

From the Fathers (and others):

Let everybody know this. He shall be assigned to the place and to the service to which he gave and devoted himself in this life and he can be sure that in eternity he will have as his lot the service and the companionship which he preferred in this life.

St. John Cassian

“The good God has given them a share in His own Image, that is, in our Lord Jesus Christ, and has made even themselves after the same Image and Likeness. Why? Simply in order that through this gift of God-likeness in themselves they may be able to perceive the Image Absolute, that is the Word Himself, and through Him to apprehend the Father; which knowledge of their Maker is for men the only really happy and blessed life.”

Athanasius the Great (On the Incarnation)

If we keep remembering the wrongs which men have done us, we destroy the power of remembrance of God. But if we remind ourselves of the evil deeds of the demons, we shall be invulnerable.

St Makarios the Great

Humility is the only virtue that no devil can imitate. If pride made demons out of angels, there is no doubt that humility could make angels out of demons.

St John Climacus

When during prayer no conceptual image of anything worldly disturbs your mind, then know that you are within the realm of dispassion.

St Maximos the Confessor

Let us be satisfied simply with what sustains our present life, not with what pampers it.

St Maximos the Confessor

Have you stumbled? Arise. Have you sinned? Cease. Do not stand in the way of sinners, but spring away.

St Basil the Great

May we never risk the life of our souls by being resentful or bearing grudges.

St Gregory of Nyssa

Throw out of your head the idea that you can, through a comfortable life, become what you must be in Christ.

Theophan the Recluse

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



~ January 27, 2019 ~

Recovery of the Relics of St. John Chrysostom

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

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all 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 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

Recovery of the Relics of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle: Hebrews 7:26-28, 8:1-2

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Judy Terry**.

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

January 27 – Feb. 3 (Fast: Wed & Fri.)

Sunday -NO Teen Group
Monday -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
Tuesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Dino's
-Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., Divine Liturgy
Wednesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Parish Meal, 5:30 p.m.
-Teen Group, 5:30 p.m.
-Teaching, 6:15 p.m., Daily Cycle of Services continued
-Small Compline, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
Friday -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.
-Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m.
-Retreat Introduction & hors d'oeuvres, 7:00 p.m.
Saturday -**Divine Liturgy for the Presentation, 9:00 a.m.**
-Parish Retreat, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
-Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
Sunday -**Church School & Orthros, 9:00 a.m.**
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**

Upcoming Baptisms

Gwen Verbist, February 16

Philip Turner, February 23

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, February 3, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip

HOLY BREAD: Trish Ratliff

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, February 3, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip

READER: John Cameron

USHER: Dan O'Brien

HOLY BREAD: Ann Pashchinskaya

ALTAR SERVERS: Max, Elijah B., Brody, Dashiell, volunteer

COFFEE HOUR: Gary & Cindy Karnaghon, Anna Pashchinskaya

COMMEMORATIONS

January 27: The translation of the relics of John Chrysostom; Marciana the empress; New-martyr Demetrios of Constantinople; Venerable Clement.

January 28: Venerable Ephraim the Syrian; Venerable Palladios of Antioch; Martyr Charita; Venerable Theodosios of Totma; Isaac the Syrian, bishop of Ninevah.

January 29: The translation of the relics of Ignatios the God-bearer of Antioch; New-martyr Demetrios of Chios.

January 30: The three great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; Hieromartyr Hippolytos, pope of Rome; Virgin-martyr Chrissa of Rome; New-martyr Theodore of Mitylene; Julian, priest of Aegina.

January 31: Unmercenaries Cyros and John; Martyrs Athanasia of Egypt and her daughters Theodota, Theoktiste and Eudoxia; Martyr Papias of Corinth; New-martyr Elias; Nikita of the Kiev Caves, bishop of Novgorod.

February 1: Martyr Tryphon of Syria; Martyr Perpetua of Carthage and her four companions; Basil the Confessor, archbishop of Thessalonika; New-martyr Anastasios of Anaplos; Venerable David and Simeon; Venerable Bridget of Ireland.

February 2: The Meeting of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Martyr Agathodoros of Cappadocia; New-martyrs Jordan of Trebizond and Gabriel of Constantinople.

February 3: Holy and Righteous Simeon the God-receiver and Anna the Prophetess; New-martyrs Nicholas, Stamatios and John of Spetson; Anschar, enlightener of Denmark and Sweden; Nicholas, equal-to-the-Apostles, bishop and evangelizer of Japan; James, archbishop of Serbia.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS			Jan. 27 – Feb. 3	
Sunday	Hebrews	7:26-28; 8:1-2	Luke	19:1-10
Monday	Galatians	5:22-26; 6:1-2	Luke	6:17-23
Tuesday	Hebrews	10:32-38	Mark	9:33-41
Wednesday	Hebrews	13:7-16	Matt	5:14-19
Thursday	1 Corinthians	12:27-31; 13:1-8	Matt	10:1, 5-8
Friday	Romans	8:28-39	Luke	10:19-21
Saturday	Hebrews	7:7-17	Luke	2:22-40
Sunday	2 Corinthians	6:1-10	Matt	25:14-30

Pray for our catechumen: Frank Pompa, Sharon Woelm-Taylor

Please remember in your prayers – Sister Olga , Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Nicholas Hill, Leah Shull (pregnant), Ashley Powell (pregnant), Sarah Elliott (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Dot Lawson (Pam Bowick’s mother & Lawson’s grandmother), Lisa Catlett (Fr. Don & Kh. Martha’s daughter), Chris Hodges, Mickey Hodges, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



Theophany House Blessings – The sign-up sheet for house blessings can be found on the downstairs in the parish hall. Choose all times slots that are convenient for your family. Fr. Philip will then schedule accordingly and contact you with the actual date and time of your blessing.

Catechumen/Inquirers Class –Tuesday, January 29 at 7:00 p.m. Catechumen/Inquirers class is open to anyone interested in learning more about our faith whether you are brand new, catechumen, or long-time member. The next session will focus on the Divine Liturgy.

Parish Retreat – Examining the Telos of the Parish - "Telos" means fulfillment or completion. This wonderfully timed parish retreat will focus on how the work of the parish is completed or fulfilled. Our Church has different organizations and different age groups all doing different things. How can they be brought together? What is the focus of the parish? What role do each of the groups play in the parish community? Join us as we hear the answers to some of these questions from Kh. Jenny Mosher, the director of the Telos Project at Hellenic College. Kh. Jenny is also a trained catechist in the Catechism of the Good Shepherd Program.

Don't let childcare be a hindrance to your attendance, let us know and child care will be provided both Friday evening and Saturday afternoon!

There is an online registration on the homepage of the website. Everyone is welcome and there is no cost, but we will need to have an idea of attendees for set up, meal and childcare purposes. Thank you!

Opportunities –Check the white board downstairs to see which date works for your family to host **coffee hour** or to pick up **Wednesday night meals**.

Parish Council Update – You might have noticed the addition of changing tables in the restrooms in the St Raphael Hall and the unisex restroom downstairs. Thank God! Lord willing, these will be helpful for parents. The Church is in the middle of transitioning to new accounting software and new directory and communication software. Lord willing, the new software will continue to help the Church with communication and efficient management. Thank you for your patience during the transition! The next council meeting will be Feb. 12.

Dinner & a Show

Friday, February 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$15/adults & \$5/children 3+

Theme: Western

There will once again be talent, an auction, and bake sale.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Dinner: chefs, kitchen help (receive/set out food, clean up) – Thea Wallace, coordinator
- Décor: set-up/take-down – Justin Bowles, coordinator
- Auction/Bake Sale: donations, auction runner – Caitlyn Maas, coordinator
- Talent – Bill Stanek, coordinator

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 1/27:** Williams Maas, Alex Klimkowski, John Agnew
Monday, 1/28: Fadi Ibrahim
St. Ephraim: Lawson Bowick
Wednesday, 1/30: Adam Sanderlin
Friday, 2/1: Julie Hight, Milana Kumar
Saturday, 2/2: Trish Ratliff

Teen Group This Week

Sunday, No Teen Group
Wednesday,
5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Upcoming:

Fri., Feb. 8, 6:00 p.m.
Memphis Escape Room

Young Adults Calendar

Sunday, Feb. 3 – Brunch with
Jenny Mosher, 12:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 11 - “Defeating
Debt” with Dn. Tim Mashburn, 6:00
p.m.

Women of St. John Calendar

- Mon., 2/4** **AWSJ Book Club** – 7:00 p.m., Kh. Pamela’s home. We will be discussing *Copy Boy* by Vince Vawter. The 2019 book list can be found on the website for those interested. Parish – AWSJ – Book Club
Thurs., 2/7 **Women’s Teaching** - 10:00 a.m., Judy Terry’s home. We are studying “Prayer: Encounter with the Living God” by Met. Hilarion



The AWSJ invites the Women of St. John to a Baby Shower honoring
Leah Shull

Saturday, February 9 at 1:00 p.m. at Reem Mansour’s home

Leah and Ben are expecting twin boys! Let’s shower them with the love of St. John.

- Leah is registered at Amazon.com.
- If you would like to contribute to the group gift, please contact Sarah Finley.
 - Contact Reem Mansour if you would like to help in any other way.

Library Lines

Have you scheduled your house blessing yet? Do you know how to make it ready? What does the Incarnation have to do with this beautiful tradition? Visit St. John Library and look at *A Guide to Greek Traditions and Customs in America* (CAT GEN ROU), *Making God Real in the Orthodox Christian Home* (SPR FAM CON) and “The House Blessing” in *Road to Emmaus*, summer 2000, p. 26.

Several times a day throughout Lent we repeat the prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian (1/28). He was a contemporary of St. Basil the Great who wanted to ordain him to the priesthood. Ephraim refused considering himself unworthy. In his youth he had a reputation for fighting because of his quick temper. He turned his life around and went to live with the hermits, becoming a disciple of St. James of Nisibis. The saint saw promise in the young man and took him with him to the First Ecumenical Council in 325. St. Ephraim was given the gift of teaching. He became a strict ascetic and continually studied the Scriptures. Besides his famous Lenten prayer, he wrote a commentary on the Penateuch and prayers to the Holy Trinity, the Son of God and the Most Holy Theotokos. He also composed hymns for the Twelve Great Feasts of the Lord and funeral hymns. Look in St. John Library for his *Hymns On Paradise* and *A Spiritual Psalter*; both have the same spine code (PAT EPH).

John and Cyrus (1/31), two of the twenty Holy Unmercenaries, are commemorated this week. All of these men were physicians or pious men who were given the gift of healing. They never charged anyone and healed many of physical, mental and spiritual illnesses. Whenever we sing their hymns, we repeat the words, “Freely ye have received; freely give.” These words inspire us to share God’s mercy and goodness. St. John was a soldier who became a follower of St. Cyrus, a noted physician. They encouraged those who were to be martyred for Christ and were, in turn, martyred themselves. Their intercessions are asked for those who have trouble sleeping.

There are many stories of another Holy Unmercenary, St. Tryphon, (2/1) the goseherd. My favorite is one that tells of his casting a demon out of the Emperor Gordian’s daughter. He was rewarded with many gifts which he gave away. He returned to his village, tended his geese and lived a life of prayer. He was beheaded in 250, and his intercessions are asked for people and their animals. A few years ago, our homeschoolers wrote and illustrated a book about him. It’s in the display area. (KID STS TRY).

Nearly everyone at St. John knows St. Brigid (2/1) is the patron of our food pantry. She was the daughter of an Irish chieftain and his slave. Her father put her in charge of his sheep and of his dairy and kitchen. God blessed her pantry, causing it to overflow so she could give bread, butter and milk to the poor. She became a nun and her monastery was the first in Ireland for women. Stories are told of her weaving crosses from rushes to comfort the sick. She died peacefully in 525 and was said to be buried in the same grave as Sts. Patrick and Columba of Iona.

St. Perpetua (2/1), her infant, brothers, and servants were imprisoned for being Christians. Her father tried in vain to get her to renounce Christ for her baby’s sake. She and her companions were catechumens and were baptized in prison. Her servant, Felicitas was eight months pregnant and rejoiced when she delivered her child because pregnant women could not be executed. The child was adopted by a Christian woman. The group was mauled by animals and then killed by the sword. Their visions in prison and events leading up to their deaths were actually written down by Perpetua and Felicitas. This is the earliest surviving record written by a Christian woman. A rose has been named for Perpetua and Felicitas, and two historical novels have even been written about them. Read more about them in *Married Saints of the Church* (HAG - - - MOS).

Saturday is the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, and we remember St. Simeon’s words to the Theotokos, “... Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” We commemorate also this day the *Softener of Evil Hearts* icon which shows the heart of the Theotokos pierced by seven arrows. You’ll find this icon on the bulletin board along with an excerpt of the *Akathist to the Mother of God, Softener of Evil Hearts*. See also *Icons of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary and Prayers for Her Intercession* (ART ICO KHO). See these children’s books about this feast: *Mary, the Mother of Jesus* (KID STS MAR), *Illustrated Life of the Theotokos for Children* (KID STS MAR), *Story of Mary: the Mother of God*, (KID STS MAR) and *Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple*, (KID CHU ELA).