



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 23, 2017

The Sunday of Thomas the Apostle

Tone: Of the Feast ~ Eothinon: Of the Feast

Glory to Jesus Christ. Glory to God forever.

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 (April 23)

Great-martyr George the trophy-bearer; Martyr Alexandra the Empress; Martyr Alexandra the Empress; Martyr Glykerios of Nicomedia; New-martyrs George of Ptolemais and Lazarus of Bulgaria.

Apolytikion of Thomas Sunday – Varys or Grave Tone: While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Light. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

Apolytikion of St. George the Trophy-bearer – Tone 4: As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings, victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God for our souls’ salvation.

Kontakion of Pascha – Plagal Tone 4: When Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of hades. In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God, proclaiming ‘Rejoice’ to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thine apostles and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

Prokeimenon: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord.

Verse: Hear my voice, O Lord.

Epistle: The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

(Chapter 12:1-11)

ABOUT THAT TIME, Herod the King laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He killed James, the brother of John, with the sword; and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the Church.

The very night when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison; and behold, an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, “Wrap your mantle around you and follow me.” And he went out and followed him; he did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him; And Peter came to himself, and said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”

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

(Chapter 20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they

GOSPEL CONTINUED

saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails and place my finger in the mark of the nails and place my hand in His side, I will not believe.” Eight days later His disciples were again in the house and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see My hands and put out your hand and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing.” Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that believing you may have life in His Name.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 29th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 30th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, May 6th – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, May 7th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, May 13th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 14th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, May 20th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 21st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today’s Ushers: Stephen Zelesnik & Tania Russell. **Next Week:** Mihai Leustean & Emma Nugent.

Coffee hour: Team 3. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 4.

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. The Rev. Fr. Mark McNary, pastor of St. Peter Church in Fort Worth, Texas, and The Rev. Deacon Dan Gray and Theresa Gray shall also join us. Activities include Great Vespers at 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, May 20, followed by a catered meal in the Church Hall. Tickets are \$35 per person. Children under 12 eat for free. The menu includes chicken with rice, kibbe, salad, vegetables and dessert, with water, tea or soft drinks. A cash bar will also be available for wine or beer. On Sunday, Orthros is scheduled for 8:30 A.M. followed by an hierarchical divine liturgy. A potluck coffee hour shall be served afterwards.

Please remember to return your Lenten coin boxes. The collection shall be forwarded to Ozanam Inn, a local homeless shelter. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

There is no fasting from Pascha until the Feast of the Ascension.

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.

The April **Parish Council meeting** is rescheduled for Sunday, April 30, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please make note of the change. This will be our only Council meeting before His Grace Bishop ANTHONY arrives.

As of April 20, 2017, 38 pledges were received totaling \$84,530. The collection for April 16, 2017, totaled \$2,189.15 for a year-to-date total of \$56,083.75, a weekly average of \$3,505.23. As of April 13, 2017, our expenses are \$55,382.58, a weekly average of \$3,461.41.

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

Spiritual Counsels...

“The virtuous man’s wage affords him life, but destruction is all the wicked man earns.” – Proverbs 10:16

Saint George, the Holy and Great Martyr

This glorious and victorious saint was born in Cappadocia the son of wealthy and virtuous parents. His father suffered for Christ and his mother then moved to Palestine. When George grew up, he entered the military, where in his twentieth year, attained the rank of a Tribune and as such was in the service of the Emperor Diocletian. When Diocletian began the terrible persecution against Christians, George came before him and courageously confessed that he is a Christian. The emperor had him thrown into prison and ordered that his feet be placed in a stockade of wooden hobbles and that a heavy stone be placed on his chest. After that, the emperor commanded that George be tied to a wheel under which was a board with large nails and he was to be rotated until his entire body became as one bloody wound. After that, they buried him in a pit with only his head showing above the ground and there they left him for three days and three nights. Then George was given a deadly poison to drink by some magician. But, through all of these sufferings, George continuously prayed to God and God healed him instantly and saved him from death to the great astonishment of the people. When he resurrected a dead man through his prayer, many then accepted the Faith of Christ. Among these also was Alexandra, the wife of the Emperor Athanasius, the chief pagan priest and the farmers: Glycerius, Valerius, Donatus and Therinus. Finally the emperor ordered George and his wife Alexandra beheaded. Blessed Alexandra died on the scaffold before being beheaded. St. George was beheaded in the year 303 A.D. The miracles which have occurred over the grave of St. George are without number. Numerous are his appearances, either in dreams or openly, to those who have invoked him and implored his help from that time until today. Enflamed with love for Christ the Lord, it was not difficult for this saintly George to leave all for the sake of this love: rank, wealth, imperial honor, his friends and the entire world. For this love, the Lord rewarded him with the wealth of unfading glory in heaven and on earth and eternal life in His kingdom. In addition, the Lord bestowed upon him the power and authority to assist all those in miseries and difficulties who honor him and call upon his name.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid