

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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JULY 25, 2021



# St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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Member Directory: <https://stjohnorthodox.org/directory.html> u: Faithful p: TheWay

July 25, 2021

## DORMITION OF RIGHTEOUS ANNA, MOTHER OF THE THEOTOKOS

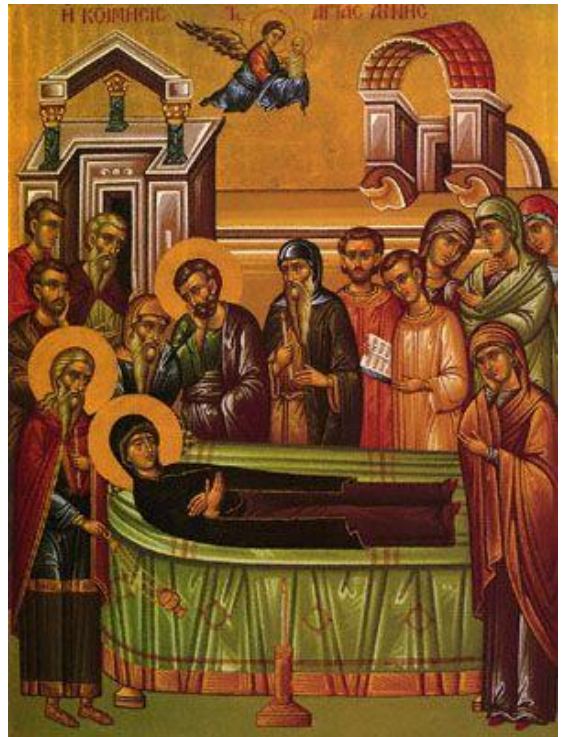
On July 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Dormition of Saint Anna, Mother of the Most Holy Theotokos.

*The Virgin-mother Maiden's Mother now dieth,  
Who for child-bearing mothers is swift salvation.  
On the twenty-fifth died Anna, the assuager of hard travail.*

According to tradition, Anna, the ancestor of God, lived for 79 years, and her spouse Joachim, for 80, who preceded Anna in death. They were married for 50 years and prayed to God for a child—male or female—to comfort them in their old age. Anna gave birth to the one who would bear God in her womb. The Theotokos had been orphaned of both her parents when she was 11 years old, when she was living in the Temple. Saint Anna is invoked for conceiving children, and for help in difficult childbirth.

On this day, we also commemorate our righteous mothers Olympias the deaconess of Constantinople; and Eupraxia of Tabenna.

*By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God,  
have mercy upon us. Amen.*



## **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR**

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

## **APOLYTIKION FOR THE DORMITION OF ST. ANNA IN TONE FOUR**

O Godly-minded Anna, thou didst give birth unto God's pure Mother who conceived Him Who is our Life. Wherefore, thou hast now passed with joy to thy heavenly rest, wherein is the abode of them that rejoice in glory; and thou askest forgiveness of sins for them that honor thee with love, O ever-blessed one.

## **KONTAKION OF THE DORMITION OF ST. ANNA IN TONE TWO**

We celebrate now the memory of Christ's ancestors, while asking their help with faith, that we may all be saved from all manner of tribulation as we fervently cry aloud: Be Thou with us, O Lord our God, Whose pleasure it was to glorify them both.

## **THE EPISTLE**

*God is wondrous in His saints. In the churches, bless ye God.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (4:22-27)**

Brethren, Abraham had two sons, one by the handmaid, and one by the freewoman. But the one from the handmaid is born according to the flesh; whereas the one from the freewoman is through the promise. These things are an allegory, for these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for bondage, which is Hagar. For Sinai, which corresponds to Hagar, is a mountain in Arabia, and resembles the present Jerusalem, for she is in bondage with her children. But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is the mother of us all. For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry out, you who are not in travail: For many are the children of the desolate, much more than of her who has a husband."

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (8:28-9:1)**

At that time, when Jesus came to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met Him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have we to do to Thee, O Son of God? Art Thou come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged Him, "If Thou castest us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw Him, they

begged Him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat He crossed over and came to His own city.

## WISDOM

The Lord's love is such that He would have all men to be saved, and abide eternally with Him in Heaven, and behold His glory. We do not know the fulness of this glory but through the Holy Spirit we may conceive of it in part. But the man who has not come to know the Holy Spirit can have no conception of this glory: he can only believe in the promise of the Lord, and keep His commandments. However, he, too, is blessed, as the Lord explained to St. Thomas, and will have equal place with those who beheld the glory of God while still here below.

If you would know the Lord, humble yourself to the utmost, be obedient and sober in all things, love truth, and the Lord of a surety will give you to know Him through the Holy Spirit; and then you will know by experience just what love towards God is, and what is love towards man. And the more perfect the love, the more perfect your knowledge. There is love in small measure; and there is a mean of love; and there is great love.

...Where a man fears to distress God by sinning in any way—that is the first degree of love. The man whose mind is undistracted has love in the second degree, which is greater than the first. A third and still higher degree of love is when a man is aware of grace in his soul. And, finally, the man who has the grace of the Holy Spirit both in soul and body is in a state of perfect love; and if he preserves this grace, the bones of his body will become sacred relics, as did the bones of the holy martyrs, the prophets, the blessed fathers and other great saints.

...We are proud-minded, and therefore unable to continue in this grace, which withdraws from the soul. Then the soul yearns after the grace she has lost, and seeks it anew with tears, and weeps bitterly and calls upon the Lord, saying: "O merciful Lord, Thou seest my soul's lamenting, my yearning after Thee."

There is no man on earth so gentle and lowly in spirit as our Lord Jesus Christ. In Him is our joy, in Him our gladness. Let us give Him our love, and He will lead us into His Kingdom, where we shall behold His glory.

-St. Silouan (as quoted by Archimandrite Sophrony, St. Silouan the Athonite)

## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Help needed in the Cemetery:** Anyone who wants to help with weeding, and general maintenance, please come! *Now: Thursday from 9:30am to noon (no longer Wednesday).* Bring your own tools, gloves, etc. See Eleni for details. Thank you!

**Silverwood!** Teens/Young Adults join us Tuesday, July 27 to visit the Northwest's only Amusement Park. Boulder Beach Water Park is included in the ticket price: \$51 group rate. We are arranging carpools. Call or text Lisa Gencarella 208-771-2556 for details. Bring: money (to buy lunch), water bottle, sunscreen, bathing suit and towel if going to Boulder Beach, backpack or beach bag to store wet clothes after Boulder Beach, sweatshirt/jacket for nighttime (Roller Coasters can be cool at night).

**St. John's IOCC August project 50 school-supply kits:** In most of the countries where IOCC works, there are children who do not have basic school supplies. Church World Service, collects school-supply kits, prepares them for shipment and works with IOCC and other partners to make sure kits reach children in need. We are collecting supplies to mail them by the end of August. There will be a box at church in the entry where supplies can be placed. Send questions to Jeane: [plastinowood@gmail.com](mailto:plastinowood@gmail.com), (208) 660-3046.

## ON-GOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Baby Shower!** See bulletin insert & flyer for details.

**The Spokane Valley Summer Theater presents: Little House on the Prairie, the Musical.** Friday, July 30 at 7:30pm. There is a limited number of tickets for only \$15 (\$39 value!), so RSVP right away and include family name, and number of tickets needed. Teens and their families are welcome! The Spokane Valley Theater requests that patrons be 5 years and above to attend. Text or call Lisa Gencarella at (208) 771-2556 with questions and to RSVP.

**Missing from the Narthex closet:** One black inner cassock belonging to Reader David. If any clergy grabbed a cassock from the old Narthex closet, please double check you have the right one. Thank you! -Fr. Nicholas.

**Right To Life Booth, Kootenai County Fair (Aug. 20 - 29):** Volunteers are needed! Please call Lacy at 208-731-7278 to sign up for a shift, and state that you are from St. John's Orthodox Church. The shifts are Mon-Friday 11-3, 3-7, 7-10; Saturday/Sunday 10-2, 2-6, 6-10. There are 2 people per shift. *They have a particular need for Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> and Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>.* Jeane Woods would be happy to join anyone if you let her know: (208) 660-3046, [plastinowood@gmail.com](mailto:plastinowood@gmail.com).

**Teachers are needed for preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.** If you are interested in teaching after liturgy on Sundays, *please talk with Jen Jensvold or Jan Truebenbach.*

**FREE Lumex Adult Folding Walker with Wheels.** Teresa Chala has a brand-new adult walker to give to anyone who needs it. For more information, call: (509) 475-0671.

# A BABY SHOWER!

AUGUST 7 • 12:30 PM (LUNCH)  
760 CHISHOLM COURT  
POST FALLS



JOIN US AS WE  
CELEBRATE OUR  
PRECIOUS MOTHERS

ROBIN SCHANNAP    MACKENZIE KNOWLES  
HANNAH LEAL    BETHANY TATE  
BARBARA LANE

*Each mom is preparing an online registry for our convenience.*

We are asking each person to sign up to bring gifts for only 2 of the mothers. Would you please let Joy know which two mothers you would like to purchase a gift for when you RSVP? Thank you!

**FOR INFORMATION ON REGISTRIES AND TO RSVP  
CALL JOY @ 208-660-0538**

## **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS [Calendar]**

**Saturday, July 24:** Virtual Archdiocese Convention; Great Vespers 6pm

**Sunday, July 25:** OCPM Awareness Sunday; Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9am

**Wednesday, July 28:** Vespers 6pm

**Friday, July 30:** Spiritual Circle 9:30am; Catechumen Class 6pm

**Saturday, July 31:** Great Vespers 6pm

**Sunday, August 1:** Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9am; Procession of the Cross; Dormition  
Fast Begins

## **EPISTLE READERS**

7/25 Rob (Herman) Schannep

8/1 Riley (Ignatius) Chapman

8/8 Rob (Herman) Schannep

8/15 Reader Silouan

*\*If you would like to read the Epistle, please contact Aaron Plew. Sign up: **Epistle Readers***

## **CLEANING ROTATION** (nave, narthex, hallway, upstairs restrooms, and hall floor)

Week of 7/25 TBD, *Volunteers Needed!\**

Week of 8/1 TBD, *Volunteers Needed!\**

Week of 8/8 TBD, *Volunteers Needed!\**

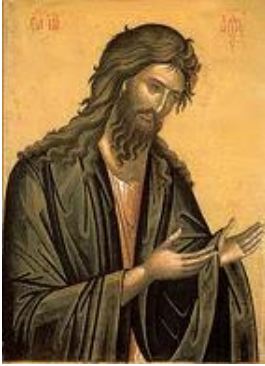
Week of 8/15 TBD, *Volunteers Needed!\**

*\*Sign up at **Church clean-up!** Or contact Sh. Susan: (940)723-1726.*

**PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING:** Marian, Douglas, Weaver family, Khouria Joanna, John/Steven Wood, Korbin (friend of Alyson Gross), Charalambos and Eugenia (Mary Welsh's parents), James & Helen Odell, those suffering with the Covid-19 virus and those caring for the sick and suffering, victims of injustice and social unrest, Metropolitans Paul and John (hostages in Syria), the suffering Christians throughout the Middle East.

**PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED:** Bryce (Jeane Wood's cousin), Victims of abortion, Victims of the Covid-19 virus, Victims of injustice and social unrest, the departed Christians throughout the world who have died for the Faith.

**CONFESSIONS:** Please remember to contact Fr. Mark to schedule confessions, even if you intend to confess after the evening services. This ensures that your confession is well prepared, and that everyone can be heard in an orderly fashion. Father is available to meet at the Church Tuesday through Saturday.



### ***Troparion of St. John the Baptist***

*The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is enough for thee, O Forerunner. For thou wast shown to be more wonderful than the prophets since thou wast granted to baptize Him whom thou didst proclaim. Then having endured great suffering for the truth thou didst rejoice to bring even to those in hades the good tidings, that God who hast appeared in the flesh, takes away the sins of the world, and grants us great mercy.*