



## **St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church**

**The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor**

**3916 Hudson St. Metairie, LA 70006**

**[www.stbasilneworleans.org](http://www.stbasilneworleans.org) \* 504-888-8114 \* [sbno@att.net](mailto:sbno@att.net)**

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

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



**January 1, 2017**

**The Feast of the Circumcision in the Flesh of our Lord JESUS CHRIST**

**The Feast of St. Basil the Great**

**Tone 3 ~ Eothinon 6**

*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 (January 1)**

The Circumcision in the Flesh of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ; Basil the Great, archbishop of Ceasarea in Cappadocia; New-martyr Peter of the Peloponnesos.

***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 Feast of the Circumcision of our Lord – Tone 1:*** O most compassionate Lord, while yet God after thine essence, thou didst take human likeness without transubstantiation; and having fulfilled the law thou didst accept willingly circumcision in the flesh, that thou mightiest annul the shadowy signs and remove the veil of our passions. Glory to thy goodness, glory to thy compassion, glory to thine ineffable condescension, O Word.

***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 Feast of the Circumcision of our Lord – Tone 3:*** The Master of all endureth humiliation and is circumcised for the iniquities of mankind: for he is good and granteth salvation to the world. And in the highest the High Priest of the Creator, clothed with light, the divine initiate of Christ, Basil, rejoiceth.

***Prokeimenon:*** My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall bring forth understanding.

***Verse:*** Hear this, all people.

***Epistle:*** The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians.  
(Chapter 2:8-12)

BRETHREN, see to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness of life in Him, Who is the head of all rule and authority. In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, Who raised Him from the dead.

***Gospel:*** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke  
(Chapter 2:20,21,40-52)

At that time, the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen as it had been told them.

And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called Jesus, the Name give by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.

Now His parents went up to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old they went up to Jerusalem according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. Joseph and His mother did not know

**GOSPEL CONTINUED**

it, but supposing Him to be in the company they went a day’s journey and they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find Him they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. And when they saw them they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously.” And He said to them, “How is it that you sought Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?” And they did not understand the saying, which He spoke to them. And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and His mother kept all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

- Friday, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Theophany)
- Friday, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> – Badnjak Service, 6:30 P.M.
- Saturday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions
- Sunday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
- Saturday, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
- Sunday, Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
- Saturday, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
- Sunday, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
- Saturday, Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
- Sunday, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today’s Ushers:** Pam Nugent & Terr Mehari.

Our Annual Pledge Drive is currently underway for the calendar year 2017. All adult members of the parish are encouraged to complete and return a pledge form to the church office. Pledge forms may be found in the narthex of the church building. All pledges are held in strict confidence. Only the total number of pledges and the total pledge amount is made available to the public. Your financial support of our church community is your support of yourself and your contribution to help insure you and your family has a place to worship. Thank you and God bless you.

Our **Annual General Parish Meeting** is scheduled for January 29, 2017, after Divine Liturgy and shall convene in the Church. All members of the parish are encouraged to attend the meeting. Only those adults, who have been a member of the parish for at least one year and are in good sacramental and financial standing with the parish, may vote.

**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 May 19-21, 2017, we shall celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish. His Grace Bishop ANTHONY of the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest shall preside over our festivities. As gifts to the parish on this occasion, we are attempting to purchase a decorative chalice and discos set to use for Divine Liturgy during the festive periods of the year and on major feasts of the church. Approximately \$5,000.00 is needed to purchase this new set. Pictures of this chalice and discos set may be seen on the bulletin board outside the kitchen. Donations of any amount are welcome. Please see Fr. Peter if you are interested in helping with these items.

As of Dec. 27, 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 Dec. 25, 2016, totaled \$2,196.30 for a year-to-date total of \$125,055.41, a weekly average of \$2,404.91. As of Dec. 25, 2016, our expenses are \$139,480.78, a weekly average of \$2,682.32. Total donations and pledges to the church, not including funds transfers, was approximately \$127, 579.22. Compared to operating expenses, this was a shortfall of \$11,901.56 for the year 2016.

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

***Spiritual Counsels...***

“Treasures wickedly come by give no benefit, but right conduct brings delivery from death.” – Proverbs 10:2

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 After Theophany (Jan. 6)?

Morning      Afternoon      Evening

(Circle one)

Weekday   or   Weekend

(Circle one)

### **The Circumcision of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ**

The eighth day following His birth, the Divine Child was presented in the Temple and circumcised according to the Law existing in Israel since the time of Abraham. On this occasion, He was given the name Jesus, which the Archangel Gabriel announced to the All-Holy Virgin Mary. The Old Testament circumcision was the proto-type of the New Testament baptism. The circumcision of our Lord shows that He received upon Himself the true body of man and not just seemingly, as was later taught of Him by heretics. Our Lord was also circumcised because He wanted to fulfill the entire Law, which He Himself gave through the prophets and forefathers. In fulfilling the written Law, He replaced it with Baptism in His Holy Church as was proclaimed by the Apostle Paul: “For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision, but only a new creation” (Galatians 6:15).

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*