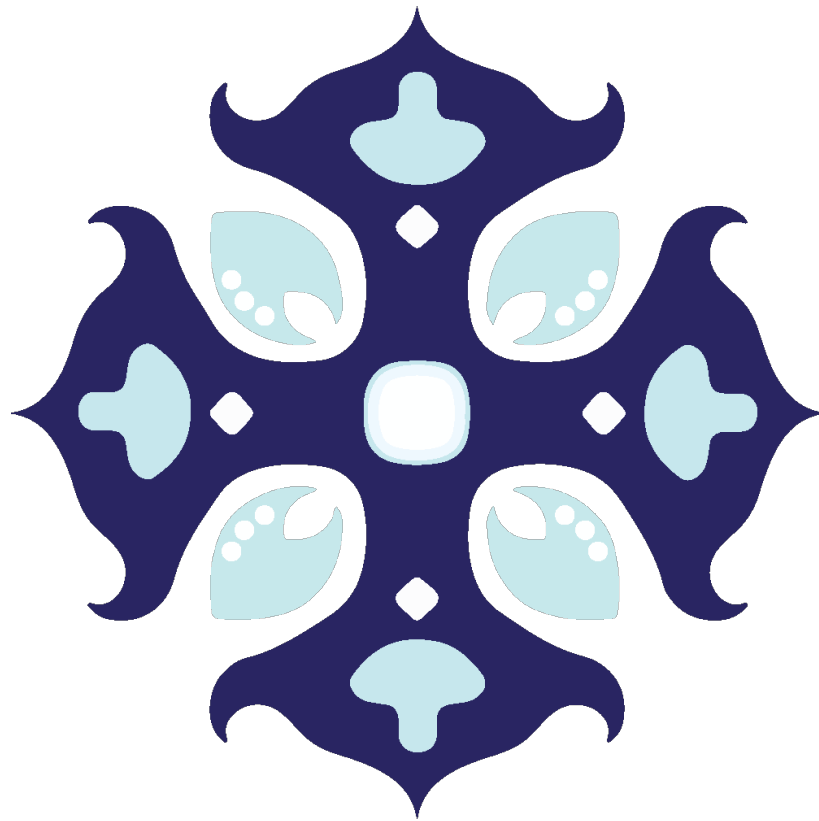


**St. John the Divine
Greek Orthodox Church**



**MINISTRIES
GUIDE 2022-2023**

Welcome to St. John the Divine Greek Orthodox Church

12760 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32246 office@saintjohnthedivine.com
Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00 am to 4:00 pm | <https://www.stjohnthedivine.com>

  @St. John the Divine; @The Louhs

PRIESTS

Protopresbyter Rev. Fr. Nicholas G. Louh
Head Priest
frnicholas@stjohnthedivine.com

Rev. Fr. Sebastian Mot
Associate Priest
frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

Rev. Fr. Milton Magos

Deacon Athanasios Kartsonis

MISSION

The Mission of St. John the Divine is to proclaim the Holy Gospel by teaching and spreading the Orthodox Christian Faith in a dynamic and welcoming community devoted to serving all people who seek a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

VISION

With the Grace of God, to provide a loving and caring Community where all belong to Christ through worship, sacramental life, everyday spiritual discipline, sanctification, education, witness, and fellowship.

WHERE WE NEED YOU

Get involved!

In this guide, you will find descriptions and contact information for all of our ministries, for all different ages, talents, and time commitments. Please contact ANY ministry that speaks to you to get involved. If a ministry contact is not listed, please call the Church office. Is there another ministry not found in this guide that you would like to sponsor? We want to hear from you.

Contact our Church office at any time.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	Page No:
Administration:	
Office Staff; Technology Committee; Election Committee; Parish Council	4
Communication:	
Monthly Calendar & Bulletin; Social Media	5
Community Outreach:	
Medical Society; Homeless Ministry; Prison Ministry	6
Prayer Shawl Ministry; Share the Light; Mission Trip; Zoe (Widow’s Ministry); Stewardship	7
Philoptochos Society	8
Hospitality Committee, AHEPA, Archons	9
Ministries:	
Greek Dance Programs – T’Adelphia Teen Dance; Adult Recreational; Adult Performance	10
Greek Festival	11
Orthodoxy 101; Bible Study; Bookstore	12
Gardening Ministry	13
Greek School, Parea Fellowship	14
Early Learning Center (ELC)	15
Sunday School; Vacation Bible School	16
Men’s Bible Study; Women’s Bible Fellowship; Young at Heart; Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)	17
Sunday Fellowship Coffee Hour; Young Adult Life (YAL); Couples Ministry; Community Events	18
Mom’s Ministry; HOPE; JOY; GOYA	19
American Heritage Girls; God’s Grafted Girls; Cub Scouts of America	20
Altar Boys; Prosphora Baking; Myrrh Bearing Girls; Ushers	21
St. John the Divine Choirs – Byzantine Chanters / Adult Choir	22
Ministry Leader Contacts	23

ADMINISTRATION

Office Staff

office@stjohnthedivine.com
(904) 396-5383

The administrative positions assist in the daily operations and functions of our Church. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed.

CURRENT STAFF

- Peter Stoumbelis,
Parish Administrator
parishadmin@stjohnthedivine.com
- Sharon Gutteridge,
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnthedivine.com
- Serena Brown,
Director of Events and Marketing
events@stjohneventcenter.com

CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR:

- Memorials, Trisagia, Weddings, Baptisms
- Visitation Needs
- Hall Rentals and Cathedral Events
- Calendar Questions and Additions
- Coffee Hour Sponsorship
- Youth Program Questions
- Stewardship
- Volunteer Opportunities
- General Questions and Concerns

Technology Committee

Ted Kokkinos
tkokkinos@4elementsagency.com

MINISTRY RESPONSIBILITIES

The goal of the Technology Committee is to help SJTD administer and maintain various equipment (network, servers, personal computers, printers, etc) throughout the

organization. For those of you with IT expertise interested in volunteering, please contact the church office.

Election Committee

Maria Carantzas
maria.carantzas@akerman.com

The mission of the SJTD Election Committee is to conduct elections for the Parish Council and Church Foundation members in accordance with the rules, regulations and procedures established by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America by-laws.

The election committee is appointed annually at the Parish General Assembly.

Parish Council

George Stavros
georgestavros@gmail.com

The Parish Council is elected by the community and oversees all administrative and financial ministries of the Parish.

CURRENT OFFICERS

President: George Stavros

Vice President: Tom Gibson

Treasurer: Roxanne Attanasio

Assistant Treasurer: Gem Mann

Secretary: Alexis Clay

Danny Assi

Nassim Elias

Anthony Hicks

Mark Lasoff

Anthony Megas

Barbara Rappaport

Chris Rogan

Monthly Calendar & Bulletin

office@stjohnthedivine.com

This vital communication for our Church includes:

- Worship Schedule
- Gospel & Epistle Readings
- Volunteer Schedule for Narthex, Altar Boys, Welcoming Committee, etc.
- Special events

Volunteers are needed to help with monthly mailings. Contact the church office to be added to the volunteer schedule or the monthly bulletin distribution list.

Social Media

Serena Brown

events@stjohneventcenter.com

Fr. Sebastian Mot

frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

The goal of this ministry is to manage our parish social media platforms; to create consistent content that is both inspirational and informational; and to communicate news digitally from the parish and beyond (Metropolis, Archdiocese, etc). If you are willing to donate your time, please contact Serena for more information.

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM,
AND YOUTUBE**

St. John the Divine Greek Orthodox Church

St. John the Divine Early Learning Center

The Louhs

Jacksonville Greek Festival



**CONTACT THE CHURCH
OFFICE TO ADD
ANNOUNCEMENTS OR
PICTURES TO FACEBOOK
OR INSTAGRAM**

SJTD Holy Unmercenaries Medical Society

COMING SOON!

Fr. Sebastian Mot
frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

The Holy Unmercenaries Medical Society is a fellowship of healthcare professionals within the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta. Through the development of its members' spiritual well-being, the organization strives to give freely unto others the love, mercy and healing ministry of Jesus Christ through worship, education, service and philanthropy.

Homeless Ministry

Roxanne Attanasio
roxanneattanasio3@gmail.com

This group feeds the homeless at the City Rescue Mission once a month on Sundays. Volunteers are needed to cook, serve, and donate. Please contact Roxanne if interested in helping.

Bags for the homeless is a sub-ministry of our homeless ministry and it is chaired by Mark Lasoff markl860@aol.com. This ministry provides pre-filled bags with everyday essentials that can be distributed to those in need. You can pick a bag up from the Church cafe and distribute it to those in need. Item lists are found on our Church website or by reaching out to Mark.

Members of our Homeless Ministry serving at City Rescue Mission.



Prison Ministry

COMING SOON! An agency of the Assembly of Bishops, this group ministers to prisoners and their families by:

- Providing Orthodox publications, Study Bibles, prayer books, icon prayer cards, and catechism courses to those in prison and to prison chapel libraries.
- Linking prisoners to Orthodox priests to provide them with a sacramental life.
- Providing spiritual guidance and publications to families of people in prison.
- Educating clergy and future clergy at our seminaries.
- Training clergy and laity for prison ministry and correspondence ministry.
- Linking people coming out of prison with Orthodox churches.
- Providing guidance to clergy and laity for churches receiving people from prison.

We currently need a volunteer to organize the Prison Ministry. If you are interested, please contact the church office or Fr. Sebastian Mot

frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Pam Toundas
pandbtoundas@gmail.com

Associated with our Philoptochos Society (see next page)

The best and most powerful gift you can give someone is a prayer. Sometimes that prayer comes in the form of a prayer shawl. The impact of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is three-fold; it impacts the giver, the receiver and the makers of the shawls. A prayer shawl offers hope and comfort to someone going through a trying time and many times is accepted with hugs and tears of thanks from knowing someone cares. A prayer shawl allows the giver a way to offer compassion and minister to someone in need when words are not enough, or words won't come. A prayer shawl gives a God given purpose to an individual with the talent of knitting, crocheting or looming the shawls and enriches their prayer life.

Share the Light

CO-CHAIRS

Betty Ticoras ticorasfam@yahoo.com
Sandra Rogan sandrakrogan@gmail.com
Lesley Sunas lesleysunas@yahoo.com

Associated with our Philoptochos Society (see next page)

The mission of **Share the Light** is to actively share the love of Christ to those in our community who are facing difficult challenges. Our ministry aims to bring encouragement through prayer, cards, calls, and visitation, and to offer comfort and aid where need exists. Volunteers are needed!

ZOE (Widow's Ministry)

COMING SOON – THIS FALL!

Diakonissa Karen Koloniotis
halkida@att.net

Mission Trip

Fr. Sebastian Mot
frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

The goal of the mission trip is to witness our Christian faith through coordinating people and resources in support of local clergy and institutions; and by seeking to sustain and

safeguard Orthodox Christian communities domestically and abroad through prayer, education, and material sustenance. We have a yearly mission trip that we go on as a community and we also support many mission churches abroad. To get more information please contact Fr. Sebastian.

Stewardship

CO-CHAIRS

Tom Gibson duffyigator@gmail.com
Nassim Elias nelias25@gmail.com

VISION

Achieve maximum parishioner involvement via volunteerism and financial support.

MISSION

Seek greater participation in ministries and encourage full financial support through education and communication of our church's needs to our community. Provide a source of information defining how to be a member in good standing through volunteerism and financial support.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Philoptochos Society



PRESIDENT

Effie Lasoff

greekel2374@aol.com

MISSION

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society of Saints Cosmas and Damien (Friend of the poor) is the women's philanthropic society of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. Our mission is to promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach; to preserve the sanctity of life and family; and to perpetuate and promote our Orthodox faith and traditions.

MINISTRY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Financially assisting local civic charities
- Parish hospitality
- Helping families & individuals in financial need
- Fulfilling National & Metropolis obligations



ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

- Name Day of Sts. Cosmas and Damian celebration in November.
- Monthly meetings September to May.
- Sending gifts to the homebound for Christmas & Pascha.
- Support for the needy.
- Dyeing eggs for Pascha.
- Feeding the needy for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

MEETING TIMES

The first Sunday of each month following Liturgy, September to May in the Banquet Hall.

WHERE WE NEED YOU

All Orthodox Christian women over the age of 18 who are members of the parish are strongly encouraged to become Philoptochos members. Please join us for fellowship, friendship, and filoxenia toward our fellow man. We need your Time, Talents and (a little bit of) Treasure to accomplish our worthwhile goals.

← **Members of Philoptochos at Kim's Open Door Luncheon May 28 2022**

Hospitality Committee

CO-CHAIRS

Bill and Maria Pappas
mmpappas@bellsouth.net

Chris and Deb Gay
debandchris55@comcast.net

MISSION

To ensure that all who come to St. John the Divine are greeted with a warm welcome and feeling of Hospitality.

MINISTRY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Create a welcoming community atmosphere for all who enter St. John the Divine.
- Identify methods to recognize and engage visitors and potential new members on Sundays.
- Host events to provide an opportunity for new members to engage with ministry chairs and other parish members.
- Develop new member materials.

WHERE WE NEED YOU

We are always in need of volunteers to help identify and engage new members and to help develop new member materials and communication.



AHEPA

Jimmy Mitsios
jmitsios@bellsouth.net

Known as the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association. The mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence. For more information please contact the President of AHEPA Jimmy Mitsios.

ARCHONS

Jimmy Mitsios
jmitsios@bellsouth.net

An Archon is an honoree by His All Holiness, the Ecumenical Patriarch, for his outstanding service to the Church, and a well-known distinguished, and well-respected leader of the Greek Orthodox Community (at large). It is by the grace of God that the Archon has been able to offer his good works and deeds of faith. Further, it is the sworn oath of the Archon to defend and promote the Greek Orthodox faith and tradition. His special concern and interest is to serve as a bulwark to protect and promote the Holy Patriarchate and its mission. He is also concerned with the human race's inalienable rights wherever and whenever they are violated – and the well-being and general welfare of the Church. This honor, extended by the Church, carries with it grave responsibilities, deep commitments, and sincere dedication. Consequently, it is of utmost importance that this honor of obligation be bestowed upon individuals of proven Orthodox Christian character, who conform faithfully to the teachings of Christ, and the doctrines, canons, worship, discipline, and encyclicals of the Church. Furthermore, the honoree should have demonstrated to a greater than average degree his commitment toward the stewardship of time, talent, and treasure, for the betterment of the Church; Parish-Diocese; Archdiocese; and the community as a whole, and must truly be deserving of the proclamation AXIOS.

MINISTRIES

SJTD GREEK DANCE PROGRAMS

Staci Lagoutaris (outgoing, new leader TBA)
holytrinitydanceclt@gmail.com

MISSION

To perpetuate our Greek culture through the traditions of dance, music, song, and folklore. We strive to promote and preserve those living links to our roots through education, performance and fellowship for St. John the Divine and the community at large.

- ❑ We offer dance for two levels, from our youngest T'Adelphia teen group through our adult programs.
- ❑ We have a wonderful curriculum that aims to expose our students to a wide variety of regional dance styles.

PROGRAMS

- ❑ T'Adelphia Teen Greek Dance
Practices are on Wednesday Evenings.
- ❑ Adult competitive and recreational Greek Dance
Practices are on Wednesday Evenings

WHERE WE NEED YOU

We are always in need of volunteers to help with costumes, special events, and fundraising.



Performing at the 2021 Greek Festival



MINISTRIES

Greek Festival

Barbara Rappaport birapp@comcast.net

<https://jaxgreekfest.com/>

The annual Jacksonville Greek Festival has become one of the largest cultural events in greater Jacksonville. If you are new to the community, the Jacksonville Greek Festival also serves as a great opportunity to meet and connect with fellow parishioners.



2022 Festival Dates:

This year the festival will take place
November 4th – 6th.



WHERE WE NEED YOU

It takes many hands to make the Jax Greek Festival a success. There are countless opportunities to help - before, during, and after the festival.

PRE-FESTIVAL

- Join the Festival Committee: Contact Barbara Rappaport for more information.
- Help Prep Food: Check your email for food preparation dates and simply come.
- Become a Festival Sponsor: Information is sent out each summer.
- Facility Prep: Contact the Church office if you would like to help.

WEEKEND OF FESTIVAL

- Volunteer! Help is needed everywhere. Contact Barbara if you have a specific area in which you would like to volunteer. If you don't know or forget to sign up beforehand, please come to the festival and ask the office where you are needed.

POST-FESTIVAL

- Facility Cleanup: This is often overlooked, but there is much to put away after the festival. Please contact the Church office if you have time to help.

ADDITIONAL INFO

Please also contact Barbara Rappaport for more information on:

- Advertising
- Sponsorships
- Donations
- Vendors

MINISTRIES

Orthodoxy 101

frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

The mission and goal of the class is to offer an introduction to the teachings and practices of the Orthodox faith to inquirers and Orthodox Christians who want to learn more about their faith. This serves as part of the process of entering into the Orthodox Church and a refresher for Orthodox Christians seeking a concise understanding of the most important aspects of the ancient faith of Orthodoxy. All lessons will take both historical circumstances and contemporary realities into consideration.

MEETING TIMES

- Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in the Cafeteria and via Zoom. Check the Monthly Calendar.

Bible Study

office@stjohnthedivine.com

Every Wednesday Night at 6:00 pm, Father Nicholas leads members of our Church Family in a Bible Study. These studies are hosted at various parishioner's homes across the city of Jacksonville. Locations change week to week. Our schedule is located on the Church Calendar. We also begin each meeting with a Lenten Potluck, so we encourage participants to bring their favorite meat and dairy free dish!

MEETING TIMES

- Weekly on Wednesday evenings. Check the monthly calendar. All ages are welcome.

Bookstore

COMING SOON!

The SJTD Bookstore will become a ministry of our Church that aims to educate our Greek Orthodox community and make Orthodoxy available to the greater Jacksonville community. The Bookstore specializes in Orthodox religious items like books, icons, and gifts.



Virtual Services & Online Education Ministry

Many of our ministries are now online through our social media accounts and Zoom. You can find information about upcoming offerings in the Monthly Calendar, the church website (www.stjohnthedivine.com), or on our social media platforms - Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

MINISTRIES

Gardening Ministry

Chris Gay

debandchris55@comcast.net

We meet once a month on Saturdays, please check the Church calendar for more information.

Mission: To provide liturgical herbs for the church, fruit and vegetables for donations to the church's charities and the ELC, flowers and a gardening education/experience for the congregation and the ELC, as well as ensuring maintenance of the plantings around the church.

Vision: To celebrate and share the beauty and bounty of God's creation while fulfilling our parish mission of service to the community.

Guiding Principles:

- All produce will be raised for the church from seed.
- Will employ natural fertilizers and soil development principles.
- Adhere to the mechanical removal of problem insects.
- No use of herbicides or insecticides.
- The ministry members will meet quarterly to plan crop rotation and what is grown.
- Recommended plant donations for trees and shrubs will be posted each quarter.
- Whenever possible the congregation will be invited to participate in each planting and harvest.
- Maintenance, improvement, and care for the garden grounds is the responsibility of the parish under the

guidance of the garden ministry. It is the Church family's garden.

- Plants will not be planted in the garden area unless approved by the garden ministry to ensure that existing plantings are not damaged and that the cultivation requirements can be met.
- The harvest will be provided in baskets to Fr. Lough for a blessing on the altar during Sunday service and presentation to the congregation before they are donated to City Rescue.
- Outreach ministry to provide landscape support to house-bound parishioners when requested in concert with other youth ministries.
- Monthly classes for the congregation will be provided in the Cafenia at 10:00 on the last Saturday of the month. Will include an overview of gardening priorities for Florida for that month, a class on one of the following subjects, and a plant donation and/or pick up if any are available followed by garden maintenance.

Recommended courses are:

- House Plants 101
- Fertilizer basics
- Soil development and composting
- Permaculture basics
- Butterfly garden and Birds in the landscape
- Vegetable Gardening
- Lawn maintenance in Florida
- Citrus and Fruit Trees
- Florida Friendly Gardening
- Pruning do's and don'ts
- Easy Orchids
- Integrated Pest Management

MINISTRIES

Greek School

MISSION

The Greek School offers courses for both youth and adults, from beginner's levels to advanced. The Greek School provides our youth and adults with essential skills for reading, writing, speaking and comprehending the modern Greek language. At the same time, the school helps preserve a culture, a language, an educational model, an intellectual, academic and philosophical contribution, and an ethos as rich and as enduring as Greek civilization, from its antiquity to today.

DIRECTOR

→ Nicole Tamvaka
nicoletamvaka@gmail.com

ADULT CLASS

→ Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm

CHILDREN'S CLASS

→ Tuesdays 5:00 – 6:00 pm
Target age group (1st grade and older)

Parea Fellowship

Nick Pappadis
pappadismd@gmail.com

If you are interested in experiencing the language, culture and hospitality of Greece please join us for PAREA in the Church cafe on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

A “Parea” in Greek culture is a group of friends who regularly gather together to share their experiences about life, their philosophies, values and ideas.



MINISTRIES

Early Learning Center

(904) 396-5384

debra.barley@stjohnthedivine.com



<https://earlylearning.stjohnthedivinejax.org/>

MISSION

St. John the Divine Early Learning Center, a high-quality program, is focused on providing an engaging, nurturing, stimulating, Christian environment where children develop spiritually, emotionally, socially and physically. Our innovative program is enhanced with exploration in science and math and incorporates a developmentally appropriate play-based curriculum.

We serve infants through Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) students, with operating hours from 7:00 am until 6:00 pm Monday through Friday year-round. If you would like to tour our facility or have any questions regarding our ELC, please contact us at (904) 396-5384 or [send us an email](mailto:debra.barley@stjohnthedivine.com).

For more information, tuition, and policies, contact the director.

LEADERSHIP

→ **Rev. Fr. Nicholas G. Louh**
Parish Priest

→ **Debra Barley**
ELC Director
debra.barley@stjohnthedivine.com

→ **Athena Mann**
Chair, Board of Directors
[mannathome@gmail.com](mailto:mannahathome@gmail.com)

CLASSES

- Infants
- One year old
- Two year old
- Three year old
- Four year old



MINISTRIES

Sunday School

Wendy Regas wendyregas@gmail.com

Superintendent

MISSION

To provide our youth with a Christ-centered education of our Orthodox Faith, and to cultivate a community through Worship, Fellowship, Service, and Witness.

MINISTRY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Administration & Communication
- Curriculum & Resource Development
- Subcommittee & Volunteer Management
- Program Fundraising & Special Events
- Teacher Recruitment

SUBCOMMITTEES

- Christmas Pageant Committee
- Oratorical Festival



St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival competitors

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Christine Stavros

christinestavros1@gmail.com

Anna Montauderes

annapm@outlook.com

Our vacation Bible school is a five-day summer camp for rising K-6th graders focusing on Christ and his teachings through crafts, music, games, and fellowship groups.

VBS 2022



MINISTRIES

Men's Bible Study

Chris Regas
chrisregas@gmail.com

Group - Men of all ages
Meeting Times – Tuesdays at 11:30 am in the Church office conference room.

This ministry provides Christ-centered, spiritual environments and programs unique to men. It will encourage them to help one another to more strongly realize their Orthodox Christian responsibilities as husbands, fathers, and friends.

Women's Bible Fellowship

Wendy Regas
wendyregas@gmail.com

Group - Women of all ages
Meeting Times – Tuesdays at 10:30 am

Welcome to Women's Bible Fellowship—a lively, interactive hour of fellowship centered in Christian readings, scripture, and the shared wisdom of experience. Join us each Tuesday from 10:30-11:30 am for discussion of the week's readings and encouragement to grow in our connection to Christ.

Young At Heart Ministry (55+)

Tina Griffin
mingopoulos@gmail.com

Group - 55 years old and above

Meeting Times – once monthly on Wednesdays
This group is a monthly lunch event and is full of activities, speakers, entertainment and, most importantly, an opportunity to come together in fellowship in the Church café.



Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)

Fr. Sebastian
frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

Group - College students

Meeting Times - Once a month, evening meal and spiritual discussion (locations vary)

The mission of our local OCF organization is to inspire area graduate and undergraduate college and university students to acquire greater self-awareness of their relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and God, and with their fellow man.

MINISTRIES

Sunday Fellowship Coffee Hour

Betty Carantza
usgreeks@aol.com

You or your ministry can sponsor a Sunday coffee hour in honor or in memory of a loved one, or for a special event or celebration by contacting the church office at (904) 396-5383.

Young Adult Life (YAL)

Eleni Angelopoulos
hurricane.eleni@gmail.com

Group - All young adults 18 to 35 (approx), single, married, with or without children
Meeting Times – Once a month.

Our mission is to cultivate relationships among our young adults, while striving together for the fullness of the Orthodox Christian faith, through attainment of the image and likeness of God (Theosis) and by practicing the four circles of Christian living: Worship (Liturgia), Witness (Martyria), Service (Diakonia) and Fellowship (Koinonia).



Couples Ministry

Fr. Sebastian
frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

Group - Couples, all ages

Meeting Times - Check the Monthly Calendar

This vibrant group brings together couples of varying ages and explores ways to more intimately connect with God, spouse, and children. It's easy to lose our connection with our spouse and children when faced with many responsibilities. Couples Ministry helps us refocus our attention and deepen our connection to the people that matter.

Community Events

St. John the Divine has many community events throughout the year, including our Name Day Panagiri, Family Fun Nights, Luncheons, and Christmas performances. Much help is needed for each event. If you are interested in helping with an event or organizing a new one, please contact the church office at (904) 396-5383.

MINISTRIES

Mom's Ministry

Sarah Saleh

hapsoulis@gmail.com

Sabrina Kuruvilla

sabrina.kuruvilla@gmail.com

Group - Children up to 5 years of age

Meeting times: Once monthly

The Mom's Ministry is dedicated to bringing younger children and their families together while participating in fun educational and religious activities all year long.

HOPE

Fr. Sebastian

frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

Grades Kindergarten to 3rd

Meeting Times – Various, Check Calendar

HOPE is the ministry for children PVK-4 to 2nd Grade. Since HOPE is a ministry, the orientation and implementation of the program should reflect the Orthodox Christian Faith, Tradition and Life.

The mission and goal of the HOPE ministry is to lead our children in experiencing the Holy Orthodox Faith. By developing a personal relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and becoming active sacramental members of the living church, our children will be equipped with tools necessary to assist them in their journey toward salvation. By laying a foundation of faith at this age, the young people will have something that will guide and strengthen them through life.

JOY

Fr. Sebastian Mot

frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

Grades – 3rd to 6th

Meeting Times – Various, Check Calendar

The Junior Orthodox Youth (J.O.Y.) is designed for children in grades 3rd-6th. This group gathers for fun and fellowship in the context of Christ's Church and His teachings and since JOY is a ministry, the orientation and implementation of the program should reflect the Orthodox Christian Faith, Tradition and Life.

Greek Orthodox Youth of America (GOYA)

Michele Megas

mpmegas@gmail.com

Grades 6th to 12th

Meeting Times - Various, Check Calendar

Our mission is to provide 6th through 12th graders the opportunity for fellowship, service, witness and worship with one another, and with other members throughout the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, so they may grow in wisdom, have faith and love for Christ, His Church, and everyone around them. Activities include religious retreats, worship, service, athletic activities, and social programs.

MINISTRIES

American Heritage Girls (AHG)

Robin Dewey

robindewey@bellsouth.net

Meeting times: Various Check Calendar

American Heritage Girls provides Christian leadership programming tailored to the age and ability of each child. Our progressive program consists of six key components known as the AHG Program Emphases. A girl who completes the AHG Program will be a Christ-following servant leader who is honoring, relational, anchored in Christ, and competent: a woman of integrity.

The American Heritage Girls (AHG) Program enables a girl to grow in her FAITH, cultivate a heart for SERVICE, and have more FUN than she can imagine! American Heritage Girls remains committed to our founding principles of being Christ-centered and girl-centric.

AHG focuses on providing progressive Christian programming that is rich in opportunities for girls of all ages and abilities. As girls grow and change, so should the activities that they do. With each AHG Level, girls are introduced to new skills, experiences (including outdoor adventures) and leadership positions, as well as given opportunities to grow closer to the Lord.

God's Grafted Girls (G3)

Stacy Kokkinos

skokkinos711@hotmail.com

Meeting Times – Various Check Calendar

G3- God's Grafted Girls is a ministry to help guide our young girls through the challenges of living a Christian life in today's world. They are constantly bombarded with negative imagery, and suggestive material in everything from television, movies, music, books, and sadly even cartoons. Through Bible study, prayer journaling, fellowship, crafts, games, and service, we hope to bring each of them closer to God in their daily walk of faith. Our ministry will meet once, to twice a month on Sundays immediately following Divine Liturgy. Contact Stacy for more information.

Cub Scouts of America

Fr. Sebastian Mot

frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

COMING SOON!

MINISTRIES

Altar Boys

Fr. Sebastian

frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com

Tom Gibson

duffygorator@gmail.com

For all boys from 3rd to 12th grade that wish to help serve in the Holy Altar under the guidance of the Priest. Information is sent out each fall in the Bulletin.

Prospora Baking & Koliva Preparation

John Demopoulos jcd227@gmail.com

Tee Pappas diapappas@comcast.net

This group provides the Prospora (church bread) for Divine Liturgy as it is needed, and prepares and distributes Koliva (wheat) for Memorial Services. Prospora baking and Koliva preparation is a detailed spiritual ministry in its practice. For learning and guidance, please contact Tee or John.



Myrrh Bearing Girls

Karen Koloniotis

halkida@att.net

For all Orthodox Girls beginning at age 5 and up. Serving outside the altar along with the altar boys and learning to follow along with the Liturgy.

Ushers

Anthony Megas awmegas@gmail.com

Composed of Parish council members and other experienced lay members of the Church willing to help in the Narthex to ensure an orderly worship service by guiding the parishioners into the Church and helping the Priests as needed.

St. John the Divine Choirs

MISSION

Part of the beauty of the Orthodox Liturgy is attributed to its liturgical music. St. John the Divine has a long history rich in its choir participation. The St. John the Divine Choir ministry is a year-round commitment and members participate along with the Priests during each Sunday Liturgy and special services during Lent and Advent.

For more than 40 years, the choir was led by Mrs. Frances (Pappas) Tsengas. Under her direction choir members worshiped using liturgical music written by various composers including Kypros, Bogdanos, and Maragos. Her leadership made the choir ministry more than just a part of the liturgy, the choir members became their own family within the St. John the Divine church family.

That legacy continues today as the St. John the Divine choir has grown to more than forty choir members which includes many of our senior parishioners along with many youth members and under the direction of Choir Director, Maria Chrissovergis. The choir incorporates various composers during the liturgy each Sunday and has been given accolades by His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios during the ordination services of our Rev. Dr. Nicholas Louh and more recently during the Clergy Laity Conference hosted by our parish in 2019.

The choir members typically participate in routine choir practices that take place Sunday immediately following Divine Liturgy. They also enjoy an annual retreat giving them an

opportunity to learn new liturgical music and prepare for the Christmas season. Many of its members also participate in the annual Southeast Choir Federation Conferences each summer.

St. John the Divine parishioners will attest, the church choir lifts the congregation to a higher spiritual level each Sunday during worship services. Their music is not only inspirational but truly a joyful noise lifted each Sunday to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

WHERE WE NEED YOU

Have you been blessed with the desire and talent to sing? Would you like to do more than just follow along with the choir in the singing of our worship? Are you willing to prepare with the choir so that our spiritual celebrations go smoothly and beautifully? Are you willing to share your musical talent and offer it back to the Lord just as He granted it to you? If yes, please join any or all of our wonderful choirs! Please email any of our directors for more information!

Byzantine Chanters

Nick Pappadis pappadismd@gmail.com

Nassim Elias nelias25@gmail.com

This group chants the Orthros service and part of the Divine Liturgy each Sunday, and special services throughout the year, using traditional Byzantine chant.

Adult Choir

Maria Chrissovergis maria@mcpragency.com

Athena Mann mannathome@gmail.com

This group sings and chants the first Divine Liturgy, at 10:00 am each Sunday, using the Divine Liturgy Hymnal.

Ministry	POC Name	Phone Number	Email
Altar Boys	Fr. Sebastian Mot Tom Gibson	904-396-5383 904-525-7759	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com duffyigator@gmail.com
AHEPA	George Maillis	904-674-0674	maillis@bellsouth.net
American Heritage Girls	Robin Dewey	904-502-4524	robindewey@bellsouth.net
Bible Study (Wednesday Night)	Fr. Nicholas Louh Fr. Sebastian Mot	904-396-5383	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com
Bookstore	TBD	904-396-5383	
Choir Director (Adult)	Maria Chrissovergis	904-762-4573	mariatsataros@yahoo.com
Choir Director (Chanter)	Nick Pappadis Nassim Elias	904-333-3983 904-651-2232	pappadismd@gmail.com nelias25@gmail.com
Coffee Hour (Sunday)	Betty Carantza	561-379-4682	usgreeks@aol.com
Couples Ministry	Fr. Sebastian Mot	904-396-5383	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com
Early Learning Center	Athena Mann	904-563-1786	mannathome@gmail.com
God's Grafted Girls (G3)	Stacy Kokkinos	904-716-8813	skokkinos711@hotmail.com
GOYA (7 th -12 th)	Michele Megas	904-514-9156	mpmegas@gmail.com
Greek Festival	Barbara Rapport	904-571-4292	birapp@comcast.net
Greek Dance Teen - T'Adelphia & Adult	Staci Lagoutaris	904-472-9396	holytrinitydanceclt@gmail.com
Greek Dance (Elementary)	Fr. Sebastian Mot	904-396-5383	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com
Greek School Director	Nicole Tamvaka		nicoletamvaka@gmail.com
Handmade for the Homeless	Stacy Kokkinos	904-716-8813	skokkinos711@hotmail.com
Homeless Ministry (CRM)	Roxanne Attanasio	904-449-3063	roxanneattanasio3@gmail.com
Homeless Ministry Bags	Mark Lasoff	386-931-5703	markl860@aol.com
HOPE (K-2 nd Grade)	Fr. Sebastian Mot	904-396-5383	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com
Hospitality Committee	Deb and Chris Gay Bill and Maria Pappas	760-277-3436 / 3438 904-449-4942	debandchris55@comcast.net mmpappas@bellsouth.net
JOY (3 rd -6 th Grade)	Fr. Sebastian Mot	904-396-5383	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com
Medical Society	Fr. Sebastian Mot	904-396-5383	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com
Men's Bible Study	Chris Regas	904-607-6442	chrisregas@gmail.com
Mission Trip	Fr. Sebastian Mot	904-396-5383	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com
Mom's Ministry	Sabrina Kuruvilla Sarah Saleh	904-476-8579 614-638-9744	sabrina.kuruvilla@gmail.com hapsoulis@gmail.com
Myrrh Bearing Girls	Diak. Karen Koloniotis	904-645-9208	halkida@att.net
Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)	Fr. Sebastian Mot	904-396-5383	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com
Orthodoxy 101	Fr. Sebastian Mot	904-396-5383	frsebastian@stjohnthedivine.com
Parish Council	George Stavros (President)	910-315-9449	georgestavros@gmail.com
Philoptochos Society	Effie Lasoff (President)	386-931-5705	greekel2374@aol.com
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Pam Toundas	904-614-0847	pandbtoundas@hotmail.com
Prison Ministry	TBD	904-396-5383	
Prospora Ministry	Yianni Demopoulos Tee Pappas	407-580-8303 904-448-9416	jcd227@gmail.com diapappas@comcast.net
Share the Light	Betty Ticoras Sandra Rogan Lesley Sunas	262-707-0822 904-514-9009 757-705-0873	ticorasfam@yahoo.com sandrakrogan@gmail.com lesleysunas@yahoo.com
Stewardship Committee	Nassim Elias Tom Gibson	904-651-2232 904-525-7759	nelias25@gmail.com duffyigator@gmail.com
Sunday School Superintendent	Wendy Regas	904-607-6442	wendyregas@gmail.com
Ushers	Anthony Megas	904-699-8229	awmegas@gmail.com
Vacation Bible School	Christine Stavros Anna Montauredes	904-540-9431	christinestavros1@gmail.com annapm@outlook.com
Veteran's Group	Athena Tickner	904-707-9115	athena.tickner@gmail.com
Women's Bible Study	Wendy Regas	904-607-6442	wendyregas@gmail.com
Young Adult Life (YAL)	Eleni Angeloupoulos		hurricane.eleni@gmail.com
Young At Heart (55+)	Tina Griffin	904-346-1980	mingopoulos@gmail.com
Youth Choir	Stacy Kokkinos	904-716-8813	skokkinos711@hotmail.com
ZOE (Widow's Min.)	Diak. Karen Koloniotis	904-645-9208	halkida@att.net



If you would like to join a ministry, please visit our Church website at:
www.stjohnthedivine.com