

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

... only the good deed done for Christ's sake brings us the fruits of the Holy Spirit. All that is not done for Christ's sake, even though it be good, brings neither reward in the future life nor the grace of God in this life. That is why our Lord Jesus Christ said: 'He who gathers not with Me scatters' (Lk. 11:23).

St. Seraphim of Sarov

True knowledge is found only among those genuinely worshipping God.

St. John Cassian

When a man receives something Divine, in his heart he rejoices; but when he receives something diabolic, he is disturbed. The Christian heart, when it has received something Divine, does not demand anything else in order to convince it that this is precisely from the Lord; but by that very effect it is convinced that this is heavenly, for it senses within itself spiritual fruits: love, joy, peace, and the rest (cf. Gal. 5:22).

St. Seraphim of Sarov

... we shall incur no slight injury, but rather great danger, if we rashly yield ourselves to the inclinations of men who aim at exciting strife and tumults, so as to draw us away from what is good. Let us cleave, therefore, to those who cultivate peace with godliness.

St. Clement

Do not ever succumb to the insane thought that God has abandoned you. God knows exactly how much one can endure and, according to that, measures the sufferings and pains of everyone.

St Nikolai Velimirovic

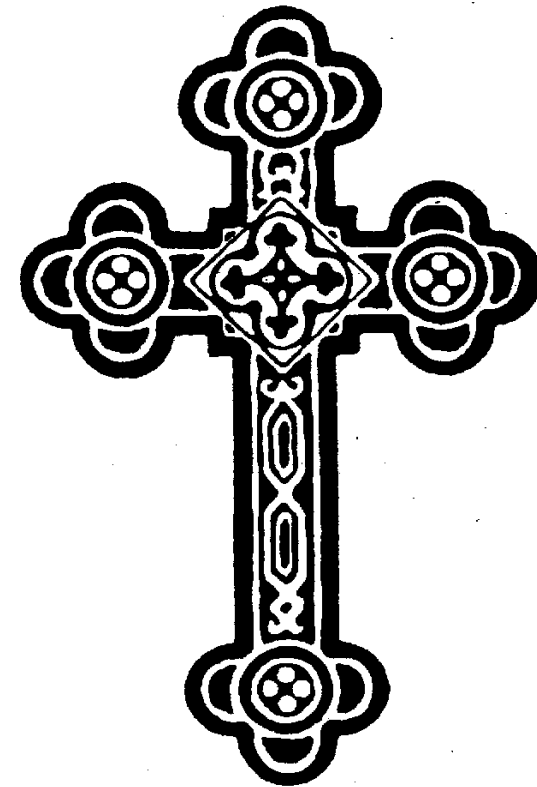
Love Christ and put nothing before His love. Christ is Everything. He is the source of Life, the ultimate desire. He is everything. Everything beautiful is in Christ.

St Porphyrios of Kavsokalivia

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## St. John Orthodox Church

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*~ May 7, 2017 ~  
Sunday of the  
Paralytic*

**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)

**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

**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 7, 2017 Sunday of the Paralytic

**Epistle: Acts 9:32-42**

**Gospel: John 5:1-15**

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Ben Arthur**.

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 7 - 14 (\*Wed. & Fri. fast)

- Sunday** -Teen Group, no meeting today  
-Great Vespers for St. John, 5:00 p.m.  
-Dinner at Central for those interested following Vespers
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Catechumen/Inquirers class, 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Vespers, 5:30 p.m., meal following  
-Wednesday Teaching, 7:00 p.m., Revelation 19-20
- 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** -Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
- Sunday** -Orthros & Church School, 9:00 a.m.  
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

### DIVINE LITURGY – St. John

Monday, May 8, 9:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip

HOMILY: Fr. Philip

READER:

HOLY BREAD: Anne Dugan

COFFEE HOUR:

### DIVINE LITURGY – Samaritan Woman

Sunday, May 14, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Alex

HOMILY: Fr. Alex

READER: John Cameron

USHER: John Sneed

HOLY BREAD: Reem Mansour

ALTAR SERVERS: Pavel, Trent, Nicholas, Max, Alex

COFFEE HOUR: Anna Pashchinskaya, Kate Kumar, Trent & Judy Terry

\* **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 7:** The commemoration of the apparition of the sign of the Cross over Jerusalem (351 AD); Martyr Akakios the centurion at Byzantium; Venerable Kodratos; Venerable Neilos the myrrh-streaming of the Great Lavra on Athos; Venerable Neilos of Sora; Venerable-martyr Pachomios of Athos; repose of Venerable John of Beverly; Priest Alexis, confessor and defender of Orthodoxy in America.

**May 8:** Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian; Venerable Arsenios the Great.

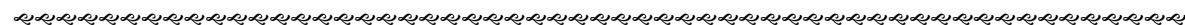
**May 9:** Prophet Isaiah; Martyr Christopher of Lycia; Venerable-martyr Nicholas; translation to Bari of the relics of Nicholas the Wonderworker, archbishop of Myra in Lycia.

**May 10:** Apostle Simon Zelotes; Venerable Laurence of Egypt.

**May 11:** Hieromartyr Mokios, priest in Macedonia; Cyril and Methodios, equals-to-the-Apostles and enlighteners of the Slavs; New-martyr Argyros; Venerable-martyr Olympia; Martyr Joseph of Astrakhan.

**May 12:** Germanos, patriarch of Constantinople, Epiphanius, bishop of Cyprus; Venerable Theodore of Kythera; New-martyr John of Wallachia; Hermogenes, patriarch of Moscow.

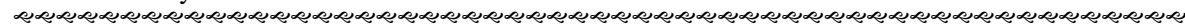
**May 13:** Virgin-martyr Glykeria of Heraklea; Sergios the Confessor; Venerable John the Georgian, founder of Iviron monastery on Athos and Venerable Euthymios, George and Gabriel of Iviron monastery; Venerable-martyrs of Iviron monastery.



**DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Sunday	Acts	9:32-42	John	5:1-15
Monday	1 John	1:1-7	John	19:25-28, 21:24-25
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians	2:14-20	Luke	4:22-30
Wednesday	Acts	14:6-18	John	7:14-30
Thursday	Colossians	3:12-16	John	5:12-20
Friday	Acts	10:44-48, 11:1-10	John	8:21-30
Saturday	Acts	12:1-11	John	8:31-42
Sunday	Acts	11:19-30	John	4:5-42

**May 7 -14**



**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 Autry (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 Bellaflones, Sharon (Larry Ichniowski’s mother), Chris Hodges, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

**Men of St. John**

**Sons of Thunder** – Men’s book club will be meeting at 6:30 on Sunday May 21st at Fr Philip's home. They will be discussing *Silence* by Shusaku Endo. All men are welcome, please bring a side dish or beverage.

**Quarterly Men’s Dinner** – The men will have their quarterly dinner at Central BBQ on Summer May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Calendar Change** – Please note that we will begin praying Sixth Hour on Fridays at noon rather than Paraklesis.

Additionally, Catechumen/Inquirer class dates for May are May 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**AWSJ Bible Study** – The women of St. John will begin a study of the book of Job using Patrick Henry Reardon’s *Trial of Job*. This will be an evening gathering, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Currently, we are trying to determine the best night to offer this meeting – Mondays or Thursdays. The location will be rotating. If you are interested in being a part of the bible study or hosting, please let Trish know which day will work best for you. Our first meeting will be either May 22 or 25.

**Coffee Hour** – Remember, in many ways coffee hour is a ministry. If you are able to serve in this capacity, 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.” There are numerous slots still available.

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** – Our last day for both Levels 1 & 2 of the atrium will be **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**. Contact Claire van Drimmelen with any questions.

**Upcoming Level 1 Atrium (ages 3 ½ through Kindergarten):** We will begin children in Level 1 when they are 3 ½ years old (by Sept. 1). If your child was **3 years old by March 1, 2017**, then they will be joining us in the atrium!

**St. Brigid Food Pantry** – Karen Wells is looking for volunteers to fill and hand out food bags for the food pantry on Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Please contact her if you would like to serve our community in this way.

**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).



**Progress on building** – This week they began to install the new HVAC, which is on the roof of the back portion of the building. The workers also have painted the trim and begun to prepare the building for sheetrock, bricks and shingles. We should see lots more progress in the coming weeks!

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

## Women of St. John – AWSJ Calendar

**May 22 or 25 Women's Bible Study**, 7:00 p.m., Date & Location TBD.

**June 5 AWSJ Book Club** will be discussing *The Fifth Gospel* by Ian Caldwell

**June 8 Women's Teaching**, 10:00 a.m., Kh. Pamela's home

## Upcoming Special Services

**Churchings:** May 7, Anna and Sarah Finley

**Memorial:** May 14 Elfrieda Drobashevsky, 40 days

**May 7** Great Vespers for St. John the Theologian, 5:00 p.m.

*For those who would like to join us, we will be going to Central BBQ together following Vespers. (Dutch treat)*

**May 8** Divine Liturgy for St. John, 9:00 a.m.

**May 24** Divine Liturgy for Ascension, 6:00 p.m.

**June 24** Holy Baptism of Anna Finley

## Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

**Monday, 5/8:** Pauline Koplín, Nathan Powell  
*St. John the Evangelist: Fr. John, Dan O'Brien*

**Tuesday, 5/9 :** Anniversary: Fr. Don & Kh. Martha

**Wednesday, 5/10:** Joel Finley, Dan O'Brien

**Thursday, 5/11:** Mary Elliott

**Friday, 5/12:** David Twombly

**Saturday, 5/13:** Anniversary: Dave & Margie Yarbro

## 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.

This week we commemorate two of the Apostles, our own St. John the Evangelist (5/8) and St. Simon the Zealot (5/10). According to the OCA website, Tradition tells us that St. Simon was the bridegroom at the wedding of Cana. From then on, he became a zealous believer in Christ. After Pentecost, he travelled and evangelized extensively from the Black Sea to Britain. He was crucified and is also commemorated on June 30 with the other Apostles. Read more about them in *Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR) and *Notes of the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - -MAS).

Tuesday we commemorate the Prophet Isaiah (5/9). On Holy Friday and Pascha we sang, "Isaiah saw the never-setting light of the compassionate manifestation to us as God, O Christ. Rising early from the night he cried out, 'The dead shall arise.' Those in the tombs shall awake. All those on earth shall greatly rejoice." His prophesies about the virgin birth and the sufferings of Christ were also gloriously put to music by George Handel in *The Messiah*. Isaiah died a martyr's death, and his relics are on Mt. Athos.

Sts. Cyril and Methodius (5/11) are known as equal to the apostles and enlighteners of the Slavs. Equal-to-the-Apostles is a special title given to some saints in recognition of their outstanding service in the spreading the Gospel, which is comparable to that of the original Apostles. (Among others who have been given this distinction are Sts. Mary Magdalene, Nina, Thekla, Helen and Constantine, Nicholas of Japan and Great Prince Vladimir.) Sts. Cyril and Methodius devised a Slavonic alphabet and translated books used in celebrating the divine services and almost the entire Old Testament. Investigate more about them in *Byzantium and the Slavs* (HIS OBO), *Orthodox Alaska* (HIS OLE), and *A Gift for Ianko* (KID STS CYR).

## **PERIODICALLY SPEAKING**

St. John's St. Olympia (5/11) now has international, literary fame!! Besides her icon and relics being in our nave and altar, *Road to Emmaus: a Journal of Orthodox Faith and Culture* devotes its cover story this month to her and other saints. Read Mother Nectaria McLees's narrative of her pilgrimage to the saint's home in Lesvos, Greece. You will not only learn of its spiritual riches, but also of the generosity of its citizens who rescued thousands during the height of Europe's recent refugee crisis.