today	12/11	Cookie Walk / Philoptochos Meeting Christmas Program Rehearsal	12:00 noon 12:15 p.m.
Monday	12/12	Divine Liturgy - St. Spyridon	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday	12/13	Parish Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	12/14	Prayer Group / Bible Study	11:00 a.m.
Friday	12/16	Tour Group	5:15 p.m.
Saturday	12/17	Tour Group	12:00 noon
Sunday	12/18	Matins (Ushers: Team B) Divine Liturgy ( <i>Prophoro</i> : Suzanne Holczer-Reif) (Ushers: Demetris & Vana Kotsalis) Christmas Pageant / Visit by St. Nicholas Sourtas Baptism	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.  3:00 p.m.