

From the Fathers (and others):

“It is said that in the life to come the angels and saints ever increase in gifts of grace and never abate their longing for further blessings. No lapse or veering from virtue to vice takes place in that life.”

St. Gregory of Sinai

“He who has realized love for God in his heart is tireless, as Jeremiah says, in his pursuit of the Lord his God, and bears every hardship, reproach and insult nobly, never thinking the least evil of anyone.”

St. Maximos the Confessor

“Courage does not consist in defeating and oppressing one's neighbor, for this is overbearingness, which oversteps the bounds of courage. Nor again does it consist in fleeing terrified from the trials that come as a result of practicing the virtues; for this is cowardice and falls short of courage. Courage itself consists in persisting in every good work and in overcoming the passions of soul and body.”

St. Peter Damaskos

“Faith is not an issue of great knowledge and learning but humble submission not to the prevailing knowledge but to the truth of the Church, timeless and eternal.”

Protopresbyter Theodore Zissis

“So it is with the soul; first it must cut off all its old tendencies and bad habits.”

St. Dorotheos of Gaza

“At the end of your morning and evening prayers call upon the saints, so that seeing every virtue realized in them, you may yourself imitate every virtue. Learn from the patriarchs childlike faith and obedience to the Lord, from the prophets and apostles zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of men, from the holy bishops zeal to preach the word of God, from the martyrs and confessors firmness before the infidel and godless, from the ascetics to crucify your own flesh and its lusts, and from the unmercenary ones not to love profit, and freely to help the needy.”

St. John of Kronstadt

St. John Orthodox Church



*~ May 22, 2016 ~
Sunday of the Paralytic*

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE
MEMPHIS, TN 38107
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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

May 22, 2016 Sunday of the Paralytic

Epistle: Acts 9:32-42

Gospel: John 5:1-15

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Trish Ratliff**.

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 22-29 (*Wed. & Fri. Fast)

- Sunday** -Teen Group – Games, 5:00 p.m.
-Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, Jack Turner & Lavinia Dumitrache, 4:00 p.m., reception to follow in parish hall
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Barksdale's
-Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., The Church
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Vespers, 5:30 p.m., meal following
-Wednesday Teaching, 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m., Parish Hall
- 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.
- Sunday** -**Orthros, 8:45 a.m.**
-**Church School, 9:00 a.m.**
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**
-Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, Thomas Yadron & Chelsea Tabor

DIVINE LITURGY – Samaritan Woman

Sunday, May 29, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST:	Fr. John	HOMILY:	Fr. John
READER:	David Twombly	USHER:	Bill Harter
HOLY BREAD:	Janine Criswell		
ALTAR SERVERS:	Joe, Pavel, Trent, Max		
WELCOME TEAM:	David Twombly		
COFFEE HOUR:	Anna Pashchinskaya, Karen Bell		

UPCOMING WEDDINGS

Jack Turner & Lavinia Dumitrache, TODAY, 4:00 p.m.
Thomas Yadron & Chelsea Tabor, May 29, 3:30 p.m.

** 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

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 Alypius; uncovering of the relics of Neilos the Younger, stylite of Seliger Lake; John the Russian, the confessor.

May 28: Hieromartyr Eutychios, bishop of Melitene; Martyr Helikonidos of Thessalonika; Venerable Andrew; Germanos, bishop of Paris; Ignatios, bishop of Rostov.

May 29: Hieromartyr Olvian, bishop of Aneos; Venerable-martyr Theodosia of Tyre; New-martyrs Andrew and John (Nannos) of Smyrna; John of Ustug, fool-for-Christ.



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



New Catechumen – Marshall and Catherine McWhorter will be enrolled today between Orthros and Liturgy. Please pray for them and for their sponsors, Adam van Drimmelen and Kim Boone.

Contributions to Agape Picnic – If you missed making your contribution to the picnic costs (suggested \$8 each), it is not too late. If you would like to make a special donation to offset the cost, it is not too late. Simply note it on your check or envelope.

The Sons of Thunder Men's Book Club will be meeting 6:00 pm, Sunday June 12th at Dn. James Elliott's home. We will be discussing Byzantium by Stephen Lawhead. All men are invited. Food and drink contributions are welcome.

Free candles – There are three boxes of slightly used paraffin candles in the parish hall free for anyone to take who would like to use on your home altars. They were used in the processions in Holy Week.

Floor work in the nave – As I write this item for the bulletin, the craftsman who is installing the treads and risers on the solea and ambo is at work. I hope he is able to finish by Sunday. Even if he does, it will not be stained and finished, which should happen next week. With that the only items left will be painting the trim, finishing the small areas on either side of the solea, and the small additions to iconostasis.

Fr. Philip and I are very pleased with the work, we hope all of you are. We will also gradually add area rugs to further enhance our worship space. Please bear with us as this works goes on and draws to a conclusion. -Fr John

For all our members – Remember, in many ways coffee hour is a ministry that we can all take part in. We should all be greeters whether we're official or not! Let's all take the opportunity to speak to at least one person we don't know or someone who we haven't talked with in a while during coffee hour. So many of us are here in part because someone else made the effort to do the same with us!

Coffee Hour – Another aspect of the ministry of **coffee hour** as noted above is that of service to our fellow parishioners. As we know, great blessings come by serving others. There are numerous slots still available for Coffee Hour hosts. If you are able to assist, even for just one Sunday, please sign up online or contact Anna Pashchinskaya. Links for all sign ups can be found on our website under “Parish – Online Sign Ups and Assignments.”

Help Needed: Our search continues for someone who can sweep, vacuum and mop the church. If you, or a team of two are interested, contact Fr. John or Fr. Philip. We are happy to pay (\$10 an hour) for the work to be done effectively! We can work out the details if you can do this.

MASTER PLAN NOTES AND UPDATES

Our pledges are coming in! Thank you all! NOW is the time to go ahead and pay your pledge (one time gifts unless some is deferred) or to begin making your monthly payments as pledged. Our architects have been formally engaged and the behind the scenes work is already underway.

If you have not made a pledge or contribution, you may want to rethink and make a pledge, or to increase your pledge. Remember - every level of commitment helps! **No commitment is too small.** \$5 a month is meaningful!! May God continue to bless and guide our efforts!

-Fr John

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

May 22-29

Sunday	Acts	9:32-42	John	5:1-15
Monday	Acts	10:1-16	John	6:56-69
Tuesday	Colossians	3:12-16	John	7:1-13
Wednesday	2 Corinthians	4:6-15	John	7:14-30
Thursday	1 Corinthians	4:9-16	John	8:12-20
Friday	Acts	10:44-11:10	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 - Ben Arthur; Joseph Gross; Marshall & Catherine McWhorter.

Please remember in your prayers: 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), Janna Knight (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.

Antiochian Women of St. John

AWSJ Calendar

- June 9** Women's Teaching, 10:00 a.m., Priscilla Neale's home
June 13 Book Club, 7:00 p.m. *Ladies Auxiliary* by Tova Mirvis (of Memphis)

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Tuesday, 5/24** Cindy Fong, William Labonte
Wednesday, 5/25 Anniversary: Larry & Kendall Ichniowski
Thursday, 5/26 Anniversary: Aaron & Melissa White
Friday, 5/27 Anniversary: Nathan & Ashley Powell
Saturday, 5/28 Michael Heisig
Anniversary: Rod & Trish Ratliff, David & Kera White

The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

for

Lavinia Dumitrache

and

Jack Turner



St. John Orthodox Church, Memphis, Tennessee
Sunday, May 22, 2016
4:00 PM

Reception to follow in the parish hall.

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/SAC/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)*. Read even more about this feast in *Life Transfigured*, Pascha 2001, p. 5.

Monday 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)*.

Tuesday 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 asceticism. 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.

This week we honor saints who are on opposing ends of the spectrum of success in the world's eyes. The Venerable Bede (5/27) was raised and educated in monasteries. He was ordained as a deacon at age 19 and a priest at 30. Tradition tells a story of his great love of the services of the Church. He believed that he should attend every service since the angels were present also. "What if they do not find me among the brethren when they assemble?" he asked. "Will they not say, 'Where is Bede?'" He is well-known for his biblical commentary, hagiography and church history of England. See *Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles (REF PAT BED)*, *The Ecclesiastical History of the English People (HIS BED)*, *Homilies on the Gospels, Books 1-2 (REF PAT BED)*, and "Bede's World: Early Christianity in the British Isles" in *Road to Emmaus*, #30, summer 2007, p. 3.

St. John the Russian (5/27) was a soldier under Tsar Peter I. He was captured by the Tartars and lived the rest of his life as a slave of the Muslim Turks. At first he suffered because of his refusal to deny Christ, but gradually his firm but gentle words softened his captor's soul. He worked hard to please him and, consequently, incurred the anger of his fellow captives. However, he won them over by repaying their anger with kindness. His intercessions are asked by travelers and those transporting goods.

REGULAR ALMS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:

Birthright ☩ St. John Alms Fund ☩ St. Brigid Food Pantry ☩ Rachel's Kids, Inc. ☩ St. John Camping Fund ☩ Nativity Alms for the Homeless ☩ Diocese of Miami and the Southeast Mission Fund ☩ Michael & Abigail Bittle Fund