



**St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church**  
**His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York**  
**And Metropolitan of all North America**  
**His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop**  
**Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast**  
**The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor**  
**3916 Hudson St. Metairie, LA 70006**  
[www.stbasilneworleans.org](http://www.stbasilneworleans.org) \* 504-888-8114 \* [sbno@att.net](mailto:sbno@att.net)  
**Saturday: Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.**  
**Sunday: Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.**



**February 25, 2018**

**The First Sunday of Great Lent (The Sunday of Orthodoxy)**  
**Plagal Tone 1 ~ Eothinon 5**

*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.

***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 (February 25)***

Tarasios, archbishop of Constantinople; Hieromartyrs Reginos, bishop of Skopelos, and Markellos, bishop of Apamea in Syria; Martyr Alexander of Markianopolis.

***Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Plagal Tone 1:*** Let us believers praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of a virgin for our salvation. For He took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh to suffer death, and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

***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,

### GOSPEL CONTINUED

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.” 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

Wednesday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M (2<sup>nd</sup> Stasis)

Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (St. Gregory Palamas)

Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M (3<sup>rd</sup> Stasis)

Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Sunday of the Holy Cross)

Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M (4<sup>th</sup> Stasis)

Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy (Saturday of Souls)

Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (St. John Climacus)

Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. (All Stases)

Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Annunciation of Theotokos)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today’s Ushers:** Dwight Gillis & Tania or Sevin Russell. **Next Sunday:** Pam & Emma Nugent.

Today’s **coffee hour:** Lenten Luncheon. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 5.

Our **Annual Pledge Drive** is currently underway for the calendar year 2018. 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.

The **2018 Parish Life Conference** for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13 – Saturday, June 16, 2018. The Conference is at the Hilton Palm Beach Airport Hotel in West Palm Beach, Florida. For more information, please see the flyers in the narthex.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Meatfare Week began on Monday, Feb. 12. From that date until PASCHA it is our tradition to refrain from eating meat and meat products. From Pure Monday, Feb. 19, 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 and including 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. Fish, alcohol and oil are permitted on the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25) and Palm Sunday, April 1.

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 donated to Ozanam Inn, a New Orleans-based shelter for the homeless. 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.

**Lenten potluck meals** shall be served after Presanctified Liturgies on Wednesday evenings during Great Lent.

On Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, a **Lenten red beans & rice dinner** shall be served in the Church Hall after Divine Liturgy. The menu includes red beans & rice, potato kibbe, salad, Lenten apple spice cake and soft drinks or coffee. Tickets are \$10 each; children 10 and under eat for free. The proceeds from these dinners are earmarked for the completion of the iconography in the church. Please see **Alexa Hamauei** for more information

Approximately 100 **Red Carnations** are needed for the veneration of the Holy Cross on Sunday, March 11. 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.

Parents and Church School Teachers, please note there is no Church School on Feb. 25, April 1 & April 8.

Please join St. Basil Church and Holy Trinity Cathedral for the **Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers** at the Cathedral (1200 Robert E. Lee, NOLA) at 6:00 P.M on Sunday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments shall be served afterwards.

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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

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

As of Feb. 20, 2018, 37 pledges were received totaling \$97,320. The collection for Feb. 18, 2018, totaled \$2,308.00, for a year-to-date total of \$18,899.81, a weekly average of \$2,699.97. As of Feb. 11, 2018, our expenses are \$24,361.32, a weekly average of \$3,480.19.

#### ***Spiritual Counsels...***

“Men of depraved heart are abhorrent to the Lord, dear to Him, those whose ways are blameless.” –  
Proverbs 11:20

### **Saint Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople**

His predecessor, Patriarch Paul secretly, relinquished the throne, entered a monastery and received the Schema [The Great Angelic Habit]. Irene and Constantine reigned at the time. By Paul's counsel, Tarasius, a senator and royal advisor, was chosen as patriarch in the year 783 A.D. He was quickly elevated through the ecclesiastical ranks and became patriarch. A man of great learning and great zeal in the Orthodox Faith, Tarasius accepted this rank reluctantly in order to assist Orthodoxy in the struggle against heresies, especially against Iconoclasm. During his tenure, the Seventh Ecumenical Council [Nicaea, 783 A.D.} was convened, where Iconoclasm was condemned and the veneration of holy icons was confirmed and restored. Tarasius was very charitable toward orphans and the poor, creating for them shelters and distributed food to them. Toward the powerful, Tarasius was decisive in his defense of faith and morals. When Emperor Constantine banished Maria, his lawful wife and took a kinswoman and lived with her, and sought a blessing for marriage from the patriarch, Tarasius not only refused him a blessing, but first counseled him, after that reproached him, and finally forbid him to receive Holy Communion. Before his death, many saw how Tarasius replied to the demons saying: "I am not guilty of this sin! I am not guilty either of that sin!" Until his weakened tongue could not longer speak, he then began to defend himself with his hands driving away the demons. When he expired, his face lightened up as the sun. This truly great hierarch died in the year 806 A.D. He governed the Church for 22 years and four months.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*