



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.



August 6, 2017

The Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ

Tone & 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 (August 6)

The Transfiguration of Christ.

Apolytikion of the Transfiguration – Grave Tone: When, O Christ our God, Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, Thou didst reveal Thy glory to Thy Disciples in proportion as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light also enlighten us sinners, through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Bestower of light, glory to Thee.

Kontakion of the Transfiguration – Grave Tone: Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could bear it; so that when they would behold Thee crucified, they would understand that Thy passion was voluntary and would proclaim to the world that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

Prokeimenon: O Lord, how magnificent are Your works.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Epistle: The reading is from St. Peter's Second Universal Letter.

(Chapter 1:10-19)

BRETHREN, be more zealous to confirm your call and election, for if you do this you will never fall, so there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I intend always to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to arouse you by way of reminder, since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. And I will see to it that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For when He received honor and glory from God the Father and the voice was borne to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased," we heard this voice borne from heaven, for we were with Him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word made more sure. You will do well to pay attention to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

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

(Chapter 17:1-9)

At that time, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them and his face shone like the sun and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this they fell on their faces and were filled

GOSPEL CONTINUED

with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise and have no fear.” And when they lifted up their eyes they saw no one but Jesus only.

And as they were coming down the mountain Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision until the Son of man is raised from the dead.”

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Aug. 12th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Aug. 13th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Aug. 19th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Aug. 20th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Aug. 26th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Aug. 27th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, Aug. 29th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (St. John the Baptist)

Saturday, Sept. 2nd – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Sept. 3rd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today’s Ushers: Tania & Sevin Russell or Dwight Gillis. **Next Week:** Michael & Stephen Zelesnik.

Coffee hour: Team 5. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 6.

The **Ladies Guild** shall hold their monthly meeting next Sunday, Aug. 13th, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend.

The Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God is on Tuesday, Aug. 15. **St. Basil Church** and **Holy Trinity Cathedral**, as God so wills, shall hold a joint service at the cathedral (1200 Robert E. Lee Blvd./NOLA). Orthros shall begin at 9 A.M.; Divine Liturgy shall begin at 10 A.M. Please join us as your schedules permit.

Our annual **St. Basil International Food Festival** is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 3rd & Saturday, Nov. 4th. Details regarding food workshop dates and times are forthcoming. Please see our **Festival Chairwoman, Alexa Hamauei**, for more information.

As of July 17, 2017, 41 pledges were received totaling \$87,180. The collection for July 23, 2017, totaled \$1,174.75.00 and the collection for July 30, 2017, totaled \$2,201.47 for a year-to-date total of \$92,338.40, a weekly average of \$2,978.66. As of July 26, 2017, our expenses are \$104,313.94, a weekly average of \$3,364.97.

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

Spiritual Counsels...

“The Lord is a stronghold for the man of honest life, for evildoers nothing but ruin.” – Proverbs 10:29

The Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ

In the third year of His preaching, the Lord Jesus often spoke to His disciples of His approaching passion but at the same time of His glory following His suffering on the Cross. So that His impending passion would not totally weaken His disciples and that no one would fall away from Him, He, the All-wise, wanted to partially show them His divine glory before His passion. For that reason, He took Peter, James and John with Him and, with them, went out at night to Mt. Tabor and there was transfigured before them: "And His face shone as the sun and His garments became white as snow" (St. Matthew 17:2). There appeared along side Him, Moses and Elijah, the great Old Testament prophets. And, seeing this, His disciples were amazed. Peter said: "Lord, it is good for us to be here: if You will, let us make here three tabernacles; one for You, one for Moses and one for Elijah" (St. Matthew 17:4). While Peter still spoke, Moses and Elijah departed and a bright cloud overshadowed the Lord and His disciples and there came a voice from the cloud saying: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear Him" (St. Matthew 17:5). Hearing the voice, the disciples fell to the ground on their faces as though dead and remained that way, lying in fear, until the Lord came near to them and said: "Arise and be not afraid" (St. Matthew 17:7). Why did the Lord take only three disciples on Tabor and not all? Because Judas was not worthy to behold the divine glory of the Teacher, Whom he will betray and the Lord did not want to leave him [Judas] alone at the foot of the mountain so that the betrayer would not, by that, justify his betrayal. Why was our Lord transfigured on a mountain and not in a valley? So as to teach us two virtues: love of labor and godly-thoughts. For, climbing to the heights required labor and height represents the heights of our thoughts, i.e., godly-thoughts. Why was our Lord transfigured at night? Because, the night rather than the day is more suitable for prayer and godly-thoughts and because the night, by its darkness, conceals all the beauty of the earth and reveals the beauty of the starry heavens. Why did Moses and Elijah appear? In order to destroy the error of the Jews, as though Christ is one of the prophets; Elijah or Jeremiah or some other that is why He appears as a King above the prophets and that is why Moses and Elijah appear as His servants. Until then, our Lord manifested His divine power many times to the disciples but, on Mt. Tabor, He manifested His divine nature. This vision of His Divinity and the hearing of the heavenly witness about Him as the Son of God, should serve the disciples in the days of the Lord's passion, in strengthening of an unwavering faith in Him and His final victory.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid