



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.



April 3, 2016

The Third Sunday of Great Lent And the Commemoration of the Holy Cross

Tone 3 ~ Eothinon 11 ~ 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 (April 3)

Venerable Nikita the Confessor and Joseph the Hymnographer; New-martyrs Paul and John.

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 3: Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death and became the First-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the great mercy.

Apolytikion of the Holy Cross – Tone 1: O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all adversaries, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thine estate.

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: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

Verse: To You, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.

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

(Chapters 4:14-16; 5:1-6)

BRETHREN, since we have a high priest Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifices for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him who said to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten thee;" as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order Melchizedek."

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

(Chapter 8:34-38; 9:1)

The Lord said, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation of him will the Son of man also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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.
Saturday, April 23rd – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Lazarus Saturday)
Saturday, April 23rd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 24th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Palm Sunday)
Wednesday, April 27th – Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:30 P.M.
Thursday, April 28th – Vespereal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 28th – Orthros of the 12 Passion Gospels, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 29th – Royal Hours, 10 A.M.
Friday, April 29th – Unnailing Vespers, 3:00 P.M.
Friday, April 29th – Lamentations Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 30th – Vespereal Divine Liturgy & Chrismations, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, April 30th – Rush Procession & Orthros, 11:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 1st – Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy PASCHA, 12:00 A.M.
Sunday, May 1st – Agape Vespers, 1:00 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Ushers: Michael Zelesnik and Mihai Leustean. **Next Sunday:** Fitsum Ejigu and Emma Nugent.

Coffee hour is hosted by Team 4 today; coffee hour is hosted by Team 5 next Sunday, April 10.

The **red carnations** used in today's procession were generously provided by **Alexa Hamauei** for the health of **Alexa, Albert & family** and **John & family**, and in memory of **Mike, Margaret, Sara** and the departed members of the **Hamauei** and **Kyame families**.

The **red carnations** used in today's procession were generously provided by **Jim** and **Sophia Hashek** for the health of **Sophia, Nicholas, Gena, Barbara, Michael, Stefan, Emily, Jason, Melissa, Peter, Rachel, Vasilios, Theo, Anyisia, Dan, James, Dorothy, Jeanette, Philip, Rose, George, Philip, Rosario, Michael, Aaron** and the **Kogos, Athas, Manthos families**, and in

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

memory of **Nicholas, Barbara, Beatrice, Sophia, George, George, Olga, Steve, Alex, Matthew, Dan, Joe, Peter, Mimi** and the departed members of the **Hashek** and **Centanni families**.

The **red carnations** used in today's procession were generously provided by **Philip** and **Elaine Khoury** for the health of the **Khoury family**, and in memory of **Osama, Ibrahim, Yosseff, Philip, Bahyeh, Farrah** and **Mariana**.

The **St. Basil Youth Group** shall hold their monthly meeting today, April 3, after Divine Liturgy. All teens and tweens are invited to attend.

The **St. Joseph Men's Fellowship** shall hold their monthly meeting next Saturday, April 9, at 5:00 P.M. All men of the parish are invited to attend.

The **Ladies Guild** shall hold their monthly meeting next Sunday, April 10, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

Attention parents and church school teachers: There is no church school today, April 3.

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.

On Saturday, April 9th, the **St. Basil Youth Group** will have lunch together after Liturgy that morning. After lunch, they will distribute church post cards to our neighbors in the surrounding area. Chaparones are needed. If you have 1-1½ hours to help them, your time is most appreciated.

On Sunday, April 17th, we shall hold an **Open House** after Divine Liturgy that morning. The neighbors from the surrounding neighborhood are invited to visit our parish. Your assistance in welcoming them is requested.

A **book and icon sale** will be held during our Open House on Sunday, April 17th. Donations of gently used or unwanted Orthodox books are welcome.

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.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

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).

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.

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.

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.

An Easter Egg Hunt for the little people in our parish shall be held after Liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 24th. For more information, please see **Khouriyeh Pam Nugent**.

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.

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.

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

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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 27, 2016, 43 pledges were received totaling \$84,880. Approximately \$2,811/week is needed in donations to meet our budgetary obligation. The collection for March 27, 2016, totaled \$1,079.26 for a year-to-date total of \$33,271.08.

SAINT NICETAS THE CONFESSOR

Nicetas was born in Bithynia in the city of Caesarea. His father, Filaret, after the death of his spouse, was tonsured a monk while Nicetas remained with his paternal grandmother. After reaching maturity and completing all of his studies, Nicetas entered the Monastery of Medikion, where the Abbot Nicephorus tonsured him a monk. After seven years of hardship and mortification, Patriarch Tarasius ordained him a priest (Heiromonk). Following the deaths of Abbot Nicephorus and Athanasius, the faithful companion of Nicetas, the monastic brotherhood elected him as abbot, against his will. St. Nicetas was a holy example and model of life and asceticism to his brethren for many years. When Leo V, the Armenian, was crowned emperor, after the pious Irene and the right-believing Emperors Nicephorus and Michael, the Iconoclastic struggle was again enflamed. The emperor deposed Patriarch Nicephorus and later banished him into exile and, in his place, elevated the heretic Theodotus Cassiteras, a man of impure life. Nicetas was also imprisoned and tortured but he remained steadfast in his Orthodoxy. He was led from prison to prison and suffered hunger, thirst, chills, oppressive heat and ridicule. He did not permit himself to waver. What particularly annoyed him was the laughter and scorn of a certain Nicholas. One night, Nicholas' deceased father appeared to him in a dream and rebuked Nicholas saying: “Withdraw from Nicetas, the servant of God.” From that moment on Nicholas repented and did not annoy the saint anymore and turned others away from annoying him also. When Leo V, the Armenian, met with a wicked death, the empire was taken over by the Orthodox Emperor Michael, the Stammerer, who liberated all the Orthodox sufferers. Nicetas then withdrew to an isolated place near Constantinople, where in prayer and thanksgiving to God for all, spent the remaining days of his earthly life. During his lifetime he worked many miracles through prayer. When he died his body was translated to his monastery. At the time of the funeral procession, many who were ill and who reached out and touched his body were healed. His relics were placed next to the grave of Nicephorus his spiritual father and Athanasius, his companion. This great hierarch died in the year 824 A.D.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid