



## **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.**



**February 28, 2016**

**The Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

**Plagal Tone 2 ~ Eothinon 6 ~ Psalm 109:8**

*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.

### ***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 (February 28)***

Venerable Basil the Confessor, companion of Prokopios of Decapolis; Hieromartyr Proterios, archbishop of Alexandria; Righteous Kyra and Marana of Beroea in Syria; Apostles Nymphas and Euvoulos; New-martyr Kyranna of Thessalonica.

***Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Plagal Tone 2:*** When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred Body angelic pow'rs shown above Thy revered tomb, and the soldiers, who were to keep guard, became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin, and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

***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 the Sunday of the Prodigal Son – Tone 3:*** I have foolishly run away from thy fatherly glory, and I have wasted in evil deeds the wealth which Thou gavest me. Wherefore, I cry to Thee with the voice of the prodigal: I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father. Receive me who repent and make me as one of Thy hired servants.

***Prokeimenon:*** Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

***Verse:*** Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

***Epistle:*** The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians  
(Chapter 6:12-20)

BRETHREN, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" – and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I, therefore, take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him. Shun immorality. Every other sin, which a man commits, is outside the body but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which belong to God.

***Gospel:*** The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke  
(Chapter 15:11-32)

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything a great famine arose in that country and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven

### GOSPEL CONTINUED

and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.”” And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance his father saw him and had compassion and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to make merry.

Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has received him safe and sound.’ But the son was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have served you and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots you killed for him the fatted calf!’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead and is alive; he was lost and is found.’”

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Saturday of Souls)

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

Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> – Forgiveness Vespers, 5:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> – Akathist Hymn (1<sup>st</sup> Stasis), 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Annunciation)

Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> – Akathist Hymn (2<sup>nd</sup> Stasis), 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today’s Ushers:** Fitsum Ejigu and Rose Hrabar.

The **altar candle** is sponsored by **Cesar** and **Leila El-Hajj** in memory of **Elia El-Hajj**, Cesar’s father. May his memory be eternal.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

**Memorial prayers** are offered today by **Ioup family** for the repose of **George Ioup** (40 day). May his memory be eternal.

**Coffee hour** is hosted today by **Rose** and **Phil Hrabar**. Thank you.

**Choir practice** is held on Sunday mornings at 8:30 A.M. Choir members and other members of the parish should see our choir director, **Andy Mahoney**, for more information.

The parish needs someone to order and care for the flowers displayed at Pascha. If you are interested in helping beautify our church on this occasion, please see Fr. Peter.

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 forwarded to the Archdiocese Chancery for distribution to the needy. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

Our annual **Wine** and **Cheese Social** shall be held on Cheesefare Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, in the Church Hall after Divine Liturgy. Please bring enough wine, cheese and crackers for yourself and friends.

Meatfare Week begins on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. From that date until PASCHA it is our tradition to refrain from eating meat and meat products. From Pure Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 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 24).

Please join us for **Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers** at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral (1200 Robert E. Lee Blvd., NOLA) on Sunday, March 20, 2016, at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is invited to bring an icon from home. Refreshments will be available after vespers.

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.

**Lenten potluck meals** may be served after Presanctified Liturgies on Wednesday evenings and Friday mornings during Great Lent.

Our **Spring Parish Workshop** is scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 2016. If you have an interest in a particular activity or event, your interests, time, talent and expertise are welcomed and desired. More details are forthcoming.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

**St. Andrew Antiochian Orthodox Church** is the host parish for the **Parish Life Conference** for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast. The conference is scheduled for June 15-18, 2016, in Pensacola, Florida, at the Crowne Plaza Pensacola Grand Hotel. All members of the parish are encouraged to attend the conference; it's easy driving distance from us! To register for the conference, please go to <https://www.antiochianevents.org/129>. To register with the hotel, please go to <http://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/pensacola/pnsgh/hoteldetail>. The three letter, group block code is "PLC." Please enter your own specific arrival and departure dates between June 12-19, 2016. The cutoff date for the link is May 24, 2016. For telephone reservations at the hotel, contact 850-433-3336, Ext. 5527 & 5528. The hotel room rate is \$121/night. For additional information, please see Fr. Peter or contact St. Andrew Church at 850-469-9711.

Registration for **Camp St. Thekla** is currently underway. Registration forms may be downloaded at [www.campsthekla.org](http://www.campsthekla.org). Campers are accepted on a first come, first served basis; therefore, registration should occur as quickly as possible. Please see Fr. Peter for camper scholarship information. For more details, please contact Fr. Philip Rogers, Camp Director, at [CampStThekla@gmail.com](mailto:CampStThekla@gmail.com)

The **Orthodox Young Professionals Conference** will be held in New Orleans on August 18-21, 2016. "The Orthodox Young Professionals Conference is a 4 day, 3 night conference hosted by the Young Adult Ministry of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese. Young Orthodox Christians from across the country and all jurisdictions are invited to join together in fellowship and fun. The conference committee has been working since 2015 to plan an amazing opportunity for spiritual growth, future friendships, lasting memories and more." Young adults who are in their mid-twenties through thirties are invited to participate. For more information, please visit <http://www.oypc2016.com> or follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

**Baby Kits to be collected for needy in areas of crisis.** The IOCC distributes these emergency kits to people in areas of crisis and in emergency living conditions throughout the world. The IOCC is supported by the Orthodox Bishops of the USA. Thanks to the Antiochian Women in our country, the IOCC has sent thousands of kits to the Middle East, including Syria and host country refugee camps. As you can imagine this is an ongoing need. See items listed below. **The Ladies Guild will have a box in the Church Hall to collect the following Baby Kit items during March and April** (PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CLOSELY as these must go through Customs for inspection). **All items must be new and under 12 months in size:** cloth diapers, washcloths, gowns/sleepers, diaper pins, sweater or sweatshirt (can be crocheted or knit), receiving blanket (can be crocheted or knit).

**Ladies Guild Refrigerator Fund:** We have collected about two-thirds of the money needed to buy the needed professional refrigerator for our kitchen. We still need to raise about \$1000. It would be good to have it purchased before the summer heat arrives. Now we will make a special collection at coffee hour once a month, on the last Sunday of the month. Please help with whatever you can give when we announce these collections.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

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

As of February 21, 2016, 38 pledges were received totaling \$79,950. Approximately \$2,811/week is needed in donations to meet our budgetary obligation. The collection for February 21, 2016, totaled \$2,403.00 for a year-to-date total of \$22,304.96.

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

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

If You Would Like Your Home Blessed,  
Please Provide the Following Information And Return It To The Church Office:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

When Would You like Your Home Blessed?      Weekday or Weekend  
(Circle one)

Morning      Afternoon      Evening  
(Circle one)

After Theophany (Jan. 6)      After Pascha (May 1)  
(Circle one)

### **The Priestly-Martyr Proterius**

This saint was a presbyter in Alexandria at the same time when Dioscorus the heretic was patriarch of Alexandria. Dioscorus was one of the leaders of the Monophysite heresy, which taught that there was one nature in Christ [Human] and not two natures [Human and Divine]. Marcian and Plucheria also reigned at that time as emperor and empress. This holy and devout man Proterius stood up against Dioscorus for which he endured many miseries. Then the Fourth Ecumenical Council [Chalcedon, 451 A.D.] was convened at which the Monophysite heresy was condemned, Dioscorus removed from the patriarchal throne and banished into exile. Proterius, this true-believing man, was elected in his place. He governed the Church with zeal and love; a true follower of Christ. However, the followers of Dioscorus did not cease to create a disturbance in Alexandria. At the time of one such bloody disturbance, Proterius left the city with the intention of staying away temporarily. Along the way, the Prophet Isaiah appeared to him in a vision and said: "Return to the city, I am waiting to take you." Proterius returned to Alexandria and entered the church. Upon hearing about this, the enraged heretics rushed into the church, seized the patriarch and stabbed him throughout with knives. Six other Christians were also slain with Proterius. Thus, Proterius this wonderful shepherd of Christ's flock, received the martyr's wreath for the truth of Orthodoxy in the year 457 A.D.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*