

**From the Fathers (and others):**

"Life without Christ is not life but death, whereas death for the sake of Christ is not death but life."  
St. Zenobius

... those who sit in the darkness of passions and whose minds are blinded by ignorance, or, rather, those who have not acquired the 'mind of Christ' (I Cor. 2:16), think that he who has the mind of Christ is foolish, and that he who has it not is sensible. Of these the prophet David rightly states, 'The ignorant and foolish perish together' (Ps. 49:11). Therefore such men twist the whole of Scripture according to their own desires (cf. II Pet. 3:3, 16) and corrupt themselves in their own passions. But it is not divine Scripture that suffers from this, but those who disfigure it!  
St. Symeon the New Theologian

"Be fearful that you do not become famous because of some work that you do. If they begin to praise you because of your work, do not rejoice or take delight in it, but keep your works secret as much as you can, and do not allow anyone to speak about them."  
St. Anthony

The greatest danger to Christianity is, I contend, not heresies, not heterodoxies, not atheists, not profane secularism - no, but the kind of orthodoxy which is cordial drivel, mediocrity served up sweet. There is nothing that so insidiously displaces the majestic as cordiality.  
Soren Kierkegaard

"The righteous Job said: Is not a man's life on earth a trial? Are not his days as those of a hireling? (Job 7:1) Therefore, one must be as a watchful guard and be prepared for all that may happen."  
St. Nikolai of Zica

... we know that God arranges the opportunities for salvation in different ways. Our situation is that we respond eagerly or in a laggardly manner to these opportunities made available by God to us. God made the call "come out of your homeland"; Abraham by coming out was exercising obedience. There was the instruction "come into the land"; it was done, and that was the work of obedience. But the addition "which I shall show you" has to do with the grace of God, who gave a command - and a promise.  
St. John Cassian

# St. John Orthodox Church

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*~ November 5, 2017 ~  
21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

**ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE  
MEMPHIS, TN 38107  
(901) 274-4119

[www.stjohnmemphis.org](http://www.stjohnmemphis.org)

[www.orthodoxtupelo.com](http://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 5, 2017** **22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18**

**Gospel: Luke 16:19-31**

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Janine Smith**.

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 5 - 12 (Wed & Fri Fast)**

- Sunday** -St. Thekla Choir rehearsal following liturgy  
-Teen Group, 5:00-7:00 p.m., St. Nicholas Play Practice #1
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.  
-AWSJ Book Club, 7:00 p.m., Sarah Hodges' home
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m.  
-Parish Council, 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Wednesday meal, 5:30 p.m.  
-Wednesday teaching and CGS, 6:15 p.m.  
-Small Compline, 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-AWSJ Women's Teaching, Fr. Alex's home  
-AWSJ Potluck, 6:30 p.m., Corinne Elliott'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 Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
- Sunday** -**Orthros, 9:00 a.m.**  
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**

### **DIVINE LITURGY**

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

PRIEST:	Fr. Philip	HOMILY:	Fr. Philip
READER:	Rod Ratliff	USHER:	Dan O'Brien
HOLY BREAD:	Margaret McKelroy		
ALTAR SERVERS:	Pavel, Max, Brody, Paul, volunteer		
COFFEE HOUR:	Sue Brownlow, Stephanie Harants		

### **UPCOMING MEMORIALS**

**November 12:** +ANTOUN, 40 days  
Margaret Layman, 5 years

## COMMEMORATIONS

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

**Nov. 6:** Paul the Confessor, archbishop of Constantinople; Venerable Luke of Sicily; Paul the fool-for-Christ; Martyr Nicander; Venerable Barlaam of Khutyn; Herman, bishop of Kazan.

**Nov. 7:** Martyrs Thessalonkia in Amphipolis and Alexander of Thessalonika; the Thirty-three Martyrs of Melitene; Venerable Lazarus the wonder-worker of Magnesia; Venerable Gregory; Venerable Cyril of Novoezersk.

**Nov. 8:** The synaxis of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel and all the bodiless powers of heaven.

**Nov. 9:** Martyrs Onesiphoros and Porphyrios of Ephesos; Venerable Matrona of Constantinople; Theoktista of Lesvos; Simeon the Translator (Metaphrastes); Venerable Euthymios and Neophytos, founders of Docheiariou monastery on Athos; Nektarios of Pentapolis, the wonder-worker.

**Nov. 10:** Apostles Olympas, Rodion, Sosipater, Tertios, Erastos and Quartos of the Seventy; Great-martyr Orestes of Cappadocia; Venerable Theostiriktos of Symbola.

**Nov. 11:** Martyrs Menas of Egypt, Victor of Damascus, Vincent and Stephanidos of Spain; Venerable Theodore the Studite; Blessed Maximos the fool-for-Christ; Martyr Stephen of Dechani, king of Serbia; Stephen Urosh and Princess Milica; Martin the Merciful, bishop of Tours.

**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.



### **DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **November 5 - 12**

Sunday	Galatians	6:11-18	Luke	16:19-31
Monday	Hebrews	8:1-6	Luke	12:8-12
Tuesday	Hebrews	11:33-40; 12:1-2	Luke	12:42-48
Wednesday	Hebrews	2:2-10	Luke	10:16-21
Thursday	Hebrews	10:32-38	Luke	13:1-9
Friday	1 Corinthians	4:9-16	Luke	13:31-35
Saturday	2 Corinthians	4:6-15	Luke	9:37-43
Sunday	2 Corinthians	9:6-11	Luke	10:25-37



**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



**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.

**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!!

### **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!

### **Community Etiquette:**

**Hierarchical Visit.** In two weeks 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** – This week a new light was installed over the stairs leading from the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor down to breezeway between the buildings. The library is up and fully functional and the choir room is beginning to take shape. If you would like to see Fr. Alex, you no longer have to climb the stairs to the third floor, his new office is in the old library space! Lord willing, acoustical wallpaper will be installed on the south wall of the hall to help with the sound. 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.

## ALMS IN THIS SEASON OF THANKS AND GIVING...AND BEYOND



### 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). Please have items here by Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> (next Sunday).

### 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.



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### Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Monday, 11/6:** Nicholas Williams, Janna Knight  
**Wednesday, 11/7:** Julia Spinolo  
**Thursday, 11/8:** Priscilla Neale, Chris Hodges  
*Archangel Gabriel: Ben Hodges, Gabriel Martin, Gabe de la Torre*
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### **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

This week a number of groups of saints are commemorated, 7000 martyrs of Persia, 70 martyrs of Melitine, many saints of Georgia and several of the Seventy (11/7). Most of the Seventy are unfamiliar to us, including Patrobas, Hermes, Linus, Gaius, and Philologus who are remembered Tuesday.

Tuesday another icon of the Mother of God is commemorated. The *Joyful Icon* (11/7) appeared on this date in 1795 in Moscow. Unfortunately, we know nothing about its history. It looks very much like the Sweet Kissing icon, sometimes called *Child Leaping for Joy*. Read more about them and others in *Icons of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary and Prayers for Her Intercessions* (ATR ICO KHO).

Wednesday we commemorate the synaxis of the archangels (11/8). Synaxis means a coming together for a specific purpose. Liturgically, it usually describes an assembly to honor someone connected with an event that has just been celebrated. This feast day is in November because we honor nine ranks of angels and this is the ninth month after March, when the New Year began in ancient times. We commemorate them on the eighth because the dread Day of Judgment is referred to as the Eighth Day when “the Son of Man shall come in His Glory and all the holy Angels with Him.” Matthew 25:31. See the St. John Library bulletin board for a brief explanation of their ranks, names and traditions. Read more about angels in Denys, *the Areopagite* (PAT COM DEN), *The Holy Angels* (GEN ALE), *Nicholas Meets His Guardian Angel* (KID CHU IAK), and *Guardian Angel, a Prayerful Contemplation for Each Day* (SPR LIV PUL).

Thursday, we commemorate one of the 20th century saints, St. Nektarios (11/9). *Saint Nektarios of Aegina* (KID STS NEC) devotes many pages to the childhood of the saint. The book lists his miracles and concludes with a hymn to him. *Repentance and Confession* (PAT NEK), written by him, is an instructive, easily read, short discourse on these subjects. It contains several pictures of him and liturgical items he used. See also *Saint Nektarios: The Saint of Our Century* (HAG NEK CHO) and *Story of the Holy Hierarch Nektarios the Wonderworker* (KID STS NEK).

This week and next, we honor three lesser known saints who are given the title, “the Merciful”, which show their greatness through humility. St. Martin the Merciful (11/11) and bishop of Tours was a 1st century soldier. We don't usually think of soldiers as being merciful. St. Martin's connection to the army was only through duty because his father was in the army. When he asked to be discharged, he was accused of being a coward. His honor was restored and his request was later granted after standing unarmed in the front line. Once, in his travels, he saw a freezing beggar. Thereupon, he cut his cloak in half and gave a half to him. Christ appeared that night to St. Martin wearing his cloak. He is considered the father of monasticism in France, and many Western churches are dedicated to him including St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London.