

From the Fathers (and others):

One man asked a priest: "If God is everywhere, why do I go to Church?" The priest replied: "The whole universe is filled with water, but when you want a drink you have to go to a fountain or well."

Unless we look at a person and see the beauty there is in this person, we can contribute nothing to him. One does not help a person by discerning what is wrong, what is ugly, what is distorted. Christ looked at everyone He met, at the prostitute, at the thief, and saw the beauty hidden there. Perhaps it was distorted, perhaps damaged, but it was beauty none the less, and what He did was to call out this beauty.

Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

As Christians we are here to affirm the supreme value of direct sharing, of immediate encounter —not machine to machine, but person to person, face to face.

Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

A brother asked Abba Poemen, "If I see my brother sin, is it right to say nothing about it?" The old man replied, "whenever we cover our brother's sin, God will cover ours; whenever we tell people about our brother's guilt, God will do the same about ours."

Abba Poemen
Sayings of the Desert Fathers

Do not let pass any opportunity to pray for anyone, either at his request or at the request of his relatives, friends, of those who esteem him, or of his acquaintances. The Lord looks favorably upon the prayer of our love, and upon our boldness before him. Besides this, prayer for others is very beneficial to the one himself who prays for others; it purifies the heart, strengthens faith and hope in God, and enkindles our love for God and our neighbor. When praying, say thus: 'Lord, it is possible for Thee to do this or that to this servant of Thine; do this for him, for Thy name is the Merciful Love of Men and the Almighty.'

Saint John of Kronstadt

St. John Orthodox Church



*~ October 16, 2016 ~
Sunday of the Holy Fathers
of the 7th Ecumenical Council*

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE
MEMPHIS, TN 38107
(901) 274-4119

www.stjohnmemphis.org

www.orthodoxtupelo.com

V. Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers
Pastor

V. Rev. Fr. John Troy Mashburn, Jr.
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Fr. Donald Berge
Attached

V. Rev. Fr. Basil Cushman
Associate Pastor

Rev. Fr. Alexander Mackoul
Assistant Pastor

GREAT VESPERS
Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

ORTHROS and CHURCH SCHOOL
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

DIVINE LITURGY
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
“...the Disciples were called Christians first in Antioch!”
Acts 11:26

October 16, 2016

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

Gospel: Luke 7:11-16

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **the Harvey family**.

Welcome to all those visiting St. John Orthodox Church. We are honored by your presence. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church.

If you are from a non-Orthodox background you may see new things such as icons, incense, the sign of the cross, the veneration of saints, and a great deal of standing. These can be perplexing to the uninitiated eye. Rest assured that everything we do has a solid biblical foundation and a long history among Christian people. Please feel free to participate where you feel comfortable, and feel equally as free only to observe when you prefer.

The Orthodox Church understands the Eucharist, or Lord's Supper, to be – among other things – the paramount expression of Christian unity. While it is our deepest hope that Christendom will one day fulfill Christ's desire for true unity among all those who claim His name (John 17:21), the unfortunate reality of our day is that the various segments of Christendom are not unified with the historic Orthodox faith. *Since participation in the Eucharist expresses a unity with all the dogma and practice of the Orthodox Church, non-Orthodox guests do not receive Holy Communion.* The Holy Eucharist is reserved for those members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting, and recent confession. All visitors and unprepared Orthodox are invited to partake of the blessed bread as they come forward to venerate the cross at the end of the Liturgy. Thank you for your understanding.

ST. JOHN CALENDAR

Oct. 16 - 23 (Wed. & Fri. Fast)

- Sunday** -Teen Group, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., St. John
- Monday** - First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Barksdale's
-Catechumen/Inquirers class, 7:00 p.m.; Divine Liturgy, Pt. 1, Fr. Philip
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Vespers, 5:30 p.m., Parish Meal following
-Wednesday Teaching, 7:00 p.m.; Orthodox Music, Fr. Alex
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Friday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Paraklesis, 12:00 p.m.
- Saturday** -Baby Shower for Christina Moore, 11:00 a.m., Kh. Pamela's home
-Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
-Holy Baptism of Violet Hight following Vespers
- Sunday** -Orthros, 8:45 a.m.
-Church School, 9:00 a.m.
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, October 23, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST:	Fr. Alex	HOMILY:	Fr. Alex
READER:	David Twombly	USHER:	Matt Spinolo
HOLY BREAD:	Lavinia Dumitrache		
ALTAR SERVERS:	Zach, Trent, Max, Eli, Nicholas, Thomas		
COFFEE HOUR:	Mitch & Sandy Childress, Charlie & Meribeth Harvey, Sue Brownlow		

Churching

TODAY: Julie and Violet Hight

Baptisms

October 22: Violet Hight

November 5: Luna Marie Sumner

Chrismation

November 13: Marshall and Kathryn McWhorter

Memorials

October 30:

Helen Luttrell, 18 years;
Margaret Layman, 4 years

COMMEMORATIONS

Oct. 16: Martyr Longinos the centurion who stood at the cross of the Lord; Gall, enlightener of Switzerland.

Oct. 17: Prophet Hosea; Venerable-martyr Andrew of Crete.

Oct. 18: Apostle Luke the Evangelist; Martyr Marinos the Elder at Anazarbos; Venerable Theodore and Simeon; New-martyr Gabriel of Egypt; Peter of Cetinje.

Oct. 19: Prophet Joel; Martyr Varos; Mnason, Bishop of Cyprus; Venerable John of Rila and Prochoros of Pchinja.

Oct. 20: Great-martyr Artemios at Antioch; Gerasimos the New Ascetic of Kephallenia; Venerable Matrona of Chios.

Oct. 21: Venerable Hilarion the Great; Venerable Christodoulos of Patmos; Hieromartyr Soctrates; Martyr Theodota; Venerable Philotheos, Barnabas and Hilarion, bishop of Meglin in Bulgaria; New-martyr John of Monemvasia; Venerable-confessors Vissarion and Sophroios of Ciorara and Martyr Oprea of Salistie in Romania.

Oct. 22: Averkios the wonder-worker, equal-to-the-Apostles and bishop of Hierapolis; Seven youths (“Seven Sleepers”) martyred in Ephesos; Bishop Eulalios.

Oct. 23: Apostle James, brother of the Lord; Ignatios, patriarch of Constantinople; James of Borovich, wonder-worker of Novgorod.



Food Pantry – St. Brigid Food Pantry is running low on food. Items needed are: canned vegetables, canned meat/pasta, crackers, individual fruit cups, snacks, Vienna sausages, etc. Donations may be left in bin next to the pantry.

Wednesday Teaching. Wednesday evening Fr. Alex will begin a series on Orthodox music, both Byzantine and Slavic customs. This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the history of our tradition!

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – Take a look at the bulletin boards in the parish hall to get a glimpse of what we do in the atrium! There are many ways in which you can help us as our atrium grows. There is a list of items and projects we need assistance with on the bulletin boards for those who are interested. Please continue to pray for us!

Parish Pictures for the bulletin board – It has been some time since we last took parish pictures for the bulletin board downstairs. The bulletin board provides an easy way for newcomers to put faces with names. We have had many marriages, babies and new families since 2010! Trent Terry will be taking pictures each Sunday in October. You can sign up downstairs or on Sign Up Genius for the day that is most convenient for you and your family, or just show up! Weather permitting, the pictures will be taken outside on the west side of the building.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

October 16-23

Sunday	Titus	3:8-15	Luke	8:5-15
Monday	Ephesians	4:25-32	Luke	9:18-22
Tuesday	Colossians	4:5-11, 14-18	Luke	10:16-21
Wednesday	Acts	2:14-21	Luke	9:44-50
Thursday	Ephesians	5:33-6:9	Luke	9:49-56
Friday	2 Corinthians	9:6-11	Luke	10:1-15
Saturday	1 Corinthians	15:39-45	Luke	7:1-10
Sunday	Galatians	1:11-19	Luke	8:26-39



Pray for our catechumens: Memphis - Ben Arthur; Marshall & Kathryn McWhorter.

Please remember in your prayers - Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Charles Ingram, Ted Greathouse (Shelley Snowden’s father), Allen Sudduth (Paul’s father), Janet Berry, Nicholas Hill, Mary Sue Johnson (Jason Guntharpe’s grandmother), Janna Knight (pregnant), Angela Leopold (pregnant), Chelsea Yadron (pregnant), Sarah Finley (pregnant), Caitlin Romero (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Brenda Thomas, Doris & Jim (Brenda Thomas’ family), Dot Lawson (Lawson Bowick’s grandmother), Lisa Catlett (Fr. Don & Kh. Martha’s daughter), Glenda Brooks, Anna Grace (Joyce Grossman’s granddaughter), Elfreida Drobashevsky, Maria Bellaflores, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

teen group

TODAY: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Church Tour and Minute to Win It at St. John
NEXT WEEK, October 22: Bake Holy Bread, Great Vespers, Dinner
COMING UP: Lock-In, November 18-19

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 10/16:** Stephen Sanderlin
Anniversary: Ethan & Claire van Drimmelen
- Tuesday, 10/18:** *Luke, the Evangelist: Luke Heisig*
- Wednesday, 10/19:** *John of Kronstadt: John Cameron*
- Friday, 10/21:** Nancy Ingram, Judy Terry
- Saturday, 10/22:** Zachary A. White, Margie Yarbrow

Master Plan Updates

Progress on final drawings/contractor/etc. – We had a very productive meeting with the contractor and architect on Friday. We are moving closer and closer to understanding our final costs. As we assumed, the numbers presented by the contractor were higher than the initial estimates. Over the next two weeks we hope to prioritize our needs and make final cost cutting decisions. Lord willing, we will be prepared to present the new plans and costs at a parish meeting on Sunday, November 6.

Women of St. John ~ AWSJ

- Oct. 22** **Baby Shower for Christina Moore**, 11:00 a.m.
- Oct. 29** **Fall Fest and Chili Cook Off** – *see insert*
- Nov. 3** **Secret Sister Reveal Potluck** – All are invited! 6:30 p.m. at Corinne Elliott’s home.
- Nov. 3** **Women’s Teaching**, 10:00 a.m., Kh. Pamela’s home
- Nov. 7** **Book Club**, 7:00 p.m., *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
- Nov. 11-12** **AWSJ Retreat** – Our speaker will be Dr. Nicole Rocca, author of *Time and Despondency*, and best known for her blog and podcast, “Time Eternal.”

LIBRARY LINES

Which Ecumenical Council do we honor today??? Hint: It’s the one that many would say defines the Orthodox Church in the world’s eyes. Also, it’s the one we honor on the Sunday of Orthodoxy. In 787, the Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council (10/12) decreed that the icons were not idols and veneration of them was honorable. Thank God for these holy men. See the stories of the Councils in *The First Seven Ecumenical Councils, A Noble Task, Foundations of Social Order*, and *The Ecumenical Synods of the Orthodox Church*.

Several of the saints actively opposed Christianity before their conversion. Today we honor St. Longinus (10/16), the centurion who stood at the foot of the Cross. Tradition says that he was cured of an eye ailment when water and blood poured out of the wound inflicted by him in Christ’s side. He was later baptized by the Apostles and martyred by Pilate.

Once again we commemorate the translation of a saint’s relics. This time it’s for the Righteous Lazarus (10/17). He lived thirty years after Christ called him forth from the tomb and his relics were discovered in a marble coffin inscribed with the words, “Lazarus of the four days, the friend of Christ.” They were transferred to Byzantium around the year 900. Read more about Christ raising him in *The Resurrection and the Icon* (ART ICO QUE).

The Prophet Hosea (10/17) lived in the 9th century B.C. and was a contemporary of the Prophets Isaiah, Micah and Amos. Besides warning the Jews of their captivity by the Assyrians unless they repented of their sins, he foretold the end of sacrifices and the priesthood as they knew it. He also prophesied Christ’s resurrection and triumph over death.

St. Luke (10/18) is a well-known and much loved apostle. He shows us the Beauty of our Church in words and in images. However, few may realize that He was one of the Seventy. He wrote two books of the Bible, accompanied St. Paul on his journeys, and painted the first icons of the Mother of God. St. John Library owns five books on his works: *Commentary of the Gospel of Luke* (REF PAT CYR), *Exposition of the Holy Gospel According to St. Luke* (PAT AMB), *Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to St. Luke* (REF PAT THE), *Acts* (SCR COM CRO), and *Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles* (REF PAT BED). See *The Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR), *The Lives of the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - HOL) and *Notes on the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - MAS) for details about his life.

Who is a constant source of comfort when our non-Orthodox relatives die? St. Varus (10/19) is much loved and prayed-to saint in our parish. He was a Roman soldier in Egypt and a secret Christian. He joined a band of martyrs being encouraged by them, much like the 40 martyrs of Sebaste. His relics were rescued by a pious widow, and St. Varus appeared to her at her son’s death. He is a saint who intercedes for the souls of our relatives outside the Church.

Asleep for 200 years! Our Holy Tradition passes down stories of events that defy the natural order of the world. The seven sleepers of Ephesus (10/22 and 8/4) retreated in a cave to pray and fast in preparation for martyrdom. The pagan emperor had the cave sealed, and God preserved the youths, asleep for over 200 years. The Mystery of the Resurrection was shown to all when their cave was discovered and the sleepers were found alive at a period in history when heretics denied the physical resurrection.

REGULAR ALMS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:

Birthright ☩ St. John Alms Fund ☩ St. Brigid Food Pantry ☩ Rachel’s Kids, Inc. ☩ St. John Camping Fund ☩ Nativity Alms for the Homeless ☩ Diocese of Miami and the Southeast Mission Fund ☩ Michael & Abigail Bittle Fund