



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.

December 3, 2017

The 26th Sunday after Pentecost & the 14th Sunday of Luke

Tone 1 ~ Eothinon 4

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.

Please Note: Food and drinks in church are not appropriate except for life threatening circumstances. This includes, but is not limited to, snack items, cheerios, fruit, fruit snacks, sandwiches, meals, or drink items of any sort. If your child cannot wait until liturgy is over in order to eat, please take him or her to the church hall. 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 (December 3)

The Holy Prophet Zephaniah (Sophonios); Martyrs Agapios, Seleukos and Mamas; Venerable Theodoulos, Eparch of Constantinople; Hieromartyr Gabriel, bishop of Ganos and Prusa; New-martyr Angelis of Chios; Venerable Cosmas of St. Anne Skete on Athos; Venerable Sabbas of Zvenigorod, disciple of Sergios of Radonezh.

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 Preparatory for the Nativity of Christ – Tone 3: Today the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth in an ineffable manner to the pre-eternal Word. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest, and glorify with the angels and shepherds Him Who shall appear by His Own will as a new Child, the pre-eternal God.

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 letter to the Ephesians.

(Chapter 5:8-19)

BRETHREN, walk as children of the light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true) and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead and Christ shall give you light."

Look carefully, then, how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of the time because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

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

(Chapter 18:35-43)

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude go by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to Him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God, and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 9th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Dec. 10th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Dec. 16th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Dec. 17th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Friday, Dec. 22nd – Royal Hours of the Nativity, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, Dec. 23rd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Dec. 24th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Monday, Dec. 25th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, 10:00 A.M. (Christmas)
Saturday, Dec. 30th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Dec. 31st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Ushers: Stephen Zelesnik & Mihai Leustean. **Next Sunday:** Dwight Gillis & Sevin or Tania Russell.

Coffee hour: Team 4. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 5.

The **altar candle** is offered today by **Sophia Hashek** for the repose of the souls of **Nicholas** and **Barbara Kogos**. May their memory be eternal.

The **Ladies Guild** are accepting donations for poinsettias through and including Dec. 25. The poinsettias will be placed in the church for Dec. 23-25th. If you would like to make a donation for this, please see **Yazmin Incaprera**.

The **Advent Fast** began Wednesday, November 15th, 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.

Christmas Angels Project has begun! The **Ladies Guild** is asking for your help to answer Christmas wishes from local needy children. Please bring NEW only and unwrapped gifts to the Church Hall by Sunday, **Dec. 10**. See any Ladies Guild member or **Paulina Kocic** for more information.

Ladies Guild Gift exchange (Dirty Santa) will take place on **DEC. 10**. **All ladies of the parish are invited to attend**. Bring a snack to share and a wrapped gift (please do not spend more than about \$10 on your gift). This is just a time for fun and fellowship!!!

Our annual **Cookies with St. Nicholas Party** is scheduled for Sunday, December 17th, after Divine Liturgy. Youngsters of all ages are welcome. Please see **Pam Nugent** for more details.

Our annual **Christmas Pageant** will be held after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Dec. 17th. Parents who are interested in having their children participate in the pageant should see **Pam Nugent**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

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

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

As of Nov. 20, 2017, 41 pledges were received totaling \$87,180. The collection for Nov. 26, 2017, totaled \$1,004.80 for a year-to-date total of \$130,181.02, a weekly average of \$2,712.10. As of Nov. 30, 2017, our expenses are \$157,465.02, a weekly average of \$3,280.52.

Spiritual Counsels...

“Who scoffs at his neighbor is a fool; the man of discernment holds his tongue.” – Proverbs 11:12

The Holy Prophet Zephaniah

Zephaniah was a native of Mount Sarabatha, from the tribe of Simeon. He lived and prophesied in the seventh century before Christ, at the time of Josiah the pious king of Judah. Zephaniah was a contemporary of the Prophet Jeremiah. Having great humility and a pure mind raised to God, he was found worthy of discerning the future. He prophesied the day of the wrath of God and the punishment of Gaza, Ashkalon, Ashdod, Ekron, Nineveh, Jerusalem and Egypt. He saw Jerusalem as a *filthy and polluted, ... oppressing city.... Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; ... her prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the Law* (Zephaniah 3:1-4). Foreseeing the advent of the Messiah, he enthusiastically exclaimed: *Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem* (Zephaniah 3:14). This seer of mysteries entered into rest at his birthplace to await the General Resurrection and his reward from God.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid