



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.



July 24, 2016

The 5th Sunday after Pentecost and the 5th Sunday of Matthew

Tone 4 ~ Eothinon 5 ~ 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.

*As we move into the summer months, the weather is always very warm. 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.***

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 (July 24)

Great-martyr Christina of Tyre; New-martyrs Athanasios of Ikia and Theophilos of Zakynthos; Athenagoras the Confessor; Passion-bearers Boris (Roman) and Gleb (David).

Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Tone 4: Having learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation and proudly broke the news to the disciples saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

Apolytikion of St. Christina the Great-martyr – Tone 4: O Lord Jesus, unto Thee Thy lamb doth cry with a great voice: O my Bridegroom, Thee I love; and seeking Thee, I now contest, and with Thy baptism am crucified and buried. I suffer for Thy sake, that I may reign with Thee; for Thy sake I die, that I may live in Thee: accept me offered out of longing to Thee as a spotless sacrifice. Lord, save our souls through her intercessions, since Thou art great in mercy.

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 Theotokos – Tone 2: O undisputed Intercessor of Christians, constant Advocate before the Creator, do not despise the cry of us sinners, but in thy goodness come speedily to help us who call on thee in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for thou always protect those who honor thee.

Prokeimenon: O Lord, how magnificent are Your works. You have made all things in wisdom.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Epistle: The reading is from St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans.

(Chapter 10:1-10)

BRETHREN, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law, that everyone who has faith may be justified.

Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness, which is based on the law, shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down) or ‘Who will descend into the abyss’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith, which we preach) because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

Gospel: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew
(Chapters 8:28-34, 9:1)

At that time, when Jesus came to the country of the Gergesenes two demoniacs met Him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, “What have You to do with us, O Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?” Now a herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged Him, “If You cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine.” And He said to them, “Go.” So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled and going into the city they told everything and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw Him they begged Him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat He crossed over and came to His own city.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 30th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, July 31st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 6th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Transfiguration of our Lord)
Saturday, Aug. 6th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 7th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 13th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 14th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Monday, Aug. 15th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Dormition of the Theotokos)
Saturday, Aug. 20th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 21st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today’s Ushers: Stephen Zelesnik & Tania Russell. **Next Sunday:** Dwight Gillis & Helen Merid.

Coffee hour is provided today by Team 5. Thank you.

Come cool off this summer and have a good time and some fellowship at our youth swim party Saturday, August 6 from 4 pm to 7:00 pm. This is for children, grandchildren, friends, and for folks who never quite grew up and young at heart. Adults of younger children are welcome to. The swim party will be at the Elks Club on 2215 Cleary Ave. in Metairie. It is about 1.5 miles from the church. The Elks pool is a junior Olympic pool that goes from 3 foot of water to 9 feet. It also has a changing area, showers, tables and chairs, and covered area for those not swimming. One lifeguard will be on duty as well. Please contact **Pam Nugent** if you are coming because we may have to add another life guard if we are having a lot folks. We are also planning on grilling and have drinks. This will be a very fun event! Looking forward to seeing everyone.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

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.

Book study of "Thirty Steps to Heaven" will restart the Sunday after Pentecost, June 26. We will meet from 11:20 to 12 noon each Sunday except for the third Sunday of the month. It's OK to bring your snacks and drink if you have not finished them. If you don't have the book, you can order it from **Larry Jones**. In the meantime, ask **Rob Booms** (rtbooms@earthlink.net) for a copy of the next chapter on "Repentance."

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.

Ladies Guild Refrigerator Fund: We have collected about two-thirds of the money needed to buy the professional refrigerator for our kitchen. We still need to raise about \$1000. 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.

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

As of July 3, 2016, 46 pledges were received totaling \$99,650. Our operating budget for this year is \$146,125.00. Approximately \$2,810/week is needed to meet this obligation. The collection for July 10, 2016, totaled \$1,236.19 for a year-to-date total of \$73,823.11, a weekly average of \$2,636.54. As of July 7, 2016, our expenses are \$84,347.73, a weekly average of \$3,123.99.

Spiritual Counsels...

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

The Holy Female Martyr Christina

Christina was born in the city of Tyre the daughter of Urban, the imperial deputy, an idol worshipper. The reason her parents gave her the name of Christina is unknown but it concealed the mystery of her future following of Christ. Until age 11, she knew nothing of Christ. When she reached the age of 11 her father, in order to conceal her from the world because of her extraordinary beauty until she fully matured, designated the highest floor of a tall tower for her to live. All the comforts of life were afforded her; slaves were given to serve her, gold and silver idols were placed in her quarters so that she may offer daily sacrifices to them. However, in this idolatrous environment, it was difficult for the soul of young Christina. Looking out through the window each day at the sun and all the beauty of the world then, again at night, at the miraculous cluster of shining stars, Christina, through her own natural understanding came to the firm belief in the One Living God. The merciful God, seeing her longing for the truth, sent His angel who traced the sign of the cross upon Christina and called her the bride of Christ and completely instructed her in godly understanding. Christina then smashed all the idols in her quarters and provoked wild fury in her father. Her father brought her to trial and handed her over to be tortured and, after that, threw her into the dungeon with the intention to behead her the next day. That night Urban, completely healthy, parted from his soul and went to the grave before his daughter. After that two imperial deputies, Dion and Julian, continued to torture this holy virgin. Christina's courageous endurance and her miracles, which she worked by the power of God, converted many pagans of Tyre to Christianity. During the torturing of Christina, Dion suddenly fell dead in the midst of the people. Dion's successor, Julian, severed the breasts and tongue of Christina. The martyr took her tongue and threw it into Julian's face and he was instantly blinded. Finally her suffering for Christ ended by death beneath the sharp sword and her life continues in the immortal kingdom of the angels. Christina honorably suffered in the third century.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid