

From the Fathers (and others):

Holiness is not simply righteousness, for which the righteous merit the enjoyment of blessedness in the Kingdom of God, but rather such a height of righteousness that men are filled with the grace of God to the extent that it flows from them upon those who associate with them. Great is their blessedness; it proceeds from personal experience of the Glory of God. Being filled also with love for men, which proceeds from love of God, they are responsive to men's needs, and upon their supplication they appear also as intercessors and defenders for them before God. -St. John Maximovitch

Love is most powerfully present in a marriage when accompanied by respect. A good marriage is like a castle. When husband and wife truly love and respect each other, nothing can overcome them. In the providence of God, when a husband is spiritually weak, his wife is spiritually strong; and when a wife is weak, her husband is strong. Nothing can destroy love that is rooted and founded in Christ. The love of husband and wife is the force that welds society together. -St. John Chrysostom

God does not regard what a man is in this world and what he has: how he is clad, fed, taught and respected by others; God looks on a man's heart. -St Nikolai Velimirovich

"Thou died – Thou Who art the Life of all – in order to revive me, the dead. Thou wast laid in the tomb that I might rise from the tomb. Thou wast brought to life again that I might believe in my resurrection." -St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

Like a deer, with a burning desire for water, thirsts, so the monks desire to attain the good will of God. -St. John of the Ladder

The end of the earthly life of the Most Holy Theotokos was the beginning of her greatness. "Being adorned with Divine Glory" (irmos of the canon of the Dormition), she stands and will stand, both in the day of the Last Judgment and in the future age, at the right hand of the throne of Her Son...She manifests her love towards her Son and God in love for the human race. She intercedes for it before the Merciful One, and going about the earth, she helps men. -St John Maximovich

I know five languages. The first is the smile; the second is tears. The third is to touch. The fourth is prayer, and the fifth is love. With these five languages you can travel the whole earth, and the world is yours. -Mother Gavrilia

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



*~ August 18, 2019 ~
Sunday after Dormition*

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 AFTER TRANSFIGURATION

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

Gospel: Matt. 14:22-34

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Reem Mansour**.

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

August 18 - 25 (Fast: Wed. & Fri.)

- Sunday** -Teen Group
-YA Doctrine on Draft, 6:00 p.m., Maciel's Taco Shop
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., The Saints
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Vespers, 5:30 p.m.
-Parish Meal following
-Teen Group
- 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** -Wedding of Rachel McKelroy & Blake Brewer, 3:30 p.m.
-Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
- Sunday** -Fairytale & Flowers, 9:00 a.m.
-Orthros, 9:00 a.m.
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

DIVINE LITURGY Sunday, August 25, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST: Fr. Philip

READER: Matt Spinolo

USHER: Matt Spinolo

PROSFORA: Judy Terry

COFFEE HR: Calen & Katherine Verbist, Bru & Thea Wallace, Kh. Martha Berge

PLC COUNTDOWN

297 DAYS



COMMEMORATIONS

Aug. 18: Martyrs Floros and Lauros of Illyria; Venerable Sophronios of St. Anne skete on Athos; Venerable Barnabas and Christopher of Mt. Mela; new-martyr Demetrios; Venerable Arsenios the New of Paros; repose of Venerable John of Rila.

Aug. 19: Martyr Andrew the General (“Stratelates”); Venerable Theophanes of Docheiariou monastery on Athos.

Aug. 20: Prophet Samuel; Martyrs Heliodoros of Persia and Photeini of Blachernae.

Aug. 21: Apostle Thaddeus of the Seventy; Martyrs Bassa, Theognios, Agapios, and Pistos of Edessa; Venerable Abraham of Smolensk and his disciple, Venerable Ephraim.

Aug. 22: Martyr Agathonikos of Nicomedia and those with him.

Aug. 23: Martyr Loupos; Hieromartyr Irenaios, bishop of Lyons; Venerable Nicholas and Dionysios of Olympos.

Aug. 24: Hieromartyr Eutychos, disciple of John the Theologian; New-hieromartyr Cosmas Aitolos, equal-to-the-Apostles and evangelizer of southern Albania; Dionysios the wonder-worker, bishop of Zakynthos; translation of the relics of Peter the wonder-worker, metropolitan of Moscow.

Aug. 25: Apostles Titos of the Seventy and Bartholomew.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

August 18-25

Sunday	1 Corinthians 3:9-17	Matt 14:22-34
Monday	1 Corinthians 15:12-29	Matt 21:18-22
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:29-38	Matt 21:23-27
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 16:4-12	Mark 3:13-21
Thursday	2 Corinthians 1:1-17	Matt 21:43-46
Friday	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28
Saturday	Romans 15:30-33	Matt 17:24-27; 18:1-4
Sunday	1 Corinthians 4:9-16	Matt 17:14-23



Pray for our catechumen: David, Rose & Theodore McGee; Jarrett & Kelly Wilson; Mike, Megan, Ezra and Hopper Jackson; Michael & Miriam Redmond

Please remember in your prayers – Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Nicholas Hill, 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, Elizabeth Allie (Buddy Bowick’s mother/Lawson’s grandmother), Aryanna Smith (pregnant), Michael Oberbillig, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.

Fairytales and Flowers will meet during Orthros throughout the month of August, all children are invited to come to hear Christ-centered stories of the flowers contained in our garden.

Catechumen/Inquirers Class –Tuesday, August 20 at 7:00 p.m. We will continue discuss Catechumen/Inquirers class is open to anyone interested in learning more about our faith.

The **Sons of Thunder Men's Book Club** will meet Sunday, August 25 at 6pm. Location TBD. They will be discussing David Foster Wallace's *Consider the Lobster*. All men are welcome.

Project Mexico – Next Sunday, August 25, our Teen Group will be giving a presentation during coffee hour about their upcoming Project Mexico trip and how we, as a parish, can support them. Please plan on attending to learn more about this important ministry!

Parish Meals – One of the exciting perks of our new Tuesday night schedule is that our parish meals will now be non-fasting! There is a jar downstairs for suggestions for what you may like to see served. Feel free to offer ideas for restaurants or types of food...or if you would like to make something!

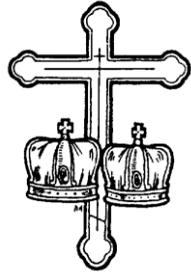
SAVE THE DATE – Bishop’s Visit Bishop NICHOLAS will again be visiting with us October 25-30, with activities at St. John tentatively scheduled for Oct. 25-26, and Oct. 29. We will post more details as they are available.

Parish Council Update – Thank you for making your parish council recommendations! We have our new council members!! Our newest additions to the parish council will be: Dn Tim Mashburn, John McGee and Mindy Williams. May the Lord continue to bless our parish and those who have been asked to help guide it!



Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

- Sunday, 8/18:** Ethel Smith
- Monday, 8/19:** Calen Verbist, Anne Katherine Vanlandingham
Anniversary: Joel & Sarah Finley
- Thursday, 8/22:** Luna Moore
- Friday, 8/23:** Fr. Don Berge, Jennifer Stanek
Anniversary: Fadi & Rana Ibrahim
- Saturday, 8/24:** Elijah Brackey



The Parishioners of St. John are cordially invited to the

*Sacrament of Holy Matrimony for
Rachel McKelroy and Blake Brewer*

Saturday, August 24th at 3:30 p.m.

(Reception by invitation only)

Teen Calendar

Regular meetings on Wed. & Sun.

- Aug. 18** Project Mexico presentation prep
- Aug. 25** Project Mexico presentation
- Aug. 27** Family Fun Night @ Malco
- Sept. 1** Delta Fair
- Sept. 6-8** Diocesan Fall Retreat

Young Adults Calendar

(Ages 18 – 40)

- Today: Doctrine on Draft**, 6-8 p.m., Maciels Taco Shop
- Mon., Aug. 26: Professional Mixer**, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Tues., Aug. 27: Parallel Love**; please RSVP as the leadership teams would like to sponsor the YA tickets

Women of St. John Calendar

- Aug. 26 (Monday)** **AWSJ Book Club** – 7:00 p.m., Kh. Pamela’s home. We will be discussing short stories by Anton Chekhov. The 2019 book list can be found on the website for those interested. (Parish – AWSJ – Book Club)
- Sept. 12 (Thursday)** **Women’s Teaching** – 10:00 a.m. - We are studying “*The Way of the Ascetics*” Copies will be available at teaching. Location TBD
- Sept. 21 (Saturday)** AWSJ Wolf River Kayaking -
- October 11 - 12** **AWSJ Fall Retreat** - 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. Mark your calendars now so that you can participate in this great event!

LIBRARY LINES

TWO BOOKS FOR CHILDREN!!

My Holy Queens and Princesses (KID STS POT) Includes Sts. Olga, Esther, Helen, and Barbara, Theodora, and several others.

Women of Faith (KID STS LEE) Includes Sts. Brigid, Lucia, Barbara and lesser known saints including Paraskeva of Rome and Genevieve.

Today we honor the repose of St. John of Rila (8/18). His childhood was spent in Bulgaria as a cowherd. He was tonsured as a youth and lived in strict asceticism, praying, weeping and eating grass. The ill and demon-possessed began to seek him out. Monks flocked to him and built a church over a cave where he lived.

We also commemorate today two 2nd century brothers, Sts. Florus and Laurus. They were stone masons who were commissioned to build a pagan temple. During construction a stone chip damaged the eye of the son of a pagan priest. The saints prayed to Christ and he was healed. When the temple was finished, the Christians in the area destroyed its idols and installed cross. The local government official ordered the former pagan priest, his son, and all the other believers to be burned alive. Florus and Laurus were thrown down a well and smothered in dirt.

The Prophet Samuel’s life (8/20) has many parallels to that of the Theotokos. Like her, he was born from a “barren” woman. His mother, Hannah, prayed fervently for children, and God answered her request. She took Samuel to live in the temple when he was weaned. Her prayer of thanksgiving to God is recorded in I Samuel 2:1-10. The next chapter shows us the beautiful story of God calling the young child. He thought Eli, the high priest, was calling him. This happened three times, and Eli realized that the Lord was calling the child. He told Samuel to reply, “Speak Lord, for your servant listens.” Samuel went on to be a great prophet, and anointed Saul and David as king of Israel.

Many times we hear of The Seventy. A few of them are more familiar to us than some of the Twelve. Thaddeus (8/21), not to be confused with St. Jude who was one of the Twelve, heard the preaching of St. John the Baptist. He was baptized by him and then became a follower of Jesus. After the Ascension, he preached the Gospel in Edessa and Beirut. Some sources say he died peacefully, and others reported his torture and martyrdom in 50 A.D. Find out more about him in *Orthodox Saints*, volume 4, January-December, p. 115.

St. Lupus (8/23) was a slave of the Great Martyr Demetrius (10/26). He was devoted to his owner and was with him when he died. Lupus poured the blood of Demetrius on his own clothes. He took his ring and in his name, destroyed idols and performed many miracles. The saint survived persecutions and voluntarily submitted to beheading by order of the emperor.