

From the Fathers (and others):

When our Lord says, 'I have not spoken of Myself' (Jn. 12:49), and again, 'As the Father said to Me, so I speak' (Jn. 12:50), and 'The word which you hear is not mine, but the Father's Who sent Me' (Jn. 14:24), and in another place, 'As the Father commanded Me, even so I do' (Jn. 14:31), it is not because He lacks deliberate purpose or power of initiative, nor yet because He has to wait for the preconcerted key-note, that He employs language of this kind. His object is to make it plain that His own will is connected in indissoluble union with the Father.

St. Basil the Great

It is better to live with eagles than with the greedy and insatiable. It is better to live with a crippled and outcast person than with a proud one.

Elder Justin Parvu of Romania

Unbelievers, those who believe with difficulty, or believe in part, are those who do not show their faith through works. Apart from works the demons also believe (James 2:19) and confess Christ to be God and Master. 'We know who you are' (Mark 1:24), they say, 'You are the Son of God' (Matthew 8:29), and elsewhere, 'These men are servants of the Most High God' (Acts 16:17). Yet such faith will not benefit the demons, nor even humans. This faith is of no use, for it is dead.

St. Symeon the New Theologian

It's not an abundance of words that supplicate God, but a pure soul which manifests good deeds.

St John Chrysostom

As long as you have bad habits do not reject hardship, so that through it you may be humbled and eject your pride.

St. Maximus the Confessor

If you want spiritual health, listen to your conscience, do all it tells you and you will benefit.

St. Mark the Ascetic

St. John Orthodox Church



~ November 13, 2016 ~
Commemoration of
St. John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople

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

November 13, 2016

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Hebrews 7:26-8:2

Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Judy Terry**.

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

Nov. 13 - 20 (Wed. & Fri. Fast)

Sunday -Teen Group, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Monday - First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-AWSJ Book Club, Sarah Hodges' home

Tuesday *Nativity Fast Begins*

-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Barksdale's
-Catechumen/Inquirers class, 7:00 p.m., The Divine Liturgy – Part 5

Wednesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.

-Vespers, 5:30 p.m., Parish Meal following
-Wednesday Teaching, 7:00 p.m., 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, 5:50 p.m.

Sunday -Orthros, 8:45 a.m.
-Church School, 9:00 a.m.
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.
-Great Vespers for the Presentation, 6:00 p.m.

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, November 20, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip

HOMILY: Fr. Philip

READER: Matt Spinolo

USHER: Bill Harter

HOLY BREAD: Stephanie Harants

ALTAR SERVERS: Zach, Trent, Max, Eli, Nicholas, Thomas

COFFEE HOUR: Anna Pashchinskaya, Kate Kumar, Nawar & Reem Mansour

Upcoming at St. John

Chrismation
Enrollment

TODAY: Marshall & Kathryn McWhorter
November 20: Justin Bowles; Wendy, Brody, & Eli Weatherall;
and Lucas Whatley
November 27: Chelsea Yadron & Gabriel

Special Services
November 20
November 21

Great Vespers for Nativity of the Theotokos, 6:00 p.m.
Divine Liturgy for the Presentation of the Theotokos, 9:00 a.m.

COMMEMORATIONS

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.

Nov. 20: Gregory of Decapolis; Proclos, Maximos and Anatolios, patriarchs of Constantinople; Venerable Sozomen the wonder-worker.



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



Welcome, Dr. Roccas! – The Women of St. John were blessed to welcome author Dr. Nicole Roccas, best known for her blog and podcast “Time Eternal,” as our retreat speaker this weekend. We would all like to thank her for taking time away from her family and busy schedule to spend with us. If you have not had the opportunity to meet Dr. Roccas yet, please introduce yourself during coffee hour!

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.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 11/13:** Matt Spinolo
St. John Chrysostom: Caleb McGee, Chris Hodges
- Monday, 11/14:** Nancy McGee, Andrew McKelroy
Apostle Philip: Fr. Philip
- Tuesday, 11/15:** Veronica Criswell
- Wednesday, 11/16:** Jake Ratliff, Aaron Martin
Apostle Matthew: Matt Spinolo, Matthew Yadron
- Thursday, 11/17:** Andrew Sanderlin, Tina McKelvy
- Friday, 11/18:** James Cassian Wallace
- Saturday, 11/19:** Clifford McWhorter



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

November 13 - 20

Sunday	Hebrews	7:26-8:2	Luke	12:16-21
Monday	1 Corinthians	4:9-16	John	1:43-51
Tuesday	Colossians	2:20-3:3	Luke	14:25-35
Wednesday	1 Corinthians	4:9-16	Matthew	9:9-13
Thursday	1 Corinthians	12:7-11	Luke	16:1-9
Friday	Colossians	4:10-18	Luke	16:15-18; 17:1-4
Saturday	2 Corinthians	5:1-10	Luke	9:57-62
Sunday	Galatians	6:11-18	Luke	12:16-21



Pray for our catechumens: Memphis - Ben Arthur;.

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), 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.

Thanksgiving Baskets



It is time again to collect for our Thanksgiving Baskets! This year we will be giving large baskets to 3 families for whom we have provided items for many years, as well as handing out special bags to the patrons of St. Brigid's Food Pantry. An online sign up for items needed may be found on SignUp Genius, <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0948aaac23a75-thanksgiving3>, the link may also be found on the St. John website, or you may sign up downstairs. No donation is too small or insignificant - do not feel as though you need to provide the entire quantity of an item listed. **Items may be left in the room off the kitchen.**

All contributions should be at the church no later than **Wednesday, November 16** at which time an inventory will be taken and those items still needed will be purchased. If you would rather make a monetary donation you may do so by indicating "Thanksgiving Baskets" on your check.

Master Plan Updates

Progress on final drawings/contractor/etc. – Thank you for your attendance at our parish meeting last Sunday. If you would like to see the plans, they are available in the library. We should be hearing more soon from the architects and contractor on the timetable moving forward. If you have further questions or concerns, do not hesitate to ask for more information!

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

- December 1** ~Women’s Teaching, 10:00 a.m., Kh. Pamela’s home
December 11 ~AWSJ Business Meeting during coffee hour
January 9 ~AWSJ Book Club will resume in the new year with a discussion of *I Capture the Castle* by Dodie Smith. 7:00 p.m. at Kh. Pamela’s home.

teen group

TODAY: Play practice, 5– 7

NEXT WEEK: Play practice, 5– 7

COMING UP: *November 18-19, Deanery Lock-In*

Library Lines

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.

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).

Tuesday we honor another St. Gregory, this time Palamas (11/14). As with many saints, he came from a pious family. He diligently studied the desert fathers and immersed himself in hesychasm, or prayer of the heart. Through his oratory the Constantinople Council of 1341 affirmed his teaching that God is unknowable in His Essence but reveals Himself through His immaterial and uncreated Energies.

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.

Wednesday 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 heeded 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 where he was martyred. He found the country inhabited by Ethiopia cannibals who worshipped 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).

The prophet Obadiah (11/19), a faithful servant of the Most High God, was a steward in the house of the idolatrous King Ahab. Obadiah healed one of three groups of soldiers sent by Queen Jezebel to arrest the Prophet Elias. Heavenly fire consumed two of the detachments, but Obadiah and his men were spared through the intercession of Elias. Thereupon, Obadiah resigned his position and became a disciple of the Holy Prophet. His life is recounted in the first and second books of Kings, and his prophecy is included in the Minor Prophets in the Old Testament.