

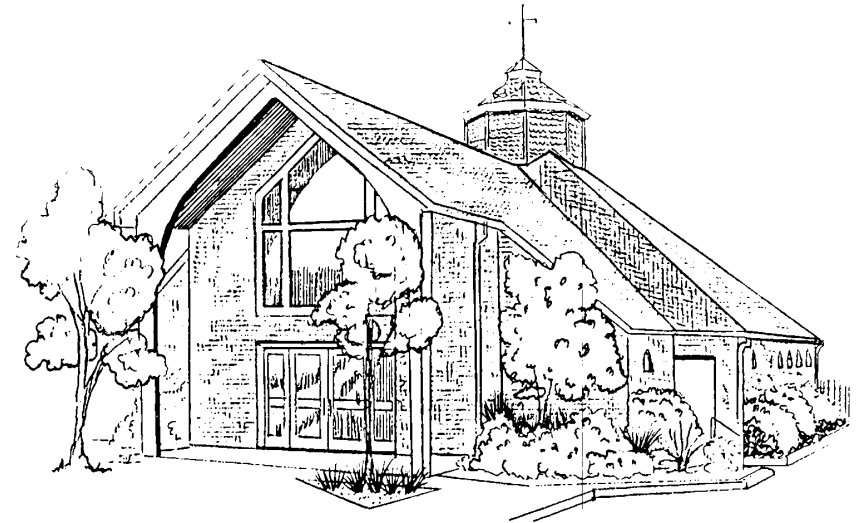
St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
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The Venerable Joachim Osogovsk

Joachim lived a life of asceticism in the second half of the 11th century on the Osogovsk mountain in a cave at a place called Sarandopor. Later, in this place, another ascetic, Theodore from the Field of Sheep, to whom St. Joachim appeared in a dream, built a church. Throughout the centuries, many miracles occurred over the relics of the Venerable Joachim and still do today.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



August 16, 2026
The 11th Sunday of St. Matthew

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.

*The weather is always very warm during the summer months. While we need to dress comfortably because of this please remember that **shorts or above-the-knee attire, strapless garments, "spaghetti" strap garments, sleeveless or "tanktop" type garments, and tight-fitting, open or low-cut garments are not appropriate, especially for men, women and teenagers. It has always been our tradition to dress modestly and without drawing attention to oneself. Thank you.***

Epistle Reading: I Corinthians 9:2-12

Gospel Reading: St. Matthew 18:23-35

Saints of the Day

The commemoration of the icon not-made-by-hands of our Lord in Edessa. Martyrs Diomedes the physician of Tarsus in Cilicia and Alkiviades; Venerable Gerasimos the New Ascetic of Kephallenia; Timothy, bishop of Epiros; New-martyrs Nikodemos of Meteora and Apostolos (Stamatios) of St. Laurence; the New-martyrs of Magaris.

Spiritual Counsels...

On the open ground, plan what you have to do, make your preparation in the field; then you may go and build your house. – Prov. 24:27



Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum

Many Christians have an inherited sense of what Jesus 'looks like'. Most likely it comes from the earliest icons of our Lord. Among them is the icon Orthodox people know as the 'Image Not-Made-by-Hands'. According to tradition, it came about when Abgar, a Syrian ruler, was seeking a cure for leprosy. He had heard about Jesus' healing powers. He wrote a letter to Christ asking him to come and cure him. If Jesus could not come in person, he instructed his court painter, Ananias, to paint Jesus' image since he believed that it, by itself, would suffice for a cure. Ananias could not get close enough to Jesus. Perceiving this, Jesus called over Ananias and promised to send his disciple to heal Abgar. Then Jesus called for water and a towel. He wiped his face with the towel. This left an imprint of His Divine Image. Ananias returned to Syria with the Image and, with it, Abgar's healing began. Later, the Apostle Thaddeus completed the cure when he visited Abgar. The icon was in Orthodox hands until seized by the Crusaders. It is believed to reside in a Roman Catholic church in Genoa, Italy. The Image Not-Made-By-Hands is visible at St. Basil directly above the large icon of the Theotokos in the Altar and in the Narthex under the icon of the Transfiguration of Christ. The observance of this miraculous icon occurs on August 16. We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One, and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ God. — Theo

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Aug. 15th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, Aug. 15th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Aug. 16th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Aug. 22nd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Aug. 23rd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Aug. 29th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

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

Saturday, Sept. 5th – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Sept. 6th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, Sept. 8th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, Sept. 12th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Sept. 13th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God willing, the **Parish Council** shall hold its August meeting today, Aug. 16th, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

The Middle Eastern ladies of the parish are preparing a **luncheon for the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos** today. Please see **Nadia Khashou** or **Alexa Hamauei** for details.

Parents and Church School teachers please note **Church School** shall begin, God willing, on Sunday, Aug. 23, after Divine Liturgy. A blessing prayer for all students returning to school shall be offered on Sunday, Aug. 16.

God willing, Fr. Peter will meet with all **inquirers and catechumens** after coffee hour on Sunday, August 23rd, in the nave of the church. The discussion is open to everyone.

God willing, Orthros and Divine Liturgy shall be celebrated on Friday, Sept. 8, at 9 A.M. and 10 A.M., respectively, for the **Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God**.

Today's Coffee Hour: Team 3. Thank you. Next Week: Team 4.

Our Littlest Members

Christ said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14). In the Orthodox Church, we embrace and welcome our littlest parishioners to join in the Divine Liturgy. They are our future and we want them raised from birth involved in the liturgical experience.

While generally, silence and stillness are valued in worship, the noise of children, especially if they are playfully making noise or expressing themselves, is often viewed as a part of the joyful and vibrant nature of Orthodox worship. It is considered "Holy Noise." The beautiful, resonating sound of our children's cooing or laughter is warming to our hearts.

However, if your child should become fussy, out of control, or inconsolable, please be respectful to those around you and leave the Nave to provide comfort for our little member. They can be brought outside or to St. Basil's Comfort Room. Once consoled and in good spirits, return with our sweet parishioner to resume the liturgy.

Please also remember that there is **NO FOOD** allowed in church and that includes baby formula (bottle-feeding) and snacks. If our little one is hungry, please bring them to the St. Basil's Comfort Room to feed them. The exception to that is our breastfed little ones. Breastfeeding during worship services is acceptable, but with a focus on discretion and modesty.

To our parents of little ones, we join you in loving prayer and support as you raise the next generation of Orthodox believers. GOD BLESS YOU!

ST. BASIL-NORTHSHORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

God being our helper, the Northshore Orthodox community shall have their next worship service at St. Michael's Episcopal Church Saturday, September 12, at 10:00 A.M. The address is 4499 Sharp Road, Mandeville, Louisiana, 70471. Everyone is welcome, Orthodox Christians as well as non-Orthodox. Food and drinks are encouraged for the social hour afterward. The next dates of worship are Saturdays, October 24, November 14, and December 12, at St. Michael Church at 10:00 A.M.