



St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

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

The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor

3916 Hudson St. Metairie, LA 70006

www.stbasilneworleans.org * 504-888-8114 * sbno@att.net

Saturday: Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday: Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

March 11, 2018

The Third Sunday of Great Lent (The Sunday of the Holy Cross)

Varys Tone ~ Eothinon 7

Christ is in our Midst. He is and ever shall be.

To Our Guests:

Holy Communion is open only to those Orthodox Christians who are in good standing with the Church and have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and a recent confession. If you are not in good standing with the Church or are not an Orthodox Christian please do not be offended by this. While we are not yet in formal inter-communion with other faith traditions, we have much respect for their rites of worship and sanctuaries of prayer. We welcome you to our church and invite you to receive a blessing and partake of the antidoron at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Please Note: Food and drinks in church are not appropriate except for life threatening circumstances. This includes, but is not limited to, snack items, cheerios, fruit, fruit snacks, sandwiches, meals, or drink items of any sort. If your child cannot wait until liturgy is over in order to eat, please take him or her to the church hall. Thank you.

The Mission of St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church...

We love and worship God, proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ through the teachings of the Holy Orthodox Christian Faith, and serve those in our parish, our larger community, and God's people everywhere through worship, prayer, fellowship, education, charity, and outreach.

The Vision of St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church...

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church is committed to growth: growth of our members spiritually, and growth of our members in the participation of parish life. We are committed to the education in the faith of our members and non-members. We will identify and initiate strategies to increase the involvement of the teens and the 20-40 age group of the parish. We will reach out to the larger community with invitations and messages about the Holy Orthodox Christian Faith and St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church. We will identify and implement strategies to enhance our financial stability.

Saints du Jour (March 11)

Sophronios, patriarch of Jerusalem; Martyrs Thallo and Trophimos of Latakia; Venerable George of Sinai; Theodora of Arta, the empress; repose of Euthymios, bishop of Novgorod; Venerable Oengus the Culdee.

Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Varys or Grave Tone: Thou didst shatter death by Thy cross. Thou didst open paradise to the thief. Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy, and didst bid Thine apostles proclaim a warning that Thou hast risen, O Christ, granting to the world the great mercy.

Apolytikion of the Holy Cross – Tone 1: O Lord save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all adversaries, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thine estate.

Apolytikion of St. Basil the Great – Tone 1: Into all the world that received thy word went out thy voice; thereby didst thou divinely teach, explaining the nature of existing things and ordering the conduct of men. O venerable father, royal priesthood Basil, intercede with Christ our God for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion of Great Lent – Plagal Tone 4: To thee the champion leader, I thy servant offer thanks for victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror. As thou hast power invincible, free me from every danger that I may cry unto thee: Rejoice, O bride without bridegroom.

Prokeimenon: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

Verse: To You, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.

Epistle: The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

(Chapters 4:14-16; 5:1-6)

BRETHREN, since we have a high priest Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifices for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him who said to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten thee;" as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order Melchizedek."

Gospel: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

(Chapter 8:34-38; 9:1)

The Lord said, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake and

GOSPEL CONTINUED

the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation of him will the Son of man also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 14th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, March 16th – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. (4th Stasis)
Saturday, March 17th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy (Saturday of Souls)
Saturday, March 17th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, March 18th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (St. John Climacus)
Wednesday, March 21st – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, March 23rd – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. (All Stases)
Saturday, March 24th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, March 25th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Annunciation of Theotokos)
Wednesday, March 28th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, March 31st – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Lazarus Saturday)
Sunday, April 1st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Palm Sunday)
Sunday, April 1st – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Monday, April 2nd – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Tuesday, April 3rd – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday, April 4th – Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:30 P.M.
Thursday, April 5th – Vesperal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 5th – Orthros of the 12 Passion Gospels, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 6th – Royal Hours, 9:00 A.M.
Friday, April 6th – Unnailing Vespers, 3:00 P.M.
Friday, April 6th – Lamentations Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 7th – Vesperal Divine Liturgy & Chrismations, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, April 7th – Rush Procession & Orthros, 11:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 8th – Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy PASCHA, 12:00 A.M.
Sunday, April 8th – Agape Vespers, 1:00 P.M.
Saturday, April 14th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 15th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Ushers: Tania Russell & Zarah Russell. **Next Sunday:** Rose Hrabar & Naheel Rafeedie. **Epistle reader** is Bronwen Fitzpatrick.

Today's **coffee hour:** Team 6. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Our **Annual Pledge Drive** is currently underway for the calendar year 2018. All adult members of the parish are encouraged to complete and return a pledge form to the church office. Pledge forms may be found in the narthex of the church building. All pledges are held in strict confidence. Only the total number of pledges and the total pledge amount is made available to the public. Your financial support of our church community is your support of yourself and your contribution to help insure you and your family has a place to worship. Thank you and God bless you.

The **2018 Parish Life Conference** for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13 – Saturday, June 16, 2018. The Conference is at the Hilton Palm Beach Airport Hotel in West Palm Beach, Florida. For more information, please see the flyers in the narthex.

Meatfare Week began on Monday, Feb. 12. From that date until PASCHA it is our tradition to refrain from eating meat and meat products. From Pure Monday, Feb. 19, we observe the traditional fasting discipline of Great and Holy Lent (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, alcohol and oil) during the entire **Great Fast**, which lasts from Pure Monday through and including Great and Holy Saturday. On Saturdays and Sundays, however, alcohol and oil are allowed, except on Great and Holy Saturday when no oil is permitted. Fish, alcohol and oil are permitted on the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25) and Palm Sunday, April 1.

Each year we begin our Archdiocese-wide **Food For Hungry People Campaign** at this time. This campaign has raised millions of dollars over the 30+ years of its existence. Please take one of the coin boxes in the narthex home with you and place your coins in it during Great Lent and return the boxes at PASCHA. The proceeds will be collected and donated to Ozanam Inn, a New Orleans-based shelter for the homeless. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

The **Sacrament of Holy Confession** is good for the health and salvation of the soul and body. For long-term, good, physical health, regular visits to the family doctor are appropriate. Likewise, care for our souls is a necessity. If it is your desire to receive the Eucharist at Great and Holy PASCHA, then Father expects you to make every effort to care for your soul and have confession at least once during Great Lent.

Trisagion prayers are offered today for the repose of the soul of **Mulu Kumbi**. May her memory be eternal.

ICON DISCUSSION GROUP: Join the Ladies Guild on March 11 for a 30 minutes talk about icons. Cheryl Pituch who has been an iconographer for many years and is currently writing icons for a monastery in Pennsylvania will discuss her work, talk about icons, and answer questions. The ladies invite all who are interested in learning about one of Orthodoxy's very sacred traditions. This will be held in the meeting room. The ladies will hold a very short meeting before the talk. Ladies please bring your food/drink into the meeting room so that we can start our short meeting right after Church.

Lenten potluck meals shall be served after Presanctified Liturgies on Wednesday evenings during Great Lent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Parents and Church School Teachers, please note there is no Church School today and on April 1 & April 8.

Ladies Guild members and all women are asked to make a special effort to attend the **Akathist service on Friday March 23** at 6:30pm. We will sit together on the left side of the Church near the icon of the Theotokos.

An Easter Egg Hunt for the little people in our parish shall be held after Liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 1st. For more information, please see **Khouriyeh Pam Nugent**.

Twelve dozen boiled, **red eggs** are needed for the Paschal Liturgy. If you would like to bring one or two dozen, please place them in the bowl provided on the auxiliary table at the front of the church temple prior to the beginning of the Paschal services. Thank you.

Free English and Russian language classes started in October in the Church Hall. For more information, please see **Marianna Avery**. Thank you.

The church bulletin is available by email. Please tell Fr. Peter if you would like to receive it.

As of March 5, 2018, 39 pledges were received totaling \$99,050. The collection for March 4, 2018, totaled \$4,430.00, for a year-to-date total of \$25,557.12, a weekly average of \$2,839.68. As of March 4, 2018, our expenses are \$29,751.96, a weekly average of \$3,305.77. The Seminarian (2nd) Collection on Feb. 18 totaled \$611.00, which was forwarded to the Archdiocese Chancery. Thank you for your generosity.

RED CARNATIONS

The red carnations used in today's procession were graciously provided by:

David & Subdeacon Greg Abramson;

Phil & Rose Hrabar for the health of **Phil, Rose, Philip Jr., Brian, Geoffrey, Charles, John, Melissa, Tara, Sasha, Charles Jr., Calvin, Brandon, Alex, Nick, Zack, Trey, Michael, Andrew, Madison, Angelica, Gabriel, Al, Andy & Bonnie** (many years), and for the repose of the departed members of the **Hrabar, Duddish, Campbell, Goff, Do** and **Leiberman** families (memory eternal);

the **Kocic** family for the health of **Paulina, Vljako, Nikola, Ljubomir, Bella, Maximus, Ljiljana, Lauren, Karen & family** (many years), and for the repose of the departed members of the **Kocic, Djordjevic, Piskulic, Stevanovic, Pavasovic & Lebedina** families (memory eternal);

Oksana Mahecha for the repose of **Jose & Enerieth Cuellar, Mercedes & Rafael Mahecha, Anna Seskutova & Tatiana Rukhlina** (memory eternal).

Spiritual Counsels...

“A golden ring in the snout of a pig is a lovely woman who lacks discretion.” – Proverbs 11:22

St. Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem

Sophronius was born in Damascus of distinguished parents. Having acquired worldly wisdom, he was, nevertheless, not satisfied but went to seek and acquire spiritual wisdom. In the monastery [Lavra] of St. Theodosius, he found himself in the company of a monk, John Moschus, whom he chose for his teacher, and together with him traveled about and visited monasteries and those ascetics in Egypt who were practicing the life of asceticism. His watch word was "Each day learn more about spiritual wisdom." All that they had learned they wrote down and later published two books under the title, "Spiritual Meadow." Later on, they traveled to Rome, where Moschus died leaving a testament to Sophronius to have his body taken, either to Sinai or to the Monastery of St. Theodosius. Sophronius fulfilled the desires and wishes of his teacher and translated his body to the Monastery of St. Theodosius and thereafter remained in Jerusalem which, at that time, was liberated from the Persians. He was present at the Translation of the Honorable Cross from Persia which the Emperor Heraclius carried on his shoulders into the Holy City. The aged Patriarch Zacharias, who had also returned from bondage, did not live long thereafter when he took up habitation in the other world. Patriarch Zacharias was replaced by Modestus who died in 634 A.D. Modestus was replaced by Blessed Sophronius. He governed the Church for 10 years with exceptional wisdom and zeal. He rose up in defense of Orthodoxy against the heresy of Monotheletism which he condemned at his Council in Jerusalem before it was condemned at the Sixth Ecumenical Council [Constantinople, 680 A.D.]. He wrote The Life of St. Mary the Egyptian, compiled The Order of the Greater Blessing of Water, and introduced several new hymns and songs in the various liturgical services. When the Arab Caliph captured Jerusalem, Sophronius begged him to spare the lives of the Christians, which Omar insincerely promised. When Omar immediately began to plunder and maltreat the Christians in Jerusalem, Sophronius, with lamentation, prayed to God to take him from among the living on earth, so that he would not witness the desecration of the Holy Shrines. God heard his prayer and took Sophronius to Himself into His heavenly mansion in the year 644 A.D.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid