

From the Fathers (and others):

"If you would know of the Lord's love for us, hate sin and evil thoughts, and day and night pray fervently. The Lord will then give you His grace, and you will know Him through the Holy Spirit, and after death, when you enter into paradise, there too, you will know the Lord through the Holy Spirit, as you knew Him on earth."

St. Silouan of Mt. Athos

Abba Matoes said, "The nearer a man draws to God, the more he sees himself a sinner."

Sayings of the Desert Fathers

Repentance is the renewal of baptism. Repentance is a contract with God for a second life.

St John Climacus

When a man walks in the fear of God he knows no fear, even if he were to be surrounded by wicked men. He has the fear of God within him and wears the invincible armor of faith. This makes him strong and able to take on anything, even things which seem difficult or impossible to most people. Such a man is like a giant surrounded by monkeys, or a roaring lion among dogs and foxes. He goes forward trusting in the Lord and the constancy of his will to strike and paralyze his foes. He wields the blazing club of the Word in wisdom.

St. Symeon the New Theologian

The wicked one, on the watch, carried me off as booty as I lazily slept. He led my mind into error; he plundered my spirit and snatched away The wealth of Thy grace, this arch robber. So raise me up, as I am fallen, and summon me, Saviour, Thou who dost will that all men be saved.

Kontakia of St. Romanos, A Prayer

St. John Orthodox Church



~ June 18, 2017 ~
Second Sunday after Pentecost

COMMEMORATIONS

June 18: Martyrs Leontios, Hypatios and Theodoulos of Tripoli in Syria; Venerable Leontios the Hagiorite of Dionysiou monastery on Athos.

June 19: Apostle Jude (Thaddeus), brother of the Lord; Venerable Paisios the Great and Zenon; Martyr Zosimas the Soldier at Antioch in Pisidia.

June 20: Hieromartyr Methodios, bishop of Patara; Kallistos Xanthopoulos, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Nahum of Ochrid.

June 21: Martyr Julian of Tarsus; New-martyr Nikita of Nisyros near Rhodes.

June 22: Hieromartyr Eusebios, bishop of Samosata; Martyrs Zeno and his servant Zenas of Philadelphia; Alban, protomartyr of Britain; Venerable Anastasia of Serbia.

June 23: Martyrs Agripinna of Rome, Aristokleos, Eustochios, Demetrian, and Lollias; Venerable Barbaros Pentapolites; translation of the relics of Herman, archbishop of Kazan.

June 24: The Nativity of the Forerunner; New-martyr Panayiotis of Caesarea in Cappadocia.

June 25: Venerable-martyr Febronia of Nisibis; Martyr Longinos; Venerable Prokopios of the skete of Ivrior on Athos; Venerable Dionysios the Hagiorite, founder of Dionysiou monastery on Athos; Venerable Dometios, abbot of Dionysiou monastery on Athos; Prince Peter (Venerable David) and Princess Febronia (Venerable Euphrosyne), wonder-workers of Murom.



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



Catechumen/Inquirers Class (Alternating Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.) – A reminder to our parishioners, you do not have to be a catechumen or inquirer to come to class! Everyone is welcome! For those who may be missing Wednesday teachings over the summer, this is a good alternative. Upcoming dates and topics are:

June 20 – One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church

June 27 – The Lord’s Prayer

July 11 – The Lord’s Prayer continued

July 25 – The 10 Commandments

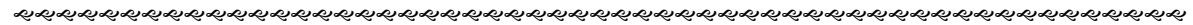
Stamo Latto Scholarship - I am happy to announce the 2017 Stamo Latto Scholarship recipient from St. John Orthodox Church in Memphis. Congratulations to Cailyn Ratliff, who witnesses to her Orthodox faith through her behavior and study of theology at St. Agnes (Catholic) School in Memphis, where she anticipates studying to become a nurse.

-(Dr.) Asimoula Alissandratos

Looking ahead to our move into St. Raphael Hall – Housekeeping – There are several items of clothing hanging on the hooks in the hallway as well as several dishes left in the parish hall. Please do your best to take any items that belong to you home in the next couple of weeks. *If you have left something for someone else to pick up*, please be sure they have done so; we all need reminders on occasion. Additionally, there are vases and candle holders in the vase room which do not belong to the church, but have been lent to party coordinators for past events. Thank you for their use, but please help us get them to their proper homes.

As we approach our move next door, and more specifically renovations to our existing building, we will need to clean up, clean out, and reorganize the downstairs. There will be much moving and dust and we don’t want your belongings to disappear or be ruined in the process!

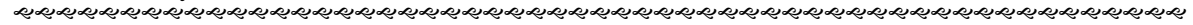
The **Apostles Fast** - The *traditional fasting discipline* is observed during the Apostles Fast which lasts from the Monday after All Saints Sunday through June 28th (with *katalysis* for wine & oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays; and fish, wine & oil on Saturdays and Sundays).



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

June 18 - 25

Sunday	Acts	11:19-30	Matthew	10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30
Monday	Jude	1:1-25	John	14:21-24
Tuesday	Romans	7:14-8:2	Matthew	10:9-15
Wednesday	Romans	8:2-13	Matthew	10:16-22
Thursday	Romans	8:22-27	Matthew	10:23-31
Friday	Romans	9:6-19	Matthew	10:32-36, 11:1
Saturday	Romans	13:11-14:4	Luke	1:1-25, 57-68, 76, 80
Sunday	Romans	5:1-11	Matthew	6:22-33



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.



Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

Monday, 6/19: Eli Steele
Thursday, 6/22: Garren Autrey, Janine Smith
Friday, 6/23: Christi Yadron, Buddy Taylor

Master Plan Updates

Progress on the St Raphael Hall – Insulation has been put in the walls and they have done quite a bit of work on sheetrock on the interior. Everything is very much on schedule and we are looking forward to our wonderful completed project before too long. In one more week, they will begin putting the bricks on the exterior and it will begin to look even better! Thanks be to God!!

Fund raising – Thank you for your help thus far!! After paying our bills for this month, we will begin drawing on the loan to complete the project. If you would like to help with our monthly commitment to the loan, please let Fr. Philip know.

Women of St. John – AWSJ Calendar

- July 17** AWSJ Book Club will be discussing *The Summer before the War* by Helen Simonson
- July 10** **Women’s Bible Study**, 6:30 p.m. – Social Time, 7:00 p.m. discussion begins. We will meet at Mindy Williams’ home to discuss Ch. 4-7. Handouts are available in the office.
- July 13** **Women’s Teaching**, 10:00 a.m., location to be determined

REGULAR ALMS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:

Birthright ♦ St. John Alms Fund ♦ St. Brigid Food Pantry ♦ St. John Camping Fund ♦
 ♦ Diocese of Miami and the Southeast Mission Fund ♦ Michael & Abigail Bittle Fund

Library Lines

St. John Library has become more user-friendly!! The catechetical (CAT) section has been reorganized. The books on the same subject are now together on the shelves. Visit the library this week and you will see the changes posted and new shelf labels to help you locate your books. A few other books have been reclassified so they will have a different spine code and location. See Judy Terry if you can't find what you're looking for.

This month we commemorate several icons of the Theotokos. Thursday, we remember the Theotokos and an event in Russia in 1155. Prince Andrew was transporting to his homeland an icon of the Mother of God written by St. Luke. After traveling some distance, the horse pulling the cart stopped and wouldn't budge. The Theotokos appeared to him with a scroll in her hand and said that the icon should stay at Vladimir and that he should build a church and monastery in that very spot. He commissioned an iconographer to write an icon of her, scroll in hand, and looking toward her Son, as she did in the vision. Andrew and the city which grew up around the monastery, were called Bogolub which means God-lover. This is icon #7 ("Bogolioubsk") in the above-mentioned book.

As we remember our earthly fathers today, it is appropriate that the Church celebrates the feast day of St. Jude (6/19). We often think of the saints as perfect, solitary, and far removed from our struggles. However, St. Jude was one from among us. We call him the brother of the Lord, because he was the son of Joseph the Betrothed. However, he was very possessive of his inheritance from him. Later, in humility and awareness of his lack of faith and love for Christ, he always referred to himself as the brother of James, his brother who willingly shared his inheritance with Jesus. St. Jude was married with children and was the cousin of the Forerunner. He exhorts us in his short epistle to persevere in faith and good works. Read more about him on the St. John website under the *Iconography* section, *The Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR), and in *The Holy Apostles* (REF HAG HOL).

Friday, we commemorate the Vladimir Icon of the Mother of God (6/23) which was painted by Luke, the Evangelist. It was brought from Constantinople to the land of the Rus in 1131 and then to Vladimir where it received its name. In 1395 Khan Tamerlane advanced on Moscow, and clergy were sent to Vladimir to bring the icon to Moscow. Along the route, throngs of people lined the road kneeling and asking the Theotokos to save Russia. At the same time Tamerlane had a dream in which the Theotokos, accompanied by the hierarchs of Russia, commanded him to leave the country. Who has more feast days than any other saint? Hint: his birthday is Saturday. Jesus was his cousin, and he was the last Old Testament prophet. Like Moses, he had devout parents, had enemies from his childhood and spent time in great rivers and around locusts. He wore animal skins and is shown with wings in some icons. See the icon of the nativity of St. John the Forerunner (6/24) and the account of his birth on display in St. John Library. His icons and that of his mother, St. Elizabeth, are in our nave.