

From the Fathers (and others):

Discern the wiles of the enemy with the light of grace and, throwing yourself before God with tears, confess your weakness, counting yourself nothing, even though the deceiver tries to persuade you to think otherwise. Do not even ask for spiritual gifts unless they contribute to your salvation and help you to remain humble. Seek the knowledge that does not make you conceited, but leads you to the knowledge of God. Pray to be released from the tyranny of the passions before you die, and to depart this life in a state of dispassion or more humbly of compassion for the sins of others.

St. Theognostos

"Faith is...the mother of patience. Faith believes that everything that is encountered in life comes from God, and everything is directed towards our eternal salvation. God does not send anything that might throw us into sin and serve for our perdition. And if, with God's permission, some temptations do occur, this is only to let us overcome that which draws us towards sin and receive the crown of righteousness for our strong devotion to the Lord's commandments. Therefore, just endure this time of temptations, and that which seems so heavy will bring joy here and prepare the ointment for eternal joy there. Believers have this kind of patience, and there is no power that could overcome this patience."

St. Theophan the Recluse

We should do whatever can be humanly achieved; the rest which is beyond our power must be left in God's hands.

St Paisios

'My sheep hear My voice' (Jn. 10:14). This is just another way of saying, 'They obey my words and keep My commandments.' Obeying the commandments the saints draw near to God; the more they draw near to God, the better they know Him.

St. Dorotheos of Gaza

We were made for good works (cf. Phil. 1:11) to the glory and praise of our Maker, and to imitate God as far as might be.

St. Gregory the Theologian

St. John Orthodox Church



*~ October 30, 2016 ~
18th 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 30, 2016

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Lavinia Dumitrache**.

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. 23 - 30 (Wed. & Fri. Fast)

Sunday -Teen Group, no meeting today

Monday - First Hour, 6:45 a.m.

Tuesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Barksdale's
-NO Catechumen/Inquirers class

Wednesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Vespers, 5:30 p.m., Parish Meal following
-Choir practice
-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 -Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:00 p.m. (*Note time change)
-Fall Fest following Vespers

Sunday -Orthros, 8:45 a.m.
-Church School, 9:00 a.m.
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, October 30, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Basil

HOMILY: Fr. Basil

READER: Jack Turner

USHER: John Sneed

HOLY BREAD: Sarah Hodges

ALTAR SERVERS: Cade, Pavel, James, Alex,

COFFEE HOUR: Mitch & Sandy Childress, Charlie & Meribeth Harvey, Sue Brownlow

Baptisms

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. 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.
Oct. 30: Martyrs Zenobios, bishop of Aegae, and his sister Zenobia in Cilicia; Apostles Cleopas and Artemas of the Seventy; Venerable Joseph and Kyriakos, patriarchs of Constantinople; Therapont and John the wonder-workers; Milutin, Serbian king.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS			October 23-30	
Sunday	Galatians	1:11-19	Luke	8:26-39
Monday	Philippians	4:25-32	Luke	9:18-22
Tuesday	Philippians	4:5-11, 14-18	Luke	10:16-21
Wednesday	2 Timothy	2:14-21	Luke	9:44-50
Thursday	Philippians	5:33-6:9	Luke	9:49-56
Friday	Philippians	9:6-11	Luke	10:1-15
Saturday	1 Corinthians	15:39-45	Luke	7:1-10
Sunday	2 Corinthians	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.



Clergy Retreat – Fr. Philip and Fr. Alex will be out of the office Monday – Wednesday of this week to attend a clergy retreat.

Catechumen & Inquirers Class – There will be NO class on Tuesday due to the Fr. Philip's travel.

Parish Meeting – On Sunday, November 6, we will have a parish meeting to present the final plans and cost for our highly anticipated project. We want to hear from you!! Please, make every effort to attend this meeting and participate in this important step in our community!

Sons of Thunder men's book club will meet at 6:30 Sunday, November 6th at Dn. James Elliott's home to discuss Christ the Conqueror of Hell by Met. Hilarion Alfeyev. All men are welcome.

Wednesday Teaching – Fr. Alex is leading a series on music in the Orthodox Church. This week we will be talking about the different types of hymns in our church and how they are used in our services. We'll be listening to a variety of these hymns sung from different musical backgrounds of the Orthodox world.

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. Weather permitting, the pictures will be taken outside on the west side of the building.

Save the Date – Men's Quarterly Dinner – Our next Men's dinner will be Thursday, November 10, 6:30 p.m. at Central BBQ on Summer Ave. It will be the last dinner of the year before the fast begins!

Young Adults – The Young Adults are beginning a Bible Study! Their first gathering will be on Thursday, November 3, 7:00 p.m. at Muddy's. Fr. Philip will lead the first session on the book of John. Join us!

teen group

TODAY: No meeting today

NEXT WEEK, October 30: Meeting at church, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

COMING UP: Lock-In, November 18-19

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 10/23:** *James, the brother of our Lord: Dn. James, James Elliott, Keith Harlow*
- Monday, 10/24:** *St. Sebastiane: Judy Terry*
- Friday, 10/28:** Paul Elliott
- Saturday, 10/29:** Emmelia Finley, J. Morgan Harter, Austin Brown

Master Plan Updates

Progress on final drawings/contractor/etc. – This coming Wednesday, we will be meeting with the contractors and architects to make important decisions for our building. Please, keep this meeting in your prayers as we discern places to make changes in our plans to be as cost efficient as possible.

Fund raising – Thank you for your continued support! If you would like to make any additional contributions to the master plan, feel free!!

Women of St. John – AWSJ

- Oct. 29** **Fall Fest and Chili Cook Off** – *see insert*
- Nov. 3** **Women’s Teaching**, 10:00 a.m., Kh. Pamela’s home
- Nov. 3** **Secret Sister Reveal Potluck** – All are invited! 6:30 p.m. at Corinne Elliott’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.”

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

LIBRARY LINES

Is the St. James (10/23) we honor today 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.

Monday 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).

Tuesday 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).

Thursday 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.