



## St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor

3916 Hudson St. Metairie, LA 70006

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

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



November 12, 2017

St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria & the 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke

Tone 6 ~ Eothinon 1

*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 through 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 (November 12)***

John the Merciful, patriarch of Alexandria; Venerable Neilos the Faster of Sinai; Venerable Neilos the myrrh-streaming of the Great Lavra on Athos; Martin the Wonderworker, bishop of Tours; New-martyrs Sabbas and Nicholas of Constantinople.

***Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Plagal Tone 2:*** When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred Body angelic pow’rs shown above Thy revered tomb, and the soldiers, who were to keep guard, became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin, and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

***Apolytikion of St. John the Merciful – Tone 4:*** Thy righteous acts have manifested thee to thy flock as a model of faith, a reflection of humility, and a teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop John. Therefore, through humility thou hast achieved exaltation, and through poverty, riches. Intercede thou with Christ God to save our souls.

***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 Presentation of the Theotokos – Tone 4:*** The all-pure temple of the Savior, the most precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the treasure-house of the glory of God, today entered the Temple of the Lord, bringing with her the grace which is in the divine Spirit: whom also the angels of God do celebrate in song; for she is the heavenly tabernacle.

***Prokeimenon:*** Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

***Verse:*** What shall I render to the Lord for all that He has given me?

***Epistle:*** The reading is from St. Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians.  
(Chapter 9:6-11)

BRETHREN, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, “He scatters abroad, He gives to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.” He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

***Gospel:*** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke  
(Chapter 10:25-37)

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “What is written in the law? How do you read?” And the lawyer answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all

### **GOSPEL CONTINUED**

your strength and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And Jesus said to him, “You have answered right; do this and you will live.”

But the lawyer, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was and when he saw him he had compassion and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend I will repay you when I come back.’ Which of these three do you think proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” The lawyer said, “The one who showed mercy on him.” And Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Saturday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Meeting of the Theotokos)

Saturday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

The altar candle is offered by **Naheel Rafeedie** for the health and well-being of **Naheel, Steven, Michael & Martha & family, Victor & Manal**, and **Nadeem & Helen** (many years); and in memory of **Basem, Michael, Nijmeh, Nicola, Zakiya, Essa, Ellen & Richard** (memory eternal).

**Coffee hour:** Team 1. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 2.

The **Ladies Guild** shall hold their monthly meeting today, Nov. 12, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

The **Advent Fast** begins Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, and is divided into two periods. The first period is Nov. 15 – Dec. 19, with the traditional fasting discipline observed (no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, alcohol and oil). There is an allowance, however, for alcohol and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and an allowance for alcohol, oil and fish on Saturdays and Sundays. The second period is Dec. 20 – 24, with the traditional fasting discipline observed. There is an allowance, however, for alcohol and oil only on Saturday and Sunday.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

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

**Free language classes** start in October in the Church Hall. For more information, please see **Marianna Avery**. Thank you.

As of Oct. 24, 2017, 41 pledges were received totaling \$87,180. The collection for Oct. 22, 2017, totaled \$3,031.00 for a year-to-date total of \$120,831.16, a weekly average of \$2,810.03. As of Oct. 23, 2017, our expenses are \$142,913.23, a weekly average of \$3,323.56.

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

***Spiritual Counsels...***

“Through his mouth the godless man is the ruin of his neighbor, but by knowledge the virtuous are safeguarded.” – Proverbs 11:9

### **St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria**

John was born on the island of Cyprus. His father was Prince Epiphanius. John was raised as a true Christian from childhood. At the insistence of his parents, he married and had children. However, by God's providence, his wife and children passed from this world into the next. Renowned for his compassion and piety, John was chosen as Patriarch of Alexandria in the time of Emperor Heraclius. He governed the Church of Alexandria for 10 years as a true shepherd, safeguarding it from pagans and heretics. He was a model of meekness, charity and love for his fellow men. He said: “If you desire nobility, seek it not in blood but in virtues, for this is true nobility.” All the saints have been distinguished by mercifulness, but St. John was completely dedicated to this wonderful virtue. Once, while celebrating the Liturgy, the patriarch remembered the words of Christ, *Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift* (Matthew 5:23-24), and he remembered that one of the clergy in that church had a grievance against him. He quickly left the Holy Gifts, approached that priest, fell before his feet and begged for forgiveness. And only when he had made peace with this man did he return to the table of oblation. Another time, as he was on his way to the Church of Saints Cyrus and John, it happened that he met a needy and unfortunate widow who spoke to him at length about her misfortune. The patriarch's escorts became bored by the woman's lengthy complaint, and urged the bishop to hurry to the church for the service, intimating that he could hear the woman's story afterward. John said to them: “And how will God listen to me, if I do not listen to her?” He would not leave until he heard the widow's complaint to the end.

When the Persians attacked Egypt, Patriarch John boarded a boat to escape from danger. Along the way he fell ill and, when he arrived in Cyprus, he reposed at his birthplace, in the year 620. After he entered the Immortal Kingdom of his Lord, his miracle-working relics were translated to Constantinople, then to Budapest, and finally to Presburg.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*