

From the Fathers (and others):

Let us strive to enter by the narrow gate. Just as trees, if they have not stood before the winter's storms cannot bear good fruit, so it is with us. This present age is a storm, and it is only through many trials and temptations that we can obtain an inheritance in the kingdom of heaven.

St. Theodora

Guard yourself against luxury as against a plague. It greatly weakens a Christian's soul. It teaches you to steal what is another's; to offend people, and to hold your hand back from giving alms as is required of a Christian.

St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

Do not be amazed, my child, since you are on a way leading upwards, if sometimes you fall into thorns or mud and at other times the ground is smooth. All those who struggle sometimes fall and sometimes succeed. The great Job said: "Is not the life of man upon earth a state of trial?" (Job 7:1).

St. Dorotheos of Gaza

Have love; for what salt is to food, love is to every virtue.

St. Euthymius the Great

A Christian has an obligation to serve his creator not only with the soul but also with the body. This refutes the false position of certain Christians, who live physically as pagans, while praising themselves that they believe in God and love God with their souls.

St. Nicholai of Zica

Those who fear God, O beloved, are cheerfully assiduous in keeping the commandments, even if labors are required to do so and they imperil themselves for their sake. The Life-giver confined the fullness of the commandments in, and made them to hang upon, two which embrace all: the love of God, and a love similar thereto, the love of His image.

St. Isaac The Syrian

Without fear, a great love of God imperceptibly crosses over into pride; and, without love, a great fear of God leads to despair.

St. Nicholai of Zica

Remember that not a single word is lost during prayer, if you say it from your heart; God hears each word, and weighs it in a balance. Sometimes it seems to us that our words only strike the air in vain, and sound as the voice of one crying in the wilderness. No, no; it is not so!...The Lord responds to every desire of the heart, expressed in words or unexpressed.

St. John of Kronstadt

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



~ July 29, 2018 ~
9th Sunday after Pentecost

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

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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

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34

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

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

July 29 – Aug. 5 (Dormition Fast)

Sunday -
Monday -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
Tuesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday **Dormition Fast begins**
-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Paraklesis, 5:30 p.m.
-Dinner & games following
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.
-Paraklesis, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday -Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
Sunday -**Orthros, 9:00 a.m.**
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**
-Sons of Thunder, 6:00 p.m., Dn. James' home

Upcoming Churchings

Chelsea and Abigail Yadron, July 29
Julie and Hermione Hight, August 5
Anne Katherine & Mary Arlynn Vanlandingham, August 26

Upcoming Baptism

Hermione Hight, August 11
Mary Arlynn Vanlandingham, September 8

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, August 5, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. John
READER: David Twombly
HOLY BREAD: Karen Bell
USHER: Aaron White
ALTAR SERVERS:
COFFEE HOUR: Elliott family, Jonathan & Pauline Koplin

COMMEMORATIONS



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



July 29: Martyrs Kallinikos of Gangra in Asia Minor and Theodota of Bithynia; Theodosios the pious emperor; Constantine, patriarch of Constantinople; Lupos the Confessor, bishop of Troyes.

July 30: Apostles Silas, Silvanos (Silouan), Crescens, Epenetos and Andronikos of the Seventy; Hieromartyr Valentine, bishop of Terni in Italy; John the Warrior; uncovering of the relics of Venerable Herman of Solovskiy; Venerable Angelina of Serbia.

July 31: Righteous Eudokimos of Cappadocia; Righteous Joseph of Arimathea; Germanos, bishop of Auxerre.

Aug. 1: The Procession of the Cross. The seven Maccabean youths, their mother Solomonica and Eleazar their teacher, martyrs; Venerable-martyr Elessa of Kythera.

Aug. 2: The translation of the relics of the Proto-martyr Stephen the Archdeacon; Venerable Photeini; New-martyr Theodore; Blessed Basil the fool-for-Christ, wonder-worker of Moscow.

Aug. 3: Venerable Isaac, Dalmatos and Faustus of the Dalmaton monastery; Venerable Theoklites and Theodora; Salome the myrrh-bearer; Venerable Anthony the Roman, wonder-worker of Novgorod.

Aug. 4: The Seven Sleepers of Ephesus; Martyr Eudokia of Persia.

Aug. 5: Martyr Eusignios of Antioch; New-martyr Habakkuk of Thessalonika.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

July 29 – August 5

Sunday	1 Cor	3:9-17	Matt	14:22-34
Monday	Acts	15:35-41	Matt	21:18-22
Tuesday	1 Cor	15: 29-38	Matt	21:23-27
Wednesday	Hebrews	11:33-40; 12:1-2	Matt	10:16-22
Thursday	Acts	6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60	Mark	12:1-12
Friday	2 Cor	1:12-20	Matt	22:23-33
Saturday	Romans	15:30-33	Matt	17:24-27; 18:1-4
Sunday	1 Cor	4:9-16	Matt	17:14-23



Please remember in your prayers - Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Nicholas Hill, Janna Knight (pregnant), Katherine Verbist (pregnant), Lavinia Dumitrache (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.

Catechumen/Inquirers Class will meet on Tuesday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Mental Health First Aid. On Saturday, August 25, from 8 to 5, St. John will be hosting a mental health first aid seminar put on by Church Health. This informative session is free and includes lunch. Space is limited so sign up soon!

Parish Council Nominations - It is once again time for our parishioners to recommend new members for the parish council. We would like to thank our outgoing members for their dedication and hard work for our community: Dan O’Brien, Christine McGee, Anne Dugan, Keith Parker, and Fr. Alex.

Recommendation forms can be found downstairs in the parish hall. Please list 3 recommendations in order of preference and return this form to the office or place it in the offering plate or the envelope in the parish hall. Current parish council members who will continue through next year are: **Fr. Philip and Melissa White.**

To remind everyone, the council has 7 members. The clergy select one from their midst to represent them. The remaining members are appointed by the pastor for two-year terms which are staggered.

St. John Website – Links for all online sign ups can now be found easily from the St. John home page. The “Sign Up” button is now located next to the Events page. Check it out and see which areas would benefit from your service!

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.

Parish Council Update

Thanks be to God, the work on the acoustic panels is completed and looks great! Thus far we have had over 50 people respond to the survey. We would like to get as close to 100 respondents! Remember, all responses will be anonymous. Thank you for your love, care and concern for this wonderful community!

Women of St. John Calendar

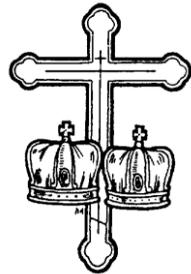
- Aug. 9** **Women’s Teaching** - 10:00 a.m., Sarah Hodges home
- Sept. 10** **AWSJ Book Club** – 7:00 p.m., Kh. Pamela’s home. We will be discussing *Towers in the Mist* by Elizabeth Goudge

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

Sunday, 7/29: Ruby Ortwein
Monday, 7/30: Jillanne Ballard
Tuesday, 7/31: Trent Terry
Joseph of Arimethea: Trent Terry
Wednesday, 8/1: Sh. Deb Mashburn
Thursday, 8/2: Dn. James
Saturday, 8/4: John Sneed, Zoe van Drimmelen, Rana Ibrahim, Owen White, Mia Shleweet



The Parishioners of St. John are cordially invited to the



*Sacrament of Holy Matrimony for
Irene Hodges and Tyler Kelley*

Saturday, August 18th at 4:00 p.m.

(Reception by invitation only)



Library Lines

Tomorrow we commemorate the Blessed Angelina (7/30), a Serbian princess. She and her husband Stephan were the parents of St. John of Serbia. When the Turks threatened them, they fled to Albania and Italy. She lived as a monastic after the death of her husband and son. Their relics were incorrupt and many were healed by those who venerated them. Read about her life in *Married Saints of the Church* HAG - - - MOS and in "Saint Angelina of Serbia" in *The Handmaiden*, fall 2005, on page 38. She is also commemorated in December.

Tuesday is the feast day of St. Joseph of Arimathea (7/31), the noble Joseph of our Paschal hymns. He is mentioned in every Liturgy and his icon is in our nave. Most of us know very little of his life after the Crucifixion. Tradition tells us that he accompanied Mary Magdalene, Lazarus and Phillip on a missionary journey through Gaul. Phillip sent him north to Britain with some other disciples. He had traveled there many years earlier in connection with his lead and tin business. As they approached what is now Glastonbury, the saint thrust his staff made with the Crown of Thorns into the ground. It took root, and every year the flowering hawthorn blooms at Christmas time. His deep devotion to Christ and the

inspiring events on his life have drawn three St. John parishioners to choose him as their patron.

Many times, during the Dormition Fast we pray the Paraklesis to the Theotokos. Towards the end, we sing of the "revered icon which is known by the name Directress and which hath been depicted for us by the Apostle Luke the Evangelist." You will find the story behind "The Directress" in *Icons of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary* (ART ICO KHO).

Wednesday, we commemorate a lesser known feast of the Cross known as the Procession of the Venerable Cross. It is based on a historical event on Constantinople. During August, the Wood of the Cross was carried throughout the streets every day from the first of August until the Feast of the Dormition for healing and sanctification. The Russian Church also celebrates this day as the baptism of the "Great Prince Vladimir and all Rus." On the same day, we begin the last month of the Church Year. And it goes out "with a bang." We will celebrate and commemorate the Transfiguration and the Dormition, wonder-working icons, youths who slept for 200 years, fools-for-Christ, prophets and apostles.

St. Basil (8/2) was trained as a cobbler. When he was sixteen, he began his calling from God as a fool-for-Christ in Moscow where he went barefoot about the streets in summer and winter. Through actions and speech that appeared foolish to men, he used his gift of clairvoyance to teach and show mercy to others. He predicted a great fire in Moscow in 1547, and even reproached Tsar Ivan the Terrible for being preoccupied during church services with thoughts of building a palace for himself. Fools-for-Christ were ascetics who fought the sin of pride by appearing to be mentally ill and consequently incurring the ridicule of the world. Many of them were stylites. Read more about this practice in *Seraphim's Seraphim* (HAG SER HTM), *The Inner Kingdom* (CAT/GEN/WAR) and *The Freedom of Morality* (CAT GEN YAN).

Asleep for 200 years! Saturday, we commemorate seven youths (8/4), friends from childhood, who suffered martyrdom in the third century. Upon being denounced by informants, they confessed their faith before Emperor Decius. He freed them, hoping they would change their minds. Instead they hid in a cave, prayed and prepared for martyrdom. The emperor found them, but before he sealed its entrance, secret Christians placed a plaque in it inscribed with the names of the youths and the story of their deaths. God then caused them to fall into a miraculous sleep. Two hundred years later, a stone cutter happened to open the cave and they awoke, unaware of the passage of time. The faithful rejoiced seeing this event as a sign to the heretics that the bodies of the Faithful would be raised. The Emperor journeyed to Ephesus to talk with the young men and afterwards, they lay down and reposed. Read more about them in *Let the Little Children Come to Me* (KID STS SAI).