

From the Fathers (and others):

Blessed is Christ Who promised life and resurrection to Adam's children in the day of His coming. We too shall arise and exalt Him along with the saints who have been pleasing to Him.

St. Ephraim the Syrian

Everything has already begun, and everything always begins anew for the Church, with the Resurrection of our Lord.

His Beatitude, Patriarch IGNATIUS IV

If our Lord ascends up to Heaven, ascend with Him. Be one of those angels who escort Him, or one of those who receive Him. Bid the gates be lifted up (cf. Ps. 24:7, 10), or be made higher, that they may receive Him, exalted after His Passion. Answer to those who are in doubt because He bears up with Him His body and the tokens of His Passion, which He had not when He came down, and who therefore inquire, 'Who is this King of Glory?' that it is the Lord strong and mighty, as in all things that He has done from time to time and does, so now in His battle and triumph for the sake of Mankind.

St. Gregory the Theologian

The Lord is called light and life and resurrection and truth. He is light as the brightness of souls and as the One Who drives away the darkness of ignorance, as the One Who enlightens the mind to understand unutterable things, and as the One Who reveals mysteries which can be perceived only by the pure. He is life, as the One Who grants to souls who love the Lord, the movement proper for divine things. Again, He is resurrection as the One Who raises up the mind from a deathly craving for material things and cleanses it from all kinds of corruption and death. Finally, He is truth as the One Who gives to those who are worthy an inflexible disposition toward the good.

St. Maximos the Confessor

The life of the heart is love, whilst malice and enmity against our brother are its death. The Lord keeps us on the earth in order that love for God and our neighbor may wholly penetrate our heart. That is what He expects from us all. This is, indeed, the purpose of the world's standing.

St. John of Kronstadt

Patience, forgiveness and joy are the three greatest characteristics of divine love. They are characteristics of all real love - if there is such a thing as real love outside divine love. Without these three characteristics, love is not love. If you give the name 'love' to anything else, it is as though you were giving the name 'sheep' to a goat or a pig.

St. Nikolai Velimirovich

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



~ April 29, 2018 ~
Sunday of the Paralytic

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
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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. Basil Cushman
Associate Pastor

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

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 Paralytic

Epistle: Acts 9:32-42

Gospel: John 5:1-15

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

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

April 29 – May 6 (F,W,O)

- Sunday** -Teen Parent Meeting, during coffee hour, teen room
-Sons of Thunder, 6:00 p.m., Mark Ortwein's home
- 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.
-Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., Creation
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Parish Meal, 5:30 p.m.
-Wednesday Teaching, 6:15 p.m.
-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 and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
- Sunday** -**Orthros & Church School, 9:00 a.m.**
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**

DIVINE LITURGY – Samaritan Woman

Sunday, May 6, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip
READER: Jack Turner
HOLY BREAD: Trish Ratliff
USHER: Ervin Romero
ALTAR SERVERS: James, Mark, Thomas, Alex
COFFEE HOUR: Kate Kumar

* **Fasting Note:** With the blessing of the Synod of Antioch, a katalysis for fish, wine and oil is granted for all Wednesdays and Fridays of the Pentecostarion (the period between Pascha and Pentecost).

COMMEMORATIONS

April 29: Apostles Jason and Sosipater of the Seventy; the martyrs of Kerkyra; John, metropolitan of Thebes; New-martyr John; Basil of Ostrog.

April 30: Apostle James, brother of John the Theologian; Donatos, bishop in Epiros; New-martyr Argyris; Bishop Ignatios Brianchaninov.

May 1: Prophet Jeremiah; Venerable-martyrs Euthymios, Ignatios and Akakios of Prodromou skete on Athos; Venerable Nikephoros of Chios and Panaretos of Cyprus; Venerable Paphnoutios of Borovsk.

May 2: Athanasios the Great, patriarch of Alexandria; Martyrs Hesperos, Zoe and their son Kyriakos and Theodoulos in Attalia; translation of the relics of the holy Passion-bearers Boris and Gleb.

May 3: Martyrs Timothy the Reader and his wife Maura of Egypt; Peter, archbishop of Argolis; Ekumenios, bishop of Trikala; Venerable Luke of Mt. Stirion; repose of Venerable Theodosios of the Kiev Caves, founder of Russian Monasticism.

May 4: Venerable-martyr Palagia of Tarsus; Athanasios, bishop of Corinth; Venerable Nikephoros the Solitary of Athos.

May 5: Great-martyr Irene of Thessalonika; Venerable Euthymios, bishop of Maditos in Thrace.

May 6: Righteous Job the long-suffering; Venerable Seraphim of Mount Domvu; translation of the relics of Sabbas, first archbishop of Serbia.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS			April 29 – May 6	
Sunday	Acts	9:32-42	John	5:1-15
Monday	Acts	12:1-11	Luke	9:1-6
Tuesday	Acts	10:21-33	John	7:1-13
Wednesday	Hebrews	13:7-16	John	7:14-30
Thursday	Acts	10:34-43	John	8:12-20
Friday	Acts	10:44-48; 11:1-10	John	8:21-30
Saturday	Acts	12:1-11	John	8:31-42
Sunday	Acts	11:19-30	John	4:5-42



Pray for our catechumens: Memphis – Calen and Katherine Verbist.
Please remember in your prayers - Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Nicholas Hill, Chelsea Yadron (pregnant), Julie Hight (pregnant), Anne Katherine Vanlandingham (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), 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), Sharon (Larry Ichniowski’s mother), Chris Hodges, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

Teen Group Parents – There will be a meeting in the Teen Room today during Coffee Hour in the Teen Room

Men’s Quarterly Dinner – The men will meet at Central BBQ on Summer at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 17. All men are welcome!

Coffee Hour – A new white board has been set up in the parish hall to aid in coffee hour sign up. You will see all dates and services and can sign your name to whatever dates are most convenient for you. Online sign ups are still available as well - links for all sign ups can be found on our website under “Parish – Online Sign Ups and Assignments.” Contact Anna Pashchinskaya with any questions.

Help is also needed for **Wednesday night meal pick up**.

Sons of Thunder Men’s Book Club will be meeting at 6pm tonight at Mark Ortwein’s home. They will be discussing Time and Despondency by Dr. Nicole Roccas and The Willpower Instinct by Dr. Kelly McGonigal. All men are welcome.

Parish Council Update

Thanks be to God, all four of the apartments in our new building have been rented and have tenants. The council is very happy with our property management group. We did have a setback with our acoustic plan. The final price came back significantly higher than the estimate. We have worked with Montgomery Martin and Fleming architects to switch companies and get the work completed. We are still waiting for final pricing, but we are hopeful that it will not be long before our plan is in place. Thank you for your patience as we figure out the proper way to solve the issue.

Community Etiquette:

Reminder for Parents – Our new hall means that we have a lot of space! More spaces means more temptation to run. Please, ask your children to not run in the building. Thank you for your efforts to keep a particular watch on your children throughout the building.



Yearbook Pictures

If you have pictures from Holy Week or Pascha (or any other time), please text or email them to Buddy Bowick.

Women of St. John Calendar

- APRIL 30** AWSJ Book Club – *date change* - *Catherine of Sienna* by Sigrid Undset, Kh. Pamela's home unless otherwise announced
- May 3** Women's Teaching - 10:00 a.m., Sarah Hodges' porch
- June 3** Baby Shower honoring Anne Katherine Vanlandingham



Baby Shower for Baby Vanlandingham

Sunday, June 3rd

12:30 p.m. at Sh. Margaret McKelroy's home

Anne Katherine is registered at Target and Amazon.

If you would like to contribute to the group gift or would like to help with the shower in any way, please contact Sh. Margaret.



Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Tuesday, 5/1:** Melanie Stanek
Prophet Jeremiah: Charlie Harvey, Clark McGee
- Wednesday, 5/2:** Caitlin Romero
Anniversary: Brandon & Caitlyn Maas
- Thursday, 5/3:** Carla Fahhoun, Alannah Paden, Lily Paden, Wendy Weatherall
- Saturday, 5/5:** *Great Martyr Irene:* Irene Hodges

Library Lines

Why is the account of the Paralytic so important that it is designated a special Sunday after Pascha? Read Fr. Schememann's comments on the Paralytic's words, "I have no man," in *The Church Year* (CAT CAL SCH). See also *St. John Chrysostom's Homilies* (#46-47) for his account of this man's encounter with Christ. Excerpts from more of St. John Chrysostom's writing on the Paralytic are recorded in *The Fathers of the Church* (REF PAT JOH) and *The Bible and the Holy Fathers* (REF PAT COM MAN).

One of the beauties of Orthodoxy is its connectiveness. Three weeks ago, we celebrated Pascha. In a mystery, we in the 21st century entered into an event that occurred in 32 A.D. Even our hymns sang of Old Testament men who foretold or were types of Christ. This phenomenon is also reflected in our liturgical calendar. This week we commemorate a contemporary of Christ, and Old Testament prophet and a fourth century hierarch, all who touch our lives today.

St. James (4/30) was the brother of our own St. John. They were in the inner circle of Christ's disciples, and He called them "the sons of thunder." James preached the Gospel in Spain after Pentecost and returned to Jerusalem. The Jews sent men to discredit his message and spread lies about him. History records the names of three of them, and tradition tells us they were later converted. St. James, the first martyred of the Apostles, was beheaded in 44 A. D. Read more about him in *The Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR) and *Notes on the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - MAS).

It is not by chance that we honor the Prophet Jeremiah (5/1) soon after Pascha. God called him at age 15 but he refused Him because of his youth and inability to speak well. God touched his mouth and gave him words. He spent the next 23 years warning the Jews about their impending captivity because they had forsaken God and worshipped idols. He was mocked, imprisoned and eventually killed by them.

St. Athanasius (5/2) is linked in our minds with the First Ecumenical Council where he refuted the heresy of Arius. The Council supported his arguments but the Arians persecuted him throughout his life. At one time, his was deposed as a bishop and lived under death threats. He wrote letters in defense of Orthodoxy and commentaries on the Scriptures. St. John Library owns *Athanasius...The Life of Anthony and the Letter to Marcellinus* (HAG ANT ATH), *Christ Is Our Holiness: Be Strong in the Faith* (PAT ATH), *On the Incarnation* (PAT ATH), and *The Road to Pascha* (PAT ATH).

Pelagia of Tarsus (5/4) was the daughter of well-known pagans. Nevertheless, she learned of Christ and vowed to remain faithful to him and preserve her virginity. The son of Diocletian desired to marry her but she rebuffed his advances. She made a secret journey to Bishop Linus to receive baptism by dressing in fine apparel then changing into simple garb and distributing her jewels on the way home to the poor. She told her servants about her new Lord and upon hearing of this, her suitor realized she was lost to him and took his own life in despair. When she told her mother about her baptism, she tied her up, delivered her to the emperor, and denounced her as a Christian to escape his wrath. Diocletian had her burned in a fiery-hot bull. Her bones were taken outside the city by the pagan. Lions guarded them until Bishop Linus could gather them and give them Christian burial.