



St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor

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

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



March 20, 2016

The First Sunday of Great Lent, known as the Sunday of Orthodoxy

Tone 1 ~ Eothinon 9 ~ 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 (March 20)

The holy fathers slain at the monastery of Mar Sabbas; New-martyr Myron of Crete.

Spiritual Counsels...

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

Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Tone 1: While the stone was sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world, for which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O Giver of life: Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy kingdom; glory to Thy providence, O Thou, Who alone art the Lover of mankind.

Apolytikion of the First Sunday of Great Lent – Tone 2: Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

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: Blessed are You, O Lord, God of our Fathers.

Verse: For You are righteous in all things You have done.

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

(Chapter 11:24-26, 32-40)

BRETHREN, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets – who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated – of whom the world was not worthy – wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And in all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

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

(Chapter 1:43-51)

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite

GOSPEL CONTINUED

indeed, in whom is no guile!” Nathanael said to Jesus, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, “I saw you under the fig tree,” do you believe? You shall see greater things than these.” And Jesus said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, ‘You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.’”

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 19th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, March 20th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, March 23rd – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, March 25th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Annunciation)
Friday, March 25th – Akathist Hymn (2nd Stasis), 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, March 26th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, March 27th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, March 30th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 1st – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Friday, April 1st – Akathist Hymn (3rd Stasis), 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 2nd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 3rd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, April 6th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 8th – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Friday, April 8th – Akathist Hymn (4th Stasis), 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 9th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Saturday of Souls)
Saturday, April 9th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 10th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, April 13th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 15th – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Friday, April 15th – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 16th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 17th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, April 20th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 22nd – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today’s Usherettes: Yazmin Incaprera and Marianna Avery. **Next Sunday:** Naheel Rafeedie and Mariam Ammari.

Today’s Epistle Reader: Georgette Ioup. **Next Sunday:** Rose Hrabar.

The **Parish Council** shall hold their monthly meeting today, March 20, after Divine Liturgy. All council members please attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

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.

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.

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

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.

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

Lentil Soup for Lent. The Ladies Guild has delicious homemade lentil soup for sale during lent in frozen quart containers for only \$6 each. A real bargain. Great for when you need a quick healthy addition to your dinner.

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.

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. For more information, please see the flyers in the Church Hall or speak with **Rob Booms** or **Fr. Peter**.

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

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.

A **book study** on "Thirty Steps to Heaven" will be available after coffee hour on Sundays and after Presanctified Liturgy on Friday mornings. Each book is \$16/copy and may be purchased through the church bookstore. Please see **Rob Booms** or **Fr. Peter** for more information.

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.

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

As of March 13, 2016, 39 pledges were received totaling \$80,600. Approximately \$2,811/week is needed in donations to meet our budgetary obligation. The collection for March 13, 2016, totaled \$1,504.00 for a year-to-date total of \$30,025.82.

The Venerable Martyrs, John and others from the Monastic Brotherhood of Saint Sabas the Sanctified near Jerusalem

This glorious monastery, which still exists today, was visited by our own Serbian St. Sava and endowed by several Serbian rulers. Many times it was attacked by brutal Arabs, pillaged and laid waste. But, by the Divine Providence of God, it was always restored and is preserved until today. During the reign of Constantine and Irene, it was attacked and pillaged by the Arabs. The monks did not want to flee but, counseling with their abbot Thomas, they said, "We have fled from the world into this wilderness for the sake of our love for Christ and it would be shameful if we fled from the wilderness out of fear of men. If we are slain here, we will be slain because of our love for Christ for Whose cause we came to live here." Having decided, they awaited the armed Arabs, unarmed as lambs before wolves. Some of the monks the Arabs killed with arrows and some they sealed off in the cave of St. Sabas. They lighted a fire at the entrance of the cave and all were suffocated by the smoke. Thus many of them died as martyrs for the sake of Christ and were translated into the Kingdom of Him Whom they loved and for Whose love they perished. They suffered honorably prior to the Feast of the Resurrection in 796 A.D., during the reign of Constantine and Irene and Elijah, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. A just punishment quickly befell these savage attackers. Returning to their tents, they began to quarrel among themselves and in mutual combat all were slain. This occurred in the year 796 A.D.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid