

**From the Fathers (and others):**

Moses teaches us by his own example to take our stand with virtue as with a kinsman and kill virtue's adversary. The victory of true faith is the death and destruction of idolatry. So also injustice is killed by righteousness and arrogance is slain by humility.

St. Gregory of Nyssa

The goal of reading is the application, in our lives, of what we read. Not to learn it by heart, but to take it to heart. Not to practice using our tongues, but to be able to receive the tongues of fire and to live the mysteries of God.

St Paisios the Athonite

Inside I am not what I appear to be: Heal me.

St. Ephraim the Syrian

If one studies a great deal in order to acquire knowledge and to teach others, without living the things he teaches, he does no more than fill his head with hot air. At most, he will manage to ascend to the moon using machines. The goal of the Christian is to rise to God without machines.

St Paisios the Athonite

The truly rich are not those who keep their riches to themselves but those who give to others. Happiness comes not from possessing wealth but from giving it away. Whatever is generously given away becomes a fruit of the soul. It therefore becomes the soul's wealth.

St. Clement of Alexandria

If three men meet, of whom the first fully preserves interior peace, and the second gives thanks to God in illness, and the third serves with a pure mind, these three are doing the same work.

Abba Poemen

The poor are the healers of your wounds, their hands are medicinal for you. The physician, extending his hand to apply a remedy, does not exercise the healing art more than the poor man, who stretches out his hand to receive your alms, and thus becomes a cure for your ills. You give your money, and with it your sins pass away.

St John Chrysostom

# St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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*~ September 9, 2018 ~*  
*Sunday before the Elevation*  
*of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross*

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

[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

## Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross

**Epistle:** Galatians 6:11-18

**Gospel:** John 3:13-17

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

Sept. 9 - 16 (Wed. & Fri. fast)

- Sunday** -Job Fair during Coffee Hour
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.  
-AWSJ Book Club, 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Men's lunch, 12:00 p.m., Dino's  
-Parish Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Dinner, 5:30 p.m.  
-Wednesday Teaching, Drew & Sophia Garrison's Camino trip  
-Small Compline, 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m.
- Friday** -Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Mother of God, 9:00 a.m.
- Saturday** -Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
- Sunday** -**Orthros, 9:00 a.m.**  
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**

### UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

- Sept 13 – Great Vespers for the Elevation, 6:00 p.m.  
Sept 14 – Divine Liturgy for the Elevation, 9:00 a.m.  
Sept 16 – Enrollment of Sharon Taylor  
Sept 22 – Baptism of Abigail Yadron

### DIVINE LITURGY

**Friday, September 14, 9:00 a.m.**

**PRIEST:** Fr. Philip  
**HOLY BREAD:** Sarah Hodges  
**COFFEE HOUR:** **HELP NEEDED**

### DIVINE LITURGY

**Sunday, September 16, 10:00 a.m.**

**PRIEST:** Fr. Don  
**READER:** John Cameron  
**USHER:** Dan O'Brien  
**HOLY BREAD:** Lavinia  
**ALTAR SERVERS:** James, Mark, Thomas, Alex  
**COFFEE HOUR:** Anna Pashchinskaya, Kate Kumar

## COMMEMORATIONS

**Sept. 9:** The holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; Great-martyr Severian of Sebaste; the fathers of the Third Ecumenical Council; Venerable Joseph of Volotsk; uncovering of the relics of Theodosios, archbishop of Chernigov.

**Sept.10:** Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora and Nymphodora; Empress Pulcheria.

**Sept.11:** Venerable Theodora of Alexandria; Euphrosynos the Cook; Martyrs Demetrios and Euantha; translation of the relics of Venerable Sergios and Herman of Valaam.

**Sept.12:** Hieromartyrs Autonomos of Italy and Coronatos of Iconium; Martyrs Okeanos; Venerable Daniel.

**Sept.13:** The commemoration of the founding of the Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem; Hieromartyr Cornelios the centurion; Martyr Aristeidos; Venerable Hierotheos the Younger of Iviron monastery on Athos; Great-martyr Ketevan, queen of Georgia; Six Martyrs at Tomi in Romania.

**Sept.14:** The Elevation of the precious and life-giving Cross. Repose of John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople; Venerable-martyr Makarios the New of Thessalonika; Venerable-martyr Joseph of Dionysiou monastery on Athos.

**Sept.15:** Great-martyr Nikita the Goth; Martyr Porphyrios; Vissarion, bishop of Larisa; New-martyr John; Venerable Philotheos and Gerasimos; Joseph the New of Partos, the wonder-worker, metropolitan of Timisoara.

**Sept.16:** Great-martyr Euphemia the all-praised; Martin the bishop; New-martyrs Isaac and Joseph of Georgia; Martyr Ludmilla, grandmother of Wenceslaus prince of the Czechs; Venerable Prokopios of Sazava in Bohemia.



### **DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **September 9-16**

Sunday	Galatians	6:11-18	John	3:13-17
Monday	Galatians	4:28-31; 5:1-10	John	3:16-21
Tuesday	Galatians	5:11-21	John	12:19-36
Wednesday	Galatians	6:2-10	John	11:47-54
Thursday	Hebrews	3:1-4	John	12:25-36
Friday	1 Corinthians	1:18-24	John	19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30
Saturday	1 Corinthians	1:26-31; 2:1-5	John	8:21-30
Sunday	Galatians	2:16-20	Mark	8:34-38; 9:1



**Please remember in your prayers** - Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand's mother), Nicholas Hill, Janna Knight (pregnant), Katherine Verbist (pregnant), Lavinia Dumitrache (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.



## ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



**Catechumen/Inquirers Class** will meet on Tuesday, September 18 at 7:00 p.m. We will be discussing Mary in Orthodox tradition.

**St. John Job Fair** – Today, St. John will again host a “Job Fair” to assist parishioners in knowing where they can get involved as well as the opportunity to sign up. Representatives will be on hand to explain responsibilities or activities.

**Dinner Clubs** - For several years, many people have been participating in our dinner clubs. Dinner clubs are groups of 6-8 St. John people who meet together for a meal once every 2-3 months for a year. **The focus is on fellowship, not food.** This is another great way to meet and get to know more people and develop a sense of community. Please sign up in the parish hall by September 9; additionally, the sign up will be available at the job fair. You may contact Margaret McKelroy with any questions.

**Church School and Fall Schedule** – We are back to Church School and our “normal” Wednesday schedule! Parents, a roster for the coming year of church school is included in this week's inserts.

**Bishop NICHOLAS** – His Grace +NICHOLAS will be visiting St. John Sept. 25 – Oct. 1. See the insert and websites for a schedule of opportunities to pray with and visit with him.

**Sons of Thunder Men's Book Club** - The Sons of Thunder men's book club will meet at 6 pm on Sunday, October 7 at Jack Turner's home. They will be discussing Love in the Ruins by Walker Percy. All men are welcome.

### **Lost and Found**

The parish lost and found is now located in the downstairs hallway where the Coke machine used to be. Are you missing an umbrella, sunglasses, clothing, charcoal grill? It might be there! Please take a look! Anything not claimed by Sept. 21 will be donated.

### **Parish Council Update**

The next parish council meeting will be this coming Tuesday, September 11. This will be the first meeting with our new parish council members: Pauline Koplín, Ben Shull, and Anna Pashchinskaya! Continue to pray that the Lord will bless the council with wisdom and discernment for the administration of the Church.

## Survey Responses

Effort is already going into making small updates based on the survey responses. Here are a few:

- The Adult Education Classroom has been rearranged with more decorating to come!
- The Parish Council Minutes and Financial Information is now in a prominent spot in the Library. If you are interested in the discussions of the council, feel free to see the notebooks in the Library.
- New service booklets for Vespers and Paraklesis are being worked on.
- Stay tuned for more!

## Parents Corner:

In the past, it was the custom for visitors and those celebrating a particular event (birthday, anniversary, nameday, etc) to go first in the food line during coffee hour. We are going to attempt to go back to this practice. Parents, please have your children stand back from the food tables so that our guests and those mentioned may have the honor of going first. This is a great opportunity to remind our children of the importance of patience as well as respect and honor for others. Thank you for your help!!

## Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

<b>Sunday, 9/9:</b>	Kh. Pamela, Anne Castrodale, Larry Ichniowski <i>St. Anna: Kh. Pamela, Sarah Ann Cameron, Anne Castrodale, Kendall Ichniowski, Joyce Bittle, Nicole Mansour, Lydia Williams, Sarah Elliott, Joyce Grossman, Anna Sanderlin, Caroline O'Brien, Anna Mae Schroeder, Karen Bell, Jillanne Ballard, Anne Katherine Vanlandingham</i>
<b>Monday, 9/10:</b>	Jack Turner Anniversaries: Ben & Leah Shull, Jeff & Kim Boone
<b>Tuesday, 9/11:</b>	Anniversary: Drew & Sophia Garrison <i>St. Xenia: Marshall McWhorter</i>
<b>Thursday, 9/13:</b>	Gavin van Drimmelen, Nicole Mansour, Elizabeth Cameron
<b>Saturday, 9/15:</b>	Nicholas Hill

## Women of St. John Calendar

<b>Monday, 9/10</b>	<b>AWSJ Book Club</b> – 7:00 p.m., Kh. Pamela's home. We will be discussing <i>Towers in the Mist</i> by Elizabeth Goudge
<b>Thursday, 10/11</b>	<b>Women's Teaching</b> - 10:00 a.m., Sarah Hodges home We are reading "Prayer: Encounter with the Living God" by Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev

## Library Lines

Sts. Joachim and Anna (9/9) are beautifully depicted in *The Story of Mary: the Mother of God* (KID STS MAR). The warm and colorful illustrations show a loving family who were instrumental in our salvation. This book is a wonderful bedtime book for little ones and can be read by primary grade children. See also *Mary, the Mother of Jesus* by Tomie de Paola, *The Illustrated Life of the Theotokos for Children*, and *The Nativity of the Theotokos* by Sr. Elayne.

Today we remember the fathers of the Third Ecumenical Council (9/9) who rejected the teachings of Nestorius and affirmed the title Theotokos to the Most Holy One. Church history, particularly the Councils, may seem dry, but it is far from the case. Read *The First Seven Ecumenical Councils* by Leo Davis (HIS/DAV), and you will see politics and intrigue played out in the lives of very devout and humble men who staunchly defended the Truth.

Tuesday, we celebrate the feast day of St. Euphrosynos (9/11). His icon adorns *St. John Cooks Again* (SPRR/LIV/STJ) and many of our kitchen walls. Read about his life of humility, quietness and devotion to Truth in the introduction to the St. John cookbook. His story also is told and accompanied with beautifully colored illustrations in *The Boy, a Kitchen, and His Cave* (KID STS EUP) by Catherine Contopoulos.

Our thoughts (and questions) turned to the Church Calendar last week as we celebrated the Indiction. This is a busy month in our parish with several memorial services and feast days which all keep the mystery of *time* on our minds. You may have noticed that many feasts, including September's Nativity of the Theotokos (9/8) and the Elevation of the Cross (9/14), also have *forefeasts* and *leavetakings*. The feast days assigned for forefeasts and leavetakings and the length of days for them is determined by the class or ranking of them as set out in *The Festal Menaion* and *The Pentecostarion*. These are books that set the cycle of services in the Church. For more reading on time, see *The Year of Grace of the Lord* (CAT CAL MON) written by a monk of the Eastern Church. *The Orthodox Church Calendar* (CAT CAL PHO), and *The Church Year* (CAT CAL SCH) from the *Celebration of Faith* series.

The Cross is the focus of our attention many times throughout the year. On the third Sunday of Lent, the Adoration of the Cross, we remember the great significance the Cross plays in our salvation. March 6th, we commemorated the finding of the Cross by St. Helen. May 21, is the feast day of St. Helen who was sent by her son, St. Constantine, on a pilgrimage to find the True Cross of Christ. August 1, we commemorated the Procession of the Cross through the streets of Constantinople for the sanctification of the city and relief from illnesses. Friday is the Elevation of the Cross (9/14), and we celebrate specific events centered around the true Cross. This is the only one of the twelve great feasts of the Church that is not directly connected with Christ or the Theotokos. Read about the history and traditions surrounding feast days of the Cross in *A Dictionary of Greek Orthodoxy* (HIS PAT), *Great Lent* (CAT LNT HLWK SCH) by Alexander Schmemmann, *Sermons on the Major Holy Days* (CAT CAL CON) by Anthony M. Coniaris, *St. Helen Finds the Cross of Jesus* (KID STS HEL), *Exhaltation of the Cross*. (KID CHU ELA), and *A Child's Paradise of Saints* (KID STS MCL).