

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

Always remember the harsh trials of those who grieve and those who are despised (in prisons, exile, etc.), so that you might be duly grateful for your small and insignificant trials and be able to endure them with joy.

St. Isaac the Syrian

If one becomes used to fleeing or escaping sorrows, or goes from place to place, or chooses only a particular time to begin to labor and to struggle, such a one – all the days of his life – will not find a place and a time for receiving benefit.

St. Paisios Velichkovsky

Our acts are worthwhile only if they are done out of a grateful predisposition. Do not struggle out of self-interest, but rather out of responsive gratefulness. Even our faith in God, should be based on gratefulness.

Elder Paisios of the Holy Mountain

The monks once inquired of St. Paisios the Great: “Father, speak to us a word of salvation. How should we live according to God?” The elder replied to them: “Go and keep the commandments of God and preserve the tradition of the Fathers.”

...trials and afflictions are laid upon a man in the way that is best for him, so as to make his soul stronger and more mature; and if the soul endures them to the end with hope in the Lord it cannot fail to attain the promised reward of the Spirit and deliverance from the evil passions.

St. Makarios of Egypt

Do not try to persuade yourselves that you can do anything good on your own; on the contrary, do all in common; one prayer, one petition, one mind, one hope in the unity of love and in innocent joy - this in Jesus Christ than whom there is nothing higher.

St. Ignatius of Antioch

A man must practice good works for a long time, with great effort and determination, and “at last God comes, dwells within him and he in the Lord, and the Lord Himself sows His own commandments within him, filling him with spiritual fruit.”

St. Marcarius the Great – Homily 19

# St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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*~ June 24, 2018 ~*

*Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

**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. John Troy Mashburn, Jr.**  
Pastor Emeritus

**V. Rev. Fr. Basil Cushman**  
Associate Pastor

**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

## 4th Sunday after Pentecost

**Epistle:** Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4

**Gospel:** Luke 1:1-25, 57-68, 76-80

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Karen Bell**.

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

June 24 - July 1

- Sunday** -  
**Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.  
**Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., The Work of Christ, Pt. 2  
**Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Great Vespers, 5:30 p.m.  
-Dinner & games following Vespers  
**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.  
-Baptism of Elijah Hetrick following Vespers  
**Sunday** -Orthros, 9:00 a.m.  
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

### Upcoming Baptism

June 30 - Elijah Hetrick

### Upcoming Memorial

July 1 - Kinney Graham, 6 years

Marlene Kraker, 8 years

July 8 – Galina (Kate Kumar's mother), 10 years

## DIVINE LITURGY

**Sunday, July 1, 10:00 a.m.**

- PRIEST:** Fr. Philip  
**READER:** John Cameron  
**HOLY BREAD:** Jamie White  
**USHER:** Bill Harter  
**ALTAR SERVERS:**  
**COFFEE HOUR:** NEED HELP

**COMMEMORATIONS**

**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 Iviron 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.

**June 26:** Venerable David of Thessalonika; John, bishop of the Goths.

**June 27:** Sampson the host of strangers; Mary and Joanna the myrrh-bearers.

**June 28:** The translation of the relics of Cyros and John the unmercenary healers; Martyrs Papios and Paul; Venerable Moses the anchorite; Venerable Simeon; Venerable Sergios and Herman, wonder-workers of Valaam.

**June 29:** Apostles Peter and Paul.

**June 30:** The synaxis of the Twelve Apostles. New-martyr Michael.

**July 1:** Unmercenary Cosmas and Damian, martyrs in Rome; New-martyr Constantine; translation of the relics of Venerable John of Rila from Trnovo to Rila.



<b>DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS</b>			<b>June 24 – July 1</b>	
Sunday	Romans	13:11-14; 14:1-4	Luke	1:1-25, 57-68, 76-80
Monday	Romans	12:4-5, 15-21	Matt	12:9-13
Tuesday	Romans	14:9-18	Matt	12:14-16, 22-30
Wednesday	Romans	15:7-16	Matt	12:38-45
Thursday	Romans	15:17-29	Matt	12:46-50; 13:1-3
Friday	2 Cor	11:21-33; 12:1-9	Matt	16:13-19
Saturday	1 Cor	4:9-16	Matt	9:36; 10:1-8
Sunday	1 Cor	12:27-31; 13:1-8	Matt	8:28-34; 9:1



**Please remember in your prayers** - Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand's mother), Nicholas Hill, Julie Hight (pregnant), Anne Katherine Vanlandingham (pregnant), Janna Knight (pregnant), Katherine Verbist (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**



**Coffee Hour & Wednesday Night Pick Up** – The dates for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter coffee hour are posted on the white board in the hall. Please take a look and fill up the empty spots!

Dates for **Wednesday nights are online**. PLEASE sign up if you are available to pick the meal up before Vespers.

**The Sons of Thunder Men's Book Club** will meet at Dcn. James Elliott's home on Sunday, July 29th at 6pm. They will be reading *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* by Alexander Solzhenitsyn. All men are welcome.

**Lost, Found, & Left** – There is a table set up in the old parish hall which has all lost & found items, as well as gifts left from parishioners. Check it out and see if any of those items belong to you!

**Save the Date** – Saturday, July 21 following Vespers we will have a going away dinner for Fr. Alex and Kh. Amanda. The main course will be catered, but sides and desserts are potluck. Join us as we send Fr. Alex and Kh. Amanda off to their new life in Myrtle Beach!

**Parish Council Update** - Thanks be to God, the Parish Council agreed to offer Mr. Drew Garrison the position of Youth Director. Drew gladly accepted the offer and will begin his duties on September 1. Drew and his wife, Sophia currently live in Charleston, SC and are faithful members of Holy Ascension (OCA) Church. Both have served on the staff of Camp St Thekla for multiple years. Most recently, Drew was the male head counselor in 2017 and Sophia, who is a PA, served as the medical staff. Because of this work, they are already familiar with many of our youth. We look forward to welcoming them into our community very soon!



**Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays**

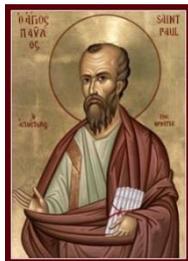
- Wednesday, 6/27:** Fiona Harvey  
*Joanna, the Myrrh-bearer: Joanna Spinolo, Fiona Harvey*
- Thursday, 6/28:** Michael Yadron
- Friday, 6/29:** Anniversary: John & Sue Brownlow  
*Apostle Paul: Paul Elliott, Silas Powell, Pavel Harvey, Pauline Koplin*



***Women of St. John Calendar***

- July 2** AWSJ Book Club – *Icon* by Georgia Briggs
- July 12** Women's Teaching - 10:00 a.m., *Contact office if you would like to host*

## ***LETTER FROM THE SKETE:***



*St. Paul Orthodox Skete*  
*P. O. Box 35*  
*Grand Junction, TN 38039-0035*  
*731.764.0085*

May 2018

Greetings in Christ!

We again reach the time of year to celebrate the patronal feast of the skete. We thank you all for your continuing prayers and support, in both monetary pledges and labor, without which we could not continue to concentrate on our life of repentance and prayer for the world, receiving guests, and keeping up the property. May God receive your efforts for His holy skete and the efforts of the local workers hired to help maintain the property.

This year's celebration of the feast will be on Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. Following is the schedule of services, to which all are invited.

***8:00 a.m. – Akathist to Sts. Peter and Paul, 3<sup>rd</sup> Hour, 6<sup>th</sup> Hour***

***9:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy***

***Followed by a meal provided by the skete***

***Please let us know if you plan to come so we can arrange for the meal.***

We humbly ask your continued prayers for the skete – you all remain always in our prayers, unworthy though they be. May God bless and protect you now and always.

Please bring this letter to everyone's attention and keep us in your holy prayers.

In Christ,  
Mother Nektaria

## **Library Lines**

Have you ever wondered how people get to be saints in the Orthodox Church? Read chapter 5 in *Selected Essays* (CAT GEN POM) by Protopresbyter Michael Pomazansky. He tells us the development of the process and the reason for it, which he says, "is among the most important activities of the Church."

The wonderworking icon of the Theotokos of Tikhvin (6/26) was painted by St. Luke. It was taken from Jerusalem to Constantinople in the fifth century. In 1383 fishermen saw the icon surrounded by light and miraculously hovering over the water. It also appeared in other towns and protected Novgorod from attack by her intercessions. In later years it was covered by a "riza," adorned by precious stones and showing only the hands and faces of the Virgin and Christ Child. The icon survived during the Communist Revolution and was taken to Latvia by the Nazis, then to Bavaria. When discovered by Communists in 1949, it was taken to the United States under the pretext of being a copy. In 2003 it was returned to Russia.

St. Sampson the Hospitable (6/27) is a saint who intended to pursue his salvation by living in the wilderness but was given a different path by God. Christ directed him to spend his time among men rather than live in solitude. He welcomed homeless wanderers, the sick and the poor to his small house. God gave him the gifts of healing and wonderworking, and he served the needy until his old age. After his peaceful death, his intercessions to God saved the hospice he founded from a powerful fire.

Thursday, we commemorate another icon. The Theotokos of "the Three Hands" (6/28) is connected with St. John of Damascus, the hymnographer. Because of the saint's love for icons, the iconoclast emperor, Leo III, made an accusation of treason against him to the caliph of Damascus. As punishment, the caliph ordered his hand to be cut off. St. John prayed to the Theotokos for healing, and his hand was restored to his wrist with a faint red visible line. He placed a hand of silver on her icon, and the icon has been known by its name, "Of the Three Hands" since then. Read about it in *The Orthodox Word*, #241, 2005 p. 77, in *Orthodox America*, #50, 1985, p. 4. Find more about all these icons in *Icons of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary and Prayers for Her Intercession* (ART ICO KHO). See this icon and stories of other saints commemorated this week in St. John Library.