

From the Fathers (and others):

"What is there that cannot happen to a man? Yet in every suffering one must have hope in God. Covered with festering sores and seated in his humiliation upon a dunghill, the righteous Job cried out: Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him! (Job 13:15)"

St. Nikolai of Zica

...it is up to us to add labors to labors in order to "go from strength to strength" (Ps. 83:7), and to come "to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Eph. 4:13).

St. Seraphim of Sarov

"He who does not know the truth cannot truly have faith; for by nature knowledge precedes faith. What is said in Scripture is said not solely for us to understand, but also for us to act upon."

St. Hesychios the Priest

'Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied' (Mt. 5:6). It is nothing bodily, nothing earthly, that this hunger, this thirst seeks for: but it desires to be satiated with the good food of righteousness, and wants to be admitted to all the deepest mysteries, and be filled with the Lord Himself. Happy the mind that craves this food and is eager for such drink: which it certainly would not seek for if it had never tasted of its sweetness. But hearing the Prophet's spirit saying to him: 'taste and see that the Lord is sweet' (Ps. 34:8); it has received some portion of sweetness from on high, and blazed out into love of the purest pleasure, so that spurning all things temporal, it is seized with the utmost eagerness for eating and drinking righteousness, and grasps the truth of that first commandment which says: 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your mind, and with all your strength' (Mk. 12:30): since to love God is nothing else but to love righteousness.

St. Leo the Great

If God made all things by His will (cf. Rev 4:11), and it is always pious and right to say that God knows His own will, and that He made each creature by an act of will, then God knows existing things as He knows the products of His own will, since He also made existing things by an act of will. Furthermore, I think that these assertions are in accord with what is said in the Scripture to Moses: 'I know you above all' (Ex. 18:11). And about some it was said: 'The Lord knows those who are His' (II Tim. 2:19). And to others He said: 'I do not know you' (Mt. 7:23; 15:12). Voluntary movement, either in accord with the will and word of God or against the will and word of God, prepared each person to hear the divine voice.

St. Maximos the Confessor

St. John Orthodox Church



*~ November 12, 2017 ~
22nd 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. 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

November 12, 2017 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Margaret McKelroy**.

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

November 12 - 19 (Nativity Fast)

- Sunday** -AWSJ business meeting during coffee hour in the old parish hall
-Teen Group, 5:00-7:00 p.m., St. Nicholas Play Practice #1
- 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., Holy Mysteries, Pt. 2
- Wednesday** -*Nativity Fast begins*
-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Wednesday meal, 5:30 p.m.
-Wednesday teaching and CGS, 6:15 p.m., "What happens during a Bishop's Visit?"
-Small Compline, 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Chanters Workshop, 6:00 p.m.
- Friday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.
- Saturday** -Supplication to St. Raphael, 11:00 a.m.
-Youth Lunch with +NICHOLAS, following Supplication
-Great Vespers, 4:00 p.m.
-30th Anniversary Celebration, 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday** -**Orthros, 8:45 a.m.**
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**
-**Coffee Hour with the Hierarchs**

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, November 19, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST:	+JOSEPH	HOMILY:	+JOSEPH
READER:	Matt Spinolo	USHER:	John Sneed
HOLY BREAD:	Karen Bell		
ALTAR SERVERS:	Pavel, Max, Brody, Paul, volunteer		
COFFEE HOUR:	Anna Pashchinskaya, Lavinia Dumitrache, Ben Arthur		

UPCOMING MEMORIALS

Today: +ANTOUN, 40 days
Margaret Layman, 5 years

**Please note that the times of some of our normal services will be different this week due to the celebration and hierarchical visit.*

COMMEMORATIONS

Nov. 12: John the merciful, patriarch of Alexandria; Venerable Neilos the Faster Sinai; Venerable Neilos the myrrh-streaming of the Great Lavra on Athos; New-martyrs Sabbas and Nicholas of Constantinople.

Nov. 13: John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople; Venerable-martyrs Damaskinos and Damian of the Great Lavra on Athos.

Nov. 14: Apostle Philip; Gregory Palamas, archbishop of Thessalonika; New-martyr Constantine of Hydra; Justinian the emperor and his wife Theodora.

Nov. 15: Martyrs Gourias, Samonas and Habib of Edessa; Thomas the New, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Paissios Velichkovsky.

Nov. 16: Apostle Mathew the Evangelist; Martyr Ephygenia.

Nov. 17: Gregory the wonder-worker, bishop of New-Caesarea; Gennadios, archbishop of Constantinople; Venerable Nikon, disciple of Sergios of Radonezh.

Nov. 18: Martyrs Platon of Ancyra, Ramanos, Zacchaeos the deacon and Anastasios of Caesarea in Palestine.

Nov. 19: Prophet Obadiah; Martyrs Agapios, Azi of Isauria, Barlaam of Caesarea in Cappadocia, Heliodoros of Thessalonika and Euphemia; Venerable Barlaam and Joasaph; Venerable Barlaam of the Kiev Caves.

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**DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**November 12-19**

|           |               |                |      |                  |
|-----------|---------------|----------------|------|------------------|
| Sunday    | 2 Corinthians | 9:6-11         | Luke | 10:25-37         |
| Monday    | Hebrews       | 7:26-28, 8:1-2 | John | 10:9-16          |
| Tuesday   | 1 Corinthians | 4:9-16         | John | 1:44-52          |
| Wednesday | Ephesians     | 6:10-17        | Luke | 20:46-47, 21:1-4 |
| Thursday  | 1 Corinthians | 4:9-16         | Matt | 9:9-13           |
| Friday    | 1 Corinthians | 12:7-11        | Matt | 10:1, 5-8        |
| Saturday  | 2 Timothy     | 2:1-10         | Luke | 9:57-62          |
| Sunday    | Ephesians     | 2:14-22        | Luke | 12:16-21         |

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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), Julie Hight (pregnant), Janna Knight (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



The NATIVITY FAST begins November 15 - It is divided into two periods. The 1st period is November 15th through December 19th when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed with katalysis for wine and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and for fish, wine and oil on Saturdays and Sundays. The 2nd period is December 20th through 24th when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed with katalysis for wine and oil only on Saturday and Sunday.

Sacristan Garden. You might have noticed that the area around the sign is beginning to look different! Thanks be to God, a group has come together to beautify that area while also providing flowers for the atrium children as they celebrate the liturgical year. If you would like to help with this wonderful project, please see either Lynda Spinolo or Sarah Ortwein.

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!

Sons of Thunder will meet Sunday, December 10, 6:30 p.m. at Keith Parker’s home. They will be discussing *The Singing Heart: A Book of Quiet Reflections* by Ivan Ilyin.

Community Etiquette:

Hierarchical Visit. In one week we will welcome Metropolitan JOSEPH and Bishop NICHOLAS. The presence of the Metropolitan in the community is a once in a lifetime opportunity. You might even be wondering, what do I do during this visit? Fr Philip will be teaching a lesson on the etiquette around a hierarchical visit on Wednesday, November 15.

Master Plan Updates

Progress on the St Raphael Hall – The icon of St. Raphael has been hung and the icons of Christ and the Theotokos have arrived but are not yet in place. Lord willing, tomorrow the crew will be here to install the acoustic wallpaper. We will be ready to welcome our hierarchs and all of you this next weekend!! Thank you for your patience and support!!!

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.

Room in the Inn

As temperatures drop, many people experiencing homelessness--including women and young children--face dangerous and potentially fatal conditions. Through St. John's partnership with Room in the Inn at Trinity UMC, we have an opportunity to offer hospitality to our neighbors facing homelessness. The next season of Room in the Inn begins Tuesday, and everyone is invited to Trinity to learn more about Room In the Inn and see holy hospitality in action. Please contact Sarah Hodges or Marissa Kizer if you are interested in learning more and volunteering to serve, or simply drop by Trinity any Tuesday between 6 and 7 P.M. for a tour.



Today, we commemorate another St. John. Blessed John the Hairy and Fool-for-Christ (11/12) lived during the 14th century in Rostov in what is now Azerbaijan. He was homeless, sometimes taking shelter with his spiritual father or one of the elderly widows. Although poor, he gave spiritual riches to those in need. He was called "the hairy" because of possessing a very full head of hair and "the Merciful" because of healings at his grave.

St. John Chrysostom (11/13) loved learning early in his life. He was ordained to the priesthood in 386 and earned his reputation as the "Golden Mouth" for his speeches. However, he was also a prolific writer. See St. John Library's *Commentary on the Psalms* (REF PAT COM JOH), *Daily Readings from the Writings of St. John Chrysostom* (PAT JOH), *Eight Sermons of the Book of Genesis* (PAT JOH), *Gospel Commentary* (REF SCR COM CHR), *On Marriage and Family Life* (PAT JOH), and *Fathers of the Church* (REF PAT JOH). He died on 9/13. He is also commemorated 1/27 and 1/30.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Monday, 11/13:** Matt Spinolo
St. John Chrysostom: Caleb McGee, Chris Hodges
- Tuesday, 11/14:** Nancy McGee, Andrew McKelroy
Apostle Philip: Fr. Philip, Philip McKelroy
- Wednesday, 11/15:** Michael Elliott, Veronica Criswell
- Thursday, 11/16:** Jake Ratliff, Aaron Martin
Apostle Matthew: Matthew Yadron, Matt Spinolo
- Friday, 11/17:** Tina McKelvy, Andrew Sanderlin
- Saturday, 11/18:** Cash Wallace

We all know that the apostles scattered to the ends of the known earth after Christ's Resurrection and were all martyred except one. However, we are not very familiar with the details of their lives during Christ's lifetime. The Apostle Phillip (11/14) brought St. Bartholomew (Nathaniel) to Christ. Jesus asked him where to buy the bread for the 5,000. And, he asked Christ at the Last Supper to show them the Father. He was martyred in what is now modern-day Turkey. Read more about him in *Notes on the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - MAS) and *The Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR).

The Emperor Justinian and his wife Theodora (11/14) are famous for their military victories and the support and spread of Orthodoxy. He took great interest in the rigorous education of priests and monastics. During his reign, the hymn "Only begotten Son and Immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation..." was composed, and he ordered it to be sung in all the churches to combat heresy. He built the monastery at Sinai and the Hagia Sophia, and he also convened the Fifth Ecumenical Council in 553 which reaffirmed the nature of Christ.

Thursday, we commemorate St. Matthew (11/16), one of the Twelve and the writer of the first book in the New Testament. Although hated by his fellow Jews because he was a tax collector, he obeyed the call of Christ and generously repaid those he had cheated. His writing shows us Jesus as the Messiah, Lord of the universe, and the High Priestly Sacrifice. He tells of the Kingdom of God in Jesus's own words. After Pentecost, the apostle Matthew preached in Palestine for several years. At the request of the Jewish converts, he wrote his Gospel before leaving for Ethiopia. He found the country inhabited by cannibals who worshiped idols. While asking God for the salvation of the Ethiopians, Christ appeared to him in the form of a youth and gave him a staff. He told him to plant it at the doors of a church he had founded. There Matthew was met by relatives of the ruler Fulvian. He healed them, but Flavian accused Matthew of sorcery and gave orders for his execution. His body remained unharmed, and he gave his soul to the Lord. Although Fulvian repented, he still had doubts and ordered Matthew's body to be placed in an iron coffin and thrown into the sea. The waves carried the coffin to the shores by the church. Fulvian begged the apostle's forgiveness, was baptized and given the name Matthew. Read more about his life in *The Notes on the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG MAS) and *Meet the Evangelists* (KID STS KHO).



BOOKSTORE CLEARANCE

****Everything Half Off***
(excludes Orthodox Study Bibles)

There are several book, CDs, and icons on sale for 50% off downstairs in the new bookstore area as you exit the original building into the new hall. We are clearing out to make room for 2018 Calendars and a revamping of what type of items will be sold.

Library Lines

St. John the Merciful (11/12) was a husband and father in 7th century Cyprus. After his family died, he became a monk. He was well loved and respected for his charity and wisdom. Once a beggar received alms from him and then changed clothes in effort to deceive him and receive more. The saint gave to him anyway, saying that perhaps Christ was testing him. Another time, while celebrating Liturgy he left the altar when he remembered a fellow clergyman who was angry with him. St. John was greatly loved for dealing with misdeeds by others with wisdom and mercy. Read more about him in *Road to Emmaus*, issue #43 fall 2010, p. 47.