

From the Fathers (and others):

The evil one hates caution. Not only can he not bear the sound of it, he hates even the very echo of it; the mere mention of caution. For example, if a man proposes to do something, he enquires whether it is profitable before he forms an opinion on whether or not it is the enemy who suggests it, on whether he keeps to what he hears or not (that is what the devil utterly hates); he asks someone else and listens to what those who have to share his life have to say about it. The very sound, the mere echo of such discourse the devil hates and flees away from. And why do I say this? Because the devil knows that his malice is brought to light through this enquiry and discussion about the advantage of doing a thing, and there is nothing he hates and fears so much as to be known, because then he finds himself unable to lay snares as he wishes.

St. Dorotheos of Gaza

"Where ever Christ is, there is Paradise."

Elder Paisios

"Every other evil is easier to conquer than pleasure, for all other evils are repulsive – while the evil of pleasure is attractive. He who frees himself from desires, frees himself from fear, for fear arises from desire."

St. Cyprian

If you love God genuinely and you also persevere in His love (cf. Jn. 15:9-10), you will never be dominated by any passion, nor will you be reduced to subjection by any necessity of the body. For since the body cannot be moved to anything apart from the soul, so the soul that is united to God by love cannot be led astray to the pleasures and cravings of the body, nor indeed to any other desires of anything visible or invisible, whether desire or passion. For by the sweet love of God the impulse of its heart or, rather, the whole inclination of its will is bound. When once it has been bound to its Maker, how can it be inflamed by the body or in any way fulfill its own desires? In no way!

St. Symeon the New Theologian

"To believe in Christ, either child-like simplicity is needed or to be a fool in the eyes of the world."

Father Sophrony

When we become incorruptible and immortal and attain to the blessed state of conformity with Christ, we will be ever with the Lord, gaining fulfillment in the purest contemplations of His visible theophany which will illuminate us with its most brilliant rays, just as it illuminated the disciples at the time of the most divine Transfiguration. This is the light of God, as St. John has said in his Revelation (Rev. 22:5), and such is the opinion of all the saints.

St. Gregory Palamas

St. John Orthodox Church



~ *October 29, 2017* ~
21st Sunday after Pentecost

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
 1663 TUTWILER AVENUE
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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 29, 2017
21st Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20

Gospel: Luke 8:41-56

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

October 29 – November 5 (Wed & Fri Fast)

- Sunday** -Teen Group, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
 -Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m.
 -Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., "The Holy Mysteries"
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
 -Wednesday meal, 5:30 p.m., Jerusalem Market
 -Wednesday teaching and CGS, 6:15 p.m., "How Does the Church Lead us to Christ?"
 -Small Compline, 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Friday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
 -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
 -Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.
 -Great Vespers for St. Raphael, 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday** -**Divine Liturgy for St. Raphael, 9:00 a.m.**
 -Ninth Hour and Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
- Sunday** -**Orthros, 9:00 a.m.**
 -**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**

DIVINE LITURGY

Saturday, November 4, 9:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip
HOMILY: Fr. Philip
HOLY BREAD: Reem Mansour
COFFEE HOUR: Sandy Childress (set up only)

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, November 5, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Basil
HOMILY: Fr. Basil
READER: John Cameron
USHER: Dan O'Brien
HOLY BREAD: Janine Smith
ALTAR SERVERS: James, Mark, Thomas, Alex, volunteer
COFFEE HOUR: The Wallace and Ibrahim families

UPCOMING CHURCHING:

Caitlyn & George Maas, October 29

UPCOMING MEMORIALS

Today: Helen Lutrell, 10 years & Kitty Gilliland, 15 years
 November 5: Margaret Layman, 5 years
 November 12: +ANTOUN, 40 days

COMMEMORATIONS

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.

Oct. 31: Apostles Stachios, Apellos, Amplias, Urban, Aristoboulos and Narcissos of the Seventy; Martyr Epimachos of Alexandria; New-martyr Nicholas of Chios.

Nov. 1: The holy wonder-working unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian of Mesopotamia and their mother Theodota; Venerable-martyr James and his disciples James the deacon and Dionysios of Prodromou Skete on Athos; Venerable David.

Nov. 2: Martyrs Akindinos, Pegasios, Aphthonios, Elpidophoros and Anempodistos of Persia.

Nov. 3: Martyrs Akepsimas the bishop, Joseph the priest and Aeithalas the deacon of Persia; dedication of the church of the Great-martyr George the trophy-bearer in Lydda; Hieromartyr George of Neapolis.

Nov. 4: Venerable Ioanikios the Great; Hieromartyrs Nicander the bishop of Myra and Hermas the priest; Martyr Porphyrios; Emperor John the merciful.

Nov. 5: Martyrs Galaktion and Epistima of Homs; Apostles Hermas, Linos, Gaios, Patrobas and Philogos of the Seventy; Hieromartyr Pamphilos; Jonah, bishop of Novgorod.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

October 29 – November 5

Sunday	Galatians	2:16-20	Luke	8:41-56
Monday	Colossians	2:13-20	Luke	11:29-33
Tuesday	Romans	16:1-16	Luke	11:34-41
Wednesday	1 Corinthians	12:27-31, 13:1-8	Matt	10:1, 5-8
Thursday	Hebrews	12:1-10	Luke	21:12-19
Friday	Ephesians	2:4-10	Luke	12:2-12
Saturday	2 Corinthians	9:6-11	Luke	9:1-6
Sunday	Galatians	6:11-18	Luke	16:19-31



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), Heather Hetrick (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Brenda Thomas, Doris & Jim (Brenda Thomas’ family), Dot Lawson (Pam Bowick’s mother & Lawson’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



Thanksgiving Alms – The Teen Group is holding a St. Brigid Pantry Food Drive as well as collecting items for the 3 families that we provide Thanksgiving Baskets for each year. Please see the insert for items that will be needed or check the Online Sign up page on the St. John website (Parish-Online Assignments and Sign Ups).

Book Store – All book store items, with the exception of Orthodox Study Bibles, are 50% off. Take advantage of this special sale!

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!! We officially received our certificate of occupancy this week! Thanks be to God! We are working on organizing our storage space and continuing to make good use of the space that we have in the building. Lord willing, we have a partial solution to the noise issue in the hall. We will continue to work with the contractors on optimizing our new space!!

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, 10/29:** Emmelia Finley, J. Morgan Harter, Austin Brown
Monday, 10/30: Kim Boone
St. Zenobia: Sarah Hodges
- Wednesday, 11/1:** Margaret McKelroy
Anniversary: Michael and Joyce Grossman
- Thursday, 11/2:** Edmund Knight
- Friday, 11/3:** Kh. Martha, Emmelia Sanderlin
- Saturday, 11/4:** Zeke Yarbrow
Anniversary: Jay & Janna Knight
St. Raphael of Brooklyn: Mitchell Childress & Jonathan Koplín
-

Wednesday Evening Schedule

- 5:30 p.m. Parish Meal
- 6:15 p.m. Teaching
- Adults – parish hall – October 18, “How Does the Church Lead Us to Christ?”
 - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – open to existing atria children in both levels
 - Youth - tbd
- 7:00 p.m. Small Compline
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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., Fr. Alex & Kh. Amanda’s home
Secret Sister Reveal Potluck, 6:30 p.m. at Corinne’s home. All are invited whether or not you participated in Secret Sisters.

Library Lines

This week we honor two sets of sibling saints. As often occurs in our Tradition, they were offspring of pious parents. Sts. Zenobios and Zenobia (10/30) lived during the 3rd century in the reign of the emperor Diocletian, a great persecutor of Christians. Upon seeing him tortured, his sister, Zenobia, confessed her faith to the governor and joined him in martyrdom. They were beheaded after much suffering and buried in a single grave. Take a look at their icons on our balcony.

Sts. Cosmos and Damian (11/1) belong to a group of saints known as the Holy Unmercenaries, pious physicians known for their powers of healing. These powers could truly be called gifts because these men vowed never to charge anyone they cured. Actually there were about twelve men given this designation; among them three sets of brothers named Cosmos and Damian and two sets named Cyrus and John. All of the Church’s hymns to these men praise them with words that speak to us, “Freely ye have received, freely give.” Read more about this category of saints in “The Holy Unmercenaries” in *Orthodox America*, Mar-Jun 1997, on p. 22

Once, St. Damian healed a seriously ill woman. In gratitude, she offered him a gift in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He did not refuse her in honor of the Trinity. When St. Cosmos, from his deathbed, heard that his brother had accepted a gift, he thought St. Damian had accepted a payment and said that he should not be buried beside him. Shortly afterward, St. Damian died. Before his burial, a camel, which the saints had healed, miraculously spoke and declared that St. Damian had received the woman’s gift in respect for the Trinity. Their relics are buried together in Mesopotamia, and the saints continue to heal after their deaths. These saints died in the late 3rd century. For more information on these two saints, see *The Encyclopedia of Major Saints and Fathers* (HAG - - - ELE) on p. 25 and *Forty Saints* (HAG - - - SAO) on p. 70.

We’re hearing a lot about St. Raphael (11/4) these days at St. John. Saint Raphael was born in Syria in 1860. As a youth, he recognized the value of learning and saw it as a means of benefiting others. He traveled to New York in 1895 where he learned of small Orthodox communities scattered across the United States. As he saw them struggle to keep and grow in the Faith, he made several pastoral journeys across America to strengthen their parishes. He built churches and cemeteries and ministered to Greeks, Syrians and Russians in the Northeast, South, and Midwest. In 1904 he became the first Orthodox bishop consecrated on American soil. He reposed in 1915. St. Raphael was much loved for his untiring work in calling the Orthodox across America to unity and growth. He is commemorated on February 27, the anniversary of his death, and on the first Saturday of November, which is shortly before Raphael’s own patronal feast, the Feast of the Archangels, November 8. Take a look at his icon on the east side of our nave today before you go over to coffee hour in the new St. Raphael Parish Hall. Read more about him in *Our Father Among the Saints, Raphael of Brooklyn* (HAG RAP AOC).