

### From the Fathers (and others):

When a man weeps with his whole being from the pain caused by the knowledge of his vileness, his torment far exceeds any outside suffering, and he sees himself as the worst of men... Prayer in this holy pain can sweep man's spirit into another world. The desert ascetics termed this the hell of repentance that likens us to Christ descending into His hell of love. However profound the suffering, it is accompanied by the joy of the Divine summons and the light of new life.

Archimandrite Sophrony

Love incited by something external is like a small lamp whose flame is fed with oil, or like a stream fed by rains where flow stops when the rains cease. But love, whose object is God, is like a fountain gushing forth from the earth. Its flow never ceases, for He Himself is the source of this love and also its food which never grows scarce.

The monks Callistus and Ignatius

In signing ourselves with the sign of the cross, with the three fingers we lay the upper end of the cross upon the forehead as an emblem of God the Father, Who is the uncreated Wisdom; the lower end of the cross upon the bosom as an emblem of the Son Who was begotten of the Father before all worlds, and which is in the bosom of the Father; and the transverse part upon the shoulders as an emblem of the Holy Spirit, Which is the arm of the power of God...

St. John of Kronstadt

He who does not know the truth cannot truly have faith; for by nature knowledge precedes faith. What is said in Scripture is said not solely for us to understand, but also for us to act upon.

St. Hesychios the Priest

Almsgiving is good and salutary when to it is united the amendment of the heart from pride, malice, envy, slothfulness, indolence, gluttony, fornication, falsehood, deceitfulness and other sins. But if the man is not careful to amend his heart, trusting only to his alms, then he will obtain but little benefit from them, for he builds with one hand and destroys with the other.

St. John of Kronstadt

The Patriarch Theophilus of Alexandria (385-412 A.D.) once visited the monks in the Nitrian Desert (Wadi El Natroun). The monks begged Abba Pambo, saying: "Give the patriarch an edifying word, which would be of benefit to him." The quiet Pambo replied: "If he does not benefit by my silence, he will not benefit by my word."

# St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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*~ November 11, 2018 ~*  
*24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

**ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE  
MEMPHIS, TN 38107  
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[www.stjohnmemphis.org](http://www.stjohnmemphis.org)

[www.orthodoxtupelo.com](http://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*

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

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

**Gospel:** Luke 10:25-37

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Caitlin Romero**.

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

**Nov. 11 - 18 (Nativity Fast)**

- Sunday** - Sons of Thunder, 6:00 p.m. Brandon Maas' home
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Men's lunch, 12:00 p.m., Dino's
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Dinner, 5:30 p.m.  
-Wednesday Teaching, 6:15 p.m., discussion of particular icons  
-Small Compline, 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday** **NATIVITY FAST BEGINS**  
-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.
- Saturday** -AWSJ Sip & See for Kh. Kathryn & Maggie Rogers, 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.  
-Bible Study - Ephesians, 4:30 p.m., old parish hall  
-Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
- Sunday** -**Church School & Orthros, 9:00 a.m.**  
- **Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**

### Upcoming Memorials

November 11- William Tylavsky, 20 years

## DIVINE LITURGY

**Sunday, November 18, 10:00 a.m.**

- PRIEST:** Fr. Philip
- READER:** David Twombly
- USHER:** Ervin Romero
- HOLY BREAD:** Reem Mansour
- ALTAR SERVERS:** Zach, Nicholas, Eli, Gabe
- COFFEE HOUR:** Margaret McKelroy

**COMMEMORATIONS**

**Nov. 11:** Martyrs Menas of Egypt, Victor of Damascus, Vincent and Stephanidos of Spain; Venerable Theodore the Studite; Blessed Maximos the fool-for-Christ; Martyr Stephen of Dechani, king of Serbia; Stephen Urosh and Princess Milica; Martin the Merciful, bishop of Tours.

**Nov. 12:** John the merciful, patriarch of Alexandria; Venerable Neilos the Faster Sinai; Venerable Neilos the myrrh-streaming of the Great Lavra on Athos; New-martyrs Sabbas and Nicholas of Constantinople.

**Nov. 13:** John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople; Venerable-martyrs Damaskinos and Damian of the Great Lavra on Athos.

**Nov. 14:** Apostle Philip; Gregory Palamas, archbishop of Thessalonika; New-martyr Constantine of Hydra; Justinian the emperor and his wife Theodora.

**Nov. 15:** Martyrs Gourias, Samonas and Habib of Edessa; Thomas the New, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Paissios Velichkovsky.

**Nov. 16:** Apostle Mathew the Evangelist; Martyr Ephygenia.

**Nov. 17:** Gregory the wonder-worker, bishop of New-Caesarea; Gennadios, archbishop of Constantinople; Venerable Nikon, disciple of Sergios of Radonezh.

**Nov. 18:** Martyrs Platon of Ancyra, Ramanos, Zacchaeos the deacon and Anastasios of Caesarea in Palestine.



**Catechumen/Inquirers Class** will meet on Tuesday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. We will be discussing the Holy Mysteries .

**NEW Bible Study** – Dn. Sidney will be leading a bi-weekly Bible study on the book of Ephesians beginning Saturday, November 17 at 4:30 p.m. The study will be held downstairs in the old parish hall. Everyone is welcome!

**Parish Council Update** – The Parish Council will be meeting on Tuesday, November 13. This month, the council will begin to look at the 2019 Budget. If you have any particular issues that need to be brought up, please see Fr Philip or any of the council members. In addition, the council will begin to look more in depth at the survey responses and continue to look to the future of the parish!

**Sons of Thunder Men’s Book Club** will meet at Brandon Maas’s home at 6pm Sunday, November 11. They will be discussing Wendell Berry. All men are welcome.

**The NATIVITY FAST begins November 15** - It is divided into two periods. The 1<sup>st</sup> period is November 15<sup>th</sup> through December 19<sup>th</sup> when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed with katalysis for wine and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and for fish, wine and oil on Saturdays and Sundays. The 2<sup>nd</sup> period is December 20<sup>th</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup> when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed with katalysis for wine and oil only on Saturday and Sunday.

*Thanksgiving Baskets*

An online sign up for items needed will be emailed out and can also be found on the St. John website. No donation is too small or insignificant - do not feel as though you need to provide the entire quantity of an item listed. Items may be left in the old parish hall.

All contributions should be at the church **no later than** Wednesday, November 14 at which time an inventory will be taken and those items still needed will be purchased. If you would rather make a monetary donation you may do so by indicating "Thanksgiving Baskets" on your check.



**DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

		<b>November 11 - 18</b>	
Sunday	2 Corinthians	4:6-15	Luke 10:25-37
Monday	2 Corinthians	9:6-11	Matt 5:14-19
Tuesday	Hebrews	7:26-28; 8:1-2	John 10:9-16
Wednesday	1 Corinthians	4:9-16	John 1:43-51
Thursday	2 Thess	2:13-17; 3:1-5	Luke 16:1-9
Friday	Romans	10:11-21; 11:1-2	Matt 9:9-13
Saturday	Romans	10:11-21; 11:1-2	Matt 9:9-13
Sunday	Ephesians	4:1-7	Luke 12:16-21



**Please remember in your prayers** - Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Nicholas Hill, Janna Knight (pregnant), Katherine Verbist (pregnant), Lavinia Dumitrache (pregnant), Leah Shull (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Dot Lawson (Pam Bowick’s mother & Lawson’s grandmother), Lisa Catlett (Fr. Don & Kh. Martha’s daughter), Matthew (Joyce Grossman’s grandson), Sharon (Larry Ichniowski’s mother), Chris Hodges, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

## Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 11/11:** Amal Salloum  
**Monday, 11/12:** *St. John, the Merciful: John Curry*  
**Tuesday, 11/13:** Matt Spinolo  
*St. John Chrysostom: Caleb McGee, Chris Hodges*  
**Wednesday, 11/14:** *Apostle Philip: Fr. Philip, Philip McKelroy*  
**Thursday, 11/15:** Veronica Criswell, Michael Elliott  
**Friday, 11/16:** Jake Ratliff  
*Apostle Matthew: Matt Spinolo, Matthew Yadron*



## Women of St. John Calendar

- Thursday, 12/13** **Women's Teaching** - 10:00 a.m.  
We are studying "Prayer: Encounter with the Living God" by Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev

## AWSJ Sip & See honoring Kh. Kathryn and Maggie Rogers

November 17, 2018

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the home of Lori O'Brien

Contact Lori if you would like to assist.



\* adults only, please

## Library Lines

This week and next, we honor three lesser known saints who are given the title, "the Merciful", which show their greatness through humility. St. Martin the Merciful (11/11) and bishop of Tours was a 1st century soldier. We don't usually think of soldiers as being merciful. St. Martin's connection to the army was only through duty because his father was in the army. When he asked to be discharged, he was accused of being a coward. His honor was restored and his request was later granted after standing unarmed in the front line. Once, in his travels, he saw a freezing beggar. Thereupon, he cut his cloak in half and gave a half to him. Christ appeared that night to St. Martin wearing his cloak. He is considered the father of monasticism in France, and many Western churches are dedicated to him including St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London.

St. John the Merciful (11/12) was a husband and father in 7th century Cyprus. After his family died, he became a monk. He was well loved and respected for his charity and wisdom. Once a beggar

received alms from him and then changed clothes in effort to deceive him and receive more. The saint gave to him anyway, saying that perhaps Christ was testing him. Another time, while celebrating Liturgy he left the altar when he remembered a fellow clergyman who was angry with him. St. John was greatly loved for dealing with misdeeds by others with wisdom and mercy. Read more about him in *Road to Emmaus*, issue #43 fall 2010, p. 47.

Monday, we commemorate another St. John. Blessed John the Hairy and Fool-for-Christ (11/12) lived during the 14th century in Rostov in what is now Azerbaijan. He was homeless, sometimes taking shelter with his spiritual father or one of the elderly widows. Although poor, he gave spiritual riches to those in need. He was called "the hairy" because of possessing a very full head of hair and "the Merciful" because of healings at his grave.

St. John Chrysostom (11/13) loved learning early in his life. He was ordained to the priesthood in 386 and earned his reputation as the "Golden Mouth" for his speeches. However, he was also a prolific writer. See St. John Library's *Commentary on the Psalms* (REF PAT COM JOH), *Daily Readings from the Writings of St. John Chrysostom* (PAT JOH), *Eight Sermons of the Book of Genesis* (PAT JOH), *Gospel Commentary* (REF SCR COM CHR), *On Marriage and Family Life* (PAT JOH), and *Fathers of the Church* (REF PAT JOH). He died on 9/13. He is also commemorated 1/27 and 1/30.

We all know that the apostles scattered to the ends of the known earth after Christ's Resurrection and were all martyred except one. However, we are not very familiar with the details of their lives during Christ's lifetime. The Apostle Phillip (11/14) brought St. Bartholomew (Nathaniel) to Christ. Jesus asked him where to buy the bread for the 5,000. And, he asked Christ at the Last Supper to show them the Father. He was martyred in what is now modern day Turkey. Read more about him in *Notes on the Holy Apostles* (REF HAG - - - MAS) and *The Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR).

Like many saints, St. Gregory Palamas (11/14) came from a pious family. He diligently studied the desert fathers and immersed himself in hesychasm, or prayer of the heart. Through his oratory the Constantinople Council of 1341 affirmed his teaching that God is unknowable in His Essence but reveals Himself through His immaterial and uncreated Energies. Read more about St. Gregory in *Pillars of Orthodoxy* (REF HAG HOL), *Saint Gregory Palamas as a Hagiorite* (HAG GRE HIE), *St. Gregory and Orthodox Spirituality* (PAT COM GRE), *A Study of Gregory Palamas* (HAG GRE MEY).

The Emperor Justinian and his wife Theodora (11/14) are famous for their military victories and the support and spread of Orthodoxy. He took great interest in the rigorous education of priests and monastics. During his reign, the hymn "Only begotten Son and Immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation..." was composed, and he ordered it to be sung in all the churches to combat heresy. He built the monastery at Sinai and the Hagia Sophia, and he also convened the Fifth Ecumenical Council in 553 which reaffirmed the nature of Christ. Read more about them in *Ruler of Nations, Servants of God* (HAG - - - BOB) p. 27, *Marriage as a Path to Salvation* (HAG - - - FOR) p. 53, and *Orthodox Saints* (HAG - - - POU) purple book, p. 117. Theodora was a powerful woman in her own right and Justinian referred to her as "my partner in my deliberations" according to Charles Diehl in his book, *Byzantine Empresses*. Look for St. Theodora's icon in our nave! You'll find her on the large, upper panel to the left as you face the altar.