

From the Fathers (and others):

Let us say, Brethren! And because of the Resurrection, let us forgive all things to those who hate us...' (Doxasticon of Pascha). You easily forgive yourself, if you have sinned against God, or against men; accordingly forgive other people, too. Love your neighbor as yourself, forgive him much.

St. John of Kronstadt

The mouth which is continuously giving thanks, receives blessing from God. In the heart that always shows gratitude, grace abides.

St. Isaac the Syrian

Seek out, with much care and thought, a teacher who will be a safe guide to you; one who knows well how to lead such as are journeying towards God; a teacher who is rich in virtues and wise in the Holy Scriptures.

St. Basil the Great

“God’s holy church in itself is a symbol of the sensible world, since it possesses the divine sanctuary as heaven and the beauty of the nave as earth. Likewise the world is a church, since it possesses heaven, corresponding to a sanctuary; and for a nave is has the adornment of the earth.”

St. Maximos the Confessor

If you wait for the perfect conditions to work out your salvation, then you will never begin a God-pleasing life.

St. Nikon of Optina

“I consider those fallen mourners more blessed than those who have not fallen and are not mourning over themselves; because as a result of their fall, they have risen by a sure resurrection.”

St. John of the Ladder

Marriage is a bridge leading us from Earth to Heaven.

Archimandrite Aimilianos Simonopetra
Mount Athos

Whoever desires to eliminate future tribulations must bear the present tribulations with joy.

St. Mark the Ascetic

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



~ May 13, 2018 ~
Sunday of the Blindman

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

www.stjohnmemphis.org

www.orthodoxtupelo.com

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 Blindman

Epistle: Acts 16:16-34

Gospel: John 9:1-38

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Anna Pashchinskaya**.

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

May 13 - 20

Sunday -Teen Group
Monday -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
Tuesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Catechism/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., The Work of Christ
Wednesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Great Vespers for Ascension, 6:00 p.m.
-Wednesday meal to follow
Thursday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Quarterly Dinner, 6:30 p.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.

Churching Today

Heather & Elijah Hetrick

DIVINE LITURGY – Ascension

Thursday, May 17, 10:00a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip
READER:
HOLY BREAD: Dn. Charles
COFFEE HOUR: Trish Ratliff

DIVINE LITURGY – Holy Fathers

Sunday, May 20, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip
READER: John Cameron
HOLY BREAD: Lavinia Dumitrache
USHER: Matt Spinolo
ALTAR SERVERS: Zach, Nicholas, Eli, Gabriel, Elijah
COFFEE HOUR: Lori O'Brien, Melissa White

COMMEMORATIONS

May 13: Virgin-martyr Glykeria of Heraklea; Sergios the Confessor; Venerable John the Georgian, founder of Iviron monastery on Athos and Venerable Euthymios, George and Gabriel of Iviron monastery; Venerable-martyrs of Iviron monastery.

May 14: Martyr Isidore of Chios; Hieromartyr Therapont; New-martyrs John of Bulgaria and Mark of Crete; Venerable Isidore of Rostov, fool-for-Christ.

May 15: Achilles, bishop of Larisa; Venerable Pachomios the Great; Martyr Barbaros the myrrh-streaming of Corfu; Isaiah, bishop of Rostov; Andrew the hermit; Titos, bishop of Crete; Demetrios, prince of Moscow.

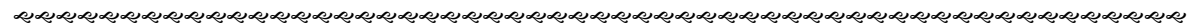
May 16: Venerable Theodore the Sanctified, disciple of Pachomios the Great; Alexander, archbishop of Jerusalem; New-martyr Nicholas of Metsov; Venerable Ephraim of Perekop, wonder-worker of Novogorod.

May 17: Apostle Andronikos and Junia of the Seventy; Anthanasios the New, bishop of Christianopolis; Venerable Nektarios and Theophanes.

May 18: Martyrs Peter, Dionysios, Andrew, Paul, Christina, Heraklios, Paulinos and Benedimos; Stephen the New, patriarch of Constantinople.

May 19: Hieromartyr Patrick, bishop of Prussa; Martyrs Menander and Philetairos; Venerable Cornelios of Komelsk; Grand Prince Dimitry of Donskoy of Moscow.

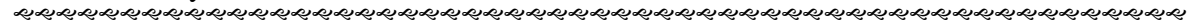
May 20: Martrys Thallelaios of Cilicia, Nikostratos and Antiochos; Venerable Nikitas, John and Joseph of Chios; Lydia of Philippisia; uncovering of the relics of Alexis the wonder-worker, metropolitan of Moscow; Venerable Stephen of Piper.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

May 13 - 20

Sunday	Acts	16:16-34	John	9:1-38
Monday	Acts	17:1-9	John	11:47-54
Tuesday	Acts	17:19-28	John	12:19-36
Wednesday	Acts	18:22-28	John	12:36-47
Thursday	Acts	1:1-12	Luke	24:36-53
Friday	Acts	19:1-8	John	14:1-11
Saturday	Acts	20:7-12	John	14:10-21
Sunday	Acts	20:16-18, 28-36	John	17:1-13



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.



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



Graduate Sunday – We will recognize the following new graduates on Sunday, May 20. Please let the office know if we have inadvertently overlooked anyone.

High School

Anna Sanderlin Collierville High School

College/Graduate School

Lawson Bowick	University of Memphis
J. Morgan Harter	Birmingham Southern University
Chris Boone	University of TN
Nicole Mansour	Georgetown University
Claire McKelvey	University of Memphis
Joel Finley	University of TN School of Medicine

Vacation Church School – We are *tentatively* planning a Vacation Church School Monday, July 23 – 27. In order to make this happen, we will need volunteers to lead a craft time, music, and possibly time in the Sacristan garden. If you are interested, please contact Sarah Finley or Trish Ratliff. Further details will be available as we determine the feasibility of the week.

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!

Church School – May 20th will be the last day of church school for this year.

Celebration of the Feast of Pentecost, May 27th – Please contact Trish if you would like to: coordinate the decoration of the nave for Pentecost, coordinate or assist with the set up and clean up of the potluck following liturgy that day.

Wednesday Night Summer Schedule Kick Off – SAVE THE DATE - Our summer schedule for Wednesdays will begin on May 30! We will get the summer started off with a fast-free Wednesday cookout and outdoor games. This will be BYOB&B, bring your own beverages and burgers (or anything else you would like to grill for your family) and chairs for sitting outside if weather permits. Sides and desserts will be potluck, so bring enough to share! We will **need to borrow some grills**, so please call the office if you have one that we can use.

Parish Council Update - At the meeting on Tuesday, the parish council discussed the acoustic ceiling and made the decision to move forward with the plan from FL Crane. Lord willing, we are within two months of having all of the work completed. Thank you for your prayers and patience! In addition, the council approved for St. John to host a Mental Health First Aid seminar which will be provided by Church Health. Stay tuned for additional details on when this event will occur and how you can sign up to participate!

Upcoming Special Services

May 13	Churching – Heather & Elijah Hetrick
May 16	Great Vespers for Ascension, 6:00 p.m.
May 17	Divine Liturgy for Ascension, 9:00 a.m.
May 20	Memorial – Albert Gammal, 40 days – Fr. Alex’s grandfather
May 26	Divine Liturgy for Saturday of Souls, 9:00 a.m.
May 27	Kneeling Vespers for Pentecost, 5:30 p.m. Potluck following

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

Sunday, 5/13:	Anniversary: David & Margie Yarbro
Tuesday, 5/15:	Katelyn Shleweet, Buddy Lyons, Oliver Iconaru Anniversary: Jay & Janna Knight
Wednesday, 5/16:	<i>St. Brendan: William Maas</i> Anniversary: Mitch & Sandy Childress
Thursday, 5/17:	Ellie Moore <i>St. Melangell: Sarah Ortwein</i>
Friday, 5/18:	Buddy Bowick, Jeff Boone
Saturday, 5/19:	Ervin Romero

Women of St. John Calendar

June 4	AWSJ Book Club – <i>Footfalls in Memory</i> by Terry Waite
June 7	Women’s Teaching - 10:00 a.m., Sarah Hodges’ porch



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.



Community Etiquette:

Reminder for Parents – We love our new library space!! Please, help to keep it clean and welcoming for others. There have been cups and plates left in the library following coffee hour. Please, be sure to clean up after your children. In addition, please do not disrupt Judy’s desk and work space. Thank you for continuing to ensure that our beloved Church is always kept clean and presentable!



Library Lines

The Gospel of John devotes a whole chapter to the blind man we commemorate today. St. Basil says that he was born without eyes. St. Demetrius of Rostov tells us his name is St. Celidonius, and tradition says he went on to establish a church in Gaul.

This week our commemorations include a fool, a princess and a child. Sunday, we honor the Venerable Isidore, the Fool-For-Christ (5/14). He lived a privileged childhood in Germany but left home to find the Kingdom of God. He converted to Orthodoxy from Catholicism and wandered to Russia. He made his home in a wooden shack in Rostov. During the day he acted like a crazy man yet he was compassionate and worked miracles. By night he slept little, praising God in all night vigils. In 1474 the townsmen discovered his body when they passed by his hut and smelled a sweet fragrance. The OCA website says that according to S.A. Bulgakov’s *Handbook for Clergy*, he was called Isidore Tvgerdislov, meaning “constant of word” because he talked constantly. Read more about fools-for-Christ in *The Freedom of Morality* (CAT GEN YAN), *The Inner Kingdom* (CAT GEN WAR) *Seraphim’s Seraphim* (HAG SER HTM), and “Pillars to Heaven: Stylite Sites of the Levant” in *Road to Emmaus*, #22, summer 2005. Read about a modern-day fool-for-Christ in *Crazy John* (BIO JOH MAK).

St. Gregory the Dialogist tells us in his *Dialogues*, that St. Musa of Rome (5/16) was a pure-hearted child who lived in the fifth century. One night she dreamed that the Theotokos appeared to her surrounded by girls dressed in white and asked her if she wanted to live with them in Her court. When Mura said she would, the Theotokos admonished her to avoid silliness and joking and promised to come for her in thirty days. Mura told her parents about her dream and lived a strict life of prayer. Within a couple of weeks she developed a fever. Five days later she saw the Mother of God coming for her with the girls clothed in white. Checkout *Let the Little Children Come to Me* (HAG - - - SAI) to learn more about children who were martyrs.

St. Euphrosyne (5/17) was the wife of the Great Prince of Moscow Demetrius. She built churches and founded a monastery in Moscow. Upon her advice, Russia was defended by transferring the Vladimir icon of the Mother of God to Moscow during the Tamerlane’s invasion. After her five children were grown, she was tonsured as a nun, the first noblewoman of Moscow to enter the monastic life.