



**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.**



**March 18, 2018**

**The Fourth Sunday of Great Lent (The Sunday of St. John Climacus)**  
**Plagal Tone 4 ~ Eothinon 8**

*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 (March 18)***

Cyril, patriarch of Jerusalem; Martyrs Trophymos and Eukarpos of Nicomedia and those with them; repose of Edward the Martyr, king of England; Nikolai (Velimirovic), bishop of Zhicha who labored in America.

***Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Plagal Tone 4:*** From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

***Apolytikion of St. John Climacus – Plagal Tone 4:*** The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundredfold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father John, intercede 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 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:*** The Lord will give strength to His people.

***Verse:*** Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

***Epistle:*** The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.  
 (Chapter 6:13-20)

BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater by whom to swear, He swore to Himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes and oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, He interposed with an oath, so that through two changeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

***Gospel:*** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark  
 (Chapter 9:17-31)

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto Him, "Teacher, I brought my son to You, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered him, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw

### GOSPEL CONTINUED

Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, “How long has he had this?” And he said, “From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if You can do anything, have pity on us and help us.” And Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again.” And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And Jesus said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting.”

They went out from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have anyone know it; for He was teaching His disciples, saying to them, “The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day.”

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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)

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

Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Lazarus Saturday)

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Palm Sunday)

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.

Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.

Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:30 P.M.

Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Vesperal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Orthros of the 12 Passion Gospels, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Royal Hours, 9:00 A.M.

Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Unnailing Vespers, 3:00 P.M.

Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Lamentations Orthros, 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – Vesperal Divine Liturgy & Chrismations, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – Rush Procession & Orthros, 11:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> – Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy PASCHA, 12:00 A.M.

Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> – Agape Vespers, 1:00 P.M.

Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today’s Ushers:** Rose Hrabar & Naheel Rafeedie. **Next Sunday:** .  
**Epistle reader** is Cheryl Pituch.

Today’s **coffee hour:** Team 1. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 2.

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.

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.

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

Ladies Guild members and all women are asked to make a special effort to attend the **Akathist service on Friday March 23** at 6:30pm. We will sit together on the left side of the Church near the icon of the Theotokos.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

An Easter Egg Hunt for the little people in our parish shall be held after Liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information, please see **Khouriyeh Pam Nugent**.

Twelve dozen boiled, **red eggs** are needed for the Paschal Liturgy. If you would like to bring one or two dozen, please place them in the bowl provided on the auxiliary table at the front of the church temple prior to the beginning of the Paschal services. Thank you.

**Free English** and **Russian 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 March 15, 2018, 40 pledges were received totaling \$99,150. The collection for March 11, 2018, totaled \$3,692.00, for a year-to-date total of \$29,249.12, a weekly average of \$2,924.91. As of March 11, 2018, our expenses are \$33,265.61, a weekly average of \$3,326.56.

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

“The desire of the virtuous ends in happiness, the hope of the wicked is in vain.” – Proverbs 11:23

### **St. Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem**

Cyril was born in Jerusalem during the reign of Constantine the Great and died during the reign of Theodosius the Great [315-386 A.D.] He was ordained a priest in 346 A.D. and succeeded to the throne of Blessed Maximus, Patriarch of Jerusalem in 350 A.D. On three occasions he was dethroned and banished into exile until finally, during the reign of Theodosius, he was restored and lived peacefully for eight years and then gave up his soul to the Lord. He underwent two difficult struggles: one, against the Arians, who became powerful under Constantius, the son of Constantine, and the other during the reign of Julian the Apostate [this turncoat] and with the Jews. At the time of the dominance of the Arians and on the Day of Pentecost, a sign of the cross, brighter than the sun, appeared which stretched over Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives and lasted for several hours from the ninth hour in the morning. Concerning this phenomenon, seen by all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, a report was written to Emperor Constantius, which served much in establishing Orthodoxy against the heretics. During the time of the Apostate, still another sign occurred. In order to humiliate the Christians, Julian persuaded the Jews to restore the Temple of Solomon. Cyril prayed to God that this not happen. There was a terrible earthquake, which destroyed all that had been newly built. Then the Jews began restoration anew. Again, there was an earthquake, which destroyed not only the newly constructed portion but overturned and scattered the old stones beneath the ground which supported the Temple. And so the words of the Lord came true that "there will not be left here a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down" (St. Matthew 13:2 - St. Luke 2:6). Among the many writings of this holy father is his Catechetical Discourses, a first class work preserved to the present which confirms the faith and practice of Orthodoxy. This saint was a unique arch-pastor and a great ascetic. He was meek and humble, exhausted from fasting, and pallid. After a life of many labors and noble struggles for the Orthodox Faith, Cyril peacefully died and took up habitation in the eternal court of the Lord.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*