

From the Fathers (and others):

There are two ways to live. Completely legitimately and respectably it is possible to walk on dry land: to measure, to weigh and to plan ahead. But it is also possible to walk on the waters. Then it becomes impossible to measure or to plan ahead, the one thing necessary is to believe all the time. An instant of doubt, and you begin to sink.

Mother Maria Skobtsova

You should secretly give from what you have to those in need, so that you receive from God, Who sees in secret, a hundred times more, as well as life eternal in the age to come (cf. Mt. 6:4; Mk. 10:30).

St. Gregory Palamas

“Why was the Lord transfigured on the mountain and not the valley? That He might teach us two virtues: love of toil and pondering on God. To climb to the heights involves toil, and the heights represent the heights of our thoughts: Pondering on God.”

St Nikolai Velimirovich

“Let us cast off, brethren, the works of darkness, and let us perform the works of light, that we may not only walk honestly, as in the day, but also become children of the day. And come, let us go up the mountain where Christ shone forth, that we may see what happened there. Or rather, if we become children worthy of that day, the Word of God Himself will take us up when the time comes. Now, I beseech you, strive to lift up the eyes of your understanding towards the light of the gospel message, that you may be transformed by the renewing of your mind, and having acquired the divine brightness from above, be conformed to the likeness of the glory of the Lord, whose face shone like the sun today on the mountain.”

St. Gregory Palamas

St. John Orthodox Church



~ August 7, 2016 ~
Sunday after Transfiguration

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

August 7, 2016

Sunday after Transfiguration

Epistle: Romans 15:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 9:27-35

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Caitlyn Maas**.

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

August 7-14 (Dormition Fast)

- Sunday** -
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Paraklesis, 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Barksdale's
-Catechumen/Inquirers class, 7:00 p.m., "Ten Commandments"
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Paraklesis, 5:30 p.m.
-Parish Meal following
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-AWSJ Teaching, 10:00 a.m., Priscilla Neale's home
- 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, 8:45 a.m.**
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**
-Teen Parent meeting, coffee hour
-Great Vespers for Dormition, 6:00 p.m.

DIVINE LITURGY

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

PRIEST:	Fr. Philip	HOMILY:	Fr. Philip
READER:	Jack Turner	USHER:	Matt Spinolo
HOLY BREAD:	Trish Ratliff		
ALTAR SERVERS:	Zach, Trent, Max, Eli		
COFFEE HOUR:	Anna Pashchinskaya, Kate Kumar		

UPCOMING AT ST. JOHN

- Aug 8, 10(5:30 p.m.), 12– Paraklesis, 6:00 PM unless otherwise noted
Aug 14 – Great Vespers for Dormition, 6:00 PM
Aug 15 – Divine Liturgy for Dormition, 9:00 AM

COMMEMORATIONS

Aug. 7: Martyrs Dometios of Persia and Sozon of Nicomedia; Hieromartyr Narcissos, patriarch of Jerusalem; Venerable Theodosios the New of the Peloponnesos, Nikanor the wonder-worker of Mt. Kalistratos, and David; Venerable Dometios of Philotheou monastery on Athos; uncovering of the relics of Metrophanes, first bishop of Veronezh.

Aug. 8: Emilianos the Confessor, archbishop of Kyzikos; Myron, archbishop of Crete; Venerable Gregory of Sinai; New-martyrs Anastasios and Triandaphylos of Thessaly; translation of the relics of Venerable Zosimas and Savvatis of Solovskiy.

Aug. 9: Apostle Matthias; translation of the relics of Venerable Herman of Alaska, wonder-worker of America.

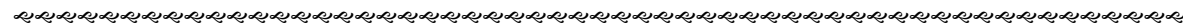
Aug. 10: Martyr and Archdeacon Laurence of Rome; Hieromartyr Sixtus, bishop of Rome.

Aug. 11: Martyr and Archdeacon Euplos of Catania; Niphon, patriarch of Constantinople; commemoration of the miracle of Spyridon the wonder-worker of Kerkyra; New-martyrs Anastasios and Demetrios.

Aug. 12: Martyrs Photios and Anikyotos of Nicomedia.

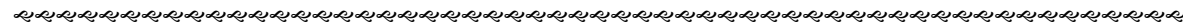
Aug. 13: Maximos the Confessor; Eudokia and Irene (Xenia) the empresses; Venerable Dositheos; repose of Tikhon, bishop of Voronezh and wonder-worker of Zadonsk; uncovering of the relics of Maximos of Moscow, fool-for-Christ.

Aug. 14: Prophet Micah; New-martyr Simeon of Trebizond; translation of the relics of Venerable Theodosios of the Kiev Caves.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

			August 7 - 14	
Sunday	Romans	15:1-7	Matthew	9:27-35
Monday	1 Corinthians	9:13-18	Matthew	16:1-6
Tuesday	Acts	1:12-17, 21-26	Matthew	16:6-12
Wednesday	1 Corinthians	10:12-22	Matthew	16:20-24
Thursday	1 Corinthians	10:28-11:8	Matthew	16:24-28
Friday	1 Corinthians	11:8-23	Matthew	17:10-18
Saturday	Romans	13:1-10	Matthew	12:30-37
Sunday	1 Corinthians	1:10-17	Matthew	14:14-22



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), 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, Maria Bellaflores, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

Student Blessing – At the end of the liturgy today we will pray the blessing prayers for our students returning to school.

The Dormition Fast began August 1 - The traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed during the **DORMITION FAST** which lasts from August 1st through 14th (with katalysis for wine and oil on Saturdays and Sundays, and for fish, wine and oil on the Transfiguration [August 6th]).

Sons of Thunder Men's Book Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 28th at Brandon Maas' home. We will be discussing *The Rise of Superman* by Steven Kotler.

Bulletin Board – Check the community board downstairs (door to the food pantry) for new information such as items for sale, rent and travel opportunities!

Men's Dinner – It is time for our quarterly men's dinner! We will meet at Central BBQ on Summer at 6:30 pm on Thursday, August 18. Come and join us for great food and fellowship.

Wednesday Teaching – We will return to our Wednesday night teachings on August 24. Fr. Philip will lead a series on the Orthodox understanding of death and dying.

Coffee Hour - The coffee hour sign up for 3rd quarter still has *several* openings, including:
 Mon., August 15 Sun., August 21 Mon., August 29
 Thurs., Sept 8 Wed., Sept. 14 Sun., Sept. 18

The complete list can be found on the St. John website (Parish – Online Assignments) or on Sign Up Genius, <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4eabac2aa0fb6-coffee2>. Contact our coffee hour coordinator, Anna Pashchinskaya if you have questions or need help signing up. anna.pashchinskaya@fedex.com. Please consider serving your parish in the way.

Master Plan questions and answers

Progress on final drawings/contractor/etc. – Our building committee met on Wednesday night and discussed our contractor bids and narrowed the pool from 4 to 2 and will begin the process of interviewing the contractors over the coming weeks.

Naming the Building – A suggestion was made to name the new building after a saint. Because of his special ties to our Archdiocese as well as the United States and many different Orthodox groups, St. Raphael of Brooklyn was suggested as a fitting patron. If you have additional thoughts on the naming of the building, please speak with Fr. Philip or anyone from the building committee.

Fund raising – One time gifts continue to come in as well as monthly pledges. We urge all those who have made a monthly pledge to begin now if you have not yet started.

If you have not made a pledge, you can still do so. We are over 60% participation. Can we get to 70%? Every dollar helps.

PARENT CORNER

1) **Church school** will begin Sunday, September 11

2) **Teen Parent Meeting** – To begin our new year of teen group, there will be a teen parent informational meeting following the Divine Liturgy on August 14. Come with any questions as we try to hit the ground running for our new year!

Women of St. John ~ AWSJ

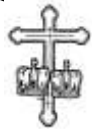
Aug. 11 Women's Teaching, 10:00 a.m.
Priscilla Neale's home

Sept. 12 Book Club, 7:00 p.m.
Wonder by R. J. Palacio

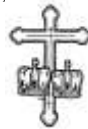
Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

Sun., 8/7: Anniversaries:
Dn. Tim & Sh. Deb
Charlie & Meribeth Harvey
Mon., 8/8: Bill Stanek
Tues., 8/9: Pavel Harvey
Thurs, 8/10: Ashley Powell

The AWSJ cordially invites the men & women of St. John to a



Wedding Shower



honoring

Anne Katherine Campbell & Justin van Landingham

Saturday, August 27th following Vespers at Fran Tylavsky's home

See **Claire van Drimmelen** if you would like to contribute to the group gift.
Anne Katherine & Justin are registered at Bed bath and Beyond, Macy's,
and Amazon

LIBRARY LINES -

Tuesday is the commemoration of the translation of the relics and canonization of St. Herman (8/9) of Alaska. He was born into a family of merchants and began the monastic life at age 16. In 1794 he arrived in Kodiak, Alaska and in the early 1800s he established a monastery on Spruce Island which he called New Valaam. He lived a hard and simple life, serving the Aleuts with a selfless love. Children will enjoy the colorful pictures when they read about him in *North Star*, *St. Herman of Alaska* (KID STS HER), *Saint Herman of Alaska* (KID STS HER), and *Journey Across North America* (KID STS GID). Adults will also find spiritual food in *The Little Russian Philokalia*, vol. 3, which is a collection of the saint's wisdom. Also, take a look at "Holy Father Herman" in *Life Transfigured*, Nativity 1998, p. 10, at "Orthodox Missions: Lessons From the Past" in *Orthodox America*, Nov-Dec 1993, p. 5, and at *Herman, a Wilderness Saint* (HAG HER KOR).

Six more times this week we commemorate the translation or uncovering of the relics of saints. We honor this event for Sts. Metrophanes, Zosimos and Sabbatius of Solovki, Maximus the Confessor, Maximus of Moscow, and Tikhon of Zadonsk. So what's so important about it? *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* (HIS CRO) donates a page to the practice of honoring relics. Interestingly enough, it is a wide spread event, even practiced in Buddhism and is "based on the natural instinct of men to treat with reverence what is left of the dead they loved." A more readable explanation is given in *The Pearl* by Michael Whelton. (CAT GEN WHE) Chapter VI gives us his answers to questions frequently asked by Protestants, or former ones like most of us. His concise answer concerning relics begins on page 139. Kallistos Ware connects this practice with the theology of the body in *The Orthodox Church* (CAT GEN WAR). See chapter 11. See also *Holy Relics* by T. L. Frazier (CAT SPEC FRA).

St. Matthias (8/9) is sometimes thought of as an extra apostle, a last minute fill-in. We remember that he was chosen "by lot" so he may seem like one who was chosen by chance. But, we know that there are no coincidences in the Kingdom of God. Unlike many of the Twelve who were uneducated, common men, St. Matthias studied under the hand of holy Symeon, the God-receiver.

The Prophet Micah (8/14) was a contemporary of the Prophet Isaiah. He gave us the prophecy that Bethlehem would be the birthplace of the Savior. His relics were uncovered in the fourth century A. D. through a revelation to a bishop.

If you are fascinated with icons, this is your month! All during the Dormition Fast, we have looked to the Theotokos as our icon for our own deaths. During the month of August, we commemorate many icons of her. Read more about them in *Icons of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary* (ART ICO KHO). Saturday (8/13) we remember the icon of the "Seven Arrows". It was lying face-down in a bell tower and mistaken for a floor board. It was discovered when a peasant has a vision before it of being healed.

PERIODICALLY SPEAKING

How many times last weekend did you kiss someone's hand and give him strange-sounding greetings??? If you're new around here, just watch someone and do what he does. That's how many of us figure out things in Church, like kissing the priest's or a bishop's hand. Find the summer, 2002 issue of *The Veil* and look on page 24. This article in the column, "On Good Order in Church", tells us why we continue this ancient practice and when it should be done. The column appears in every issue and addresses all those little things that no one ever explains to you when you're new.