From the Fathers (and others):

“Unless a man gives himself entirely to the Cross, in a spirit of humility and self-abasement; unless he casts himself down to be trampled underfoot by all and despised, accepting injustice, contempt and mockery; unless he undergoes all these things with joy for the sake of the Lord, not claiming any kind of human reward whatsoever – glory or honor or earthly pleasures – he cannot become a true Christian.”
St. Mark the Ascetic

“The power of God is effective when a person asks for the help from God, acknowledging his own weakness and sinfulness. This is why humility and the striving towards God are the fundamental virtues of a Christian.”
St. John of San Francisco

“The devil is afraid of us when we pray and make sacrifices. He is also afraid when we are humble and good. He is especially afraid when we love Jesus very much. He runs away when we make the Sign of the Cross.”
St. Anthony the Great

“Many complain against technology. Many accuse modern technology for all the woes in the world. Is technology really to blame, or those who create technology and use it? Is a wooden cross to blame if somebody crucifies someone on it? Is a hammer to blame if a neighbor breaks his neighbors skull? Technology does not feel good or evil. The same pipes can be used for drinking water or the sewer. Evil does not come from unfeeling, dead technology, but from the dead hearts of people.”
St. Nikolai Velimirovich

“The way to God is taking up the cross daily. No one can ascend to heaven with comfort; we know where the way of comfort leads.”
St. Isaac the Syrian

~ October 4, 2015 ~
18th Sunday after Pentecost
ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE
MEMPHIS, TN 38107
(901) 274-4119
www.stjohnmemphis.org  www.orthodoxtupelo.com
V. Rev. Fr. John Troy Mashburn, Jr.  V. Rev. Fr. Basil Cushman
Pastor  Associate Pastor
Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers  Rev. Fr. Donald Berge
Assistant Pastor  Attached

GREAT VESPERS  ORTHROS and CHURCH SCHOOL  DIVINE LITURGY
Saturday, 6:00 p.m.  Sunday, 9:00 a.m.  Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

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

October 4, 2015
18th Sunday after Pentecost


The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by Trish Ratliff.

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 4 – 11 (Wed. & Fri. Fast)

Sunday  -Welcome Lunch for Fr. Philip & Kh. Kathryn
-Life Chain, 2:00 p.m.
-Teen Group, no evening meeting

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

Tuesday  -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., “Divine Liturgy, part 2”

Wednesday  -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Vespers, 5:30 p.m.
- Parish meal to follow
- Wednesday Teaching, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday  -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Women’s Teaching, 10:00 a.m., Cindy Karnaghon’s home

Friday  -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.

Saturday  -Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.

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

DIVINE LITURGY  Sunday, October 11, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST:  Fr. Basil  HOMILY:  Fr. Basil
READER:  Matt Spinolo  USHER:  John McGee
WELCOME TEAM:  Gary Karnaghon  HOLY BREAD:
ALTAR SERVERS:  Alex, Cade, Nick, James, Alexandru
COFFEE HOUR:  Ervin & Caitlin Romero, Matt & Lynda Spinolo

UPCOMING AT ST. JOHN

MEMORIALS:
Today  Urania Alissandratos, 8 years
November 1  Margaret Layman, 3 years
Helen Lutrell, 18 years

BAPTISM:
October 17  Garren Benjamin Autrey
COMMEMORATIONS

Oct. 4: Hieromartyr Hierotheos, bishop of Athens; Apostle Krispos of the Seventy; Martyrs Domina and her daughters of Syria; uncovering of the relics of Gurios, first archbishop of Kazan; Barsanouphios, bishop of Tver; Stephen (Stilianovich) and Elizabeth.

Oct. 5: Martyr Charitina; John, bishop of Euchaita; Venerable Eudokimos of Vatopedi monastery on Athos; uncovering of the relics of the wonder-workers Peter, Alexis, Jonah, Philip and Hermogenes, metropolitan of Moscow.

Oct. 6: Apostle Thomas; Venerable Kendea; Venerable-martyr Makarios of St. Anne Skete on Athos; Innocent, metropolitan of Moscow, enlightener of the Aleuts and apostle to America.

Oct. 7: Martyrs Sergios and Bacchos in Syria; Hieromartyr Polyechninos; Priest Julian; Venerable John the Hermit and those with him; Venerable Sergios of Nurma.

Oct. 8: Venerable Pelagia the penitent; Virgin-martyr Pelagia of Antioch; Martyr Taista of Egypt; Hieromartyr Artemon; Venerable Ignatios of Prodomou Skete on Athos; Venerable Philotheos, patriarch of Constantinople; Martyr Ignatios of Bulgaria.

Oct. 9: Apostle James, son of Alpheos; Venerable Andromkios and Athanasia of Egypt; Venerable Pophia the confessor of Antioch; Righteous Forefather Abraham and his nephew the Righteous Lot; Stephen the Younger, king of Serbia; Dionysios, bishop of Paris.

Oct. 10: Martyrs Eulampios and Eulampia at Nicomedias; Venerable Theophilos the confessor of Bulgaria; Venerable Ambrose of Optina.

Oct. 11: Apostle Philip, the deacon, of the Seventy; Venerable Theophanes the branded; Nektarios, Arsaikos, Philotheos and Sisinnios, patriarchs of Constantinople; Venerable Jonah.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>October 4 - 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong> Philippians 1:1-7</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday</strong> Philippians 1:8-14</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday</strong> Philippians 1:12-20</td>
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<td><strong>Friday</strong> Philippians 1:27-2:4</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday</strong> 1 Corinthians 15:58-16:3</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday</strong> Titus 3:8-15</td>
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Pray for our catechumens: Memphis - Ben Arthur, Joseph Gross. Tupelo - Janet Berry

Please remember in your prayers: Shirley Gore (Judy Terry’s mother), Effie Johnson (Kh. Susan’s mother), Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Sue Ingram, Charles Ingram, Ted Greathouse (Shelley Snowdon’s father), Allen Sudduth (Paul’s father), Janet Berry, Lydia Tampanaric (Tupelo), Nicholas Hill, Mary Sue Johnson (Jason Guntharpe’s grandmother), Courtney Hammill (pregnant), Marjo Labonte (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Brenda Thomas, Doris & Jim (Brenda Thomas’ family), Kera White, Dot Lawson (Lawson Bowick’s grandmother), Angelia Gatlin (Timothy Meadows’ mother), Lisa Catlett (Fr. Don & Kh. Martha’s daughter), those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

ST. JOHN COMMUNITY

Welcome, Fr. Philip and Kh. Kathryn!! – With the arrival of Fr. Philip and Kh Kathryn, we want to have a special time for the parish to welcome them. To that end, we will have a meal, catered by Corky’s BBQ, for everyone following the Divine Liturgy today.

Women’s retreat speaker – Thanks be to God, we have secured Dr. Christopher Veniamin to speak at our annual women’s retreat. Dr. Veniamin is professor at St. Tikhons Seminary and a noted speaker. The dates for the retreat are November 13-14. Please remember him in your prayers.

Lost, found and left – There are a number of items which have been left (or lost) at the church over the past few months. Check the table next to the west doors of the parish hall to see if any of these items belong to you; if they do, please take them home!

Sons of Thunder (Men’s Book Club) – The next meeting of the Sons of Thunder will be on October 18th, 6:00 p.m. at Dn. James’ home. They will be discussing Rock & Sand by Fr. Josiah Trenham.

Icon Order – We will be placing an icon order through Skete.com this week. If you would like to order anything, please email Trish, tratliff@stjohnmemphis.org, by Friday.

Volunteers needed for Welcome Team – The Welcome team is seeking volunteers to assist with greeting our guests. Those interested are asked to be available approximately one Sunday per month, arriving at 9:45, and man the visitor table for 20 minutes at the start of coffee hour.

If you are interested in assisting us with this, we will have a short meeting in the room next to the kitchen during the first part of coffee hour on October 11th to go over other details. Come join us! If you have questions, contact Gary Karnaghon.

Quarterly Sign Up Sheets – The coffee hour signup sheet for 4th Quarter is now online available and downstairs in the parish hall. This is a wonderful way to get to know one another as well as serve your parish. Please call the office if you have any questions! http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0948aaac23a75-4thquarter

There is also a sign up sheet for those willing to pick up the Wednesday night meals, http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0948aaac23a75-wednesday3

Prolife Corner:

Life Chain in Memphis – Again, this Sunday, we can participate in Life Chain, a proactive and firm, yet quiet and peaceful, expression of our support for unborn children in the womb. Even though there is a special welcome meal for Fr. Philip and Kh. Kathryn following the liturgy this Sunday, for those who can make it, we will hold our signs between 2:00 and 3:00 on the north side of Union Avenue just east of Cleveland, up to and past the Cupboard Restaurant.
Birthdays, Namedays & Anniversaries

Today, 10/4
Regina Fahhoum, Beth Autrey, Mark Dely

Monday, 10/5
Cailyn Ratliff, Lawson Bowick, Patty Harants, Madeleine Boiles

Tuesday, 10/6
Fr. Basil
St. Innocent:  Dn. Sidney, Dan Sanderlin, Gavin van Drimmelen
Apostle Thomas:  Thomas Yadron, Thomas Cameron

Thursday, 10/8
Gabriel Martin, Mary Ann Coccaro

Saturday, 10/10
Dianna Hildebrand

St. John Fall Fest, October 31st

Join us, following an early vespers at 5:00 p.m.,
for the St. John Fall Fest!
There will be a friendly competition for best chili with the chili cook off, a costume contest, and plenty of activities and games for the kids.
More details to come!!!

LIBRARY LINES

Time is one of the great mysteries of our life on earth. We cannot imagine living outside of it, yet the fathers tell us that there is no time in eternity. Most of our commemorated saints lived after Christ, but this week and next we commemorate two who lived before, one during His lifetime and four afterward.

Tuesday we honor St. Thomas (10/6) who is remembered by the world as a doubter. Sometimes even we forget that after Jesus was threatened in Judea and he then asked his disciples to accompany Him there to raise Lazarus, St. Thomas said, “Then let us also go that we may die with Him.” The Church praises Thomas for his honest doubt after the Resurrection because it led to a life driven by belief. St. John Chrysostom, in comparing him to the other apostles, says he “toiled through the grace of God more…zealously than them all as he ended up preaching in most of the known earth.” He was martyred in India. Read more about him in Orthodox Saints (HAG - - - POU), October-December, in Stories of Saints from the Prologue (KID MAN), and in The Lives of the Holy Apostles (REF HAG - - - HOL).

St. Innocent (1797-1879) is known as an Apostle to the Americas. He was born in one of the largest cities in Siberia. He labored for 45 years working in severe weather and harsh conditions in Alaska. His efforts in composing an alphabet and grammar for the Aleut language and in studying the geography of his new homeland were instrumental in his baptizing thousands of people and building numerous churches and schools. Read more about him in From Earth to Heaven (HAG INN WER). His most famous book, which is in our library and bookstore, was The Indication of the Way in to Kingdom of Heaven (PAT INN). He is commemorated on the day of his repose (3/31) and the day of his glorification (10/6).

Pelegia the Penitent (10/8), 5th century, was a member of a dance troop and lived a life of prostitution. She was converted by St. Nonnus when she heard him preaching on the Last Judgment. She came to him weeping tears of repentance, and he baptized her. A demon tempted her to return to her former life but she made the sign of the cross and he vanished. She gave her wealth to St. Nonnus to distribute to the poor and lived, disguised as a monk, in asceticism until her death in the fifth century. See her story in chapter 4, “Pelegia; Beauty Riding By” in Harlots of the Desert (HAG - - - WAR) and in The Desert Fathers, p. 173 (PAT - - - WAD).

Friday, we remember the Righteous Abraham and his nephew Lot(10/9). God told him he would be the father of multitudes, and we even refer to God in some of our prayers, including ones in the funeral service and the Lenten Prayer of Manasseh, as “the God of our fathers, God of Abraham, Isaac and their righteous seed.”

REGULAR ALMS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES: