



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 5, 2017

The First Sunday of Great Lent (Sunday of Orthodoxy)

Tone 4 ~ Eothinon 4

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 5)

Heiromartyr Konan of Isauria, Martyrs Archelaos and his 152 companions in Egypt; New-martyr John the Bulgarian; repose of Nikolai of Zhicha and Ochrid.

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 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 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."

GOSPEL CONTINUED

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

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, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, March 12th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (St. Gregory Palamas)
Wednesday, March 15th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, March 17th – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Friday, March 17th – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. (3rd Stasis)
Saturday, March 18th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Saturday of Souls)
Saturday, March 18th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, March 19th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Holy Cross Sunday)
Wednesday, March 22nd – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, March 24th – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Friday, March 24th – Great Vespers with Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. (4th Stasis)
Saturday, March 25th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Annunciation)
Saturday, March 25th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, March 26th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (St. John Climacus)
Wednesday, March 29th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, March 31st – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Friday, March 31st – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. (All Stases)
Saturday, April 1st – No Great Vespers & Confessions
Sunday, April 2nd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Mary of Egypt)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today’s Ushers: Khouriyeh Pam Nugent and Emma Nugent. **Next Week:** Marianna Avery and Tania Russell.

Coffee hour is provided today by Team 3. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 4.

The **St. Basil Youth Group** shall hold their monthly meeting today after Divine Liturgy. All teens and tweens of the parish are invited.

The **Ladies Guild** shall hold their monthly meeting next Sunday, March 12, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited.

The Great Fast began last Monday. We do not eat again until Pascha.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

A second collection shall be taken today across our archdiocese. The purpose of the collection is to support our seminarians, who are preparing for the holy priesthood. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you and may God bless your generosity.

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.

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.

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.

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 distributed to the needy. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

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.

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

Lenten potluck meals shall be served after Presanctified Liturgies on Wednesdays in Great Lent.

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. 26, 2017, 34 pledges were received totaling \$81,750. The collection for Feb. 26, 2017, totaled \$1,801.00 for a year-to-date total of \$21,822.27, a weekly average of \$2,424.70. As of Feb. 28, 2017, our expenses are \$26,824.67, a weekly average of \$2,980.52.

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

Spiritual Counsels...

“He walks secure whose ways are honorable, but he who follows crooked ways is soon discovered.”

– Proverbs 10:9

The Holy Martyr Conon of Isauria

He was brought up in the Faith of Christ and baptized in the name of the All-Holy and Life-giving Trinity by the Archangel Michael, the Commander of the Angelic Hosts of God. Until his death, the archangel of God invisibly watched over him. Conon was illumined and empowered by the Grace of the Holy Spirit so that his heart was not driven by anything worldly but only by the spiritual and heavenly. When his parents forced him into marriage, the first evening he took a candle and placed it under a utensil and asked his bride, "Which is better, light or darkness?" She replied, "Light." He then began to talk to her about the Faith of Christ and the spiritual life as being far more superior and more appealing than the physical. In this he succeeded. Afterwards Conon converted his wife and her parents to the Faith of Christ. Conon and his wife lived as brother and sister. Shortly thereafter, his wife and parents died, and he withdrew completely from this worldly life and devoted himself completely to prayer, fasting and pious thoughts. He performed great miracles through which he converted many to Christianity. Among other examples, Conon compelled evil spirits to serve him. During the time of a persecution, he was captured, tortured and pierced throughout with knives. The sick anointed themselves with his blood and they were healed. After that, he lived for two additional years in his town of Isauria and presented himself before the Lord. This glorious saint lived and was martyred in the second century.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid