



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.



February 12, 2017

The Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Tone 1 ~ Eothinon 1

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 12)

Meletios, archbishop of Antioch; New-martyr Christos of Constantinople; Alexis, metropolitan of Moscow.

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 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 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

GOSPEL CONTINUED

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. 18th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Saturday of Souls)

Saturday, Feb. 18th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Feb. 19th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Meatfare Sunday)

Saturday, Feb. 25th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Feb. 26th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Cheesefare Sunday)

Sunday, Feb. 26th – Forgiveness Vespers, 5:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 1st – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March 3rd – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Friday, March 3rd – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. (1st Stasis)

Saturday, March 4th – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, March 5th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Sunday of Orthodoxy)

Sunday, March 5th – Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers, 5:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 8th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March 10th – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Friday, March 10th – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. (2nd Stasis)

Saturday, March 11th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Saturday of Souls)

Saturday, March 11th – Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, March 12th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Gregory Palamas)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today’s Ushers: Michael Zelesnik and Helen Merid. **Next Week:** Sevin and Tania Russell.

Coffee hour is hosted by Team 1 today. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 2.

We fast on Wednesday and Friday this week.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

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.

The **Ladies Guild** shall hold their monthly meeting today, Sunday, Feb. 12th, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are welcome to participate.

The **Parish Council** shall hold their monthly meeting next Sunday, Feb. 19th, after Divine Liturgy. All council members please attend.

In an intercommunity event, we shall host Fr. George Wilson and the faithful of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral for the **Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers** on Sunday, March 5, at 5:00 P.M. Refreshments shall be served after vespers. Please join us and get to know our Orthodox neighbors.

Meatfare Week begins on Monday, Feb. 20. From that date until PASCHA it is our tradition to refrain from eating meat and meat products. From Pure Monday, Feb. 27, 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, only alcohol. Fish, alcohol and oil are permitted on the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25) and Palm Sunday, April 9.

Our annual **Wine and Cheese Social** shall be held on Cheesefare Sunday, Feb. 26, in the Church Hall after Divine Liturgy. Please bring enough wine, cheese and crackers for yourself and friends.

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 shall be served after Presanctified Liturgies on Wednesday evenings during Great Lent.

Approximately 100 **Red Carnations** are needed for the veneration of the Holy Cross on Sunday, March 19. If you are interested in donating all or part of these flowers, please fill out one of the envelopes in the narthex and on the “Special Occasion” line, please write, “Red Carnations.” Include your commemorations, donation and turn the envelope in to the church office. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Our new **Parish Council members** are **David Abramson, Marianna Avery, Mark Fleming** and **Alexa Hamauei**. They join our existing Council members, **Rob Booms, Donna Goodman, Helen Merid, Yazmin Incaprera** and **Dwight Gillis**. Many thanks to **Larry Jones, Andy Mahoney** and **Tania Russell**, who are rotating off the Council as voting members.

On May 19-21, 2017, we shall celebrate the 40th 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. To date we have \$800 in donations. An anonymous donor is challenging other members of the parish to match his donation of \$1,000.00. A picture 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 wish to make a donation.

As of Feb. 5, 2017, 31 pledges were received totaling \$80,200. The collection for Feb. 5, 2017, totaled \$3370.69 for a year-to-date total of \$16,020.02, a weekly average of \$2,670.00. As of Feb. 5, 2017, our expenses are \$18,411.01, a weekly average of \$3,068.50.

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

Spiritual Counsels...

“The blessings of the Lord are on the head of the virtuous man, premature mourning stops the mouths of the wicked.” – Proverbs 10:6

SAINT MELETIUS, ARCHBISHOP OF ANTIOCH

Meletius, this great and holy man, was an exceptional interpreter and defender of Orthodoxy. His entire life was dedicated to a struggle against the Arian heresy, which did not recognize the Son of God as God and blasphemed the Holy Trinity. On three occasions, Meletius was banished and exiled from his archiepiscopal throne to Armenia. The struggle between the Orthodox and the heretics was waged so bitterly that, on one occasion, when St. Meletius was preaching to the people in church concerning the Holy Trinity in unity, his own deacon, a heretic, ran over to him and covered his mouth with his hand. Not being able to speak with his mouth covered, Meletius spoke in signs. He raised his clenched hand in the air, opening at first his three fingers and showing them to the people. After that, he closed his hand and raised up one finger. He participated in the Second Ecumenical Council [Constantinople, 381 A.D.], where Emperor Theodosius showed him special honor. At this Council, God revealed a miracle through His hierarch. When Meletius was propounding the dogma of the Holy Trinity to Arius, at first he only raised three fingers, separately one by one, and after that folded them into one. At that moment, before all those present, a light shone like lightning from his hand. At this Council, Meletius confirmed Gregory the Theologian on the patriarchal throne in Constantinople. Earlier Meletius had ordained Basil the Great to the diaconate and baptized John Chrysostom. After the close of the Council, St. Meletius completed his earthly life in Constantinople. His relics were translated to Antioch.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid