

From the Fathers (and others):

Let us flee from wrath and hasten through repentance to obtain the kindness and compassion of the divine Spirit. If anyone feels hatred towards another, let him be reconciled with him and restore love, lest his hatred and conflict with his brother should bear witness against him that he does not love God. 'For if you do not love your brother whom you have seen, how can you love God whom you have not seen?' (cf. I Jn. 4:20). When we love one another, let our love be unfeigned, and let us show it by deeds, by neither saying nor doing, nor even enduring to hear, anything insulting or harmful to our brethren. As Christ's beloved Theologian taught us, 'Brethren, do not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth' (cf. I Jn. 3:18).

St. Gregory Palamas

When you are depressed, bear in mind the Lord's command to Peter to forgive a sinner seventy times seven (cf. Mt. 18:22). And you may be sure that He Who gave this command to another will Himself do very much more.

St. John Climacus

"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."

St Innocent, Apostle to America

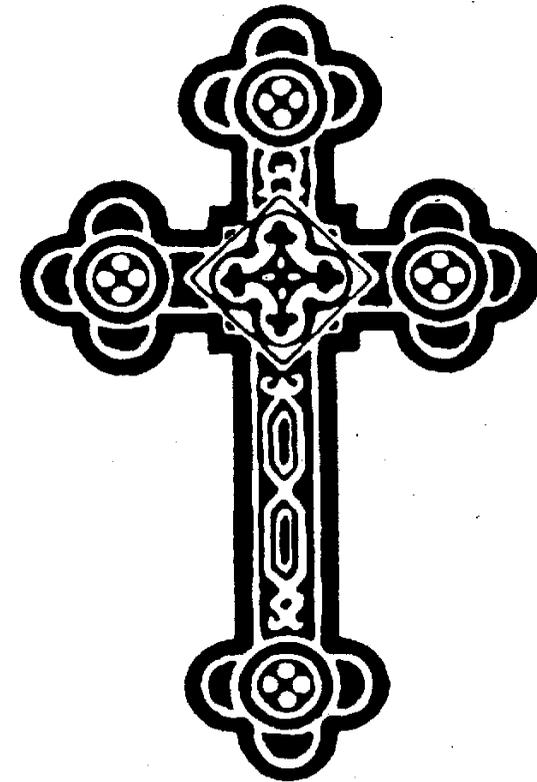
Righteous women, and the wives of righteous men, were often childless. You, O reader, should learn from this that the law did not command that one bear many offspring, but rather that one bear much spiritual fruit. Both Zacharias and Elizabeth (cf. Lk. 1:7) were advanced, in body and also in spirit. They had matured and progressed in soul, making ascent in their hearts, keeping their lives in the day, not in the night, as those who walk honestly in the light.

Blessed Theophylact

Be extremely strict in guarding your intellect. When you perceive an evil thought, rebut it and immediately call upon Christ to defend you; and while you are still speaking, Jesus in His gentle love will say: "Behold, I am by your side ready to help you." When the whole detachment of the enemy has been put out of action through prayer, again turn your attention to your intellect. There you will see a succession of waves worse than before, with the soul swimming among them. But again, awakened by His disciple, Jesus as God will rebuke the winds of evil (cf. Mt. 8:23-27). Having found respite for an hour perhaps, or for a moment, glorify Him who has saved you, and meditate on death.

St. Philotheos of Sinai

St. John Orthodox Church



~ May 28, 2017 ~
Sunday of the Holy Fathers

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

V. Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers
Pastor

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

Rev. Fr. Donald Berge
Attached

V. Rev. Fr. Basil Cushman
Associate Pastor

Rev. Fr. Alexander Mackoul
Assistant Pastor

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 28, 2017 Sunday of the Holy Fathers

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

Gospel: John 17:1-13

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Lavinia Dumitrache**.

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 28 – June 4 (*Wed. & Fri. fast)

- Sunday** -Teen Group, Beginning of Summer Picnic, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Monday -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
Tuesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Vespers, 5:30 p.m. Meal following vespers
-Wednesday Teaching, 7:00 p.m., Revelations Ch. 19-21
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 -**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 Kneeling Vespers, 5:30 p.m.
-Pentecost Potluck

CHURCHING TODAY

Caitlin & Joseph Romero and Chelsea & Andrew Yadron

DIVINE LITURGY – Saturday of Souls

Saturday, June 3, 9:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip
READER:
HOLY BREAD: Ben Arthur
ALTAR SERVERS:

HOMILY: Fr. Philip

DIVINE LITURGY – HOLY FATHERS

Sunday, June 4, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip
READER: Jack Turner
HOLY BREAD: Ben Arthur
ALTAR SERVERS: Pavel, Trent, Nicholas, Max
COFFEE HOUR: Monica Rustom, Jamie and Bethany White

HOMILY: Fr. Philip
USHER: Bill Harter

COMMEMORATIONS

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.

May 30: Isaac, founder of the Dalmaton monastery in Constantinople; Martyrs Natalios and Barlaam of Caesarea in Cappadocia; Martyrs Eusebios and Christina.

May 31: Martyrs Hermias and Eusebios.

June 1: Martyrs Justin the Philosopher, Pyrrhos the virgin, Chariton of Rome, and Thespesios of Cappadocia; Venerable Dionysios of Glushetsk.

June 2: Nikephoros the Confessor, patriarch of Constantinople; New-martyrs Demetrios of Philadelphia, John of Trebizond, and Constantine of Athos; Hieromartyr Pothinos bishop of Lyons and his companion Martyr Blandina; Erasmos of Ochrid.

June 3: Martyr Lukyllian of Byzantium; Virgin-martyr Paula; Venerable Athanasios the wonder-worker of Cilicia; Clotilde, queen of the Franks.

June 4: Metrophanes, first patriarch of Constantinople; Mary and Martha, the sisters of the Righteous Lazarus.

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DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS		May 28 – June 4	
Sunday	Acts	20:16-18, 28-36	John 17:1-13
Monday	Galatians	3:23-29, 4:1-5	John 14:27-31, 15:1-7
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	Acts	27:1-44; 28:1	John 17:18-26
Saturday	1 Thessalonians	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 –Justin Bowles, Lucas Whatley.

Please remember in your prayers - Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Charles Ingram, Ted Greathouse (Shelley Snowden’s father), Allen Sudduth (Paul’s father), Janet Berry, Nicholas Hill, Mary Sue Johnson (Jason Guntharpe’s grandmother), Caitlyn Maas (pregnant), Lawrence Elliott (pregnant), Beth Autrey (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Brenda Thomas, Doris & Jim (Brenda Thomas’ family), Dot Lawson (Lawson Bowick’s grandmother), Lisa Catlett (Fr. Don & Kh. Martha’s daughter), Glenda Brooks, Anna Grace (Joyce Grossman’s granddaughter), Maria Bellaflores, Sharon (Larry Ichniowski’s mother), Chris Hodges, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

Wednesdays at St. John – This Wednesday will be our last Wednesday teaching as we will be taking a break over the summer months. We will still pray Vespers and enjoy a meal together each week as normal.

Feast of Pentecost - If you would like to decorate the nave for the feast, or set up for the evening potluck, please contact Caitlin Romero.

Men’s Clean Up for Pentecost Potluck – The following are on the clean-up crew for the potluck following Pentecost Kneeling Vespers on June 4:

Austin Brown	Brandon Maas	Dn. Sidney
Jack Turner	Philip McKelroy	Tyson Smith
Weston Leopold		

Graduate Sunday – We will recognize the following new graduates on Sunday, **June 4**. Please let the office know if we have inadvertently overlooked anyone.

High School

Cade Calcote	White Station High School
Deon Crum	St. Georges Independent School
Cailyn Ratliff	St. Agnes Academy

College/Graduate School

Billy Labonte	Ben Hight
Michael Williams	Luke Spinolo
Keith Parker	

Online Donations – You may now make your tithes and donations to the new parish hall online! Simply click on the “Donate” button on the right-hand side of the homepage of the St. John website (underneath the calendar).

Master Plan Updates

Progress on the St Raphael Hall – Thank God, things continue to move forward very rapidly!! The piping for the fire sprinkler system has been run; all of the HVAC vents have been hung in the ceiling. They are working on the electrical panel as well as the lighting throughout the building. The connection between the two buildings should be completed in the upcoming week! Please, continue to pray for the workers as they continue their progress!

Fund raising – Thank you for your help thus far!! There are pledge cards for the building fund available downstairs. Every little bit helps!

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 5/28:** Michael Heisig
Anniversary: Rod & Trish Ratliff, David & Kera White
- Monday, 5/29:** Silas Powell
Anniversary: Thomas & Chelsea Yadron
- Tuesday, 5/30:** St. Emmelia: Emmelia Finley, Emma Leopold, Julie Sanderlin, Emmelia Sanderlin
- Wednesday, 5/31:** Christine McGee
Anniversary: John & Nancy McGee

Women of St. John – AWSJ Calendar

- June 12** AWSJ Book Club will be discussing *The Fifth Gospel* by Ian Caldwell
Upcoming: July 17 - *The Summer before the War* by Helen Simonson
- June 8** **Women's Teaching**, 10:00 a.m. – *Meeting at the church*
- May 22** **Women's Bible Study**, 6:30 p.m. – Social Time, 7:00 p.m. discussion begins Claire van Drimmelen's home

A note about the new AWSJ Bible Study – The women of St. John are embarking on a study of the book of Job using Patrick Henry Reardon's *Trial of Job*. We will be reading the (actual) book of Job along with the corresponding chapters from Reardon's work. For our June meeting, we will be discussing chapters 1-3 of both books. Xerox copies of the Reardon chapters are available in the office.

This night is about growing closer as a community of women by reading God's word, discussing it and sharing our thoughts/struggles/joys. I hope that you can make it for all or part of it. Even if you don't have time to read ahead of time- join us. Even if you don't know one other person going- join us. Even if you NEVER cross the Parkways- carpool and join us. If you can't make it Monday- join us in reading along on your own time. And if none of these apply- please pray for us (which is joining us, too!)

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 the repose of Blessed John of Ustug, (5/29), the Fool-for-Christ. From his youth, he kept a strict fast, eating nothing on Wednesdays and Fridays and bread and water the other days. He began his asceticism by keeping silence and then embraced the life of a holy fool. Read more about fools-for-Christ in *The Freedom of Morality* (CAT SPEC YAN), *The Inner Kingdom* (CAT SAC WAR), *Seraphim's Seraphim* (HAG SER HTM), *Crazy John* (BIO JOH) and "Pillars to Heaven: Stylite Sites of the Levant" in *Road to Emmaus*, #22, summer 2005.

Many of us have a fondness for saints from the British Isles. Two of them as well as one from Gaul are commemorated this week and next; venerable Kevin of Ireland (6/3), Venerable Cedd of Essex (6/7), and Queen Clotilde of the Franks (6/3). St. Kevin was from a royal family in Ireland and an angel prophesied his birth to his mother. He spent his youth in a monastery and was ordained as a priest. He lived a solitary life, wore animal skins and ate very little. It is said he spent nights in a cold lake and read the Psalms. Disciples were drawn to him, and one story relates that as they continued in a life of prayer, God sent an otter to bring them salmon every day. Once a monk planned to kill it for its fur, and it never returned. St. Kevin's monastery grew, spreading Christianity across eastern Ireland. He died peacefully at age 120. Take a look at *The Blackbird's Nest: Saint Kevin of Ireland* (KID STS KEV) for a delightful story about this saint whose icon is in our nave.

St. Clotilde (6/3) was born in Burgundy about the time of the collapse of the Roman Empire. She was given in marriage to Clovis, king of the Franks, to cement a political alliance. Four years later, her husband called on 'the God of Clotilde' for victory over the Alamans and was catechized and baptized on Christmas Day in 496. Tradition says that at the instruction of an angel, she sent Clovis into battle with a fleur de lis, a symbol of the Trinity, on his shield. This became the emblem of the kings of France. She was widowed at age 40 and later saw tragedy in the lives of her children. She was an icon for Christian rulers in devotion to God and her family. Look at page 193 in *Marriage as a Path to Holiness* (HAG - - - FOR) for more about her.