

**From the Fathers (and others):**

“We were created for eternal life by our Creator, we are called to it by the word of God, and we are renewed by holy Baptism. And Christ the Son of God came into the world for this, that He should call us and take us there, and He is the one thing needful. For this reason your very first endeavor and care should be to receive it. Without it everything is as nothing, though you have the whole world under you.”

St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

Do not pay attention to the words of an arrogant man, but rather to their power. It often happens that words that appear harsh at first sight, do not proceed from any harshness of the heart, but only from habit. How would it be if everyone paid strict critical attention to our words, without Christian love, indulgent, sheltering, kindly, and patient?

St. John of Kronstadt

Let us try to obtain love and compassion toward our neighbor, so that we can guard ourselves from slandering him, condemning and degrading him. Let us help one another since we are members of the same body.

Abba Dorotheos

People were not created merely to live here on earth like animals that disappear after their death, but to live with God and in God, and to live not for a hundred or a thousand years, but to live eternally.

Bishop INNOCENT, Bishop of  
Kamchatka, the Kurilian and Aleutian  
Islands

If we pray from our heart, with all our attention, the day will be stamped by our prayer and everything that happens will take on a different character. The blessing we have sought from the High God will beget a gentle peace in our soul which will have a miraculous effect on the way we see and interpret the world. The man of prayer beholds the surrounding scene in another light.

Archimandrite Sophrony

Repentance is to know that there is a lie in your heart.

St. John of Kronstadt

Our suffering is, by God’s grace and mercy, transformed into a path by which we can ascend to the Heavenly Kingdom.

His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH

# St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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*~ May 20, 2018 ~*  
*Sunday of the Holy Fathers*

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

[www.stjohnmemphis.org](http://www.stjohnmemphis.org)

[www.orthodoxtupelo.com](http://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. 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 Blindman

**Epistle: Acts 20:16-18, 28-36**

**Gospel: John 17:1-13**

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Stephanie Harants**.

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 20-27**

**Sunday** -Teen Group, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Bowling with the Preteens

**Monday** -

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

**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** -

-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.

-Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.

**Saturday** -**Divine Liturgy for Saturday of Souls, 9:00 a.m.**

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

**Sunday** -**Orthros, 9:00 a.m.**

-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**

-Pentecost Potluck following liturgy (please note schedule change)

-Kneeling Vespers, 5:30 p.m.

### Memorial Today

Albert Gammal, 40 days – Fr. Alex's grandfather

### DIVINE LITURGY – Saturday of Souls

**Saturday, May 26, 9:00a.m.**

PRIEST: Fr.

READER:

HOLY BREAD: Ben Arthur

COFFEE HOUR:

### DIVINE LITURGY – Pentecost

**Sunday, May 27, 10:00 a.m.**

PRIEST: Fr. Alex

READER: David Twombly

HOLY BREAD: Anne Castrodale

USHER: Jack Turner

ALTAR SERVERS: James, Mark, Thomas, Alex

COFFEE HOUR: Pauline Koplin, Bill & Jennifer Stanek, Sue Brownlow

## COMMEMORATIONS

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

**May 21:** Equals-to-the-Apostles Emperor Constantine and his mother Helena; Prince Constantine and his children, Michael and Theodore, wonder-workers of Murom.

**May 22:** Martyr Basiliskos of Comana; John Vladimir, king of Serbia; New-hieromartyr Zachariah of Prussa; Venerable-martyr Paul of the Great Lavra and the Russian monastery on Athos; New-martyr Demetrios.

**May 23:** Michael the Confessor, bishop of Synnada; New-martyr Luke; Myrrh-bearer Mary, wife of Cleopas; translation of the relics of Leontios the wonder-worker, bishop of Rostov; Euphrosinia of Polotsk.

**May 24:** Venerable Stylites Simeon the younger of the Mountain of Wonders and Nikitas of Pereyaslavl-Zalesski; Martyr Meletios the Generagl (“Stratelates”) of Galatia; Vincent of Lerins.

**May 25:** The third discovery of the honorable head of the Forerunner. Martyr Celestine; Demetrios the myrrh-streaming.

**May 26:** Apostles Karpos and Alphaios of the Seventy; Sinesios, bishop; New-martyr Alexander of Thessalonika; Augustine of Canterbury, evangelizer of England.

**May 27:** Hieromartyrs Halladios and Therapont, bishop of Sardis; Martyr Alypios; uncovering of the relics of Neilos the Younger, stylite of Seliger Lake; John the Russian, the confessor.

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<b>DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS</b>		<b>May 20-27</b>	
Sunday	Acts	20:16-18, 28-36	John 17:1-13
Monday	Acts	26:1, 12-20	John 10:1-9
Tuesday	Acts	21:26-32	John 16:2-13
Wednesday	Acts	23:1-11	John 16:15-23
Thursday	Acts	25:13-19	John 16:23-33
Friday	2 Cor	4:6-15	Matt 11:2-15
Saturday	1 Thess	4:13-17	John 21:14-25
Sunday	Acts	2:1-11	John 7:37-52; 8:12
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**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), 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 today after liturgy. Many years!

### High School

Anna Sanderlin- Collierville High School

### College/Graduate School

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

**Church School** – Today was the final day for church school until fall. Thank you for allowing us to grow with your children this year!

**Teen Group** – The teens and preteens will meet at Bill Harwick’s All-Star Lanes this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. The church will cover the cost of bowling, but kids should bring money for snacks and drinks.

**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.

**Celebration of the Feast of Pentecost, May 27<sup>th</sup>** – We will celebrate the feast with a potluck following Divine Liturgy next Sunday. Please sign up downstairs or online if you would like to do any of the following: coordinate or assist with 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** - The Acoustic Panels have been ordered! Lord willing, they will be arrive in the next 3-4 weeks and the work will be done after that. Thank you for your patience through this process. The final cost for the panels was \$30,000. This will put the total project of the St. Raphael Hall only \$5,000 over the original budget. Knowing the variabilities of construction, this is not bad. Thank you for your support through this entire process!

## Upcoming Special Services

- 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** Potluck following following liturgy (*scheduling change*)  
Kneeling Vespers for Pentecost, 5:30 p.m.  
**June 3** Chrismation: Calen & Kathryn Verbist  
Baby Shower for Anne Katherine Vanlandingham  
**June 28** Great Vespers for Ss. Peter & Paul  
**June 30** Elijah Hetrick Baptism



### **Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays**

- Sunday, 5/20:** Anniversary: Ervin & Caitlin Romero  
**Monday, 5/21:** Mary Wren Williams,  
*St. Helena: Pam Bowick*  
**Thursday, 5/24:** Jonathan Koplín, Cindy Fong, William Labonte  
**Friday, 5/25:** Anniversary: Larry & Kendall Ichniowski  
**Saturday, 5/26:** Anniversary: Aaron & Melissa White



## *Women of St. John Calendar*

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



***Baby Shower for Baby Vanlandingham***  
***Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>***  
***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.

## Library Lines

Today we remember the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. Our hymnography for today is full of familiar names including Sts. Constantine, Athanasius, Eusebius, and Nicholas. These courageous, truth-loving men opposed the heresy of Arius and proclaimed the divine nature of Jesus as we reaffirm in the Nicene Creed. They also set the method by which the date of Pascha is calculated and declared that standing is the correct position for prayer. Read more about the Ecumenical Councils in *The First Seven Ecumenical Councils* HIS DAV, *The History of the Council of Florence* HIS/OST, *The Church of the Ancient Councils* (HIS LHU), *The Oecumenical Synods of the Orthodox Church: A Concise History* (HIS THO), and *The Foundations of Social Order* (HIS RUS).

Monday, we commemorate Sts. Helen and Constantine (5/21). The library has several accounts of the history behind their feast day, but perhaps one of the best is in *A Child’s Paradise of Saints* (KID STS MCL) by the nun Nectaria McLees. Did you know that St. Helen was 70 years old when she found the True Cross? The first chapter in this book tells how God preformed a miracle that revealed to her the identity of Christ’s cross, explains the sign of the cross and shows us a beautifully detailed icon of these saints of God. *St. Helen Finds the Cross of Jesus* (KID STS HEL) by Michelle Georgiou is another engaging book for younger readers. The story is written in large text, and each page has an accompanying brightly colored, full page illustration. Read more about them in *Road to Emmaus*, spring 2006 on p. 17, in *The Handmaiden*, summer 2000 on p. 50 and in *The Encyclopedia of Major Saints and Fathers of the Orthodox Church* (HAG - - - ELE).

Wednesday we honor St. Mary (5/23), one of the Myrrhbearers. As with several of them, she is identified by her husband, St. Cleopas (10/30), one of the Seventy. All we know of this holy woman is that she was the sister-in-law of the Theotokos and that she reposed peacefully. Read more about the Myrrhbearers in *The Life of the Virgin Mary: the Theotokos* (REF HAG HOL) and in *Christ in His Saints* (HAG - - - REA).

Thursday, we remember Sts. Simeon and Nikita (5/24), two stylites. St. Simeon was the child of pious parents, and his childhood was similar in ways to that of John the Baptist. St. Simeon the Elder, also a stylite, trained him in love and ascetism. God gave this youth the gifts of wisdom and healing which he used for those who came to him for aid. He is also known for his letters on repentance, monasticism, the Incarnation, and Judgment Day. Read more about stylites in *Road To Emmaus*, summer 2005, p. 25.



**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!

