

### From the Fathers (and others):

The Lord said: "Without Me you can do nothing" (Jn. 15:5). So for the duration of our life, every day and at every moment, we must keep unchanged in our heart the feeling, conviction and disposition, that on no occasion can we allow ourselves to think of relying on ourselves and trusting ourselves.

From Lorenzo Scupoli

He who wants to overcome the spirit of slander, should not ascribe the blame to the person who falls, but to the demon who suggests it. For no one really wants to sin against God, even though we do all sin without being forced to do so."

St. John Climicus

He who is master of possessions, is the slave of passions. Do not estimate gold and silver only as possessions, but all things thou possess for the sake of the desire of thy will.

St. Isaac the Syrian

According to thy mercy, pour out upon me, who am miserable, at least one small drop of grace to make me understand and be converted, that I might make at least some small effort to correct myself. For if thy grace does not illumine my soul, I will not be able to see the carelessness and negligence that the passions have produced in me through my apathy and recklessness.

St. Ephraim the Syrian

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

Pay attention carefully. After the sin comes the shame; courage follows repentance. Did you pay attention to what I said? Satan upsets the order; he gives the courage to sin and the shame to repentance.

St. John Chrysostom

## St. John Orthodox Church

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*~ September 25, 2016 ~  
14<sup>th</sup> 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)

**V. Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers**  
Pastor

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

**Rev. Fr. Donald Berge**  
Attached

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

**Rev. Fr. Alexander Mackoul**  
Assistant Pastor

**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

## September 25, 2016

### 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4**

**Gospel: Luke 5:1-11**

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

Sept. 25 – Oct. 2 (Wed. & Fri. Fast)

- Sunday** -Patronal Feast Potluck following liturgy  
-Great Vespers for the Repose of St. John, 6:00 p.m.
- Monday** -Divine Liturgy for the Repose of St. John, 9:00 a.m.
- 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  
-Wednesday Teaching, 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Friday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.  
-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.**  
-**Church School, 9:00 a.m.**  
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**

### DIVINE LITURGY

Monday, September 26, 9:00 a.m.

PRIEST:	Fr. John	HOMILY:	Fr. John
READER:	John McGee	HOLY BREAD:	Trish Ratliff
ALTAR SERVERS:	Zach & Eli		
COFFEE HOUR:	Caitlin Romero, Trish Ratliff		

### DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, October 2, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST:	Fr. Philip	HOMILY:	Fr. Philip
READER:	Jack Turner	USHER:	John Sneed
HOLY BREAD:	Reem Mansour		
ALTAR SERVERS:	Cade, Pavel, James, Alex, Paul		
COFFEE HOUR:	Trent & Judy Terry, Christine McGee		

### Memorial Today

Martin Elmo Thompson, 5 years  
John Savka, Joyce Grossman's father, 45 years

### UPCOMING:

**October 9:** Matushka Sissy Yerger, 1 year; Urania Alissandratos, 9 years

## COMMEMORATIONS

**Sept.25:** Venerable Euphrosyne of Alexandria; Venerable-martyr Paphnoutios and those with him; repose of Venerable Sergios of Radonezh; translation of the relics of Herman, archbishop of Kazan.

**Sept.26:** The repose of the Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian.

**Sept. 27:** Martyr Kallistratos; the Apostles Aristarchos, Zenon and Mark of the Seventy; New-martyr Aquilina; Venerable Ignatios, abbot in Asia Minor; Venerable Savvatos of Solovskiy.

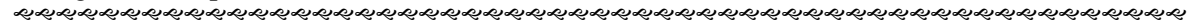
**Sept.28:** Venerable Chariton the Confessor, abbot of Palestine; Venerable Neophytos and Auxentios; Martyr Heliodoros; Prophet Baruch; Martyr Wenceslaus, prince of the Czechs.

**Sept.29:** Venerable Kyriakos the hermit of Palestine; Martyr Petronia; Venerable-martyrs Malachi and those with him.

**Sept.30:** Hieromartyr Gregory, bishop and enlightener of Greater Armenia; Martyrs Rhipsime and Gaiana and companions of Armenia; Michael, first metropolitan of Kiev; Venerable Gregory of Pelshma River.

**Oct. 1:** The Protection of the Theotokos; Apostle Ananias of the Seventy, first bishop of Damascus; Martyr Domninos; Romanos the Melode; Venerable John Koukouzelis of the Great Lavra on Athos; Venerable Gregory the Domestikos of the Great Lavra on Athos; Venerable Sabbas of Vishera.

**Oct. 2:** Hieromartyr Cyprian the confessor; Virgin-martyr Justina; Venerable Theophilos; New-martyr George; Blessed Andrew, fool-for-Christ; David and Constantine, prince-martyrs of Georgia; Anna, princess of Kashin.

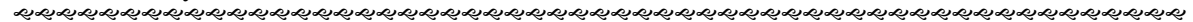


### **DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Sunday	2 Corinthians	1:21-2:4
Monday	1 John	4:12-19
Tuesday	Galatians	2:21-3:7
Wednesday	2 Corinthians	4:6-15
Thursday	Galatians	3:23-4:5
Friday	1 Corinthians	16:13-24
Saturday	Acts	9:10-19
Sunday	2 Corinthians	4:6-15

### **September 25 – October 2**

Luke	5:1-11
John	19:25-27; 21:24-25
Luke	5:12-16
Luke	6:17-23
Luke	6:12-19
Matthew	24:42-47
Luke	5:17-26
Luke	6:31-36



**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, Nicholas Hill, Mary Sue Johnson (Jason Guntharpe's grandmother), Janna Knight (pregnant), Angela Leopold (pregnant), Chelsea Yadron (pregnant), Sarah Finley (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), Elfreida Drobashevsky, Maria Bellaflores, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.



## ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



**Skete.com Icon Order** – We will soon be placing an icon order with skete.com. If you would like to avoid shipping by having us include you in our order, please email the office. Please have orders in by September 27.

**It is Dinner Club Sign-up time again!** For several years, many people have been participating in our dinner clubs. Dinner clubs are groups of 6-8 St. John people who meet together for a meal once every 2-3 months for a year. **The focus is on fellowship, not food.** Sign up ends today!

**The Library** - One great ministry of the Church is the library! Thank you for using it! If you have a book checked out of the library, they are able to be out for one month. Please help us maintain our offerings by being prompt in returning the books. Thank you for your attention and use of the parish library! If you have additional questions about the library, please see Mrs. Judy Terry.

**Patronal Feast for St. John** – Our feast of the Repose of St. John the Theologian, our patron, is tomorrow, **September 26**. We will pray Great Vespers this evening at 6:00 p.m. and serve Divine Liturgy tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.

Our parish celebration will take place following Divine Liturgy today with a **potluck meal**. I want to urge all of you to try to come pray with us for at least one of these services. Don't miss the chance to honor the one who prays faithfully for our salvations!

**Quarterly Sign Up Sheets** – The coffee hour **and** Wednesday Night meal pick up signup sheets for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter are now available online and downstairs in the parish hall. These are both wonderful ways to serve your parish. Please call the office if you have any questions!

### **Men of St. John**

**The Men's Clean Up** assignments for 2016-17 have been made! They can be found on the website under Parish – Online Assignments and Sign Ups as well as on the refrigerator in the kitchen. **Patronal feast crew:** Aaron White, Bill Stanek, Ethan van Drimmelen, Jay Knight, Joel Finley, Nate Powell, Justin van Landingham, Nawar Mansour, Thomas Yadron.

**Men's Book Club, Sons of Thunder** will be meeting at 6:30 on Sunday, October 9th at Fr. Philip's house. They will be discussing God Is Not Great by Christopher Hitchens. All men are welcome.

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### **teen group**

**TODAY:** Patronal Feast Celebration – 6:00 Vespers

**NEXT WEEK, October 2:** No Teen Group

**COMING UP:** Lock-In, November 18-19 – More information to come!

## Worship and Liturgical Reminders

Just a reminder, following the Divine Liturgy we pray the Thanksgiving prayers. Remember to **wait to have conversations until after you have exited the knave**. Thank you for your help in allowing these prayers to be read without too much distraction.

## Master Plan Updates

**Progress on final drawings/contractor/etc.** – This week our kitchen committee will be meeting to help with our plans for that important space in the Church. The architect has made steady headway this week on the drawings and getting a firm plan for the grading issue between the two buildings. More to come soon!

**Fund raising** – We have received offers from two different banks for our loan for the building project. Thank God, both were very competitive. The offer from First Bank was the better one and we are hoping to begin the process of official approval for funding this week.

### **Women of St. John – AWSJ**

- Oct. 3**      **Book Club**, 7:00 p.m., *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Frye* by Rachel Joyce
- Oct. 6**      **Women’s Teaching**, 10:00 a.m., Kh. Pamela’s home
- Oct. 22**     **Baby Shower for Christina Moore**, 11:00 a.m.
- Oct. 29**     **Fall Fest and Chili Cook Off**
- Nov. 11-12** **AWSJ Retreat** – Our speaker will be Dr. Nicole Rocca, author of *Time and Despondency*, and best known for her blog and podcast, “Time Eternal.”

## Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Monday, 9/26:**     *St. John the Theologian, Corey van Huystee*  
Anniversary: Michael & Mindy Williams
- Tuesday, 9/27:**     Reem Mansour  
Anniversary: Philip & Mawusi McKelroy
- Thursday, 9/29:**     Jay Knight, Kate Kumar
- Saturday, 10/1:**     Don Sanderlin  
Anniversary: Don & Crystal Eastman

## LIBRARY LINES -

Secular literature tells many tales of women who disguised themselves as men to accomplish some purpose that would be otherwise denied them. Even Christians have done so. St. Euphrosyne (9/25) was born into a pious family in Alexandria in the fifth century. After her father arranged a marriage for her, she donned men’s clothing and ran away from home to pursue her desire for monasticism. She told the monks she was a eunuch named Smaragdos. After living there thirty eight years, she revealed her identity to her grieving father who was still searching for her.

Today we commemorate a saint whose story appeals to children and adults. St. Sergius of Radonezh (9/25) was given the name Bartholomew at his birth in 14th century Russia. He loved the Church and the beauty of God’s world; however, he hated school because he could not learn to read. In answer to his prayers, God sent an angel to him in the form of an old monk. He gave a piece of prosphora to the boy to eat as a sign of God’s gift of knowledge and understanding. Immediately he could read with ease and comprehension. When he became a man, he was tonsured as a monk. He went on to establish over 40 monasteries and, along with St. Seraphim of Sarov, he is one of Russia’s most beloved saints. *The Wonderful Life of Russia’s Saint Sergius of Radonezh* (KID/RAD) relates his story in poetic form along with bright colorful icon style illustration. See also *Orthodox America*, issue #117, p. 5 for an article on his life.

We often don’t associate miracles with music, but they came together in the life of St. Romanos(10/1). The simple monk possessed a voice unfit for singing or reading in church and was made fun of by those around him. The Theotokos appeared to him and told him to eat a scroll she carried in her hand. His voice then offered beautiful praise to God. St. Romanos the Melodist composed nearly 1000 hymns before his repose. In fact, one of our favorite Nativity hymns, "Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One" was composed by him. Look for his story in *Poets and Hymnographers of the Church* (HAG - -TAR), in *Grandmother’s Spiritual Stories* (KID STS HRO), in *Orthodox Saints*, October-December (HAG - - - POU), and in *Sweet Song: a Story of Saint Romanos the Melodist* (KID STS ROM).

### **REGULAR ALMS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:**

Birthright ♦St. John Alms Fund ♦St. Brigid Food Pantry ♦Rachel’s Kids, Inc. ♦St. John Camping Fund ♦Nativity Alms for the Homeless ♦Diocese of Miami and the Southeast Mission Fund ♦Michael & Abigail Bittle Fund