

From the Fathers (and others):

Let us be ashamed of our slowness in thanking God when He gives, and of our quickness in grumbling at Him when He takes away. ~Saint Nikolai Velimirovic

God watches our heart and checks it's content. We must constantly examine ourselves, repent for the past and fear our weaknesses. We must not however lose hope of our salvation. ~St. Paisios of Mount Athos

The way of humility is this: self-control, prayer, and thinking yourself inferior to all creatures. ~Holy Abba Thithoes

Do not lose your temper with those who sin (who have errors). Do not have a passion for noticing every sin in your neighbor and judging it, as we usually do. Everyone will give an answer for himself before God. Especially, do not look with evil intention on the sins of those older than you, with whom you have no business. But correct your own sins, your own heart. ~St. John of Kronstadt

To yield and give way to our passions is the lowest slavery, even as to rule over them is the only liberty. ~St Justin Martyr

Silence is the cross on which we must crucify our ego. ~St Seraphim of Sarov

You see, every physical war first begins with thoughts. First people cannot stand each other; then they begin destroying one another... And when your thoughts become quiet and peaceful, you will see how things change around you. ~Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

The words of God refresh the heat of the soul. Suckle the words of God like an infant so that you may grow. ~St Ephraim the Syrian

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



~ June 9, 2019 ~
Sunday of the Holy Fathers

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

Sunday of the Holy Fathers

Epistle: Acts 20:16-18, 28-36

Gospel: John 17:1-13

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by the **Dn. Charles**.

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

June 9 - 16

Sunday -NO Teen Group Meeting
Monday -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
Tuesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Men's Lunch @ Dino's, 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-5:30 p.m. Vespers
-6:15 p.m. Dinner
Thursday -OFFICE CLOSED
Friday -OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday -Sacristan Garden plant drop off/workday, 10:00 a.m.
-Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
Sunday -Orthros, 9:00 a.m.
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.
-Pentecost Kneeling Vespers, 5:30 p.m.

FR. PHILIP OUT OF TOWN DATES

June 12 – 15 Parish Life Conference

July 22 – 27 Archdiocesan Conference

APOSTLES FAST

June 24 – 28

DIVINE LITURGY – Pentecost

Sunday, June 16, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip
READER: John Cameron
HOLY BREAD: Reem
USHER: Dan O'Brien
ALTAR SERVERS:
COFFEE HOUR: Need help

COMMEMORATIONS

June 9: Cyril, patriarch of Alexandria; Pelagia and the three Virgin-martyrs of Chios; Venerable Cyril of Beloezersk; Venerable Columba, enlightener of Scotland.

June 10: Martyr Alexander and Virgin-martyr Antonina of Constantinople; Venerable Theophanes the monk of Antioch and Pansemne the former harlot; John of Tobolsk, metropolitan and wonder-worker of Siberia.

June 11: Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas; Venerable Barnabas; The commemoration of the appearance of the Archangel Gabriel to a monk on Athos and the revelation of the hymn “It is Truly Meet.”

June 12: Venerable Onouphrios the Great; Venerable Peter the Athonite; Venerable Arsenios of Konevits.

June 13: Martyr Aquilina of Byblos in Syria; Antipater, bishop of Bostra in Arabia; Triphyllios, bishop of Leucosia (Nicosia) in Cyprus.

June 14: Prophet Elisha; Methodios the Confessor, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Niphon of Athos; Cyril, bishop of Crete.

June 15: Prophet Amos; Apostles Achaikos, Stephen and Fourtunatos of the Seventy; Venerable Jerome of Stridonium and Augustine, bishop of Hippo; Jonah, metropolitan of Moscow; Martyr Lazarus, Serbian prince.

June 16: Tikhon the wonder-worker, bishop of Amathos in Cyprus; Venerable Tikhon of Kaluga.



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



Parish Life Conference – In anticipation and preparation for St. John’s hosting of the 2020 PLC, St. John will be well represented at the PLC in Raleigh this week. Please keep everyone in your prayers as they travel this week!

Special Mission Presentation - Next Sunday, Kh. Christine Rogers, Fr Philip’s sister-in-law, will be in town. She is the author of the Ancient Faith book, Spyridon’s Shoes. She also helped to lead a mission trip to Kenya last year and will be going again this year. For those interested, she will offer a 15 minute presentation in the library during coffee hour next Sunday. All are welcome!

Summer Schedule - Over the summer we will have Vespers at 5:30 followed by dinner. In addition, on June 18 and July 30, we will have a Tuesday evening Family Night with grills available and games to play. Join us for some good fun and fellowship with your Church family!

Mark Your Calendars! The Women’s Retreat will be October 11 and 12. This year’s speaker will be Elissa Bjeletich. She is a convert to the Orthodox Church and is a popular author and podcaster on Ancient Faith Radio. Her podcasts include: Raising Saints, Everyday Orthodox, and Tending the Garden of our Hearts. She has written three books: [In God’s Hands: A Mother’s Journey through Her Infant’s Critical Illness](#), [Tending the Garden of Our Hearts: Daily Lenten Meditations for Families](#), and [Blueprints for the Little Church: Creating an Orthodox Home](#). Mark your calendars now so that you can participate in this great event!

Catechumen/Inquirers Class –Tuesday, June 18 at 7:00 p.m. We will continue discussing the Holy Trinity. Catechumen/Inquirers class is open to anyone interested in learning more about our faith whether you are brand new, catechumen, or long-time member.

Parish Council Update - At our parish council this week the council continued to discuss the upcoming parish life conference and the importance of emergency preparedness. We are making an effort to do a risk assessment and be able to provide information to the parish about the best way to handle different situations that may arise in the parish. Beginning next Sunday, we will begin taking nomination forms for next year’s Parish Council. Beginning in June we will begin taking nominations for next year’s Parish Council. This year, Dan O’Brien and Melissa White will be rotating off of the council. They have both done a phenomenal job in their 3 years of service!!! The next parish council meeting will be Tuesday, July 9. If there are particular things that you would like the council to discuss, please speak to Fr Philip or any of the Parish Council members.

~~~~~				
<b>DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS</b>			<b>June 9 - 16</b>	
Sunday	Acts	20:16-18, 28-36	John	17:1-13
Monday	Acts	21:8-14	John	14:27-15:7
Tuesday	Acts	11:19-30	Luke	10:16-21
Wednesday	Acts	23:1-11	John	16:15-23
Thursday	Acts	25:13-19	John	16:23-33
Friday	Acts	27:1-44; 28:1	Luke	4:22-30
Saturday	1 Thess.	4:13-17	John	21:14-25
Sunday	Acts	2:1-11	John	7:37-52; 8:12
~~~~~				

Pray for our catechumen: David & Rose McGee, Jarrett & Kelly Wilson
Please remember in your prayers – Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Nicholas Hill, Sarah Elliott (pregnant), Minar Shleweet (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.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

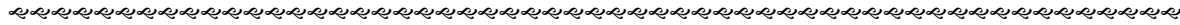
- Sunday, 6/9:** Ben Arthur
St. Columba: Sean Paden
- Thursday, 6/13:** Corinne Elliott
Anniversary: Fr. Basil & Kh. Susan
St. Aquilina: Chelsea Yadron
- Friday, 6/14:** Ethan van Drimmelen, Adam Boone
St. Niphon: Bru Wallace
- Saturday, 6/15:** Anniversary: Nawar & Reem Mansour

Summer Family Fun Nights

June 18 and July 30

6:00 p.m. at St. John

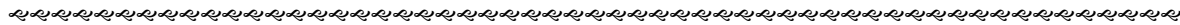
Join us as we spend a relaxed evening enjoying each other's company. Games and grills will be provided. Each family is responsible for their entrée and beverages, please bring sides and desserts to share!



Young Adults Calendar

(Ages 18 – 40)

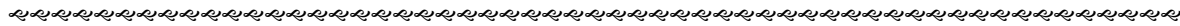
- Saturday, June 22,** **Christ over Coffee** 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. – Muddy's Grindhouse
- Saturday, July 6** **Memphis 901 Football Club**, 7:30 p.m. – We will be going to the game after vespers, and will cover the cost of tickets for Young Adults members. **We will need a head count in advance**, so there will be a sign-up sheet at the church in the fellowship hall by next week for you to sign up. The games last approx. 2 hours, total.
- Sunday, July 14** **Doctrine on Draft**, 6:00 p.m. – Details to come
- Thursday, July 25** **Main Event Memphis**, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. We want everyone to come out for some fun at Main Event Memphis! The Telos leadership will provide Young Adult attendees with \$30 FUNcards to use for any of what MEM has to offer: bowling, laser tag, arcade, billiards, gravity ropes, food, drinks, and more. **We will need a head count for the FUNcards**, so please look for a sign up sheet in the church fellowship hall soon!



Teen Calendar

June 30 - July 6 - Camp St. Thekla!

July 12-13 - Sex Ed Retreat - More info later to come.



Women of St. John Calendar

- July 1 (Monday)** **AWSJ Book Club** – 7:00 p.m., Kh. Pamela's home. We will be discussing *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. The 2019 book list can be found on the website for those interested. (Parish – AWSJ – Book Club)
- July 18 (Thursday)** **Women's Teaching** – 10:00 a.m. - We are studying "*The Way of the Ascetics*" Copies will be available at teaching.
- July 21 (Sunday)** **AWSJ Summer Social** – 4:00 p.m. – Details to come

LIBRARY LINES

Today we remember the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. Our hymnography for today is full of familiar names including Sts. Constantine, Athanasius, Eusebius, and Nicholas. These courageous, truth-loving men opposed the heresy of Arius and proclaimed the divine nature of Jesus as we reaffirm in the Nicene Creed. They also set the method by which the date of Pascha is calculated and declared that standing is the correct position for prayer. Read more about the Ecumenical Councils in *The First Seven Ecumenical Councils* HIS DAV, *The History of the Council of Florence* HIS/OST, *The Church of the Ancient Councils* (HIS LHU), and *The Oecumenical Synods of the Orthodox Church: a Concise History* (HIS THO).

Today we remember another Celtic saint, Venerable Columba of Scotland (6/9). Those of us senior citizens will enjoy his biography, *The Legend of Saint Columba* by Padraic Colum and illustrated by E. Mackinstry. This old book will bring back memories of similar, old books that have silhouette illustrations.

This month we honor several icons of the Theotokos. Tuesday (6/11) we commemorate a beautiful story behind a hymn and an icon, *It Is Meet*, of the Theotokos. One night, as a monk was alone and reading the hours, a monk he did not know knocked on his door and joined him in prayer. As they sang a hymn by St. Cosmos to the Theotokos, the stranger interjected the words "It is truly meet to bless Thee, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God," and then continued with "More honorable than the Cherubim..." The icon glowed and the stranger wrote the "new" words to the hymn on a tile with his finger. He said, "Sing in this manner, and all the Orthodox as well." Then he disappeared. These words began to be sung in the Divine Liturgy, and the icon was later sent to the Holy Mountain. See the picture of the icon and read more about it in *Icons of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary*. (ART ICO KHO)

We frequently confuse the Prophet Elisha (6/14) with his predecessor Elias (Elijah). He boldly asked him for a double portion of the grace of God when Elias was taken up into heaven in a fiery chariot. He served for over 65 years as a prophet during the reign of six kings. The *Wisdom of Sirach* says, "And no one oppressed him. No word could overcome him." He raised the dead, healed a leper, and worked miracles over water and dry land. St. Nicholas Planas was very devoted to the prophet and was granted visions of him.

Saturday, we commemorate the Prophet Amos (6/15). Unlike most prophets, he came from a family of shepherds and was unschooled. He also was a pruner of sycamore trees. Being an outdoorsman, he employed vivid imagery in his writing – wagons, grasshoppers, birds, and cattle. He spoke well, using poetic devices and picturesque speech to prophesy the crucifixion, resurrection and ascension of Christ. In some of his icons he is shown as an old man who resembles St. John the Theologian. Read more about him in *The Old Testament: Prophetic Traditions* (REF SCR COM TAR) and *The Holy Prophets*. (REF HAG HOL)