

From the Fathers (and others):

“God's Providence controls the universe. It is present everywhere. Providence is the sovereign Logos of God, imprinting form on the unformed materiality of the world, making and fashioning all things. Matter could not have acquired an articulated structure were it not for the directing power of the Logos Who is the Image, Intellect, Wisdom, and Providence of God.”

St. Anthony the Great

“A discerning man, when he eats grapes, takes only the ripe ones and leaves the sour. Thus also the discerning mind carefully marks the virtues which he sees in any person. A mindless man seeks out the vices and failings . . . Even if you see someone sin with your own eyes, do not judge, for often even your eyes are deceived.”

St. John Climacus

“When there is a respect for small things, there will be an even greater respect towards the bigger things. When there is no respect for small things, then neither will there be for the bigger ones. This is how the Fathers maintained Tradition.”

Elder Paisios

“The thoughts which originate from God bring internal peace and joy to the person. On the contrary, the thoughts which originate from the devil are filled with agitation, disturbance and grief.”

Abba Barsanuphius

“Yes, one must disregard doubts, just like lustful and blasphemous thoughts; pay no attention to them. Disregard them, and your enemy, the devil, will not be able to withstand it; he'll leave you, since he's proud and cannot bear the disdain. But if you enter into conversation with them - since the lustful thoughts, blasphemies and doubts are not yours -he'll bombard you, swamp you, kill you.”

Elder Barsanuphius of Optina

“Acts of charity, almsgiving and all the external good works do not suppress the arrogance of the heart; but noetic meditation, the labor of repentance, contrition and humility – these humble the proud mind.”

Elder Joseph the Hesychast

St. John Orthodox Church



~ April 3, 2016 ~

Adoration of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

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

www.stjohnmemphis.org

www.orthodoxtupelo.com

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

Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers
Assistant Pastor

V. Rev. Fr. Basil Cushman
Associate 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

April 3, 2016

Adoration of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Lori O'Brien**.

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 3 - 10 (*Great Fast)

- Sunday** -Vespers, 4:30 p.m.
-Teen Group, Bible Study, 5:00 p.m.
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Great Compline, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Presanctified Liturgy, 6:00 p.m.
-Parish meal following liturgy – Jamie White and Sarah Ortwein
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Women's Teaching, 10:00 a.m.
- Friday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.
-Akathist, 6:30 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.

Upcoming at St. John...

Memorials: April 10 *Esther Longa, 6 years;*
Paul Parham, 4 years
Fr. John Out of Town: April 8 – 11

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, April 10, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST:	Fr. Basil	HOMILY:	Fr. Basil
READER:		USHER:	Dan O'Brien
HOLY BREAD:	Sarah Hodges		
ALTAR SERVERS:	Alex M., Cade, Elijah		
COFFEE HOUR:	Judy & Trent Terry, Mickey & Sarah Hodges		
WELCOME TEAM:	Gary Karnaghon		

COMMEMORATIONS

April 3: Venerable Nikita the Confessor and Joseph the Hymnographer; New-martyrs Paul and John.

April 4: Venerable George of the Peloponnesos; Martyrs Theodoulos the reader and Agathopodos the deacon of Thessalonika; Venerable Thonas, archbishop of Thessalonika; Isidore, bishop of Seville.

April 5: Martyrs Claudios, Didymos and Diodoros; New-martyr George of New Ephesos; Venerable Theodora of Thessalonika.

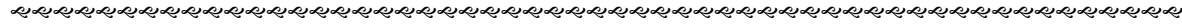
April 6: Eutychios, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Platonida of Nisibis; Venerable Gregory Byzantios of the Great Lavra on Athos; Venerable-martyr Gennadios of Dionysiou monastery on Athos; the Martyrs of Samothrace; Methodios, archbishop of Moravia and enlightener of the Slavs.

April 7: Martyr Kalliopios of Cilicia; Venerable George, bishop of Mitylene; repose of Tikhon, patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America.

April 8: Apostles Agabos, Rufos, Phlegon, Asynkritos, Herodion and Hermas of the Seventy; Celestine, bishop of Rome.

April 9: Martyr Eupsychois of Cappadocia; Venerable-martyrs Vadim, Raphael, Nicholas and Irene; Venerable Simeon.

April 10: Marytrs Terence and Pompeios of Carthage together with Alexander and their forty companions; New-hieromartyr Gregory V, patriarch of Constantinople; New-martyr Demas of Smyrna.

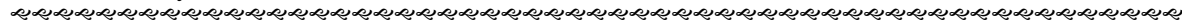


DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday	Hebrews	4:14-5:6
Monday	Genesis	8:21-9:7
Tuesday	Genesis	9:8-17
Wednesday	Genesis	9:18-10:1
Thursday	Genesis	10:32-11:9
Friday	Genesis	12:1-7
Saturday	Hebrews	6:9-12
Sunday	Hebrews	6:13-20

April 3 - 10

Mark	8:34-9:1
Proverbs	11:19-12:6
Proverbs	12:8-22
Proverbs	12:23-13:9
Proverbs	13:19-14:6
Proverbs	14:15-26
Mark	7:31-37
Mark	9:17-31



Pray for our catechumens: Memphis - Ben Arthur, Joseph Gross, and Michael Hill.

Please remember in your prayers: Shirley Gore (Judy Terry’s mother), Effie Johnson (Kh. Susan’s mother), Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Charles Ingram, Ted Greathouse (Shelley Snowden’s father), Allen Sudduth (Paul’s father), Janet Berry, Lydia Tampanaric (Tupelo), Nicholas Hill, Mary Sue Johnson (Jason Guntharpe’s grandmother), Julie Hight (pregnant), Christina Moore (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Brenda Thomas, Doris & Jim (Brenda Thomas’ family), Kera White, Dot Lawson (Lawson Bowick’s grandmother), Lisa Catlett (Fr. Don & Kh. Martha’s daughter), Glenda Brooks, Naomi Young (Chelsea Tabor’s grandmother), Anna Grace (Joyce Grossman’s granddaughter), those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



Confessions for Lent – As you think about making your confession for Lent **please make every effort** to have you confessions heard before the beginning of Holy Week. Fr. John and Fr. Philip are available to hear your confession following each service with the exception of the Divine Liturgy, so there are many opportunities. An excellent time to make your confession is during the Great Canon of Repentance of St. Andrew of Crete at compline on the night of April 13th. Additionally, many people make an appointment to make their confession at a time other than after a service. Just contact the priest to do so.

Paschal Nave Cleaning –We will have our annual Paschal Nave Cleaning on **April 16**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and lasting until we are finished. Make plans now to assist in preparing our nave for Pascha. There will be jobs for all ages and abilities!

Parish Life Conference 2016 (PLC) – This year the PLC is being hosted by our sister parish in Pensacola, FL, June 15-18. Information including hotel and conference registration is available online site <http://antiochianevents.com/miami.html>.

The **Sons of Thunder Men's Book Club** will be meeting Sunday April 17 at 6:30, at Brandon Maas's home. We will be discussing *Laurus* by Eugene Vodolazkin. All men are welcome. If you have any questions, contact Brandon Maas at brndnmaas@gmail.com.

Wednesday Lenten Meals – If you would like to provide the parish Lenten meal on **April 28 (Holy Thursday)**, please contact Trish in the office.

Memphis Redbirds – Join us on Thursday evening, June 2 as we support our Memphis as they Redbirds play against the New Orleans Zephyrs. Tickets are \$16.50 each and include a hat and hot dog. There is a sign up list available downstairs as well as an online link on the website.

OCTS -

Lost & Found – Please check table in the room off the kitchen for lost and found items. There are several jackets, 2 pairs of glasses, as well as other miscellaneous items which have been found around the church.

Stamo Latto Scholarship – The Stamo Latto Scholarship is open to Junior and Senior high school women. Further information about the scholarship, requirements, and application can be found on our website under the Teen Group section (Parish – Teen Group – Stamo Latto).

Women of St. John Calendar

- April 7** **Women’s Teaching**, 10:00 a.m., Nancy Ingram’s home
- May 9** **Book Club**, 7:00 p.m. *Everyday Saints* by Arch. Tikhon Shevkunov
- May 14** Co-Ed Wedding Shower for Thomas Yadron & Chelsea Tabor

Orthodox Christian Translation Society, New Release

Just in time for your Lenten reading, the Orthodox Christian Translation Society is delighted to announce the release of our new book, *The Singing Heart*, written by Ivan Ilyin, a great Russian thinker and a lifelong seeker of truth. A writer, publicist, political scientist, and literary critic by profession, he described this book in the following manner: "It is dedicated not to theology, but to quiet philosophical praises to God....This is a simple, quiet philosophy...born from the most important organ of the Orthodox Christian... a contemplative heart."

Artfully translated into English by Alexandra Weber, *The Singing Heart* is a collection of reflections on human nature and morality; the beauty of nature and its relationship with man as created being and God as creator; man's duties, responsibilities, and destiny in life; and the interplay of heart, mind, and soul. These reflections from a "singing heart" are beautifully written in a language steeped in love for his homeland and the Orthodox faith and provide a glimpse into the soul of a man who refused to be beaten by the cruelty of his time but found beauty in the darkest of days.

Copies of *The Singing Heart*, the new book published by the Orthodox Christian Translation Society (OCTS), will be available for purchase for \$16 in the Parish Hall during coffee hour after Liturgy again today. OCTS Board member David Twombly will be manning the book table and will be happy to discuss the book with you. If you would like to order additional copies, you can do so via the OCTS website at <http://www.orthodoxtranslations.org/books.html>

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

Sunday, 4/3	Brook White
Monday, 4/4	Amelia Kolvek
Wednesday, 4/6	Daniel Sanderlin, Peyton Sanderlin
Friday, 4/8	Clark McGee, Margaret Elliott
Saturday, 4/9	Marie Heisig

The AWSJ invites the Parishioners of St. John

to a

Wedding Shower

honoring

Thomas Yadron and Chelsea Tabor

Saturday, May 14th following Vespers

Thomas & Chelsea are registered at Target and Bed, Bath, and Beyond Contact Kh. Pamela if you would like to contribute to the group gift.



LIBRARY LINES

The Cross is the focus of our attention many times throughout the year. March 6, we commemorated the finding of the Cross by St. Helen. In September we celebrate the Elevation of the Cross, specific events centered around the true Cross. Today is Veneration of the Cross Sunday on which we remember the great significance the Cross plays in our salvation. In Great Compline, we beseech the "invincible and ineffable power of the precious and life-giving Cross, forsake not us sinners." We look to it and find encouragement in our journey at the halfway point through Lent. Read about the history and traditions surrounding feast days of the Cross in *A Dictionary of Greek Orthodoxy* (HIS PAT), *Great Lent* (CAT SPEC SCH) by Alexander Schmemmann, *Sermons on the Major Holy Days* (CAT SAC CON) by Anthony M. Coniaris, and *St. Helen Finds the Cross of Jesus* (KID HEL).

Venerable Joseph the Hymnographer (4/4) is known as "the sweet-voiced nightingale of the Church." He was a strong defender of the veneration of icons and was sent to Rome to Pope Leo to report on the threat of iconoclasm. During the trip, he was captured and given over to the iconoclasts. After being imprisoned for six years, St. Nicholas of Myra appeared to him and told him to eat a paper scroll on which was written a prayer for God's intervention. He did so and sang, "How sweet are Thine oracles to my throat," as he had been instructed by the saint. The chains fell off and he was transported to Constantinople. Years later he composed many hymns and canons to the saints including one to St. Bartholomew who blessed him to write divine music which flowed through his heart. According to the OCA website, "Most of the Canons in the Menaion are St. Joseph's work. His name may be found in the Ninth Ode as an acrostic. He also composed many of the hymns in the Paraklesis." Read about him and other composers of verse in *Poets and Hymnographers of the Church* (HAG - - - TAR).

This week we honor two saints who built up the Church through their pens. St. Methodius(4/6), together with his brother St. Cyril, are known as equal to the apostles and enlighteners of the Slavs. They devised a Slavonic alphabet and translated books used in celebrating the divine services and almost the entire Old Testament. They were frequently opposed by the German bishops who insisted the services be done in Latin. Discover more about their lives in *Byzantium and the Slavs* (HIS OBO), *A Gift for Ianko* (KID CYR) and *Orthodox Alaska* (HIS OLE).

St. Tikhon, born in Russia in 1865, was an American saint. A studious and pious youth, he was tonsured a monk at age 26 and was appointed bishop of the Aleutians and Alaska in 1898. He worked tirelessly in the United States building churches and founded the first Orthodox seminary in the United States, named after his patron, St. Tikhon of Irkutsk. In 1917 he was recalled to Russia and was later elevated to rank of Patriarch of Moscow. His struggles against the repression of the Church during the revolutionary period and his imprisonment by the Soviets undermined his health and he reposed in 1925. Read more about him in *Journey Across America* (KID GID).

Wednesday, we commemorate a family member and a friend of the Apostles. St. Herodion (4/8) of the Seventy was related to St. Paul. He traveled with him on his missionary journeys and St. Paul ordained him as the first bishop of Patara in the Balkans. He was martyred around 67 AD. Hieromartyr Antipas(4/11) was a disciple of our St. John the Evangelist. He converted many in Pergamum from idol worship to the True God. The pagan priests burned him in a hot furnace where sacrifices were made to idols. The Faithful removed his unharmed body from the furnace and buried him. We ask his intercessions for diseases of the teeth.