

From the Fathers (and others):

Since the author of our salvation did not travel by the path of glory and luxury, but by that of dishonor and hardships, we must do likewise without complaining if we are to reach the same place and share in the Divine Glory. But, what honor shall we receive if we refuse to endure sufferings like those of our Master?

St. Cyril of Alexandria

Let us not grieve when we make a slip, but when we become hardened in it. For even the perfect often slip, but to be hardened in the same slip means utter death.

From the monks Callistus and Ignatius

Those who are superficial, and who have not yet grasped the precise degree to which the divine energy is active in them, think they have been delivered once and for all from sin; but those who are intelligent and possess discrimination would not deny that, though God's grace dwells within them, they may also be harassed by shameful and unnatural thoughts...dark air or mist suddenly rising may obscure the sun's light even when it is shining brightly; in a similar manner those who, although enjoying God's grace, have not yet been completely purified and in their depths are still under the sway of sin, may also be suddenly overcome by darkness. Truly, it needs great discrimination to perceive these things in one's actual experience in a foolproof way.

St. Makarios of Egypt

Those who are superficial, and who have not yet grasped the precise degree to which the divine energy is active in them, think they have been delivered once and for all from sin; but those who are intelligent and possess discrimination would not deny that, though God's grace dwells within them, they may also be harassed by shameful and unnatural thoughts...dark air or mist suddenly rising may obscure the sun's light even when it is shining brightly; in a similar manner those who, although enjoying God's grace, have not yet been completely purified and in their depths are still under the sway of sin, may also be suddenly overcome by darkness. Truly, it needs great discrimination to perceive these things in one's actual experience in a foolproof way.

St. Makarios of Egypt

Since the day of judgment will be one of fire, what each of us has done, as St. Paul says, will be tested by fire. Thus, if what we have built up is of an incorruptible nature, it will not be destroyed by fire, and not only will it not be consumed, but it will be made radiant, totally purified of whatever small amount of filth may adhere to it. But if the work with which we have burdened ourselves consists of corruptible matter, it will be consumed and burn up and we will be left destitute in the midst of the fire.

Nikitas Stithatos, Philokalia

I think that one must approach the Logos Savior, not induced by the fear of punishment and not in the expectation of some kind of a reward, but primarily for the sake of the good in itself. Such will stand on the right in the sanctuary.

St. Clement of Alexandria

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



~ January 6, 2019 ~
Theophany of our Lord,
God and Savior Jesus Christ

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

www.stjohnmemphis.org

www.orthodoxtupelo.com

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

Theophany

Epistle: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

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

January 6 – 13 (Fast: Wed & Fri.)

- Sunday** - Teen Group
Monday - First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- AWSJ Book Club, 7:00 p.m., Kh. Pamela's home
Tuesday - Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Parish Council, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday - Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Parish Meal, 5:30 p.m.
- Teaching, 6:15 p.m., Time & Liturgy
- Small Compline, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday - Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- AWSJ Teaching, 10:00 a.m.
Friday - First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.
Saturday - Bible Study, 4:30 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 Churchings

Jan. 20 Lavinia and Philip

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, January 13, 10:00 a.m.

- PRIEST:** Fr. Philip
READER: Matt Spinolo
USHER: Ervin Romero
HOLY BREAD:
ALTAR SERVERS: Zach, Nicholas, Eli, Gabe
COFFEE HOUR: Young Adults

COMMEMORATIONS

January 6: The Theophany of our Lord Jesus Christ. Venerable Makarios Makris of Vatopedi monastery on Athos and Pantocratoros monastery in Constantinople.

January 7: The synaxis of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; Julian the deacon; Hieromartyr Romanos; New-martyr Athanasios of Attalia; Venerable Brannock of Braunton.

January 8: Venerable George the Chozebite; Venerable Agathonos of Egypt; Venerable Domnica of Constantinople and Venerable Makarios; Emilianos the Confessor, bishop of Kyzikos; Martyr Theophilos the deacon of Libya; Cyros and Atticos, patriarchs of Constantinople; New-martyr Kyran; Venerable Gregory of the Kiev Caves.

January 9: Martyr Polyeuktos of Armenia; Venerable Eustratios the wonderworker; New-martyr Parthenas; Philip, metropolitan of Moscow.

January 10: Gregory, bishop of Nyssa; Marcian the priest of Constantinople; Dometian, bishop of Melitene; Venerable Paul of Obnora; Bishop Theophan the Recluse.

January 11: Theodosios the Great, the head of monasteries in Palestine; Venerable Theodosios of Philotheou monastery on Athos; Venerable Agapios of Apamea in Syria; Venerable Michael of Klops, fool-for-Christ.

January 12: Martyr Tatiana of Rome and those with her; Virgin-martyr Euthasia; Martyr Mertios of Mauretania; repose of Venerable Sabbas of Hilandar monastery on Athos, first archbishop of Serbia.

January 13: Martyrs Hermylos and Stratonikos of Belgrade; Martyrs Pachomios and Papyrinos of Greece; Venerable Maximos Kafsokalyvitis of Athos; Venerable Eleazar of Anzersk Island; Hilary, bishop of Poitiers.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jan. 6 - 13

Sunday	Titus	2:11-14; 3:4-7	Matt	3:13-17
Monday	Acts	19:1-8	John	1:29 - 34
Tuesday	Romans	6:3-11	John	3:22-33
Wednesday	2 Timothy	2:1-10	Mark	1:9-15
Thursday	Ephesians	4:7-13	Luke	3:19-22
Friday	Hebrews	13:7-16	Matt	5:14-19
Saturday	Ephesians	6:10-17	Matt	4:1-11
Sunday	Ephesians	4:7-13	Matt	4:12-17



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), 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, 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 table downstairs across from the elevator. Please 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 – Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 15 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 Orthodoxy and the End Times.

Bible Study – The bible study on the book of Ephesians, led by Dn. Sidney, will resume on Jan. 12, at 4:30 p.m.

Parish Retreat – Join us on Feb. 1 & 2 for a parish retreat, “Examining the Telos of the Parish,” led by Jenny Mosher of Hellenic College. See the bulletin insert for details.

Welcome Team – The Welcome Team is reorganizing! If you are interested in the vital ministry of welcoming our visitors and new faces during coffee hour, please contact Gary Karnaghon for more information on how you can help.

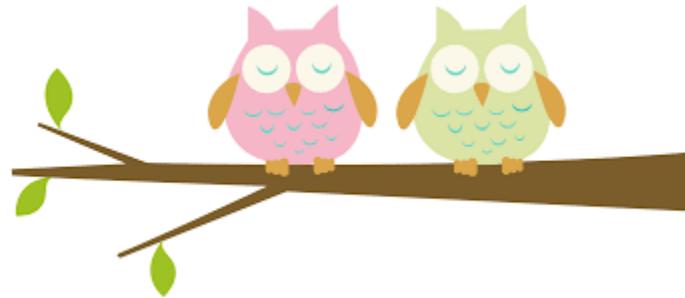
Annual Parish Business Meeting, NEXT Sunday, January 13 following liturgy. Please make every effort to attend.

Sons of Thunder Men’s Book Club – The men will meet at 6pm on Sunday, January 13th at Dn. James’s home to discuss *The Aviator* by Eugene Vodolazhkin. All men are welcome.

Parish Council Update – The next parish council meeting is Tuesday, January 8. At the meeting, the council will be preparing for the general assembly meeting next Sunday. Be sure to attend the meeting to hear updates on the previous year and look ahead to 2019. Thank you for your continued support of our community!

Women of St. John Calendar

- Monday, 1/7** **AWSJ Book Club** – 7:00 p.m., Kh. Pamela’s home.
We will be discussing *Holiness* by Monk Moses
The 2019 book list can be found on the website for those interested. Parish – AWSJ – Book Club
- Thursday, 1/10** **Women’s Teaching** - 10:00 a.m.,
We are studying “Prayer: Encounter with the Living God” by Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev
- Saturday, 2/9** Save the date! Baby Shower for Leah Shull!



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

Leah Shull

Saturday, February 9 at 1:00 p.m.

Reem Mansour’s home

As you know, 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.

Library Lines

Theophany (1/6) was anciently celebrated as the most important feast day besides Pascha. It even predates Christmas as a major feast. Read about its significance and history as a feast in the following St. John Library books:

Christ in the Old Testament (KID BIB HOP)

Orthodox Feasts of Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary (CAT SAC WYB)

Theophany of our Lord (KID CHU ELA)

Sermons on the Major Holy Days of the Orthodox Church (CAT SAC CON).

Saint Cedd (1/7) is a well-known Celtic saint who was a missionary and bishop in seventh century England. As a child, he studied in Lindisfarne where he learned of Irish monasticism. Bishop Finan sent him to Essex to teach Christianity to the people. He built several churches and monasteries. He died during a plague and is buried in England.

St. Gregory of Nyssa was a brother of St. Basil the Great. They were both known for fighting Arian heresies, including the false teaching that denied the ever-virginity of the Theotokos. In 381 at the Second Ecumenical Council, St. Gregory spear-headed the completion of the Nicene Creed. He, as well as his brother and St. Gregory the Theologian had a huge impact on Church doctrine in the fourth century. St. Gregory has been called "the Father of Fathers." His sister, St. Macrina wrote to him, "You are renowned both in cities, and gatherings of people, and throughout entire districts, Churches ask you for help." Read more about him in *The Formation of Christian Theology, v. 2: the Nicene Creed, pt. 2.* (HIS BEH).

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 1/6:** Anniversary: Sean & Melissa Paden
- Monday, 1/7:** Rachel McKelroy, Nazar Abushanab
Synaxis of the Forerunner, John: Fr. Don
- Tuesday, 1/8:** Giuliana Yzaguirre, Miriam Knight
- Wednesday, 1/9:** Alexander Johnson
- Friday, 1/11:** Lori O’Brien, Aleksandra Klimkowski, Tim Elliott
Anniversary: John & Elizabeth Cameron