

## From the Fathers (and others):

What I see around me would drive me insane, if I did not know that — no matter what happens — God will have the last word.

- *St. Paisios of the Holy Mountain*

Destroy within you the devil's rule over you; destroy all his influence over you; acquire Spiritual freedom. The foundation for your struggle is the Grace of Holy Baptism; your weapon is the Prayer of Jesus.

- *St. Ignatius Brianchaninov*

Neither despair, nor cease from praying, but approach even though you are sinful, so that you may glorify the Master and give Him the opportunity to show His loving-kindness when He forgives your sins. Likewise, if you fear to approach, you have prevented His goodness and impeded His abundant kindness, which indeed belongs to you.

- *St. Basil the Great*

The lover of silence draws close to God. He talks to Him in secret, and God enlightens him. Jesus, by silences, shamed Pilate; and a man, by his silence, conquers vainglory.

- *St. John Climacus*

When a ray of sunlight enters the house through a crack, it lights up everything inside, and even the finest dust in its beam. So it is with the fear of the Lord, it reveals all the fallibility still lurking there.

- *St. John Climacus*

True patience consists in bearing calmly the evils others do to us, and in not being consumed by resentment against those who inflict them. Those who only appear to bear the evils done them by their neighbors, who suffer them in silence while they are looking for an opportunity for revenge, are not practicing patience, but only make a show of it.

- *Saint Gregory the Great*

He who truly loves God, is devoted to His holy will; and no matter what might befall him, he accepts everything, as from the hand of God, with the firm faith that all this serves to his spiritual benefit. For the soul that is devoted to God, the misfortunes that befall it in this life serve as steps leading it up to perfection.

- *Saint John of the Ladder*

Let us not grieve when we make a slip, but when we become hardened by it.

- *St. Issac the Syrian*

# St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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~ October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 ~

***Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost***

*Second Sunday of Luke*

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

**His Eminence Metropolitan SABA**  
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America  
Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of 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. Basil Cushman, Associate Pastor

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

V. Rev. Fr. Donald Berge, Attached

**GREAT VESPERS**  
Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

**ORTHROS**  
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

## 17th Sunday after Pentecost

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 6:16-18, 7:1

**Gospel:** Luke 6:31-36

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by Anne Castrodale.

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

October 1–8

- Sunday** - Orthros, 9:00 am  
- Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am
- Monday** - First Hour, 6:45 am  
- AWSJ Book Club, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday** - Third Hour, 9:00 am  
- Men's Lunch, 12:00 pm  
- Orthodoxy 101, 7:00 pm  
- Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 pm
- Wednesday** - Third Hour, 9:00 am  
- Women's Teaching, 10:00 am (\*In person)  
- Vespers, 6:00 pm  
- Bible Study, 7:00 pm
- Thursday** - Third Hour, 9:00 am
- Friday** - First Hour, 6:45 am  
- Third Hour, 9:00 am  
- Sixth Hour, 12:00 pm
- Saturday** - Telos Parish Workshop, 2:00-5:00 pm  
- Ninth Hour & Vespers, 5:50 pm
- Sunday** - Orthros, 9:00 am  
- Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am

### Today's Enrollments

Billy & Stacey Murray

### Upcoming Memorials

#### October 8th

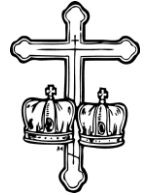
Martin Elmo Thompson, 12 years  
Vladimir Drobashevsky, 1 year  
Urania Alissandratos, 16 years

#### October 29th

Dn. Sidney, 40 days

### Upcoming Wedding – Oct. 22

Clare Freeman & Jake Smith



## Birthdays, Anniversaries, Nameday

### **Sunday, 10/1**

*Birthday:* Don Sanderlin, Kathryn McWhorter

*Anniversary:* Don & Crystal Eastman

### **Monday, 10/2**

*Anniversary:* Justin & Anne Katherine VanLandingham

### **Tuesday, 10/3**

*Birthday:* Justin Hagemeyer

### **Wednesday, 10/4**

*Birthday:* Sam Escue, Erika Parr

### **Thursday, 10/5**

*Birthday:* Madeleine Boiles, Patty Harants

### **Friday, 10/6**

*Birthday:* Fr. Basil

*St. Innocent of Alaska:* Don Sanderlin, Gavin van Drimmelen

*Apostle Thomas:* Thomas Cameron, Thomas Yadron

### **Saturday, 10/7**

*Birthday:* Keith Harlow

## Commemorations

**Oct. 1:** The Protection of the Theotokos; Apostle Ananias of the Seventy, first bishop of Damascus; Martyr Dominos; 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 Visher.

**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.

**Oct. 3:** Hieromartyr Dionysios the Areopagite, first bishop of Athens; Martyrs Eleutherios and Rustikos.

**Oct. 4:** Hieromartyr Hierotheos, bishop of Athens; Apostle Krispos of the Seventy; Martyrs Domina and her daughters of Syria; uncovering of the relics of Guriors, first archbishop of Kazan; Barsanouphios, bishop of Tver; Stephen (Stiljanovich) and Elizabeth.

**Oct. 5:** Martyr Charitina; John, bishop of Euchaita; Venerable Eudokimos of Vatopedi monastery on Athos; uncovering of the relics of the wonder-workers Peter, Alexis, Jonah, Philip and Hermogenes, metropolitans of Moscow.

**Oct. 6:** Apostle Thomas; Venerable Kendea; Venerable-martyr Makarios of St. Anne Skete on Athos; Innocent, metropolitan of Moscow, enlightener of the Aleuts and apostle to America.

**Oct. 7:** Martyrs Sergios and Bacchos in Syria; Hieromartyr Polykhronios; Priest Julian; Venerable John the Hermit and those with him; Venerable Sergios of Nurma.

**Oct. 8:** Venerable Pelagia the penitent; Virgin-martyr Pelagia of Antioch; Martyr Taisia of Egypt; Hieromartyr Artemon; Venerable-martyr Ignatios of Prodromou Skete on Athos; Venerable Philotheos, patriarch of Constantinople; Martyr Ignatios of Bulgaria.

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### DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday	2 Corinthians	6:16-18, 7:1	Luke	6:31-36
Monday	1 Timothy	1:12-17	Luke	6:24-30
Tuesday	Acts	17:16-34	Luke	6:37-45
Wednesday	Ephesians	5:25-33	Luke	6:46-49; 7:1
Thursday	Ephesians	5:33, 6:1-9	Luke	7:17-30
Friday	1 Corinthians	4:9-16	John	20:19-31
Saturday	1 Corinthians	15:39-45	Luke	5:27-32
Sunday	2 Corinthians	9:6-11	Luke	7:11-16

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### Remember in Your Prayers

**Our catechumens:** Jeff Bennett; Mitchell, Alicia, & Lily Schaflein; Ben Haag; Thomas & Christy Potts; Eric Iverson; Andrew Potts; Brian, Danielle, Luree, John, & River Pfeister; Billy & Stacey Murray

**Prayer Requests:** Mother Raphaela; Mary Elliott & family; Mike & Joyce Grossman; Chris Hodges; Mickey Hodges; St. Nicholas Orthodox Church; St. Paul Orthodox Mission; Samuel Brownlow; Elizabeth Turner (Jack's mother); Aleksandra & Aleksander Klimkowski; Emma & Katelyn Coe; Janan Heisig & family; Shawn McClenny (Miriam Redmond's brother-in-law); Kimberly Castrillon (Dianna Hildebrand's niece); Charles Pugh (Madeleine Boiles's brother); the Bowick family; those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

**Expecting:** Carole Sneed Spearman, Ashley Powell, Madison Dey, Katherine Verbist, Marija Pavlovic

**Diocesan Seminarian:** Caleb McGee



## ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



**Welcome Katrina Bitar!** Katrina led our teens in a workshop this weekend. She is the Program Director for YES (Youth Equipped to Serve). Katrina is extremely experienced in youth ministry having served as a parish youth director, camp director, and with college ministry with OCF. May God continue to bless her work and ministry with youth and young adults across the country!

**Orthodoxy 101** will next meet on Tuesday, October 3rd, at 7pm. The topic will be *Iconography*. All are welcome to attend either in person or via Zoom.

**Choir Rehearsal** – The next choir rehearsal will be this Tuesday, October 3rd, at 7pm.

**No Level 2 Atrium Today and Next Sunday** – Parents, please note there will be no Atrium Level 2 (1st-3rd grade) today as well as next Sunday, October 8. All other classes will meet as normal.

**Telos Parish Workshop this Saturday** – The Telos Project is offering a free, 3-hour, parish-wide "wake up" workshop this Saturday, October 7 (from 2-5pm) - a time for participants to remember what they love about their parish and help make sure young adults know they are loved by God and welcomed in the Church. All are encouraged to attend. Dinner will be provided before Vespers. Please see the weekly parish emails to RSVP through SignUpGenius.

**V&E Artwalk 2023 this Saturday** – The annual VECA Artwalk is scheduled for this Saturday, October 7, from 11am-5pm. (Rain date Sunday, October 8.) More information can be found in the parish emails or at: <https://www.vegreenline.org/about-artwalk-2023>

**Room in the Inn Informational Meeting Oct. 22** – There will be a brief informational meeting in the library after church on Sunday, October 22, for anyone interested in or curious about volunteering with Room in the Inn this winter. We hope to see you there!

**Parish Council Update** – For years we have sent \$1100 to St. Paul Skete. While we wait to see what the Archdiocese will do at the Skete, the decision was made to put that money towards the principal of the mortgage. Once the plan for the Skete is solidified, we will return to our full support. Thanks be to God, the Skete has enough resources to maintain the property in the interim. The next meeting of the council will be October 17. May God guide our council and the work of the Church!

**Parish Grizzlies Game – RSVP NOW** – The NBA season is upon us! Our parish has reserved 20 tickets for the Sunday, November 26th game at 5pm. Tickets are \$25! Reserve yours today (email Ted at [ted@stjohnmemphis.org](mailto:ted@stjohnmemphis.org)) so we can order more if need be! Go Grizz!

**Photos on Bulletin Board** – Is your family pictured on the bulletin board leading into St. Raphael Hall? If not, please see Mr. Trent Terry! He will take your picture and add you to our photos. There are so many new people and it is great to have a tool to put a name to a face.

## *St. John Youth*

### Today:

Sunday, 10/1 - Q&A with Katrina, 12:30-1pm

### Next Week:

10/6-10/8 - OKC Retreat

## *Women of St. John Calendar*

**10/2 (Mon) AWSJ Book Club, 7pm** – The Women’s Book Club will meet tomorrow, Monday, Oct. 2, at Corinne Elliott’s home at 7pm. We will be discussing *The God of the Garden* by Andrew Peterson. All are welcome to join, even if you have not read the book! Please RSVP to Corinne Elliott if you are planning to attend. We would love to see you! Bring a snack to share!

**10/4 (Wed.) AWSJ Teaching, 10am** – Women’s Teaching will meet in person this week to discuss *A Voice for Our Time* by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann.

**10/12 (Thurs.) AWSJ Fall Kick Off Social, 6-8pm** – Save the Date! Come relax and socialize at Elizabeth Cameron’s home as we kick off the new Church year! We have so many new women to meet and old friends to catch up with. If you would like to provide any food, please contact Elizabeth.

**10/13 (Fri.) AWSJ Knitting Circle, 6pm** – Knitting Circle will next meet on Friday, October 13, at 6pm at Miriam Redmond’s home. Bring your projects (any handwork, not just knitting!) and (if you want to contribute) a snack to share! All women are welcome regardless of whether you do any handwork or not. We look forward to seeing you, even if just to chat!

**10/15 (Sun.) Baby Shower Honoring Madison Dey, St. John’s Library following Divine Liturgy** – Join the AWSJ in honoring Madison Dey with a baby shower on Sunday, October 15, in St. John’s Library after Divine Liturgy! Madison is registered at Babylist. Please RSVP through the email invitation. We hope to see you there!

## *LIBRARY LINES*

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).

St. John Koulouzelis the Hymnographer (10/1) was gifted as a child with a beautiful voice. He found a position as court singer in Constantinople but left to escape the life of extravagance there. He became a monk on Mount Athos and was given the job of tending the goats. He tried to keep his singing talent a secret but was found out. Once the Theotokos appeared to him during an akathist, gave him a coin, and told him to continue using his voice to glorify God. She later appeared to him and healed his

legs which pained him because of the long time he stood in church. He composed and published many troparia and kontakia and is honored by many church singers as their patron.

Sts. Cyprian and Justina (10/2) endured spells and powerful black magic. Cyprian was a sorcerer and used his power to help a young, pagan man to court the pious Justina. She rebuffed him, and Cyprian turned the suitor into a large, black bird so he could fly into her room. Next, he conjured up demons to trick her. St. Cyprian saw the futility of his tricks, repented and struggled to live a life of virtue. They were both eventually martyred and are intercessors for the faithful against the powers of darkness. See their stories in *A Child’s Paradise of Saints* (KID STS MCL).

Monday we also commemorate a fool-for-Christ, Blessed Andrew. He lived in 10<sup>th</sup> century Constantinople. From his childhood, he loved God and once had a dream in which an angel told him to be a fool for God’s sake and that he would receive much in the day of His Kingdom. So, he donned rags and took on the actions of a deranged man. He endured the elements and mockery from men. But God gave him the gifts of prophecy and wisdom. Read more about Fools-for-Christ in *Crazy John* (BIO JOH MAK), *The Freedom of Morality* (CAT GEN YAN), *Holiness: Is It Attainable Today?* (SPR LIV MOS), *The Inner Kingdom* (CAT GEN WAR), and *The Lives of St. Simon the Stylites* (HAG SIM DOR).

Tuesday we commemorate St. Dionysius the Areopagite (10/3), a scholar who first knew of Christ in Athens by seeing the sun darkened from His death at the Crucifixion. He became a Christian and traveled with St. Paul for three years. He was also blessed to be present at the Dormition of the Theotokos in 57 A.D. Only some of his letters and four of his books are known to us today: *On the Celestial Hierarchy*, *On the Ecclesiastical Hierarchy*, *On the Names of God*, and *On Mystical Theology*. The OCA website tells us that, according to the saint, the first two tell us that the ranks of angels and humanity exist in a "spiritual light-bearing hierarchy." *On the Names of God* tells us of knowledge of God through a progression of Divine Names. *On Mystical Theology* shows us that the theology of our Faith comes to us through "experience of divine knowledge" by drawing close to God with a pure heart in pure prayer. Read these books and more about his life in *Pseudo-Dionysius: the Complete Works* (PAT DIO LUI).

Friday we honor St. Thomas (10/6) who is remembered by the world as a doubter. Sometimes even we forget that after Jesus was threatened in Judea and he then asked his disciples to accompany Him there to raise Lazarus, St. Thomas said, “Then let us also go that we may die with Him.” The Church praises Thomas for his honest doubt after the Resurrection because it led to a life driven by belief. St. John Chrysostom, in comparing him to the other apostles, says he “toiled through the grace of God more...zealously than them all as he ended up preaching in most of the known earth.” He was martyred in India. Read more about him in *Orthodox Saints* (HAG - - - POU), October-December, in *Stories of Saints from the Prologue* (KID STS MAN), *The Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR) and in *The Lives of the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - HOL).

St. Innocent (1797-1879) is known as an Apostle to the Americas. He was born in one of the largest cities in Siberia. He labored for 45 years working in severe weather and harsh conditions in Alaska. His efforts in composing an alphabet and grammar for the Aleut language and in studying the geography of his new homeland were instrumental in his baptizing thousands of people and building numerous churches and schools. Read more about him in *From Earth to Heaven* (HAG INN WER) and in *Saint Innocent of Alaska: Apostle and Missionary* (KID STS INN). His most famous book is *The Indication of the Way into the Kingdom of Heaven* (PAT INN). He is commemorated on the day of his repose (3/31) and the day of his glorification (10/6).