

### **From the Fathers (and others):**

No matter how just your words may be, you ruin everything when you speak with anger.

- *St. John Chrysostom*

A friend is more to be longed for than the light; I speak of a genuine one. And wonder not: for it were better for us that the sun should be extinguished, than that we should be deprived of friends; better to live in darkness, than to be without friends.

- *St. John Chrysostom*

Behold, thou art made whole; sin no more. Experience proves that sins and passions destroy the health of the soul and the body, whilst the victory over the passions affords heavenly tranquility and health both of the soul and the body.

- *St. John of Kronstadt*

... we must most carefully look after the field of our heart, lest the tares of evil, slothfulness, luxuriousness, self-indulgence, unbelief, avarice, envy, hatred, and others, should grow within it; we must daily weed the field of our heart, at least, at morning and evening prayers, and refresh it by salutary sighs, as by healthful winds, and water it with abundant tears, as by early and late rain. Besides this, we must by every means implant in the field of our heart the seeds of the virtues, faith, hope in God, and love for God and our neighbor, fertilize it with prayer, patience, good works, and not for a single hour remain in complete idleness and inactivity, for in times of idleness and inactivity the enemy zealously sows his tares. 'While men slept, the enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way' (Mt. 13:25).

- *St. John of Kronstadt*

Water and blood came forth from the side of the crucified Christ when it was pierced by the lance of a soldier. These two sources did not spring forth simply by chance but precisely because the Church is composed of both these elements, and as those who prepare for Baptism well know, they are reborn through water and nurtured with the Body and Blood of Christ. Hence do the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) have their source and beginning.

- *Saint John Chrysostom*

Let the strong take care of the weak; let the weak respect the strong. Let the rich man minister to the poor man; let the poor man give thanks to God that he gave him one through whom his need might be satisfied.

- *Saint Clement of Rome*

# **St. John Orthodox Church**

**A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America**

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~ October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 ~

***Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost***

*Seventh Sunday of Luke*

*Commemoration of Venerable Martyr Anastasia the Roman, Venerable Abraham and his niece Mary of Mesopotamia, New Hieromartyr Athanasios of Sparta*

**ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
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**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

## ST. JOHN CALENDAR

October 29 – November 5

- Sunday** - Orthros, 9:00 am  
- Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am
- Monday** - First Hour, 6:45 am
- Tuesday** - Third Hour, 9:00 am  
- Men’s Lunch, 12:00 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** - Orthros for St. Raphael of Brooklyn, 8:00 am  
- Divine Liturgy for St. Raphael of Brooklyn, 9:00 am  
- Byzantine Chant Class, 4:30pm  
- Ninth Hour & Vespers, 5:50 pm
- Sunday** - Orthros, 9:00 am  
- Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am

**Today’s Memorials:**  
Dn. Sidney, 40 days  
Margaret Layman, 11 years  
Helen Lutrell, 26 years

**Upcoming Churching – Nov. 5:**  
Carole and Lincoln Spearman

## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Epistle:** Galatians 2:16-20

**Gospel:** Luke 8:41-56

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by Dn. Charles McKelroy.

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.

## Birthdays, Anniversaries, Nameday

### Sunday, 10/29

*Birthday:* J. Morgan Harter,  
Austin Brown, Emmelia Finley  
*St. Anastasia of Rome:* Nancy Ingram

### Monday, 10/30

*Birthday:* Kim Boone  
*St. Zenobia:* Sarah Hodges

### Tuesday, 10/31

*None*

### Wednesday, 11/1

*Birthday:* Margaret McKelroy  
*St. Damian:* Damian Hetrick

### Thursday, 11/2

*Birthday:* Edmund Knight

### Friday, 11/3

*Birthday:* Emmelia Sanderlin,  
Kh. Martha Berge, Nathan Kurtz

### Saturday, 11/4

*Birthday:* Ioana Rustom, Zeke Yarbro,  
Angelina Pavlovic  
*St. Raphael of Brooklyn:* Mitchell  
Childress, Justin Hagemeyer

## Commemorations

**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.

**Oct. 30:** Martyrs Zenobios, bishop of Aegae, and his sister Zenobia in Cilicia; Apostles Cleopas and Artemas of the Seventy; Venerable Joseph and Kyriakos, patriarchs of Constantinople; Therapont and John the wonder-workers; Milutin, Serbian king.

**Oct. 31:** Apostles Stachios, Apellos, Amplias, Urban, Aristoboulos and Narcissos of the Seventy; Martyr Epimachos of Alexandria; New-martyr Nicholas of Chios.

**Nov. 1:** The holy wonder-working unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian of Mesopotamia and their mother Theodota; Venerable-martyr James and his disciples James the deacon and Dionysios of Prodromou Skete on Athos; Venerable David.

**Nov. 2:** Martyrs Akindinos, Pegasios, Aphthonios, Elpidophoros and Anempodistos of Persia.

**Nov. 3:** Martyrs Akepsimas the bishop, Joseph the priest and Aeithalas the deacon of Persia; dedication of the church of the Great-martyr George the trophy-bearer in Lydda; Hieromartyr George of Neapolis.

**Nov. 4:** Venerable Ioanikios the Great; Hieromartyrs Nicander the bishop of Myra and Hermas the priest; Martyr Porphyrios; Emperor John the merciful.

**Nov. 5:** Martyrs Galaktion and Epistima of Homs; Apostles Hermas, Linos, Gaios, Patrobas and Philogos of the Seventy; Hieromartyr Pamphilos; Jonah, bishop of Novgorod.

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### DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday	Galatians	2:16-20	Luke	8:41-56
Monday	Colossians	2:13-20	Luke	11:29-33
Tuesday	Romans	16:1-16	Luke	11:34-41
Wednesday	1 Corinthians	12:27-31; 13:1-8	Matthew	10:1, 5-8
Thursday	Colossians	4:2-9	Luke	11:47-54; 12:1
Friday	Colossians	4:10-18	Luke	12:2-12
Saturday	2 Corinthians	5:1-10	Luke	9:1-6
Sunday	Galatians	6:11-18	Luke	16:19-31

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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



**Orthodoxy 101** will next meet on Tuesday, November 7th, at 7pm. The topic will be *Creation*. All are welcome to attend either in person or via Zoom.

### Byzantine Chant Class – This Saturday, November 4

Our next Byzantine Chant class is this Saturday, November 4, at 4:30pm. We just started Tone 5, so if you have not joined us yet and would like to do so, please join now! All are welcome! Please reach out to Ted (ted@stjohnmemphis.org) if you have any questions! We hope you can join us!

**Parish Council Update** – It's that time of year again! There are pledge cards available in the Narthex. Included this year is a talent survey. The hope is to have an understanding of resources of the Church, both financial and physical. This way we can know where and how to expand our ministry offerings. Please take a moment to prayerfully fill out both the financial pledge and the talent survey! Thank you for all of your continued support of the work of the Church!

**Bishop NICHOLAS Visit! – Save the Date!** – He will be visiting Memphis the weekend of November 10-12. The current schedule of events includes:

#### Saturday, November 11:

4:30 pm - Vespers  
5:30 pm - Chili Cook-Off  
7:30 pm - Young Adult Discussion

#### Sunday, November 12:

9:00 am - Orthros  
10:00 am - Divine Liturgy  
Pot-Luck Following the Divine Liturgy  
Teen Event with Bishop NICHOLAS

#### Tuesday, November 14:

12:00 pm - Men's Lunch at Dino's with Bishop NICHOLAS  
6:00-8:00 pm - Women's Gathering w/ Bishop NICHOLAS in St. Raphael Hall (Food provided)

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

Saturday, November 11th, 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.

**The Sons of Thunder Men's Book Club** will meet at 6pm at the church on Sunday, November 19, to discuss St. Gregory of Nyssa's *The Life of Moses*. All men are welcome. Please bring a dish and drinks to share.

## **St. John Youth**

### **Today:**

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

### **This Week:**

Saturday, 11/4 - St. Raphael Hike & Lunch after Liturgy, TBD  
Sunday, 11/5 - No Youth Group – Prayer Secret Santa (Subject to change)

### **Looking Ahead:**

Saturday, 11/11 - Early Vespers & Chili Cook-Off, 4:30pm  
Sunday, 11/12 - Bishop NICHOLAS Visit – Activity TBD  
Sunday, 11/19 - Service Project – Pass out Thanksgiving Meals to the Hungry, 1-3pm  
(Lunch Provided)  
Sunday, 11/26 - Discussion & Donuts (Lunch Provided), 12:30-2:30pm  
Parish Grizzlies Game, 5:00pm

## **Women of St. John Calendar**

**11/1 (Wed.) AWSJ Teaching, 10am** – Women’s Teaching will meet in person 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 on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Registration is \$30 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. To register, please visit [holytrinityphilooptochos.com](http://holytrinityphilooptochos.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.

**11/14 (Tues.) Women’s Gathering with Bishop NICHOLAS, 6-8pm** – Join us for food and fellowship with Bishop Nicholas in the fellowship hall! He will give a short talk on fasting at the end of the evening. We hope to see you all before the Nativity fast begins!

**Third Hour Prayer & Fellowship (Fridays), 9am** – Each Friday a group of moms and kids are gathering at the church to attend Third Hour prayers followed by a time of fellowship. About once a month we will have an activity related to the Liturgical calendar for the kids to do - some weeks we are meeting with Fr. Philip to ask questions, and most weeks we are just enjoying time together. For now we are using the monthly Liturgical printable from *Ascetic Life of Motherhood* to guide our activities and discussions. Although this is geared toward homeschool families and young kids, any and all are welcome to join us! Please reach out to Heather Hetrick with any questions.

## **LIBRARY LINES**

This week we honor two sets of sibling saints. As often occurs in our Tradition, they were offspring of pious parents. Sts. Zenobios and Zenobia (10/30) lived during the 3rd century in the reign of the emperor Diocletian, a great persecutor of Christians. Upon seeing him tortured, his sister, Zenobia, confessed her faith to the governor and joined him in martyrdom. They were beheaded after much suffering and buried in a single grave. Take a look at their icons on our balcony.

Father John Kochurov was the first clergyman to be martyred in the Russian Revolution. He was born in Russia in 1871, graduated from seminary, married and was assigned to work in the United States. He labored establishing churches and caring for many Russian immigrants in Chicago and the Midwest. In 1907 he returned to Russia near St. Petersburg. He was arrested and shot by the Bolsheviks in 1917. Read more about him in *Portraits of American Saints* (HAG - - - GRA).

Sts. Cosmos and Damian (11/1) belong to a group of saints known as the Holy Unmercenaries, pious physicians known for their powers of healing. These powers could truly be called gifts because these men vowed never to charge anyone they cured. Actually, there were about twelve men given this designation; among them three sets of brothers named Cosmos and Damian and two sets named Cyrus and John. All of the Church’s hymns to these men praise them with words that speak to us, “Freely ye have received, freely give.”

Once, St. Damian healed a seriously ill woman. In gratitude, she offered him a gift in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He did not refuse her in honor of the Trinity. When St. Cosmos, from his deathbed, heard that his brother had accepted a gift, he thought St. Damian had accepted a payment and said that he should not be buried beside him. Shortly afterward, St. Damian died. Before his burial, a camel, which the saints had healed, miraculously spoke and declared that St. Damian had received the woman’s gift in respect for the Trinity. Their relics are buried together in Mesopotamia, and the saints continue to heal after their deaths. These saints died in the late 3rd century. For more information on these two saints, see *The Encyclopedia of Major Saints and Fathers* (HAG - - - ELE) on p. 25 and *Forty Saints* (HAG - - - SAO) on p. 70.

Wednesday we also commemorate 4<sup>th</sup> century saints, Kyriaina and Juliana (11/1). They were semi-literate women who cared for widows and orphans from their own funds and resourcefulness. The governor of their province placed them under arrest, tortured them, and burned them alive.

St. Raphael (11/4) was born in 1860 in Syria. He was an excellent scholar and rose steadily in the ranks of the Church, being ordained to the priesthood in 1889. While in graduate school in Moscow he began his life-long ministry to the Syrian people in Russia and later serving them in New York City and then throughout the northeast, Canada and Mexico. He reposed on February 27, 1915. See his icons in our nave and in the parish hall. Read more about him in *Our Father Among the Saints, Raphael of Brooklyn* (HAG RAP AOC), *Historical Glance at the Brotherhood of the Holy Sepulchre* (PAT RAP), *101 Orthodox Saints* (KID STS WRI), and *Portraits of American Saints* (HAG- - -GRA).