

From the Fathers (and others):

God rests within gentle hearts. The gentle and merciful shall sit fearless in His regions, and will inherit Heavenly glory.

St. John Climacus

This is what the marriage crowns express; that here is the beginning of a small kingdom that can be something like the true kingdom. The chance will be lost, perhaps even in one night; but at this moment it is still an open possibility. Yet even when it has been lost, and lost again a thousand times, still if two people stay together, they are in a real sense king and queen to each other.

Fr Alexander Schmemmann

Wherever God is – there is peace. And the opposite is self-evident: where there is envy, enmity, impatience, self-love – there is the devil. Whereever the devil is – there, everything is ruinous, proud and hostile.

St Anatoly of Optina

If the grace of God doesn't enlighten man, though you say many words, they won't be beneficial. The person listens to you for a moment, but soon after returns to that which holds him captive. If, however, grace works immediately, together with your words, then a change is effected at that moment, corresponding to the person's predisposition. And from that moment on, his life is changed. This happens with those who haven't hardened their hearing and conscience.

Elder Joseph the Hesychast

The concept of rights is worldly reasoning. The more worldly the person, the more rights he thinks he should have; the more spiritual the person, the fewer rights he thinks he deserves.

St Paisios the Athonite

Our life depends on the kinds of thoughts we nurture. If our thoughts are peaceful, calm, meek and kind, then that is what our life is like. If our attention is turned to the circumstances in which we live, we are drawn into a whirlpool of thoughts and can have neither peace nor tranquility.

Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



*~ February 11, 2018 ~
Last Judgment/Meatfare
3rd Sunday of the Triodion*

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE
MEMPHIS, TN 38107
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His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS

Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast

V. Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers

Pastor

V. Rev. Fr. John Troy Mashburn, Jr.

Pastor Emeritus

V. Rev. Fr. Basil Cushman

Associate Pastor

Rev. Fr. Alexander Mackoul

Assistant Pastor

V. Rev. Fr. Donald Berge

Attached

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

Sunday of the Last Judgment

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-13, 9:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Dn. Charles 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

February 11 – 18 (Fast from meat)

Sunday -Meatfare Potluck following liturgy

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

-AWSJ Book Club, 7:00 p.m., Kh. Pamela's home

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

-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Crosstown

-Parish Council, 6:00 p.m.

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

-Dinner, 5:30 p.m., pizza (cheese and veggie)

-Teaching, 6:15 p.m., Salvation – Resurrection and Ascension

-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.

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

Sunday -Orthros and Church School, 9:00 a.m.

-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

-Forgiveness Vespers, 6:00 p.m.

DIVINE LITURGY - Forgiveness

Sunday, February 18, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. John

HOMILY: Fr. John

READER: Matt Spinolo

USHER: Jack Turner

HOLY BREAD: Stephanie Harants

ALTAR SERVERS: James, Nick, Elijah, Eli, Gabe, volunteer

COFFEE HOUR: Stephanie Harants, Karen Bell

NEW CATECHUMEN

Nelvia Agnew, John Agnew, and Calen and Katherine Verbist will be enrolled as catechumen today between Orthros & Liturgy.

Please keep them and their sponsors in your prayers.

MEMORIAL TODAY

Elias Mansour – Nawar Mansour's father, 1 year

CLERGY OUT OF OFFICE

Fr. Philip will be out of the office on Thursday - Saturday of this week.

COMMEMORATIONS

February 11: Hieromartyr Blaise, bishop of Sebaste; Theodora the empress; New-martyr George of Serbia; Vsevolod, prince and wonder-worker of Pskov; Venerable Demetrius of Prilutsk.

February 12: Meletios, archbishop of Antioch; New-martyr Christos of Constantinople; Alexis, metropolitan of Moscow.

February 13: Venerable Martinian of Palestine; Apostles and Martyrs Aquila and Priscilla; Eulogios, patriarch of Alexandria; Venerable Simeon (Nemanja) the myrrh-streaming, prince of Serbia and founder of Hilandar monastery on Athos.

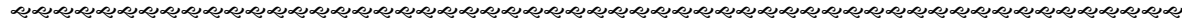
February 14: Auxentios the priest of Bithynia; Venerable Abraham, Maron of Syria and Damian; New-martyrs Nicholas of Corinth and George of Mitylene; repose of Venerable Cyril, equal-to-the-Apostles and teacher of the Slavs; Venerable Isaac the Recluse of the Kiev Caves.

February 15: Apostle Onesimos of the Seventy; Venerable Eusebios of Syria; Martyr Major of Gaza; Venerable Dalmatos of Siberia.

February 16: Martyr Pamphilos, priest of Caesarea in Palestine; Venerable Flavian the hermit; Venerable-martyr Romanos.

February 17: Great-martyr Theodore the Soldier (“Tyro”); Marcian the emperor and Pulcheria the empress; New-martyrs Theodore and Michael; Venerable Euxiphios; repose of Hermogenes, patriarch of Moscow; Venerable Finan, bishop of Lindisfarne.

February 18: Leo the Great, pope of Rome; Agapitos the Confessor, bishop of Synnada in Phrygia; Venerable Colman, bishop of Lindisfarne.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

February 11-18

Sunday	1 Corinthians	8:8-13, 9:1-2	Matt	25:31-46
Monday	3 John	1:1-15	Luke	19:29-40; 22:7-30
Tuesday	1 Jude	1:1-10	Luke	22:29-42; 45-71; 23:1
Wednesday	Joel	3:12-21	Joel	2:12-26
Thursday	Philemon	1:1-25	Luke	23:1-31, 33, 44-56
Friday	Zechariah	8:7-17	Zech	8:19-23
Saturday	2 Timothy	2:1-10	Luke	20:46-47; 21:1-4
Sunday	Romans	13:11-14; 14:1-4	Matt	6:14-21



Pray for our catechumens: Memphis – Kendall Ichniowski, Nelvia Agnew, John Agnew, and Calen and Katherine Verbist.

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), Chelsea Yadron (pregnant), Heather Hetrick (pregnant), Julie Hight (pregnant), Anne Katherine Vanlandingham (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



Parish Council Update

Our next council meeting is this Tuesday at 6 pm. Lord willing, the council will discuss our options on the sound in St Raphael Hall and come to a decision on how to move forward. We will also continue to look ahead to new projects for 2018.

Thank you! We were blessed this weekend to have Paul Finley lead us in a pre-Lenten retreat on the Sermon on the Mount. Thank you Paul and Deborah Finley for making the trip to Memphis and blessing us with your wisdom and encouragement! May God grant you many years! We will take up a special collection for St. Herman House in Cleveland, OH where Paul and Deborah minister.

Sons of Thunder Men’s Book Club will meet this evening at 6:30 in Dn. James's home. They will be discussing *The Song of Sirin* by Nicholas Kotar. All men are welcome.

Online Sign Up - Links to all of our sign ups can be found on the St. John website under *Parish-Online Assignments and Sign Ups*: **Coffee Hour, Lenten Meals**

Women of St. John Calendar

- March 15** **Women’s Teaching** - 10:00 a.m., Sarah Hodges’ home
- May 7** **AWSJ Book Club** – *Catherine of Sienna* by Sigrid Undset

AS WE PREPARE FOR GREAT LENT

Meat Fare Potluck

Join us following liturgy for the Meatfare Potluck and enjoy the fellowship of your St. John family.

Forgiveness Vespers

The opening service of Great Lent is Forgiveness Vespers next Sunday evening, February 18 at 6:00 p.m. which will be followed by the Rite of Forgiveness. Begin today to prepare yourselves for that very important and powerful service which begins our annual school of repentance.

Wednesday Lenten Meals

As has been our tradition, each Wednesday following Presanctified Liturgy we enjoy a meal prepared by one or more of our parishioners. If you would like to provide one of these meals, please contact Trish in the office or sign up on the website. The dates are: **February 21, 28; March 7, 14, 18; April 5 (Holy Thursday).**

For those new to St. John, the menu is solely at the discretion of those preparing the meal. Some choose to offer soup, salad and dessert; others enjoy cooking a meal with many dishes. Typically, you can expect to be serving 65 people. Many women find a friend to cook with while some women prefer to do it on their own...it’s up to you! Costs for preparing the meals are reimbursed upon request; please see Trish.

STOCK UP THE FOOD PANTRY FOR GREAT LENT!

Week 1: Feb. 18-24

*Canned meats:
Spam
Vienna Sausages
Canned chicken
Tuna

Week 4: Mar. 11-17

Dry Items
individual cereal boxes
oatmeal packets
granola bars or cereal bars
rice/beans
nabs

* Many of the patrons of the food pantry are homeless and have no means with which to open cans and/or cook their food. When possible, please buy items with pop-tops that are ready to eat.

**Please donate baby items to Birthright.

Week 2: Feb. 25-Mar. 3

Peanut Butter (*creamy*)
Crackers

Week 5: Mar. 18-24

Toiletries
Toilet Paper
Toothpaste/toothbrush
Shampoo

Week 3: Mar. 4-10

*Canned Goods:
Soup (*Ready to eat*)
Veggies/ beans/fruit
Drinks/drink boxes

Weeks 6: Mar. 25-31

*Canned meals:
Chef Boy R Dee
Chili
Mac n Cheese

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

Sunday, 2/11:	Sandy Childress <i>Empress Theodora: Sandy Childress</i> <i>Hieromartyr Blaise: Blaise Bracket</i>
Monday, 2/12:	Brody Weatherall
Thursday, 2/15:	Xenia Wallace, Tom Ashworth
Friday, 2/16:	Caroline O'Brien, Thomas Yadron

Master Plan updates

St Raphael Hall – Efforts are being made to continue to work on the sound in the hall. We've received three different estimates on how to best work with the sound and are working to make a decision on how to best fix the situation.

A NEW PROJECT – 901 Properties has officially begun to list two of the units and are taking applications for renting the property. Over the next month, the other two units will be made ready for rental and the property will begin to be used. May God bless this new venture!

Fund raising – Our final debt amount for the new construction is \$775,000. Thank you for all of your help! Any additional contributions to the mortgage are appreciated!

Library Lines

Many, even in the Christian tradition feel uncomfortable thinking about Christ as the Great Judge, but our Church gives us this day to focus our attention on this event. Read about it and how we are to prepare for it in *The Mystery of Death* (CAT DEA VAS), *A Rumor of War* (CAT/APO/ENG), and *Ultimate Things* (SPR LIV ENG). See also 2 CD sets, *Death and Resurrection* by Bp. Kallistos Ware and *When Our End Comes: From Life to Afterlife* by Fr. Ted Pulchini.

St. Blaise (2/11) is a beloved saint of the Orthodox and the Western Church. When he hid from persecutors, wild animals came to the saint's cave, but the creatures waited for him to finish his prayers before they received his blessing. He endured many tortures and several of his followers were martyred before him. We ask his intercessions for our domestic animals and for protection against wild ones. Read a story about him and his animals in *Miraculous Friendships between Saints and the Wild Beasts* (KID STS KIS).

Wednesday, we commemorate one member of a pair of missionaries. St. Cyril (2/14) and his brother St. Methodius (4/6) are known as Equal to the Apostles. These ninth century saints are models for modern missionaries because they taught, wrote and preached to the Slavs in their own language. See their stories in *Byzantium and the Slavs* (HIS OBO); *A Gift for Ianko* (KID STS CYR); *Missionaries, Monks and Martyrs* (HAG - - - VER); *Apostles of Medieval Europe* (HAG - - - SPA); and *New Apostles of Christ* (HAG - - - HAT).

St. Onesimus (2/15) rose from the life of a servant to that of a bishop. In his youth he fled from his Christian master, Philemon, to Rome where he encountered the Apostle Paul. He was devoted to him, and St. Paul wrote a letter (the epistle Philemon) to his master in his defense. He was forgiven and sent back to Rome. Years later he was appointed bishop of Ephesus after St. Timothy's repose. He was arrested, stoned and beheaded in 109 A.D. Read more about him in *Stories of Saints from the Prologue* (KID STS MAN) and *Orthodox Saints* (HAG - - - POU).

Our commemoration list includes several Theodores. Friday we honor Theodore the Tyro (2/17), which means "the Recruit." Often this is a term of derision, but this saint proved it otherwise. He was put in prison for refusing to obey the order of his commanding officer to sacrifice to idols. Christ appeared to him, encouraging him before his martyrdom. On the 50th anniversary of his death, he appeared to a bishop and warned him to guard his flock against eating food that had been secretly sacrificed to idols. He is also commemorated on the first Saturday of Lent, and a Canon was composed to him by St. John of Damascus. We ask his intercession for the return of stolen items.