

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church of America

A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey

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October 11, 2020

18th Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 1

Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council.

- 9:10 am - Hours
- 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
2 Cor. 9:6-11 Heb. 13: 7-16
Luke. 7:11-16 John 17:1-13

Schedule of Services

Tuesday, October 13

- 7:00 pm - Akathist to Saint John, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord.

Friday, October 16

- 7:00 pm - Moleben to the Most Holy Theotokos:

Saturday, October 17

- 5:00 pm - Great Vesper.

Sunday, October 18

- 9:10 - Hours
- 9:30 - Divine Liturgy



WEEKLY BIBLE MESSAG

A parable

The young man approached the priest and said:

- I won't go to church again!

The priest asked:

- Why?

The young man answered:

- I saw my sister talk bad to another sister, all the parishioners look at their phone while on service, and these are just a few moments I noticed...

The priest said:

- Okay, but before you leave, do me a favor: grab a full glass of water and walk three times around the Church without spilling a single drop on the floor. After that, leave the Church if you want.

The young guy thought it was too easy!

And he went around three times, as the priest asked. When finished, he told the priest that everything was done.

And the priest asked:

- When you were walking around the Church, did you see your sister talking bad about another sister?

The guy said:

- No. No.

- Did you see someone looking at their phone?

- No. No.

- Do you know why?

- No. No.

- You were focused on the glass to make sure you didn't overturn it and pour water.

Same thing happens to our lives. When our attention is focused on our Lord Jesus Christ, we don't have time to see other people's mistakes!

On October 11 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Apostle Phillip the deacon of the Seventy; Venerable Theophanes the branded; Nektarios, Arsakios, Sisinnios and Philotheos Kokkinos, patriarchs of Constantinople; and Venerable Jonah of Cyprus. On this day we commemorate the holy and blessed Fathers who came together for the second time in Nicaea, during the reign of the pious and Christ-loving Sovereigns Constantine and Irene, against those who impiously, ignorantly and foolishly asserted that the Church of God worshippeth idols, and rejected the august and holy Icons. The Council met in 787 to refute the iconoclast heresy, whose camp believed that all depictions of Christ, His Mother and the saints should be destroyed. The iconophiles believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; and they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty. The council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype, or the person depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18). By the intercessions of the Holy Fathers, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.



Intercessory Prayers

We pray for all our fellow parishioners, and we pray especially for those who are incapable of being with us in church. Please keep in your prayers our Brothers and Sisters in Christ: Genevieve Bobenko, Barbara Bogart, Michael Bzik, Mary Ann Dolak, Dorothy Fabian, Barbara Kary, Margaret Kovalycaik, Kathleen Lazorzcyk, Dennis Maixner, Marian Nagel, MaryAnn Rabakozi, Helen Rahnefeld, Anna Rozanovich, Maryann Stagen, Eva Stashitsky, Patricia Galley.

Birthday Greeting

Happy Birthday go out this week to **Elena Kibitelsky** – 12; and **Anna Rozanovich** – 15. May God continue to enrich them life with the fullness of joy and happiness for many years – Mnogaya Lyeta!

Our Parish Life

♦ As people of faith, we must always be aware of the importance of acting in a socially responsible way; to give good example to others; and to act with charity toward all during this pandemic. Everything possible is being done to provide the church's sacramental life in a timely and reasonable way. The current situation remains very dangerous and fragile; while much has been achieved, there remains the potential that the gains could be lost by a second, more virulent wave.

♦ **The sacrament of Holy Confession.** As we return to church, confession by appointment is now available. Masks must be worn and social distancing must be observed. If you prefer, you can still take part in the Sacrament via phone; call Fr. Maryan to set up a time for both options.

♦ **St. Demetrius Memorial Saturday** is one of the Ancestral (Soul) Saturdays that the Church has set aside to remember those who have fallen asleep in Christ. As is our parish custom, deceased family members will be memorialized at the **Panikhida service on Saturday October 24** followed by Great Vesper service. Every one is encouraged to attend this service, for by following the commandment of Jesus to pray for one another, including those who are no longer with us, we firmly believe that these intercessions will bring us and them great benefit.

