

From the Fathers (and others):

If but ten among us lead a holy life, we shall kindle a fire which shall light up the entire city.
St. John Chrysostom

Watch yourselves - your passions especially - in your home life, where they appear freely,
like moles in a safe place.

St. John of Kronstadt

Love for one's neighbor is revealed to him who prays in truth; and more specifically: "When grace is operative in the soul of someone who is praying, then he is flooded with the love of God, so that he can no longer bear what he experiences. Afterwards, this love turns towards the world and man, whom he comes to love so much that he seeks to take upon himself the whole of human pain and misfortune so that everyone else might be freed from it. In general he suffers with every grief and misery, and even for dumb animals, so that he weeps when he thinks that they are suffering. These are properties of love, but it is prayer that activates them and calls them forth. This is why those who are advanced in prayer do not cease to pray for the world. To them belongs even the continuation of life, however strange and audacious this may seem. And you should know that, if such people disappear, then the end of this world will come."

Elder Joseph the Hesychast

And wherefore did He not command the winds to cease, but Himself stretched forth His hand and took hold of him [Peter]? Because in him faith was required. For when our part is wanting, then God's part also is at a stand. Signifying therefore that not the assault of the wind but his want of faith had wrought his overthrow, He said, "Wherefore didst thou doubt, O thou of little faith?" So that if his faith had not been weak, he would have stood easily against the wind also. And for this reason, you see, even when He had caught hold of him, He suffers the wind to blow, showing that no hurt comes thereby, when faith is steadfast.

St. John Chrysostom

During a time of intense distress from the enemy, when the soul is in fear, one must pronounce aloud psalms and prayers, or combine with prayer handiwork so that the mind will pay attention to what it is performing and pay no attention to the confusion and not be afraid, for with him is the Lord, and the angel of the Lord never departs from us.

St. Paisius Velichkovsky

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



~ November 25, 2018 ~

Leave-taking of the Entrance of the Theotokos

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE
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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

Leave-taking of the Entrance of the Theotokos

Epistle: Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5

Gospel: Luke 18:18-27

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

Nov. 25 – December 2 (Nativity Fast)

Sunday -
Monday -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Paraklesis, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's lunch, 12:00 p.m., Dino's
-Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., Holy Mysteries, Pt. 2
Wednesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Dinner, 5:30 p.m.
-Wednesday Teaching, 6:15 p.m., Reasons for Iconoclasm
-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.
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.**

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, December 2, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip
READER: John Cameron
USHER: Aaron White
HOLY BREAD: Judy Terry
ALTAR SERVERS: Max, Elijah, Brody, Paul
COFFEE HOUR:

The NATIVITY FAST began November 15 - It is divided into two periods. The 1st period is November 15th through December 19th 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 2nd period is December 20th through 24th 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.

COMMEMORATIONS



Nov. 25: Great-martyrs Katherine the all-wise of Alexandria and Mercurios of Caesarea in Cappadocia; Martyr Mercurios of Smolensk.

Nov. 26: Venerable Alypius the Stylite, Stylianos of Paphlagonia and Nikon the preacher of repentance; New-martyr George of Chios; repose of Innocent, first bishop of Irkutsk.

Nov. 27: Great-martyr James the Persian; Venerable Palladios of Thessalonika; Venerable Nathanael of Nitria; James, bishop of Rostov.

Nov. 28: Venerable-martyr Stephen the New; Martyr Irinarchos of Sebaste and those with him.

Nov. 29: Martyrs Paramon of Bithynia and Philoumenos of Ancyra; Venerable Akakios of Sinai; Hieromartyr Dionysios, bishop of Corinth; Urban, bishop of Macedonia; Nicholas, archbishop of Thessalonika.

Nov. 30: Apostle Andrew the First-Called; Frumentios, archbishop and enlightener of Ethiopia; Alexander, bishop of Methymna.

December 1: Prophet Nahum; Venerable Philaretos the merciful of Amnia; Martyr Ananias the Persian; Theoklitos, archbishop of Lakedaimonias.

December 2: Prophet Habakkuk; Martyrs Abibos the New and Myrope of Chios; Venerable Theophilos and Andrew of Egypt; Urosh, Serbian king; Venerable Ioanikios of Devitch.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

			November 25 – December 2
Sunday	Galatians	3:23-29; 4:1-5	Luke 18:18-27
Monday	1 Timothy	5:1-10	Luke 19:37-44
Tuesday	1 Timothy	5:11-21	Luke 19:45-48
Wednesday	1 Timothy	5:22-25; 6:1-11	Luke 20:1-8
Thursday	1 Timothy	6:17-21	Luke 20:9-18
Friday	1 Corinthians	4:9-16	John 1:35-52
Saturday	Galatians	5:22-26; 6:1-2	Luke 12:32-40
Sunday	Ephesians	6:10-17	Luke 18:35-43



Pray for our catechumen: Frank Poppa

Please remember in your prayers – Sister Thekla, Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Nicholas Hill, Janna Knight (pregnant), Lavinia Dumitrache (pregnant), 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), Sharon (Larry Ichniowski’s mother), Chris Hodges, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

St. Nicholas Play – The teens will be presenting their annual St. Nicholas play on Wednesday, December 5th following Vespers (5:30 p.m.) and dinner.
 ~ Please bring fast friendly desserts and treats to share
 ~They will be collecting new, unwrapped toys to be donated to Neighborhood Christian Centers.

Nativity Decoration Coordinator Needed – We have the decorations, we just need a point-person! If you would like to coordinate the decoration of our nave and parish hall for Nativity, please contact the office.

Nativity Feast Coordinator Needed – We will need someone to organize the set up and clean up efforts for the feast. Please contact Trish if you would like to serve in this way!

Catechumen/Inquirers Class will meet on Tuesday, November 27 at 7:00 p.m. We will be discussing part 2 of the Holy Mysteries.

NEW Bible Study – Dn. Sidney is leading a bi-weekly Bible study on the book of Ephesians. The next meeting will be Saturday, December 1 at 4:30 p.m. downstairs in the old parish hall. Everyone is welcome!

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.

Parish Council Update – The Parish Council met on Tuesday, November 13. At the meeting, a woodworker was chosen to build new custom doors for the nave. Lord willing, they will be built and finished in the next few weeks. The council began the discussion on the 2019 budget, the date for the annual parish meeting and discussed the possibility of hosting the VECA Annual Meeting on January 26. For the minutes from October and the most recent financial statements, you can see the folder in the Library.

AWSJ Women’s Teaching will be next be held on December 13th at 10:00 a.m. We are studying *Prayer: Encounter with the Living God* by Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church will be holding their 3rd Annual St. Nicholas Festival on Saturday, **December 1**, 11-5 p.m. You can find more information, including how to pre-order international food, on their website, www.orthodoxjackson.com. This is an excellent opportunity to support and fellowship with a sister parish!

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 11/25:** *St. Catherine: Kh. Kathryn, Caitlyn Maas, Cailyn Ratliff, Ava Ortwein, Katelyn Shleweet, Isabelle Mansour, Kathryn McWhorter, Katie Yadron*
- Monday, 11/26:** **Anniversary:** Luke & Janan Heisig
- Tuesday, 11/27:** Giancarlo Yzaguirre, Katie Yadron
- Thursday, 11/29:** Adrian Kumar
Anniversary: Bill & Terry Harter
- Friday, 11/30:** Mawusi McKelroy
St. Andrew: Andrew Mitchell, Rod Ratliff, Drew Garrison, Elijah Brackey, Andrew McKelroy, Andrew Sanderlin, Andrew Labonte, Andrew Yadron
- Saturday, 11/24:** *St. Edmund the Martyr:
Edmond Knight*

PARISH WISH LIST

- Christmas Tree for St. Raphael Hall
(prices vary, approx. \$1200+)
- Changing tables for 3 bathrooms
(\$300 ea.)
- Library bookshelves
- Utility Shelves for Storage Room
- Large Dust Mop for Hall
(\$35 ea.)
- Push Broom for Hall
(\$25 ea.)

A wish list has been compiled of items that we would love to have for our community. The list can be found on the online sign ups page of the website as well. If you would like to purchase and donate one of the items, please contact the office. If you would like to make a monetary donation towards an item, please note on the check what you would like it used for.

Library Lines

This week we commemorate three saints; two wise and one “fool” and lesser known individuals among well-known categories of saints. From early childhood, St. Katherine (11/25) was recognized for her intellect and was instructed by her mother’s spiritual father. When grown, she refused marriage and sought to unite herself to her heavenly Bridegroom. She boldly and eloquently defended her Faith before Emperor Maximian, was tortured and martyred in 305 with 200 others who professed Christ because of her courageous testimony. Read more about her in *The Life and Sufferings of St. Katherine* (KID STS KAT), *Grandmother’s Spiritual Stories* (KID STS HRO).

St. Innocent of Irkutsk (11/26) began his career as a professor of theology and received an appointment as a naval chaplain. In 1710, he was tonsured as a monk. He was consecrated as a bishop in 1721 and attached to a mission in China although denied entrance to the country by the civil authorities. He served his people from the border under harsh living conditions and concentrated his efforts on two schools which he opened. Due to the severe climate and illnesses, he reposed at age 51. Ironically, his relics were removed from their shrine after the Russian Revolution. They were taken to a museum and displayed as “mummified remains of an unknown man.” Today they are venerated by the faithful in Irkutsk. For more information, see *New Apostles of Christ* (HAG - - - HAT) and *Recently Canonized Orthodox Saints* (HAG - - - DEV).

St. Alypius (11/26) is one several saints considered “fools-for Christ.” He yearned for the solitary life from his youth but was not given the blessing to live so. Once on a journey, he had a vision of St. Euphemia. She directed him to build a church in her honor, and he did so. There, he erected a pillar and spent a life of prayer and teaching for the next fifty-three years. He reposed in 640. For more on fools-for-Christ, see *The Freedom of Morality* (CAT GEN YAN), *The Inner Kingdom* (CAT GEN WAR) and *Seraphim’s Seraphim* (HAG SER HAT).

The Apostle Andrew (11/30) was the First-Called disciple, although not in the “inner circle.” He was devout from his youth and chose to never marry. He and St. John the Theologian were originally disciples of John the Baptist. Upon hearing the Forerunner proclaim, “Behold the Lamb of God!” Andrew immediately followed Christ and brought his brother Peter to Him. After Pentecost, he traveled through Asia Minor into what is now Russia. He was martyred by crucifixion, being tied instead of nailed to a cross to prolong his suffering. See more about him in *Christ in His Saints* (HAG - - - REA). Read to your children about him from *The Cross on the Hill* (KID STS AND) and *The Disciples of Christ* (KID STS SPR). See also *Road to Emmaus*, the fall 2004 issue for his connections to Valaam Monastery in the days of ancient Russia.

In December we honor several Old Testament saints, including the Minor Prophets. Saturday we honor the Prophet Nahum(12/1). He is perhaps the least known of the Minor Prophets. The short book is considered to be a masterpiece of literature; partially because of his powerful, short sentences and word-pictures. He treats his readers with alliteration and rare idioms. His writing did not call Israel to repentance nor condemn the nation for her infidelity; however, he prophesied the destruction of Nineveh after the city forgot God’s warning 200 years ago from Jonah. His intercessions are asked for those with mental illnesses, perhaps in keeping with his name which means “full of consolation or comfort.”