

The Desert



Messenger

“Behold, I send My messenger before Your Face, who shall prepare Your way...” (Matthew 11:10)

Volume 8, Issue 9 St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Las Vegas, NV

October 2010

**From
Father
John**

Beloved in Christ:

With the local unemployment soaring toward 15 percent, I thought it might be best this month to make our parish members aware of a job opportunity that should not be passed up.

The job, or more accurately, the work available is with a 2,000 year-old establishment.

The requirement is that those belonging to the body be willing to commit themselves, and one another and their whole life to the CEO and His universal plan of renewal and redemption.

The requisite dress code is that all workers clothe themselves in the pure garment freely offered by the CEO – those with inappropriate apparel can, if they are willing to relinquish the old garments, receive the proper clothing from the CEO through the local supervisor.

Showing up regularly, on time and attentively is a must, for the establishment never knows when the CEO will return to town expecting a full accounting for the labors of all workers.

Work performance will be assessed occasionally with the local supervisor, and based according to the unique talents, positions and abilities of each laborer, but a full report will be expected from all upon retirement.

The work day lasts about one and one-half hours a minimum of once a week, with more hours required seasonally or when the district manager is in town on behalf of the CEO. Break-time is offered only after the work is completed and the supervisor gives his final blessing for all laborers to depart – taking breaks or leaving early during work hours is considered disruptive to the well-being of the body, and is permitted only in the case of illness.

The payment is commensurate with the amount of talent received, although the final wage shall be determined by the CEO, Who will require more from those to whom more is given. However, the benefits are magnanimous, perpetual and equally available to all, regardless of position.

All interested in immediate employment should not merely inquire, but rather, come and see . . . by joining us *each Sunday at 10:00 am for the Divine Liturgy* – from the Greek, **Η Θεία Λειτουργία** – which translates to *the Holy Work of God's People*. Regardless of your current employment status, the Lord Jesus Christ freely offers all who show up with a genuine desire to participate the Word of God that provides direction for abundant life, the gift of His very own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting, and the fellowship in the Holy Spirit.

With love in Christ,

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*Sundays: 8:45 am Orthros ~ 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Church School follows Holy Communion*

Sunday, October 3 / *2nd Sunday of Luke/
St. Dionysios the Areopagite*

Orthros: Tone Two

Resurrection Gospel (Orthros): John 20:11-18

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-33; 12:1-9

Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

Sunday, October 10/*3rd Sunday of Luke/
Martyrs Eulampios and Eulampia*

Orthros: Tone Three

Resurrection Gospel (Orthros): John 20:19-31

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Gospel: Luke 7:11-16

Sunday, October 17/*Holy Fathers of the 7th
Ecumenical Synod/Prophet Hosea*

Orthros: Tone Four

Resurrection Gospel (Orthros): John 21:1-14

Epistle: Titus 3:8-15

Gospel: Luke 8:5-15

Wednesday, October 20/ *St. Gerasimos*

8:00 am Orthros

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Colossians 3:17-25; 4:1

Gospel: Luke 9:44-50

Saturday, October 23/*Holy Apostle Iakovos (James)*

9:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. Iakovos

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Gospel: Matthew 13:54-58

Sunday, October 24/ *6th Sunday of Luke/
Great Martyr Arethas*

Orthros: Tone Five (First Plagal)

Resurrection Gospel (Orthros): John 21:14-25

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Gospel: Luke 8:27-39

Tuesday, October 26/*Great Martyr Demetrios
8:00 am Orthros*

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

Epistle: 2 Timothy 2:1-10

Gospel: John 15:17-27; 16:1-2

Sunday, October 31/*5th Sunday of Luke/
St. Stachys of the 70 Apostles*

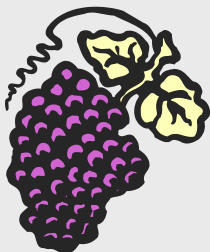
Orthros: Tone Six (Second Plagal)

Resurrection Gospel (Orthros): Matthew 28:16-20

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

*"Godliness is perfection that is never
complete." ~St. Philotheos of Sinai*



Please join us for our first

Wine Experience

Saturday, October 16, 2010

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Panos Hall



\$50 in advance or \$65 at the door ~ All guests must be 21 or older with ID

Featuring over 40 different wines from all over the world, a raffle, light fare, entertainment and more! Please bring your wine-loving family, friends and neighbors!

**For more information contact Kouli or Para Pouridis at (702) 304-1726,
Tammy Chomakos at (702) 338-4671 or Effie Lekar at (702) 768-5500**

Proceeds benefit Folk Dance Groups of St. John the Baptist

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

October 3

Ushers: George Bochanis, Pete Kypreos, William Carrico, Alex Sparkuhl, George Kakavulias and Darrick Cole

Memorial: Mario Torres Ramos (40 days); Amalia Cominos (1 year).

Fellowship: Orthodox Family Fellowship

October 10

Ushers: Angela Coutris, Alex Sparkuhl, Marina Adamy, Spiros Filios, Sam Koutsulis and Gary Waters

Memorial: Seraphim Dounis (3 years); Anastasia McNichol (17 years).

Fellowship: Folk Dance Group

October 17

Ushers: Sam Koutsulis, Darrick Cole, Demetrios Philippou, George Bochanis, William Carrico and Marina Adamy

Memorial: Russell R. Hart (40 days); Apollo Peter Jett (40 days); Dionisios Kountanis (40 days); Gus Vavoukakis (40 days); Carol Pappas (1 year); Steven Agapios Georgiou (10 years); Michael Neocleous (11 years); Christina Neocleous (18 years); John Neocleous (27 years)

Fellowship: OXI Day Celebration Luncheon, sponsored by AHEPA

October 24

Ushers: George Kakavulias, Demetrios Philippou, Spiros Filios, Gary Waters, Angela Coutris and Pete Kypreos

Memorial: William L. Kokenes (3 years), Andrew Vasila (4 years).

Fellowship: Pan-Arcadians

October 31

Ushers: William Carrico, Spiros Filios, Darrick Cole, George Bochanis, George Kakavulias and Marina Adamy

Fellowship: Orthodox Family Fellowship

Our Community Registry

Baptized into Christ: Na Mas Zisi!

Evangelia, daughter of Robert and Jennifer Abrams, on August 28, 2010. Godparents: Brent and Elaine Bucy.

Sarah, daughter of Robert and Jennifer Abrams, on August 28, 2010. Godparents: David and Rachel Abrams.

Symeon (Shane) Zeller (Adult Baptism) on September 1, 2010. Godparent: Rev. Eric George Tosi.

Marriage: Na Zisetel!

Constantin Oliver Ene and Olesia Stoian on September 12, 2010. Sponsor: Dorian Necula.

Fallen Asleep in the Lord: Eternal Memory

Gus Vavoukakis on September 10, 2010. Funeral on September 15.

Russell R. Hart on September 10, 2010. Funeral on September 16.

Dionisios S. Kountanis on September 9, 2010. Funeral on September 17.

Apollo Peter Jett on September 14. Funeral on September 18.

**President's
Column**

I would like to thank everyone for their involvement in the 38th Annual Greek Food Festival. All your hard work in the preceding months really paid off; thank you for sharing your time and talents with your Church and Las Vegas Community!

We have recently begun taking care of the pigeon problem around the grounds. Also, we've sprayed the field and surrounding grounds of the Church for insects and bees. We hope that this will help beautify our Community. Remember: If you see anything that needs repair please contact a Parish Council Member or the Church Office.

Lastly, if you are able to, please support the Folk Dance Group at their Wine Experience on *Saturday, October 16*.

Peter Kypreos, Parish Council President

Financial Status for Months of August 2010

Bank Accounts	Beginning Balance		Expenses	Internal Bank Transfers		Balances as of 8.31.10
	as of 7.31.10	Income		Transfers In	Transfers Out	
General Operating	\$1,895.69	\$52,984.25	\$51,105.06			\$3,774.88
Building/Maintenance	\$11,253.36	\$276.52	\$5,925.00			\$5,604.88
Community/Education Ctr	\$3,019.91	\$5,609.00	\$4,678.03			\$3,950.88
Construction (Loan Paymts)	\$13,085.73		\$6,725.25			\$6,360.48
Food Festival	\$31,226.20	\$28,660.00	\$11,214.23			\$48,671.97
Icon Money Market	\$3,012.64	\$311.40	\$37.00			\$3,287.04
Library Checking	\$15,582.50	\$2.63				\$15,585.13
On-Line Donations	\$700.09					\$700.09
Construction Loan	\$670,917.07					\$669,221.94
Revolving Line of Credit	\$0.00					\$0.00
Term Loan (5 year loan)	\$31,981.50					\$30,696.13

**Philoptochos
News**

Hello, Ladies!

The air is finally beginning to cool and Philoptochos is getting ready to become busy again. Our September meeting was a well-attended and positive one. I'd like to say "Thank You" to those who came and contributed their ideas.

Tammy Stefanatos hosted our Fellowship to benefit Holy Cross Seminary this year and I'm happy to report that it was very successful.

Our next General Meeting will be held on *Tuesday, October 12* at 7:00 pm. Please join us as we prepare for the upcoming Philoptochos year.

Yours in Christ, April Karalis and the Philoptochos Board



Notes from the Loft

It is an honor and a blessing to join the Choir as the new director. I would like to thank all of the Choir members, especially Faye, Presvytera Maria and Father John for all your support and assistance. I pray that the Choir will continue to grow and enrich the services with beautiful music.

Athena Mertes, Choir Director

Forerunners ~

The Seniors of St. John the Baptist

Thank you to the Forerunners of St. John the Baptist for your help with the 38th Annual Greek Food Festival! Now let us get back into the swing of things with our monthly luncheons.

Our first meeting of the new Ecclesiastical Year will be on *Tuesday, October 12* at 11:30 am. Please look to the Weekly Bulletins for further information.

Ruth Plentzas

"Let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds . . ." ~Titus 3:14

The Las Vegas
AHEPA FAMILY

Invites You To
CELEBRATE

OXI DAY



Flag of the 8th Infantry Division of the Greek Army

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 17, 2010

12:00 noon
AFTER CHURCH SERVICES

PANOS HALL
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
5300 S. El Camino Road, Las Vegas, NV

Complete Lunch with
Stuffed Peppers, Tomatoes, etc. (Yemista)
Greek Salad, Bread, Dessert, Soft Drink or Water.
Beer and Wine available.

Prepared by the excellent AHEPA cooks

Donation \$15 - Children under 12 years \$5

Orthodox Connection Las Vegas

Greetings from the OCLV!

We have spent the last couple of months focused on outreach with volunteering at Three-Square and the Food Festival. The theme for October will be fellowship and enjoying our diverse Las Vegas community. For this month we will be having two events.

On *Friday, October 1* we will be exploring the Las Vegas Arts Community at "First Friday." This event offers live music, local art, and street performances from talented Las Vegans. We will meet at 7:00 pm at the "Land Rover" main stage area. "First Friday" is held on Main Street and Charleston. For more information on this event, visit their website www.firstfriday-lasvegas.org.

On *Sunday, October 3* at 2:00 pm we will have lunch at Hofbrauhaus German Restaurant, located at 4510 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, NV 89169. Please RSVP for this event by *Wednesday, September 29* at orthodoxconnectionlv@gmail.com so reservations can be made.

I look forward to spending time with our OCLV family at these events.

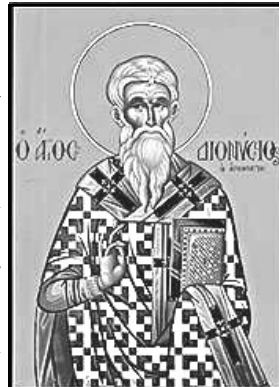
In Christ, Adam Bieker

Orthodox Bookstore

A big "Thank You" to all who came out and supported us at the Greek Food Festival. I would also like to thank all of you who have been such a great support in the ministries I have been involved with during my time with St. John the Baptist Church.

With my recent return back to Las Vegas after a brief move to Los Angeles, I was humbled to have been asked and appointed director of our Orthodox Bookstore. It is good to be back "home" and I look forward to being of service. With God's help and yours, I ask that you keep the Bookstore in your prayers - for its continued success and that it may always be the quiet witness to the Faith.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos . . . Matthew Castillo



St. Dionysios Areopagite

"Avoid stupid controversies . . ." ~Titus 3:9

Outreach Fair

Come and check out the many wonderful Ministries and Hellenic Organizations our Church has to offer on *Sunday, October 3* during Fellowship in Panos Hall. These groups are a terrific way to become more involved in the community, as they offer opportunities to meet people, and learn about our beautiful faith and culture.

Representatives from all the Ministries and Hellenic Organizations are invited to set up a small display and visit with people about what they are doing. Please contact Jenn Orlando so we can have a table available for you at familyorlando@yahoo.com.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

5300 S. El Camino Rd.
Las Vegas, NV 89118

Rev. Father John Hondros

Karen Rawlinson
Administrative Assistant

Maria Kakavulias
Business Administrator

Sheryl Lujan
Facilities and Catering Manager

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Telephone: (702) 221-8245

FAX: (702) 221-9167

E-mail:

frjohn@vegaskgreekorthodox.com

Website: vegaskgreekorthodox.com

Parish Council: Peter Kypreos

Philoptochos: April Karalis

Choir: Athena Mertes

Chanters/Youth Choir:
Presvytera Maria Hondros

Church School:
Eileen Koutsulis

Altar Servers:
Sam Koutsulis

Stewardship Committee:
Angela Coutris

Hellenic Historical Society:
Nitsa Filios

GOYA:
Effie Lekar
Tammy Chomakos

HOPE and JOY:
Jennifer Orlando
Sharon Katsaros

Orthodox Family Fellowship:
Michael and Tami Stefanatos

Orthodox Connection Las Vegas:
Adam Bieker

Forerunners:
Ruth Plentzas

Greek Folk Dance:
Tina Liaos, Chair
Bryan Taxopoulos, Director

Greek Language Classes:
TBD

Orthodox Bookstore:
Matthew Castillo

Bill Andrews Library:
Spero Demoleas

The Clark County Orthodox Clergy Association
 Invites All Orthodox and Interested Seekers to the Annual

Nativity Fast Retreat

Saturday, December 4, 2010

*At St. St. Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church
 5400 Annie Oakley Drive, Las Vegas ♦ (702) 898-4800*



Mother Raphaela, Retreat Speaker
Abbess, Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery

“Living and Growing in Christ”

Program	
9:00 am	Divine Liturgy <i>St. Barbara/St. John of Damascus</i> Continental Breakfast follows
10:45 am	Session I
12:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm	Session II
3:15 pm	Session III
5:00 pm	Great Vespers

Mother Raphaela was born in Topeka Kansas, baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal Church. She moved to New Jersey where she graduated from Princeton High School and then attended Barnard College in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. She entered monastic life in 1964, and was life-professed as an Episcopal nun in 1972. As a nun she taught classes on the high school level in Old and New Testament, organ and choral music, and also served for five years as director of novices for her community. She was received into the Orthodox Church in America in 1977. Since that time, with the foundation of Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery in Otego, New York, Mother Raphaela has worked to establish Orthodox monastic life for women in this country. While most of her life and experience are gained within the monastery, she does give occasional outside quiet days, retreats and talks. Her essays have been published in numerous Church publications, including the monastery's own *Essays and Notes*. She is the author of *Living in Christ, Essays on the Christian Life by an Orthodox Nun* and *Growing in Christ: Shaped in His Image*, both books published by St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, Crestwood, New York.

\$15 per person, includes meals
Please make checks payable to St. Paul Church, Memo: Retreat

Youth Ministries

Church School

Hi Everyone! We are off to a great year. It was wonderful seeing so many of our youth helping out at our annual Food Festival.

We currently have 117 children enrolled in our Church School program. Remember: Your child must be registered in order to attend, and we encourage you to allow your child to be part of such a fulfilling program by signing him or her up.

Our annual Open House will be on *Sunday, October 24*. Come to our classrooms after Church services to talk to your child's teacher and see what has been taught so far and what the class goals and projects will be for the rest of the year. We are also posting classroom lesson plans so you can see what your child is doing on a weekly basis. Please call or email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Eileen Koutsulis, Church School Director - (702) 521-6516 or vivaleenie@cox.net

Greek School



Our Greek School program needs your interest, commitment and participation to be viable. If you are interested in being the Director of Greek School Classes, or would like to commit to becoming an instructor, or want to participate as a student, please email Karen, our Church Secretary, at karen@vegasgreekorthodox.com.

Youth Choir News

The Youth Choir begins rehearsals on *Sunday, October 3* at 12:15 pm in the Choir Loft. This year, our goal is to learn the eight Resurrectional Hymns that rotate every Sunday. If we start on time, practice should not take that long.

The Youth Choir will chant the Divine Liturgy on *Sunday, October 10*. Again, please be prompt at 9:40 am so we have full voices for the Doxology. You sounded *stunningly beautiful* in September. The congregation loved you!

Remember, the FDF Youth Choir practices on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:45 pm in the Choir Loft.

Thanks to all for your support of this wonderful ministry. Love, Presvytera Maria Hondros

Orthodox Family Fellowship

Congratulations to everyone for hosting another awesome Greek Food Festival! I'm so proud and honored to be a part of such a wonderful community. So now we can rest a little, but not for long, as we have some things planned for this year.

Orthodox Family Fellowship (OFF) is changing things up; instead of hosting pot lucks, we're going to host three fun family outings throughout the year.

First on the list is Hockey with the Wranglers on *Saturday, November 13* at 7:00 pm. They are playing the Victoria Salmon Kings; we need 10 or more people to get the group rate of \$12.75 per adult and \$6.25 per child. This will also ensure we all get to sit together. If you are interested, please contact us by *October 17*.

OFF is a ministry that was established to allow our families to join together in fellowship, become better acquainted and grow in Christ together. Michael and I always look forward to seeing the regular faces, but also we hope to reach out to those of you who have not joined in the fun yet.

In Christ Service, Michael and Tami Stefanatos (702) 458-0266 or tami.stefanatos@gmail.com

GOYA

Hello GOYAnS! Thank you for making the Food Festival a success! You are the future, so next year we hope that you volunteer at a booth you've never worked before. This will be something we work on next year so that the next generation will have the knowledge and experience in all areas of the Festival.

Our annual Red Rock Hike and lunch *is Saturday, October 9*, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. We will meet at the Chevron Station on Charleston and Town Center at 8:45 am. Please RSVP to an advisor. Items for hiking: water, a hat, shoes for hiking (sneakers are fine), and sun block.

Following the hike, we will have lunch at Olive Garden and election of GOYA Officers. Nominations will be open until *October 6* and accepted only via email at agapi1993@me.com. We will have printed election forms at lunch. Also, please bring money for lunch.

Those of you parents with both HOPE & JOY and GOYA-aged children may bring them all, as the younger children will be going on another trail. Just let the advisors know in advance that you will join us.

If you are not currently receiving GOYA related emails, please contact an advisor either by phone or email. GOYA is a ministry of the Church for youth in junior and senior high school.

Love in Christ, Effie Lekar (702) 768-5500 & Tammy Chomakos (702) 338-4671

HOPE and JOY

October is here and, as always, the weather is perfect right now; so let's enjoy it by going on a hike through Red Rock. We will meet at the same place and time as GOYA at the Chevron station on Charleston and Town Center on *Saturday, October 9* at 8:45 am. GOYA will be going on a more challenging hike, while we enjoy a fun hike on the Children's Discovery Trail.

Please pack plenty of snacks, water and sunscreen. Please RSVP with Sharon at (702) 292-0850.

Your HOPE & JOY Advisors, Sharon Katsaros and Jenn Orlando

Greek Folk Dance

What a wonderful performance our Greek Folk Dancers gave at the Food Festival – definitely a crowd pleaser! Thank you to all the parents and dancers that volunteered to work at the soda booth. Over the three days we all worked approximately 543 hours in the soda booths alone, not to mention parents and dancers that volunteered in other booths over the weekend. Great job, everyone!

Don't forget our Wine Experience on *Saturday, October 16*. Get your tickets from any Dance Board Member. *Please see Page 2 for more information and ticket contacts.*

Entertainment Books are still on sale through *October 15*. For only \$30, you get hundreds of dollars worth of coupons to use all over town. After just using a few, you pay yourself back for the cost of the book. These also make great gifts for family, friends, co-workers and clients. Books are on sale during Fellowship or you can purchase one from any dancer. You can also order one online for someone that lives outside the Las Vegas area by going to <http://www.entertainment.com/discount/?groupID=963182>.

Also, some of you haven't registered for Church School yet and have not been attending. The Dance Board reminds you that it is a requirement of this ministry for all dancers attend Church School regularly.

Finally, please be on time to dance practice. We have many dancers arriving 10-15 minutes after practice starts, and sometimes later. Not only is this disruptive to the rest of the group, but your child is missing valuable instruction time. Please be on time. Practice times are as follows:

Liondaria: Tuesday - 5:30pm and Sunday - 12:15 pm (right after Church School)

Delfinia: Tuesday - 6:00 pm and Sunday - 1:00pm

Hrisi Thisavri: Tuesday - 7:30 pm and Sunday - 1:00 pm

Stavroforoi: Tuesday - 7:00 pm and Sunday - 1:00 pm

Tina Liaos and the Greek Folk Dance Board

Stewardship Report: “Come and See!”

<u>2010 Stewardship Status (September 18, 2010):</u>	Stewardship Target – 2010	\$350,000	
Stewardship Families Pledged	439	Stewardship Gifts Pledged	\$315,141
Stewardship Gifts Received	\$230,836	Current Stewardship Deficit	\$34,859
Average Stewardship Pledge	\$717.86	Percentage of Goal Achieved	90%

<u>Pledge Range</u>	<u>Number of Families</u>	<u>\$ & % of Gifts Pledged</u>
\$1-\$999	325	\$ 108,675 - 35%
\$1,000-\$2,499	93	\$ 117,466 - 38%
\$2,500-\$4,999	14	\$ 45,280 - 15%
\$5,000-\$9,999	6	\$ 33,720 - 11%
\$10,000-\$14,999	1	\$ 10,000 - 1%

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Stewards Pledged	473	439	- 34
Gifts Pledged	\$324,001	\$315,141	- \$8,860
Gifts Received	\$224,939	\$230,836	+ \$5,897
Average Pledge	\$684.99	\$717.86	+\$32.87

Staying the Course for Stewardship

The annual Greek Food Festival is now history for 2010 and it was a great success. The food was wonderful, the friends, laughter, fun and, of course, the Church was able to put away a few dollars for the beauty of the House of the Lord and for the care of our community facilities and operations.

As such it is natural to take a deep breath and relax, believing that our Church is fiscally safe for another year. However, this kind of thinking is not based in reality. The members of the Church must support the Church operations, and not once-a-year events like the Food Festival. Extra revenues that are received on specific occasions help us meet the increasingly needed improvements that Stewardship simply cannot or does not pay for.

While we can take great pride in all the work done by the members of the Church at the recent Festival, we must acknowledge and recognize, through our continued support, that caring for Church operations and sustainability is derived primarily from Stewardship. As Stewards of this great Church and community, we continue to need the gifts, support and prayers of all members to remain a viable and fiscally solvent Church.

This is truly God’s calling for all Stewards and we must answer that call. Now is the time for all of us to look at our pledges and review our Stewardship activity for the year. I ask that you please join me in making an assessment of our commitments and actions, and renew our determination to meet or exceed our stated pledge amounts.

With the Festival is behind us, many other things in caring for our Church facilities and community remain undone. Staying the course for stewardship is the right thing to do.

Gary Waters, 2010 Stewardship Committee



Six Classes on the Orthodox Faith
Meets Wednesdays: September 29 - November 3
7:00 - 8:30 pm in Kokkos Hall



For Inquirers, Catechumens and Orthodox Christians



OCTOBER 2010 - IN THE YEAR OF THE LORD



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Youth Choir Practice on Sundays at 12:15 pm in Choir Loft</p> <p>3 8:45 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 12:15 Liondaria 1:00 pm Delfinia, Hrisi Thisavri, Stavroforoi 2:00 pm OCLV at Hofbrauhaus</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Outreach Fair during Fellowship on 10/3</p>	<p>5 4:30 pm FDF Choir 5:30 pm Liondaria 6:00 pm Delfinia 7:00 pm Stavroforoi 7:30 pm Hrisi Thisavri 7:00 pm Philoptochos Board Meeting</p>	<p>6 7:00 pm Orthodox Faith Class #2</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1 7:00 pm OCLV at "First Friday" Downtown</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>10 8:45 am Orthros <i>Youth Choir Chants</i> 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 12:15 Liondaria 1:00 pm Delfinia, Hrisi Thisavri, Stavroforoi</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 11:30 am Forerunners 4:30 pm FDF Choir 5:30 pm Liondaria 6:00 pm Delfinia 7:00 pm Stavroforoi 7:30 pm Hrisi Thisavri 7:00 pm Philoptochos General Meeting</p>	<p>13 7:00 pm Orthodox Faith Class #3</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 7:00 pm Folk Dance Wine Experience in Panos Hall</p>
<p>17 8:45 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy <i>OXI Day Luncheon</i> follows Divine Liturgy 12:15 Liondaria 1:00 pm Delfinia, Hrisi Thisavri, Stavroforoi</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 4:30 pm FDF Choir 5:30 pm Liondaria 6:00 pm Delfinia 7:00 pm Stavroforoi 7:30 pm Hrisi Thisavri 6:00 pm Parish Council</p>	<p>20 St. Gerasimos of Cephalonia 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Orthodox Faith Class #4</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 St. Iakovos the Apostle (James) 9:00 am Divine Liturgy</p>
<p>24 8:45 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy <i>Ch. School Open House</i></p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 St. Demetrios 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 4:30 pm FDF Choir 5:30 pm Liondaria 6:00 pm Delfinia 7:00 pm Stavroforoi 7:30 pm Hrisi Thisavri</p>	<p>27 7:00 pm Orthodox Faith Class #5</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31 8:45 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy</p>						<p>Help Us Go Green and Save \$\$\$ ~ Send Us Your Email Address For Parish Mailings!</p>

The Desert Messenger

*St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church
5300 South El Camino Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89118-1922*

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THE DESERT MESSENGER

The Way of the Lord

“The Eucharist or Divine Liturgy is the central mystery of the Church.

It is at once the source and the summit of her life.

*In it, the Church is continuously changed from a human community into the Body of Christ,
the Temple of the Holy Spirit, and the People of God.*

*The Eucharist, according to St. Nicholas Cabasilas, is the final and greatest of the mysteries
‘since it is not possible to go beyond it or add anything to it.*

*After the Eucharist there is nowhere further to go. There all must stand,
and try to examine the means by which we may preserve the treasure to the end.*

For in it we obtain God Himself, and God is united with us in the most perfect union.”

-Rev. Alciviadis C. Calivas, “The Sacramental Life of the Orthodox Church,”

A Companion to the Greek Orthodox Church