

## From the Fathers (and others):

If someone wanted to live with me, he would hear my prayers and sighs and would see the tears I shed for all my brethren. All night I pray and shout, “Lord, save all my brethren, or else blot me out as well! I don’t want Paradise if I am on my own!”

- *Elder Joseph the Hesychast*

Not trusting in yourself and not acting according to your own will and understanding is the path to humility. Without this, even though we may do good, it is not pleasing to God.

- *St. Macarius of Optina*

Whatever we don’t give to God for him to use, the other will use. For this reason, our Lord gave us the commandment to love with all our heart and soul, so the evil one won’t be able to find a place of rest within us.

- *Elder Joseph the Hesychast*

In the old days, people knew a little and understood a lot. Then they gained more knowledge which led to less understanding. And now people know a lot but understand nothing at all.

- *Archimandrite John Krestiankin*

To parents who ask what to do when their children don’t listen: Pray with faith, counsel them as much as possible with love, in a gentle way. For, forgive me, nothing good comes from being strict. This is because they will up and leave... and today we live in Sodom and Gomorrah and worse.

- *Elder Iakovos*

Faith is the foundation of the Church. For it was not of the person, but of the faith of Saint Peter of which it was said, ‘the gates of hell shall not prevail’; certainly, it is the confession of faith which has vanquished the powers of hell. Jesus Christ is the Rock. He did not deny the grace of His Name...to Peter because he borrowed from the Rock the constancy and solidity of his faith – your Rock is your faith, and faith is the foundation of the Church. If you are a Rock, you shall be in the Church, for the Church is built upon the Rock – the profession of faith is Christ Jesus.

- *Saint Ambrose of Milan (died 397 AD)*

Moved by love the apostles ran that unceasing race and cast on the whole world the fishhook and net of the word to drag it up from the deep of idolatry and bring it safe into the port of the kingdom of heaven. Moved by love the martyrs shed their blood that they might not lose Christ. Moved by it our God-bearing Fathers and teachers of the world eagerly laid down their lives for the catholic and apostolic Church.

- *Saint Symeon the New Theologian*

# St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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~ October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 ~

***Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost***

*Sixth Sunday of Luke*

*Commemoration of Averkios the Wonderworker, the Seven Holy Youths  
Martyred in Ephesus, and Bishop Eulalios*

**ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE  
MEMPHIS, TN 38107  
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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

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

**Epistle:** Galatians 1:11-19

**Gospel:** Luke 8:26-39

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.

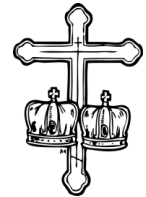
If you are from a non-Orthodox background, you may see new things such as icons, incense, the sign of the cross, the veneration of saints, and a great deal of standing. These can be perplexing to the uninitiated eye. Rest assured that everything we do has a solid biblical foundation and a long history 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 22 – 29

- Sunday** - Orthros, 9:00 am  
- Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am  
- RITI Informational Meeting, after Divine Liturgy  
- Clare Freeman & Jake Smith Wedding, 3:30 pm
- Monday** - First Hour, 6:45 am
- Tuesday** - Third Hour, 9:00 am  
- Men's Lunch, 12:00 pm  
- Orthodoxy 101, 7:00 pm
- Wednesday** - Third Hour, 9:00 am  
- Women's Teaching, 10:00 am  
- Vespers, 6:00 pm  
- Bible Study, 7:00 pm  
- Choir Rehearsal, 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** - Ninth Hour & Vespers, 5:50 pm
- Sunday** - Orthros, 9:00 am  
- Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am



### Wedding Today:

Clare Freeman & Jake Smith

### Upcoming Memorials – Oct. 29:

Dn. Sidney, 40 days

Margaret Layman, 11 years

Helen Lutrell, 26 years

## Birthdays, Anniversaries, Nameday

### **Sunday, 10/22**

*Birthday:* Margie Yarbro, Damian  
Hetrick, Emanuela Laraya

### **Monday, 10/23**

*Birthday:* Zachary A. White  
*James, Brother of our Lord:* Dn. James  
Elliott, James Elliott, Keith Harlow,  
Jamie White, Cash Wallace  
*Anniversary:* Ben & Julie Ervin

### **Tuesday, 10/24**

*St. Sebastiane:* Judy Terry

### **Wednesday, 10/25**

*Birthday:* Shirley Spears

### **Thursday, 10/26**

*Anniversary:* Jaycob & Cari Warfel

### **Friday, 10/27**

*None*

### **Saturday, 10/28**

*Birthday:* Paul Elliott

*St. Theophilus:* Thea Wallace

*Anniversary:* David & Rose McGee

## Commemorations

**Oct. 22:** Averkios the wonder-worker, equal-to-the-Apostles and bishop of Hierapolis; Seven youths (“Seven Sleepers”) martyred in Ephesos; Bishop Eulalios.

**Oct. 23:** Apostle James, brother of the Lord; Ignatios, patriarch of Constantinople; James of Borovichi, wonder-worker of Novgorod.

**Oct. 24:** Great-martyr Arethas (al-Haarith) and those with him in Arabia; Martyr Sebastian.

**Oct. 25:** Martyrs Marcian and Martyrios the notaries; Martyrs Chrisaphos and Chrisanthe; Tabitha the merciful, raised from the dead by the Apostle Peter; translation of the relics of Venerable Sabbas the Sanctified; translation of the relics of Venerable John of Beverly.

**Oct. 26:** Great-martyr Demetrios the myrrh-streaming of Thessalonika; Venerable-martyr Joasaph of Dionysiou monastery on Athos.

**Oct. 27:** Martyr Nestor of Thessalonika; Procla the wife of Pontius Pilate; Kyriakos, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Nestor the Chronicler of the Kiev Caves.

**Oct. 28:** Martyrs Terence and Neonilla and their children; Athanasios I, patriarch of Constantinople; New-martyrs Angelis, Manuael, George and Nicholas of Crete; Venerable Stephen of Mar Sabbas monastery in Palestine; Arsenios of Srem, archbishop of Serbia; Great-martyr Paraskeva of Iconium; Venerable Job of Pochaev.

**Oct. 29:** Venerable-martyr Anastasia the Roman; Venerable Abraham and his niece Mary of Mesopotamia; New-hieromartyr Athanasios of Sparta; Venerable-martyr Timothy of Esphigmenou monastery on Athos; Abraham, bishop of Rostov.

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### DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday	Galatians	1:11-19	Luke	8:26-39
Monday	Galatians	1:11-19	Matthew	13:54-58
Tuesday	Colossians	1:1-3, 7-11	Luke	11:1-10
Wednesday	Colossians	1:18-23	Luke	11:9-13
Thursday	2 Timothy	2:1-10	John	15:17-27; 16:1-2
Friday	Colossians	2:1-7	Luke	11:23-26
Saturday	Hebrews	9:1-7	Luke	10:38-42; 11:27-28
Sunday	Galatians	2:16-20	Luke	8:41-56

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## Remember in Your Prayers

**Our catechumens:** Jeff Bennett; 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:** Ashley Powell, Madison Dey, Katherine Verbist, Marija Pavlovic, Ioana Rustom

**Diocesan Seminarian:** Caleb McGee



## ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



### Welcome Fr. Stephen and Mother Beth Freeman!

This weekend we are blessed to have visitors for Clare Freeman's wedding this afternoon, including her parents. Fr. Stephen is the retired pastor of St. Anne Orthodox Church in Oak Ridge, TN. Fr. Stephen will be concelebrating with the clergy for the Liturgy. Welcome!

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

**Clare Freeman and Jake Smith Wedding – Today!** – The Sacrament of Marriage will be celebrated this afternoon at 3:30 pm. All are welcome at the Wedding Ceremony. The Reception is limited to invitations. May the Lord God bless them with many years!

**Orthodoxy 101** will next meet this Tuesday, October 24th, at 7pm. The topic will be *Sources of Tradition*. All are welcome to attend either in person or via Zoom.

**Choir Rehearsal** – The next choir rehearsal will be this Wednesday, October 25th, at 7pm.

### Trunk or Treat at Annunciation – This Saturday, October 28

All are invited to attend Annunciation's Trunk or Treat celebration this Saturday, October 28th, at 10am. There will be fun activities and prizes! Families are also welcome to decorate a trunk! See the weekly email for more details. Please RSVP to Allison Vinograd at 901-486-6214.

**Parish Council Update** – The Parish Council met on Tuesday evening, October 17. The major discussion focused on the pledge drive, which began this week, and on preparations for Bishop Nicholas's visit and the budget for 2024. Please fill out the pledge card along with the talent survey! May God guide our council and the work of the Church!

**Bishop NICHOLAS Visit! – Save the Date!** – He will be visiting Memphis the weekend of November 10-12. Please view the insert for more details!

### Chili Cook-Off! – Saturday, November 11! – Save the Date!

Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, after an early Vespers, we'll be celebrating our annual Fall Fest and Chili Cook-Off. If you think your chili can take first place, enter to win a prize! There will be games, face painting, and more for the kids. Non-scary costumes are welcome. If you'd like to donate candy, please leave it in the bucket in the fellowship hall. Be on the lookout for sign ups! Contact Brandon Maas if you have questions.

**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) 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, 10/22 - No Youth Group – Prayer Secret Santa

**Next Week:**  
Sunday, 10/29 - Service Project - Greenline Cleanup (Lunch Provided), 1-3pm  
Please bring a rake if you have one.

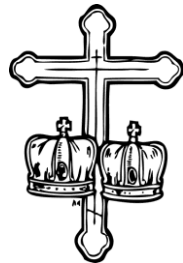
## Women of St. John Calendar

**10/25 (Wed.) AWSJ Teaching, 10am** – Women’s Teaching will meet via Zoom this week to discuss *A Voice for Our Time* by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann.

**11/4 (Sat.) Pan Orthodox Women’s Retreat, 9am-2pm (Jackson, MS)** – The AWSJ have been invited to attend the 2023 Pan Orthodox Women’s Retreat featuring guest speaker Dr. Jeannie Constantinou. The event will be held at Holy Trinity - St. John the Theologian Greek Orthodox Church (5725 Pear Orchard Rd, Jackson, MS, 39211) on Saturday, November 4th, from 9am-2pm. Registration is \$30 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. To register, please visit [holytrinityphiloptochos.com](http://holytrinityphiloptochos.com) (registration due November 1<sup>st</sup>).

**11/6 (Mon.) AWSJ Book Club, 7pm** – The Women’s Book Club will next meet on Monday, Nov. 6 at Pamela Mashburn’s home at 7pm. We will be discussing *Still Life* by Louise Penny. All are welcome to join, even if you have not read the book! Please RSVP to Pamela if you are planning to attend. We would love to see you! Bring a snack to share!  
As a reminder, this will be the last Book Club meeting this year, and the group will also be selecting titles for next year’s Book Club. We would love to hear your recommendations, even if you can’t commit to be present on the day your book is discussed. Both religious and secular books are welcome, as well as best-sellers.

New faces are always welcome, so even if you’ve never been to Book Club before, we would love to hear your thoughts and would love to see you there when your schedule permits! It is such a great way to meet new people and get to know one another.



## ***Sacrament of Holy Matrimony for Clare Freeman & Jake Smith***

*Sunday, October 22nd  
3:30 in the afternoon*

All are welcome at the Wedding Ceremony.  
The Reception is limited to invitations.

## **LIBRARY UPDATE!!**

The library databases have been updated! Remember you can find books in the print catalogues by their titles, authors, and/or subjects. And they are on the church website so you can search the holdings at home!

## **LIBRARY LINES**

Asleep for 200 years! Our Holy Tradition passes down accounts of events that defy the natural order of the world. The Seven Sleepers of Ephesus (10/22 and 8/4) retreated in a cave to pray and fast in preparation for martyrdom. The pagan emperor had the cave sealed, and God preserved the youths, asleep for over 200 years. The Mystery of the Resurrection was shown to all when their cave was discovered and the sleepers were found alive at a period in history when heretics denied the physical resurrection.

Is the St. James (10/23) we honor Monday the author of the Epistle of St. James? Is he related to Jesus? Is he an Apostle? No, yes and yes. He was a son of St. Joseph the Betrothed. Like Jesus, he was a Nazarene. When his “brother” began his ministry, he believed in Him. St. James was the first bishop of Jerusalem and was martyred in 63 A.D. by being thrown from a roof and then stoned. See *The Lives of the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - HOL), *The Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR), and *Notes on the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - MAS) for information about his life.

Tuesday we honor the *Joy of All Who Sorrow* icon of the Theotokos (10/24). In it, she is surrounded by flowers and scenes in which the faithful are traveling, suffering in sickness and old age, and enduring other storms of life. Many icons of the Theotokos have their own feast days. Read about them in *Icons of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary and Prayers for her Intercessions* (ART ICO KHO).

Wednesday we commemorate St. Tabitha (10/25), also known as Dorcas, who was raised from the dead by St. Peter. Her icon depicts women surrounding her bier and showing to the Apostle the many garments she had sewed for them. She lived out her faith by showing her love in very practical ways to those around her. Read more about her in *Christ in His Saints* (HAG - - - REA).

Friday we commemorate St. Prokla (10/27). According to the website of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Fort Myers, Florida, "Holy Tradition tells us that she was the wife of Pontius Pilate. She makes a brief appearance in the story of our Lord’s Passion, as she tries to convince her husband to release Jesus. 'Have nothing to do with that just Man,' she begs, 'for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him.' After His Resurrection, Prokla became one of the Lord’s disciples." Read more about her in *Married Saints of the Church* (HAG - - - MOS).

We owe a great debt to literary giants such as the Venerable Bede and Eusebius who recorded the lives of the martyrs and the wisdom of the fathers and mothers of the Church. Among these writers was also the Venerable Nestor the Chronicler of the Kiev Caves (10/27). In the 1080s he wrote the "Account about the Life and Martyrdom of the Blessed Passion Bearers Boris and Gleb." His greatest task was compiling *The Russian Primary Chronicle* from a wide network of sources. St. Nestor said, "Great is the benefit of book learning for books point out and teach us the way to repentance, since from the words of books we discover wisdom and temperance. This is the stream, watering the universe, from which springs wisdom. In books is a boundless depth, by them we are comforted in sorrows, and they are a bridle for moderation. If you enter diligently into the books of wisdom, then you shall discover great benefit for your soul. Therefore, the one who reads books converses with God or the saints."