

From the Fathers (and others):

... if you have diligence and zeal, you will be given greater grace from God. But he who has neither diligence nor zeal, by his negligence will extinguish and lose even that grace which he seems to have from God.

Blessed Theophylact

... when Christ has come to be within us He lulls to sleep the law that rages in the members of flesh. He rekindles our reverence towards God, while simultaneously causing the passions to atrophy. He does not reckon our faults against us. Instead, He tends us as a doctor would his patients. For He binds up that which has been wounded, He raises that which has fallen, as a good shepherd who has laid down His life for His sheep (cf. Jn. 10:11).

St. Cyril of Alexandria

"When praying to the Lord, to the Mother of God, or to the saints, always remember that the Lord will give you according to your heart. He will 'grant thee according to thine own heart' (Psalm 20:4)."

St. John of Kronstadt

... when death has been brought upon a saint, we ought not to think that an evil has happened to him but a thing indifferent; which is an evil to a wicked man, while to the good it is rest and freedom from evils. 'For death is rest to a man whose way is hidden' (Job 3:23 LXX). And so a good man does not suffer any loss from it."

St. John Cassian

"What does the daily invocation of the saints signify - of different ones each day, during the whole year, and during our whole life? It signifies that God's saints - as our brethren, but perfect - live, and are near us - ever ready to help us by the grace of God. We live together with them in the house of our Heavenly Father, only in different parts of it. We live in the earthly, they in the heavenly half; but we can converse with them, and they with us. God's saints are near to the believing heart, and are ready in a moment to help those who call upon them with faith and love."

St. John of Kronstadt

May you be children of God, pure and unblameable, in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation (cf. Phil. 1:15): and may you never be entangled in the snares of the wicked that go round about, or bound with the chains of your sins. May the Word in you never be smothered with the cares of this life and so make you unfruitful: but may you walk in the King's Highway, turning aside neither to the right hand nor to the left, but led by the Spirit through the narrow gate.

St. Gregory the Theologian

St. John Orthodox Church



*~ October 22, 2017 ~
20th Sunday after Pentecost*

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
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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 22, 2017 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Sarah Hodges**.

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

October 22 - 29 (Wed & Fri Fast)

- Sunday** -Teen Group, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
-Sons of Thunder Men's Book Club, 6:00 p.m.
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m.
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Wednesday meal, 5:30 p.m.
-Wednesday teaching and CGS, 6:15 p.m., Why is the Church important?
-Small Compline, 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Quarterly dinner, 6:30 p.m., Central BBQ on Summer
- Friday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.
- Saturday** -Young Adult's Trip to the Skete
-Ninth Hour and Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
- Sunday** -Orthros, 9:00 a.m.
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, October 29, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Alex HOMILY: Fr. Alex
READER: David Twombly USHER: Matt Spinolo
HOLY BREAD: Harvey Family
ALTAR SERVERS: Zach, Nick, Elijah, Eli, Gabe
COFFEE HOUR: Michael & Mindy Williams, Tyson & Janine Smith

REMOVAL OF CROWNS

Michael and Sarah Elliott

UPCOMING CHURCHING:

Caitlyn & George Maas, October 29

UPCOMING MEMORIALS – OCTOBER 29

Margaret Layman, 5 years
Kitty Gilliland, 15 years
Helen Lutrell – 10 years

COMMEMORATIONS

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

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

Oct. 24: Great-martyr Arethas (al-Haarith) and those with him in Arabia; Martyr Sebastian.

Oct. 25: Martyrs Marcian and Martyrios the notaries; Martyrs Chrisaphos and Chrisanthe; Tabitha the merciful, raised from the dead by the Apostle Peter; translation of the relics of Venerable Sabbas the Sanctified; translation of the relics of Venerable John of Beverly.

Oct. 26: Great-martyr Demetrios the myrrh-streaming of Thessalonika; Venerable-martyr joasaph of Dionysiou monastery on Athos.

Oct. 27: Martyr Nestor of Thessalonika; Procla the wife of Pontius Pilate; Kyriakos, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Nestor the Chronicler of the Kiev Caves.

Oct. 28: Martyrs Terence and Neonilla and their children; Athanasios I, patriarch of Constantinople; New-martyrs Angelis, Manuael, George and Nicholas of Crete; Venerable Stephen of Mar Sabbas monastery in Palestine; Arsenios of Srem, archbishop of Serbia; Great-martyr Paraskeva of Iconium; Venerable Job of Pochaev.

Oct. 29: Venerable-martyr Anastasia the Roman; Venerable Abraham and his niece Mary of Mesopotamia; New-hieromartyr Athanasios of Sparta; Venerable-martyr Timothy of Esphigmenou monastery on Athos; Abraham, bishop of Rostov.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

October 22 - 29

Sunday	Galatians	1:11-19	Luke	8:26-39
Monday	Galatians	1:11-19	Matt	13:54-58
Tuesday	Colossians	1:1-3; 7-11	Luke	11:1-10
Wednesday	Colossians	1:18-23	Luke	11:9-13
Thursday	2 Timothy	2:1-10	Luke	21:12-19
Friday	Colossians	2:1-7	Luke	11:23-26
Saturday	Hebrews	9:1-7	Luke	10:38-42, 11:27-28
Sunday	Galatians	2:16-20	Luke	8:41-56



Pray for our catechumens: Memphis –Justin Bowles, Lucas Whatley, Tom Ashworth, Allie Helms, Jon Mark and Heather Hetrick, Ian Curry, John Curry, Jamie Escue, Marissa Kizer and Kendall Ichniowski.

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), Janine Smith (pregnant), Chelsea Yadron (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), Maria Bellaflores, Sharon (Larry Ichniowski’s mother), Chris Hodges, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



Clergy out of Office – Fr. Philip and Fr. Alex will be attending the Deanery Clergy Retreat Monday through Wednesday and will not be in the office on those days.

Sons of Thunder will meet tonight, Oct. 22, at 6:00 p.m. at the Hodges home. We will be discussing four books: Animal Farm, Brave New World, Nineteen Eighty-Four, and Fahrenheit 451.

Men’s Quarterly Dinner – Our next dinner together is scheduled for **Thursday, October 26**, at Central BBQ on Summer at 6:30 p.m. Come enjoy this time of food and fellowship!

Parents Night Out – The teens will host their annual parents’ night out on Sunday, October 22, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Please feed your children dinner before they come, or send something with them. Babies are welcome! Please be sure they have all of the necessary baby gear – diapers, bottles, etc.

Young Adults – There will be a young adult trip to St. Paul Skete on Saturday, October 28.

Nursery books – We would like to replenish/replace some of the books that are kept in the nursery. If your family would like to donate 1-2 gently used [durable] books that you have outgrown, it would be appreciated! There will be a box labeled in the old parish hall for you to leave them.

Pledge letter. In order to help us with the budget, please do return your pledge cards. Extras may be found in the parish hall. May God bless you as you work to be a good steward of the resources the Lord has blessed you with!!

Room in the Inn - 2017 is Trinity's 5th year of participation and St. John's 4th year of participation. Volunteers are needed Tuesday nights and Wednesday mornings beginning November for set up, greeting, the clothes closet, serving, overnights, and clean up on Wednesday morning. Usually an hour sign up is sufficient, because many hands make light work. Please see Sarah Hodges or Monica Rustom for more information.

Parents Corner:

We all love our new space and how much more comfortable it is. In order to keep it a safe place, please be mindful that children should not be running in any space inside the Church building. This helps us to avoid accidents throughout the Church. Please also be mindful of any mess that your children might make during coffee hour or meals in the Church. Thank you for your help in maintaining our space!

Master Plan Updates

Progress on the St Raphael Hall – Thank you for your patience and grace during this time of change and transition in the physical building!! Lord willing, we are making progress in utilizing our space effectively. The architects and the contractor are working together to come up with suggestions of how to help with the liveliness of the sound in the new hall. May God give discernment as we move forward. Overall, things are looking wonderful! What a blessing!

Fund raising – We are almost done with the project and beginning to look at our final price tag for the building. We will be looking at roughly \$825,000 on our mortgage from a project that cost around \$1.5 million. Thank God for His many blessings!! If you would like to help with our monthly commitment to the loan, please let Fr. Philip know.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

Sunday, 10/22:	Margie Yarbro
Monday, 10/23:	Zachary White <i>James, the brother of our Lord: Dn. James, James Elliott, Keith Harlow, Jamie White</i>
Tuesday, 10/24:	<i>St. Sebastiane: Judy Terry</i>
Saturday, 10/28:	Paul Elliott

New Wednesday Evening Schedule

5:30 p.m.	Parish Meal
6:15 p.m.	Teaching <ul style="list-style-type: none">Adults – parish hall – October 18, “Why is the Church Important?”Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – open to existing atri children in both levelsYouth - tbd
7:00 p.m.	Small Compline

Women of St. John Calendar

- Nov. 6** **AWSJ Book Club** - *Tangles and Plaques* by Kh. Susan Cushman on Sarah Hodges porch, 7:00 p.m. Kh. Susan will be at the meeting to discuss her book with us!
- Nov. 9** **Women’s Teaching**, 10:00 a.m.
Secret Sister Reveal Potluck, 6:30 p.m. at Corinne’s home. All are invited whether or not you participated in Secret Sisters.

DUE TO ITS MOVE, THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED THIS WEEK!

Library Lines

Is the St. James (10/23) we honor Monday the author of the Epistle of St. James? Is he related to Jesus? Is he an Apostle? No, yes and yes. He was a son of St. Joseph the Betrothed. Like Jesus, he was a Nazarene. When his “brother” began his ministry, he believed in Him. St. James was the first bishop of Jerusalem and was martyred in 63 A.D. by being thrown from a roof and then stoned. See *The Lives of the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - HOL), *The Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR), and *Notes on the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - MAS) for information about his life.

Tuesday, we honor the *Joy of All Who Sorrow* Icon of the Theotokos (10/24). In it, she is surrounded by flowers and scenes in which the faithful are traveling, suffering in sickness and old age, and enduring other storms of life. Many icons of the Theotokos have feast days. Read about them in Icons of the *Most Holy Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary and Prayers for her Intercessions* (ART/ICO/ KHO).

Wednesday, we commemorate St. Tabitha (10/25), also known as Dorcas, who was raised from the dead by St. Peter. Her icon shows women around her bier and showing the Apostle the many garments she had sewed for them. She lived out her faith by showing her love in very practical ways to those around her. Read more about her in *Christ in His Saints* (HAG - - - REA).

Friday, we commemorate St. Prokla (10/27). According to the website of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Fort Meyers, Florida, "Holy Tradition tells us that she was the wife of Pontius Pilate. She makes a brief appearance in the story of our Lord’s Passion, as she tries to convince her husband to release Jesus. 'Have nothing to do with that just Man,' she begs, 'for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him.' After His Resurrection, Prokla became one of the Lord’s disciples." Read more about her in *Married Saints of the Church* (HAG - - - MOS).

We owe a great debt to literary giants such as the Venerable Bede and Eusebius who recorded the lives of the martyrs and the wisdom of the fathers and mothers of the Church. Among these writers was also the Venerable Nestor the Chronicler of the Kiev Caves (10/27). In the 1080s he wrote the "Account about the Life and Martyrdom of the Blessed Passion Bearers Boris and Gleb." His greatest task was compiling *The Russian Primary Chronicle* from a wide network of sources. St. Nestor said, “Great is the benefit of book learning for books point out and teach us the way to repentance, since from the words of books we discover wisdom and temperance. This is the stream, watering the universe, from which springs wisdom. In books is a boundless depth, by them we are comforted in sorrows, and they are a bridle for moderation. If you enter diligently into the books of wisdom, then you shall discover great benefit for your soul. Therefore, the one who reads books converses with God or the saints." Learn more about him in *Orthodox America*, March, 1988, p. 8.