

From the Fathers (and others):

“If you seriously desire true prayer and yet succumb to anger or resentment, you are out of your mind. If you want to see clearly, you do not scratch your eyes.”

Evagrius Ponticus

“God is the fire, which warms and ignites the heart and the inward parts; when we feel in our hearts the chill which is of the devil (for the devil is cold), let us call on the Lord and He will come to warm our heart with perfect love, not only to Him but to our neighbour.”

St. Seraphim of Sarov

“If we make every effort to avoid death of the body, still more should it be our endeavor to avoid death of the soul. There is no obstacle for a man who wants to be saved other than negligence and laziness of soul.”

St. Anthony the Great

“By meditation on death, bridle your eyes, which are ready to waste hour after hour looking at physical beauty.”

St. John Climacus

“If anyone surrenders himself to simplicity and voluntary innocence, he no longer gives the devil time or place to attack him.”

St. John of the Ladder

“Further, he said, I know monks that have fallen after many toils, and came to an ecstasy of pride, because they put their hope in their works, and were deceived about the commandment which says, ask your father, and he will tell you.”

St. Anthony the Great

Four monks from Scetis, wearing tunics of animal hide, visited Abba Pambo. In private, each monk told Pambo of the virtues of another. One was a diligent faster, another did not own anything, the third was extraordinarily charitable, and the fourth lived obedient to others for twenty-two years. Pambo said, “The fourth monk has the greatest virtue. The rest of you use your own will to fulfill your promises, but he has rooted out self-will and become the servant of the will of others. Such a person will be a saint if such obedience continues until death.”

Sayings of the Desert Fathers

St. John Orthodox Church



~ July 3, 2016 ~

Second Sunday after Pentecost

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE
MEMPHIS, TN 38107
(901) 274-4119

www.stjohnmemphis.org

www.orthodoxtupelo.com

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

Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers
Assistant Pastor

V. Rev. Fr. Basil Cushman
Associate Pastor

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

June 26, 2016 All Saints

Epistle: Romans 2:10-16

Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Lynda Spinolo**.

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 3 – July 10 (Wed & Fri. Fast)

Sunday -
Monday -No Services
Tuesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Barksdale's
-Catechumen/Inquirers class, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Vespers, 5:30 p.m.
-Parish Meal following Vespers
Thursday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
Friday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Paraklesis, 12:00 p.m.
Saturday -Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
Sunday -Orthros, 8:45 a.m.
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

DIVINE LITURGY

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

PRIEST: Fr. John
READER: Fr. John
HOMILY: Fr. John
USHER: Bill Harter
HOLY BREAD: Stephanie Harants
ALTAR SERVERS: Whoever is available
COFFEE HOUR: Sh. Corinne Elliott - **HELP NEEDED! Please sign up!**
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4eabac2aa0fb6-coffee2>

Memorials

July 10: Galina, Kate Kumar's mother, 8 years

UPCOMING OUT OF OFFICE DATES FOR CLERGY

June 20 – July 11 Fr. Philip, Camp St. Thekla
July 18 – 22 Fr. Philip, Clergy Symposium

COMMEMORATIONS



July 3: Martyrs Hyacinth and Theodota of Caesarea in Cappadocia; Anatolios, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable-martyr Gerasimos the New of Carpenision; Venerable Joachim; translation of the relics of Philip the wonder-worker, metropolitan of Moscow; Venerable Nikodemos of Kozhe Lake.

July 4: Andrew, bishop of Crete, author of the Great Canon; Martyrs Theodore of Cyrene and Lucia; Venerable Andrew Rublev.

July 5: Venerable Athanasios the Athonite, founder of the Great Lavra on Athos; Venerable hieromartyr Cyprian of St. George kelli on Athos; Venerable Lampados of Irenoupolis; the synaxis of the 23 martyrs of Lesvos; uncovering of the relics of Venerable Sergios the wonder-worker of Radonezh.

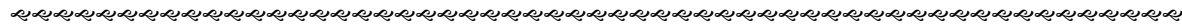
July 6: Venerable Sisoës the Great; Apostles Archippos, Philemon and Onesimos of the Seventy; Martyrs Lucia, Epimachos and Alexander; Venerable-martyr Cyril.

July 7: Great-martyr Kyriaki of Nicomedia; Hieromartyr Evangelos, bishop of Tomi (Constanta) in Romania; New-martyr Polycarp; Venerable Thomas of Mt. Maleon; Eudokia, princess of Moscow.

July 8: Great-martyr Prokopios of Caesarea in Palestine; New-martyrs Thophanes and Anastasios of Constantinople; Venerable Theophilos the myrrh-streaming of St. Basil kelli on Athos; Prokopios of Ustug, fool-for-Christ.

July 9: Hieromartyr Pankratios, bishop of Taormina in Sicily; Methodios, bishop; New-martyr Michael; Venerable Photios; Venerable Dionysios the Orator, first settler of Small St. Anne skete on Athos, and his disciple Venerable Metrophanes.

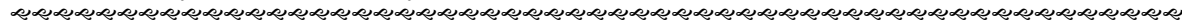
July 10: The 45 martyrs at Nikopolis in Armenia; Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Caves; Venerable-martyrs Nikodemos the Albanian and Nektarios of the St. Anne Skete on Athos; Hieromartyr Joseph the Damascene and his companions.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

July 3 - 10

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|-----------|-----------|----------|---------|--------------------------|
| Sunday | Romans | 2:10-16 | Matthew | 4:18-23 |
| Monday | Romans | 7:1-14 | Matthew | 9:36-10:8 |
| Tuesday | Galatians | 5:22-6:2 | Matthew | 11:27-30 |
| Wednesday | Romans | 8:2-13 | Matthew | 10:16-22 |
| Thursday | Galatians | 3:23-4:5 | Mark | 5:24-34 |
| Friday | 1 Timothy | 4:9-15 | Luke | 6:17-19; 9:1-2; 10:16-22 |
| Saturday | Romans | 3:28-4:3 | Matthew | 7:24-8:4 |
| Sunday | 2 Timothy | 2:1-10 | Matthew | 6:22-33 |



Pray for our catechumens: Memphis - Ben Arthur; Marshall & Kathryn McWhorter.

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, Lydia Tampanaric (Tupelo), Nicholas Hill, Mary Sue Johnson (Jason Guntharpe’s grandmother), Julie Hight (pregnant), Christina Moore (pregnant), Janna Knight (pregnant), Angela Leopold (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Brenda Thomas, Doris & Jim (Brenda Thomas’ family), Kera White, Dot Lawson (Lawson Bowick’s grandmother), Lisa Catlett (Fr. Don & Kh. Martha’s daughter), Glenda Brooks, Naomi Young (Chelsea Tabor’s grandmother), Anna Grace (Joyce Grossman’s granddaughter), Elfreida Drobashevsky, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

More exciting news – With Fr. John’s retirement, the parish council recognized the need to request the assignment of a second full time staff member to serve our parish. Thanks be to God, His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH has assigned **Rev. Fr. Alex Mackoul** to serve as assistant pastor for St. John. His official starting date is July 1. At the time of writing this announcement, he and **Kh. Amanda** are busy searching for where they will live. He will spend his first week (July 3 through July 12) with Fr. Philip at Camp St. Thekla in Greenville, SC. Please keep Fr. Alex and Kh. Amanda in your prayers as they adjust to this next chapter in their lives. Many years to you both!

Sons of Thunder Men’s Book Club will meet at 6:30 on July 17th at the Half Shell, 688 S. Mendenhall for a time of fellowship and food (no book will be discussed). If you plan on coming please RSVP to Brandon Maas or David Twombly.

Coffee Hour –As we know, great blessings come by serving others. The third quarter sign up for coffee hour is now online. If you are able to assist, even for just one Sunday, please sign up online or contact Anna Pashchinskaya. Links for all sign ups have been updated and can be found on Sign Up Genius, <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4eabac2aa0fb6-coffee2>, or on our website under “Parish – Online Sign Ups and Assignments.”

Many thanks! – Fr. Philip and I are thrilled with how our new floors have turned out. The addition of the oriental rugs has enhanced beauty of the nave even more. The selection of these was no easy task, and it took many hours. We owe many thanks to **Terry Harter, Sh. Deb Mashburn, and Kh. Kathryn Rogers** for the time and effort they expended in making that happen. Many years!



Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 7/3:** Meribeth Harvey, Mark Ortwein
- Monday, 7/4:** Joe Hodges
Anniversaries: Fr. Philip & Kh. Kathryn, Nidal & Amal Salloum
St. Martha, Mother of Simeon: Betsy Larker
- Tuesday, 7/5:** Jamie White
Elizabeth, the New Martyr: Audrey van Drimmelen, Crystal Eastman, Julie Hight
- Wednesday, 7/6:** Gabe De La Torre, Ben Hight
Apostle Paul: Pavel Harvey, Paul Elliott, Silas Powell
Apostle Peter: Weston Leopold
- Friday, 7/8:** Jodi Yzaguirre, Sarah Ann Cameron

Worship and liturgical reminders:

When one comes forward to receive the Eucharist, it is proper to cross the arms over the chest. When the communicant's turn to receive is next, he should say, "**The servant of God/the handmaid of God, (your name by which you commune).**" You may then receive (1) by taking the Mysteries off the spoon and closing your lips completely over the end of the spoon, just a child would who is being fed by his parent (this is the safest and preferred method), or (2) you may tip your head back slightly and open your mouth widely enough for the priest drop the Holy Mysteries in your mouth. Having received, it is appropriate to remain for the prayers of thanksgiving following the dismissal.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Women of St. John ~ AWSJ

July 14 Women's Teaching, 10:00 a.m. at Priscilla Neale's home
July 18 Book Club, 7:00 p.m., Kh. Pamela's home
Killer Angels: The Classic Novel of the Civil War

St. John Summer Pool Party @ Rhodes College pool
Monday, July 11th, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
(Upcoming: July 25)

Master Plan questions and answers

Progress on final drawings/contractor/etc. – The request for quotes from contractors went out on June 23. We hope to have some responses in the next two weeks. Once selected, the contractor will assist in the final drawings to enable us to best control costs. Discussions are still going on with the conceptual drawings

Fund raising – We are doing very well. Here are the stats as of 6/30:

One time gift pledges:

| | | |
|--------|-----------|------|
| Paid | \$319,322 | |
| Unpaid | \$ 19,125 | 5.7% |
| Total | \$338,447 | |

Monthly pledges:

Only 8 individuals who made a monthly pledge have yet to begin.

Other – The unpaid one time gifts should come in without any problems. We would love for everyone to go ahead and begin their monthly pledges.

If you have not made a pledge, you can still do so. We are right at 60% participation. Every dollar helps.

LIBRARY LINES

The word "Hyacinth" brings up an image of sweetness and delicacy in our mind's eye. However St. Hyacinth (7/3), a child martyr, was given strength and endurance through God's grace. He was a secret Christian and chamberlain in the household of Emperor Trajan. Another servant betrayed him and he was put on trial. After being whipped, he was given food that had been sacrificed to idols. Hyacinth refused to eat it and died after 38 days. His jailer saw two angels in the saint's cell; one covered his body with his cloak and the other placed a crown on his head. Read more about him in *The Encyclopedia of the Major Saints and Fathers* (HAG - - - ELE).

This week on July 4th we commemorate two St. Andrews, both of whom glorified God through the arts. St. Andrew of Crete was mute as a young child, not speaking until age seven. He composed the beautiful Canon we sing during Lent as well as other hymns of the Church. *First Fruits of Prayer* (SPR/PRA/MAT) by Frederica Mathewes-Green is a forty-day journey through this beautiful, great hymn of repentance. Each portion of the canon is printed with accompanying Scripture references and commentary. The book begins with a general introduction and historical background of the canon. I highly recommend it for catechumens and "old-timers" alike.

St. Andrew Rublev, also a monk at an early age, painted an icon of the Holy Trinity, the *Hospitality of Abraham*. Although he was not the first to write this icon, his is considered the classic. Unlike earlier ones, Abraham and Sarah are not shown. In his icon, the table becomes an altar and the food on it is replaced by a chalice, representing the Eucharist. The three angels' similar appearance shows their harmony. They incline their heads toward each other and look at the others in love and submission. St. John Library has a good collection of beautiful books on icons including *The Rublev Trinity* (ART ICO BUN). They are on the first shelf of the circulating books. Their spine codes begin with ART/ICO.

St. Siseos (7/6) is imprinted on our minds because of the memorable icon, *The Astonishment of Siseos*. The icon, on the bulletin board in St. John library, shows him standing over the open coffin of Alexander the Great. According to *A Reader's Guide to Orthodox Icons* website, "This icon is contemplation on death, but not only the death of a man, but of an earthly empire." The inscription reads, "The mere sight of you, tomb, dismays me and causes my heart to shed tears, as I contemplate the debt we, all men, owe. How can I possibly stand it? Of, death! Who can evade you?" The Desert Father, a disciple of St. Anthony the Great, lived in the Egypt for 60 years. It is said that on his deathbed, he asked the angels for more time, saying to his disciples, "I do not think that I have even begun to repent." Read more about him in *The Sayings of the Desert Fathers* (PAT - - - WAR.)

This week we commemorate one whose blessing is invoked in the Orthodox wedding service. St. Procopius (7/8), a soldier during Emperor Diocletian's reign, encountered Christ in a conversion experience similar to the Apostle Paul's. The authorities tortured him and threw him in prison. One day twelve women approached his window, told him they were also servants of Christ and were locked up with him. He taught them more about the Church, especially receiving the crown or martyrdom. According to *The Prologue*, this is why he and the God-crowned Emperor Constantine and Empress Helen are mentioned in the marriage service.

Friday we remember St. Prokopios of Ustag (7/8). He is one of a long list of saints called Fools for Christ. These men and women engaged in strange behaviors and feigned mental instability to achieve humility through the ridicule of others. Most of them lived in Russia. Look on the bulletin board for Met. Kallistos Ware's article, "The Fool in Christ as Prophet and Apostle." Read more about this form of asceticism in his book, *The Inner Kingdom* (CAT GEN WAR) and in chapter 4 of *The Freedom of Morality* (CAT SPEC YAN) by Christos Yannaros.