

From the Fathers (and others):

“Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.”
Matthew 5:42

“He who is generous will be blessed, for he gives some of his food to the poor.”
Proverbs 22:9

“He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy, he will crush the oppressor.”
Psalm 72:4

“It is not right or proper for the rich to keep excess wealth when there are many poor people in need of the means of existence, of necessary clothing and proper dwellings, for we have nothing of our own; everything belongs to God!”
St. John of Kronstadt

“Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do it.”
Proverbs 3:27

“Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.”
Matthew 5:42

“When you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. That your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.”
Matthew 6:3-4

“He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy, he will crush the oppressor.”
Psalms 72:4

“Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely, who conducts his affairs with justice.”
Psalms 112:5

“He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward him for what he has done.”
Proverbs 19:17

St. John Orthodox Church



*~ February 12, 2017 ~
Prodigal Son*

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. Basil Cushman
Associate Pastor

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

Rev. Fr. Alexander Mackoul
Assistant Pastor

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

February 12, 2017

Prodigal Son

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Caitlyn Maas**.

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

Feb. 12 - 19 (Wed & Fri Fast)

- Sunday** -Groundbreaking for new parish hall following liturgy
-Teen Group, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., meet at the church
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's lunch, 12:00 p.m.
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Vespers, 5:30 p.m.
-Meal following Vespers
-Wednesday teaching, 7:00 p.m., Mary in the Old Testament
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Quarterly Men's Dinner, 6:00 p.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.
-Chrismation and Baptism for Chelsea Yadron and Gabriel de la Torre
- Sunday** -**Orthros and Church School, 9:00 a.m.**
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**
-Meatfare Potluck following liturgy

DIVINE LITURGY

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

PRIEST:	Fr. Philip	HOMILY:	Fr. Philip
READER:	Rod Ratliff	USHER:	Matt Spinolo
HOLY BREAD:	Karen Bell		
ALTAR SERVERS:	Pavel, Trent, Nicholas, Max, Alex		
CLEAN UP:	Ben Hight, Bill Harter, Don Sanderlin, Ervin Romero, Jeff Boone, Rod Ratliff, Tekla Haymanot, Tim Elliott, Chris Utley, David White		

MEMORIAL TODAY

Aleksandra Klimkowski's family: Stephanie, Peter, Julian, Boggan

COMMEMORATIONS

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.

February 19: Apostles Archippos, Philemon and Apphias of the Seventy; Venerable-martyr Philothea of Athens; New-martyr Nikita the New of Epiros.



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



The **Sons of Thunder Men's Book Club** will be meeting at Brandon Maas's home on Meatfare Sunday, February 19th at 6:30 for a time of fellowship and meaty food. All men are welcome.

Great Lent is near – As we remember the Prodigal Son today, we are reminded that the Great Fast is soon to follow. Lent begins on February 27th. We will shortly place more material in the parish hall for your use regarding services and other information. As a reminder, remember the *traditional fasting discipline* is observed during the Great Fast which lasts from Pure Monday through Great and Holy Saturday (with *katalysis* for wine and oil on Saturdays and Sundays [except on Great and Holy Saturday when oil is not permitted], and for fish, wine and oil on the Annunciation [March 25th] and Palm Sunday).

May we all prepare even now to use the season to draw closer to our God through our voluntary ascetical work of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving!

Wednesday Lenten Meals – Each Wednesday of Lent, following Presanctified Liturgy, we enjoy a meal prepared by one or more of our parishioners. If you would like to provide one of these Lenten meals, please sign up online, the link is on our website, or contact Trish in the office with the date you prefer. The available dates are: **March 8, March 15, March 22, April 5, and April 13 (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! Drinks are provided by the parish. Cost for preparing the meals is reimbursed upon request; please see Trish.

Meatfare Potluck

February 19 following Divine Liturgy! Please bring a non-fasting dish(es) large enough to share and enjoy the fellowship of your St. John family as prepare to enter the Lenten fast.

Women of St. John: We need a volunteers to assist with set up (tablecloths, utensils, plates, etc.) and food reception (receiving food in kitchen before liturgy, getting out warmers, setting food out on serving tables with serving utensils).

Men of St. John Clean Up: Ben Hight, Bill Harter, Don Sanderlin, Ervin Romero, Jeff Boone, Rod Ratliff, Tekla Haymanot, Tim Elliott, Chris Utley, David White



<u>DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS</u>			<u>February 12-19</u>	
Sunday	1 Corinthians	6:12-20	Luke	15:11-21
Monday	1 John	2:18-3:8	Mark	11:1-11
Tuesday	1 John	3:9-22	Mark	14:10-42
Wednesday	Philemon	1:1-25	Mark	14:43-15:1
Thursday	1 John	4:20-5:21	Mark	15:1-15
Friday	2 Timothy	2:1-10	Luke	20:46-21:4
Saturday	1 Thessalonians	4:13-17	Luke	21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36
Sunday	1 Corinthians	8:8-9:2	Matthew	25:31-46

Pray for our catechumens: Memphis –Justin Bowles; Wendy Weatherall (Brody & Eli); Lucas Whatley; Chelsea Yadron (Gabriel).

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), 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.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

Sunday, 2/12: Brody Weatherall

Thursday, 2/16: Caroline O'Brien, Thomas Yadron

UPCOMING AT ST. JOHN

Saturday, February 18 Divine Liturgy for Saturday of Souls, 9:00 a.m.

Chrismation – Chelsea Yadron

Holy Baptism – Gabriel de la Torre

Sunday, February 19 Meatfare Potluck, following Liturgy

Women of St. John ~ AWSJ

March 9 ~Women's Teaching, 10:00 a.m.,

March 19 ~SAVE THE DATE~ Baby Shower for Chelsea Yadron

May 1 ~AWSJ Book Club will be discussing *Ascent to the Summit...the Life and Martyric Death of Igor Rozin*

teen group

TODAY: Meet at the church at 5:00 p.m.

Next week: NO Teen Group, Fr. Alex out of town

Master Plan Updates

Progress on final drawings/contractor/etc. – After the Divine Liturgy we will celebrate a ground breaking service asking for God's blessing. This coming week the foundation will begin to be laid. It won't be long before we see walls! Thank you for all of your prayers and support thus far!!

Fund raising – Thank you for your help thus far!! There are pledge cards for the building fund available downstairs. Every little bit helps!

Library Lines

Tuesday 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.

St. Leo the Great (2/18) is perhaps the most well-known bishop of Rome whom we commemorate. He brought a devout faith, underscored by an excellent education, to the Church when She was attacked by the heresy of the Monophysites who denied the dual natures of Christ.

PERIODICALLY SPEAKING

The lives of many saints often leave us shaking our heads in wonder. It's a puzzle to me how saints can be soldiers. Yet our hagiography contains many of them, including Sts. Martin the Merciful, Phanourios, Demetrios, and the Forty Martyrs of Sebaste. Read the winter, 2013 issue of *Road to Emmaus* to discover insights from interviews with Orthodox historians into this seeming contradiction. Children will enjoy learning about them in *My Warrior Saints* (KID STS POT).