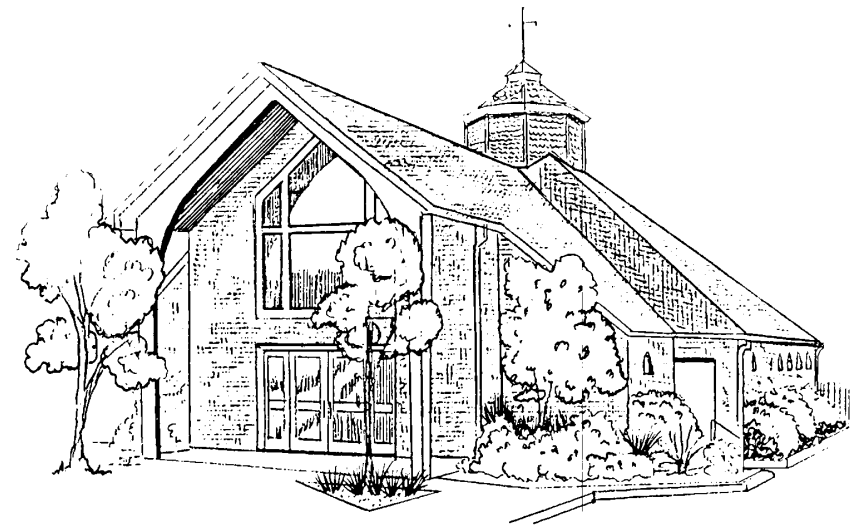


St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
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The Holy Apostle Thomas

Thomas was one of the Twelve Apostles. Through his doubt in the Resurrection of Christ the Lord, a new proof was given of that wonderful and saving event. The resurrected Lord appeared to His disciples a second time, in order to convince Thomas. The Lord said to Thomas: Reach hither thy finger, and behold My hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas replied: My Lord and my God (John 20:27-28). After the descent of the Holy Spirit, when the apostles cast lots to see where they would each go to preach, the lot fell to Thomas to go to India. He was a little saddened that he had to go so far away, but the Lord appeared to him and encouraged him. In India, St. Thomas converted many, both aristocrats and poor, to the Christian Faith, and established the Church there, appointing priests and bishops. Among others, Thomas converted two sisters to the Faith, Tertiana and Migdonia, both wives of Indian princes. Because of their faith, both sisters were ill-treated by their husbands, with whom they no longer wanted to live after their baptism. Eventually, they were allowed to go. Being freed of marriage, they lived God-pleasing lives until their repose. Dionysius and Pelagia were betrothed, but when they heard the apostolic preaching, they did not marry, but devoted themselves to the ascetic life. Pelagia ended her life as a martyr for the Faith, and Dionysius was ordained a bishop by the apostle. Prince Mazdai, Tertiana's husband, whose son, Azan, was also baptized by Thomas, condemned the apostle to death. Mazdai sent five soldiers to kill Thomas. They ran him through with their five spears, and thus the Holy Apostle Thomas rendered his soul into the hands of Christ. Before his death, he and the other apostles were miraculously brought to Jerusalem for the burial of the Most-holy Theotokos. Arriving too late, he wept bitterly, and the tomb of the Holy Most-pure One was opened at his request. The Theotokos' body was not found in the tomb: the Lord had taken His Mother to His heavenly habitation. Thus, in his tardiness St. Thomas revealed to us the wondrous glorification of the Mother of God, just as he had once confirmed faith in the Resurrection of the Lord by his unbelief.

St. Basil
Antiochian
Orthodox Church



October 6, 2024
The 15th Sunday After Pentecost
The 3rd Sunday of St. Luke

Welcome!

To Our Guests:

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. In our tradition, **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.** Please do not be offended by this if you are not an Orthodox Christian or in good standing with the Church. We welcome you to our church and invite you to receive a blessing and partake of the blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

In our tradition... *the church temple is a house of prayer. Upon entering it, please refrain from unnecessary conversation before, during and after church services, most especially during the Divine Liturgy from the time of the consecration of the Gifts until the last person has received the Eucharist. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, please come quietly forward to receive a piece of the antidoron and exit the church temple without talking. During coffee hour in the Church Hall is the appropriate place to exchange personal greetings and converse with one another. May God bless your reverence and piety.*

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15.

Gospel Reading: Luke 7:11-16.

Saints of the Day

Apostle Thomas, called "The Twin;" Venerable Kendeas of Cyprus; Venerable-martyr Makarios of St. Anne Skete on Athos; Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to America.

Spiritual Counsels...

"The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He will." Proverbs 21:1

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Oct. 5th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Oct. 6th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Oct. 12th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Oct. 13th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Oct. 19th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Oct. 20th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Oct. 26th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Oct. 27th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Nov. 2nd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Nov. 3rd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.



Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum

People who enjoy a close relationship with a dog, cat or horse sometimes ask whether animals have a soul. The question usually arises when a person grieves over the death of a pet and hopes, someday, to be reunited with it. The consensus of theologians is that the higher orders of animals do have souls but that their souls are different from human souls. While animals have comprehension, memory and experience emotions, their souls lack the ability to reason. There are many stories of saints who shared their lives with animals including bears and lions. Proverbs 12:10 says that "the righteous man shows pity for the souls of his cattle." Animals are inextricably linked to us in creation and together with them we "wait with eager longing" for the general resurrection of the dead (Romans 8:19). At that time, Isaiah foretells, "The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion together, and a little child shall lead them." (Isa. 11:6). Dostoevsky has written in *The Brothers Karamazov* that we are not to exalt ourselves above the animals since they are sinless. It seems that animals are in our future if we are ourselves rewarded with eternal life. We cannot say with certainty that we will be reunited with our pets someday, but we should pray to God that we will be found worthy to be in their company.—Theo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

An Archdiocese-wide **second collection** for our seminaries will be taken up today.

The Middle Eastern ladies of the parish are providing a **50th Anniversary fundraiser** for the parish on **Sunday, Oct. 13**, for coffee hour. The menu includes chicken, french fries, salad, stuffed cabbage, and brownies. Please see the posted flyers for ticket prices. Speak to **Nadia Khashou** or **Alexa Hamauei** for more details.

The **Ladies Guild** is scheduled to hold their October meeting next Sunday, Oct. 13, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

Fr. Peter will meet with the catechumens next Sunday, Oct. 13, after coffee hour. The discussion is open to all members of the parish.

A **Fall Retreat** is planned for Friday, Nov. 1 and Saturday, Nov. 2 with the **Very Reverend Father John Oliver** as our featured speaker. The topic is "The Indescribable Wonder of Being a Christian: the Virgin Mary as Our Guide". The first session is on Friday, Nov. 1, at 7:00 P.M. On Saturday, Nov. 2, Coffee is available from 9:30-10:00 A.M. and the second session is from 10:00-11:30 A.M. Lunch is from 11:30 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. The final session begins at 1:00 P.M. and will be, God willing, the first stasis for the Akathist Hymn to the Theotokos.

Today's Coffee Hour: Team 1. Thank you. **Next Week:** Fundraiser.