

John the Baptist Con't

In the Lives of the Saints is clear testimony that in the year 1484 the right hand of the holy Forerunner was given away by the son of the Moslem sultan Bayazet to the knights of Rhodes to gain their good will, since a dangerous rival for Bayazet, his own brother, had allied himself with them. A contemporary participant, the vice-chancellor of Rhodes, Wilhelm Gaorsan Gallo, also speaks of this event. The knights of Rhodes, having established their base on the island of Malta (in the Mediterranean Sea), then transferred the sacred relic they had received to Malta.

When the Russian Tsar Paul I (1796-1801) became Grand Master of the Maltese Order in honor of the holy Prophet John, the right hand of the Baptist, part of the Life-Creating Cross and the Philermos Icon (October 12) of the Mother of God (from Mt Philermos on the island of Rhodes) were transferred in 1799 from the island of Malta to Russia [because of the Napoleonic threat], to the chapel at Gatchina (October 12). In the same year these sacred items were transferred into the church dedicated to the Icon of the Savior Not Made by Hands at the Winter Palace. A special service was composed for this Feast.

Besides the Synaxis of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, the Russian Orthodox Church celebrates his memory on the following days: September 23, his Conception;

June 24, his Nativity; August 29, his Beheading; February 24, the First and Second Finding of his Head; May 25, the Third Finding of his Head; October 12, the Transfer of his Right Hand from Malta to Gatchina (1799).

ST PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH PARISH RETREAT

St Paul's Greek Orthodox Church in North Royalton will be holding a mini retreat on Friday, January 26 from 7-8pm (Topic: My Personal Journey to Orthodoxy) and on Saturday January 27 from 10:00am-2:00pm (Topic: Taming the Passions: Timeless Wisdom in being Orthodox on Purpose). There will be a morning session, Lunch and an afternoon session with Q & A.

The Presenter will be Fr. Barnabas Powell

Sponsored by the Ladies Philoptochos

Free Will Donation

RSVP: www.stpaulgoc.org. You do not have to attend both

POSITIONS ON THE BOARD

The following positions are:

President: Matt Adamcio

Secretary: Bobbie

V.P.: Roddie Mazurik

Treasurer: Laura

Trustee: Fred Cassell

Anyone interested in running for any one of these offices please see Fr. Andrew. A simple background check must be done before you can hold an office.

PREPARATION FOR THE BLESSING OF HOMES

Before the Priest arrives at your home, here are a few reminders on how to prepare:

- In the main room of the home, usually the kitchen or dining room, have placed on the table a white cloth, a candle and /or an Icon or cross. You may place a small container of Holy water on the table. (Note: Father will be bringing his own.)
- Make a list of those living in the house including pets and all deceased you want prayed for.
- Turn off all TV's, radios, computers, etc. So as to keep focused on the blessing service.
- Make sure that pets are heeled or restrained so as not to get underfoot while Father goes through the home.
- In some customs, someone (usually a child) takes a candle and leads Father through the house while the rest follow.
- If you have any items to be blessed (Icon, Cross, etc.). Put them on the table where the blessing will take place.
- When the priest arrives, have everyone in the home gather around the table and join in the blessing. **PARTICIPATION IS IMPORTANT.**
- Invite friends or neighbors to participate and witness the beauty of this tradition.

NOTE: Remember, the invitation to the priest to come and bless your home is an invitation to ask for the mercy of God upon the household. The sprinkling of the Holy Water is a sign of God's presence in the home as an extension of His Holy House, the Church. It is a time to renew our commitment to God as we begin another year in His mercy and love for mankind.

YOUNG ADULT ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS

When: Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018 @ 6:30pm
Where: Melt Bar & Grill (6700 Rockside Rd, Independence, OH 44131)
Who: Orthodox Christians (ages 18-35)
What: Orthodoxy is breaking out of the church facility & meeting you where you already want to be, Melt Bar & Grill. Young adult Christians will gather to hang out, listen to Ted Cherpas discuss his 2017 pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Holy week & Pascha, & discuss our faith RSVP on facebook or GoREALCleveland@gmail.com

IOCC EVENT IN CLEVELAND

The IOCC Cleveland Metropolitan Committee invites you to a "EUROPEAN WINE TASTING to benefit IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities)

Thursday, February 1, 2018 @ the:
Copper Stone Event Center
4630 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, OH 44144

Doors open @ 6:30pm & Dinner is @ 7:00pm

Live Music by Sarena Orchestra

Tickets; \$50

iocc.org/cleveland

Join us to enjoy a taste of European wine, and learn about IOCC's work around the world.

ST JOHN OF SAN FRANCISCO ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOL CO-OP

Second semester classes will begin on Thursday, Jan. 11 and be on every Thursday from 9:00am-1:15pm.

Location: Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church
10000 State Rd. N Royalton

Classes include: Pre-school, Orthodoxy, music, New Testament Greek, Ballet, drama/playwriting, and nature Study.

All Orthodox & non-Orthodox are welcomed to attend.

For questions or to sign up, please call or email Khou-rieh Bonnie Harmon. Phone: 440-826-0662

Bonnieharmon@gmail.com

OUR SHUT-INS

Edgewood Manor Nursing Center
1330 Fulton Street
Port Clinton, OH 43452
Anne Kovalik- Room 309

40 Day Remembrance

Jan. 14: Ann Dahulich & Mat. Velerie Herrick
Jan. 21: Ryliegh Myosky & Archpriest John Klembara
Jan. 28: John Mazurik

VIGILS FOR DECEMBER 31

Marguerite Bird: (1) Special Intention

Laura Kovach: (3) Health of Margi & Joe; Birthday Blessing to Jim; Safe travel for family

Sandy Martin: (1) Special Intention

Ron & Bobbie Royhab: (2) For the health of Darlene, Charles & Elaine.

Twarek Family: (3) Health of Julia, Gage, Annette, Darlene, Debbie, Robin, David, Margi, Joe, Nancy, Sue, Morgan, Ron, Richie, Jake, Diane, Judy, Helen, Janice & Pete; Safe travel for Laura & Jim; Special Intention

