



## St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor

3916 Hudson St. Metairie, LA 70006

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

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



April 12, 2015

The Sunday of St. Thomas the Apostle

Tone: Of the Feast ~ Eothinon: Of the Feast ~ Ps. 109:8

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

### 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.

### Saints du Jour (April 19)

Hieromartyr Paphnoutios of Jerusalem; Tryphon, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Martyr Agathangelos of Esphigmenou monastery on Athos; Venerable Simeon of Philotheou monastery on Athos; Venerable John of Old Lavra in Palestine.

**Apolytikion of Thomas Sunday – Varys Tone:** While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Light. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

**Kontakion of Pascha – Plagal Tone 4:** When Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of hades. In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God, proclaiming ‘Rejoice’ to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thine apostles and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

**Prokeimenon:** Great is our Lord, and great is His power.

**Verse:** Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**Epistle:** The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

(Chapter 5:12-20)

IN THOSE DAYS, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon’s Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of

men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and pallets that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, “Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.”

**Gospel:** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John  
(Chapter 20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails and place my finger in the mark of the nails and place my hand in His side, I will not believe.” Eight days later His disciples were again in the house and Thomas was with them. Then the doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see My hands and put out your hand and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing.” Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that believing you may have life in His Name.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Parish Council** shall hold its monthly meeting next today, April 19, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

St. Basil Church shall have a post-Lenten Retreat on Friday evening, May 15, and all day Saturday, May 16. The theme of the retreat is **“Joyous Hearts: Living Christ in our Midst.”** Our retreat leaders are **Dr. Anthony Bashir** and **Richard Robbat**. Both men have worked across the archdiocese and have extensive experience in parish life. Dr. Bashir is a member of the Archdiocese Board of Trustees and is the nephew of His Eminence Metropolitan ANTHONY (Bashir) of thrice-blessed memory. More details are forthcoming. Please make plans to join us.

Please remember to return your **Lenten coin boxes**. They may be placed in the basket provided in the narthex. Donations by check should be payable to St. Basil Church and earmarked “Food For Hungry People Project.” Thank you and may God bless your generosity.

The **Ladies Guild** has a new project. During the coming months, they shall sponsor several coffee hours in order to ask parishioners to donate to a collection basket to help fund very needed repairs to the parish kitchen. Of note, the huge double refrigerator/freezer is on its last legs and needs to be replaced soon. Please support them with this worthwhile project.

**The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Parish Life Conference for the Diocese of Miami & the Southeast** is scheduled for June 10-14, 2015. St. Ignatius Church in Franklin (Nashville), Tennessee, is hosting the conference. The deadline for earlybird registration is May 15. Paper copies of the registration forms are available in the narthex. Online registration is available at [www.saint-ignatius.org/PLC](http://www.saint-ignatius.org/PLC)

**52<sup>nd</sup> Antiochian Archdiocese Convention, Boston, MA** – Sunday, July 19, 2015-Sunday, July 26, 2015 – Hosted by St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cambridge, MA, at the Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston, MA. Go to [www.acboston2015.com](http://www.acboston2015.com) to register for hotel rooms, events and Boston excursions and to obtain Souvenir Journal information and information about family activities and events. Rooms are booking quickly for this historic convention. Please call the church at (617) 547-1234 with any questions.

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

As of April 12, 2015, 46 pledges were received totaling \$97,752. Approximately \$2,660/week is needed in donations to meet our budgetary obligation. The collection for the week ending April 12, 2015, totaled \$4,143 for a year-to-date total of \$47,185.72.

### ***Spiritual Counsels...***

“When virtuous men are in power, the people are joyful, when the wicked rule, the people groan.”  
Proverbs 29:2

### **The Holy Martyrs Hesperus, Zoë, Cyriac and Theodulus**

In the time of the Emperor Hadrian (117-138), a pagan called Catallus bought Hesperus, his wife Zoë and their sons Cyriac and Theodulus as slaves. Being convinced Christians, they refused to eat anything that had been sacrificed to idols, but threw all that had been thus offered to the dogs, and themselves went hungry. Catallus, discovering this, became very angry and began to torture his slaves cruelly. He first tortured the children, but they remained unfaltering in the Faith and sought yet harsher tortures. At last all four of them were cast into a burning furnace where, after prayers of thanksgiving, they gave their spirits into the Lord's hands. Their bodies remained whole and untouched by the fire.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*