



**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.**

**May 20, 2018**

**The Sunday of the After-Feast of the Ascension**  
**The Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council**  
**Plagal Tone 2 ~ Eothinon 10**

*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 (May 20)***

Martyrs Thallelaïos the Unmercenary Healer of Phoenicia, and his disciples Alexander and Asterios of Cilicia; Martyr Askellās of Egypt; Venerable Nikitas, John and Joseph of Chios; Lydia 'the seller of purple' of Thyatira and Philippi; uncovering of the relics of Alexis the wonderworker, metropolitan of Moscow; Venerable Stephen of Piperi in Serbia.

***Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Plagal Tone 2:*** When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred Body angelic powers 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 the Ascension – Tone 4:*** Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, having become confident of the blessing. Verily, Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

***Apolytikion of the Holy Fathers – Plagal Tone 4:*** Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise who didst establish our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

***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 Ascension – Plagal Tone 2:*** When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake and unite earth to heaven, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, in no way parted from those who love Thee but remaining with them and crying: I am with you and no one will be against you.

***Prokeimenon:*** Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

***Verse:*** For You are just in all You have done.

***Epistle:*** The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.  
 (Chapter 20:16-18, 28-36)

IN THOSE DAYS, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus so that he might not have to spend time in Asia, for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them, "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers to care for the church of God which He obtained with the blood of His own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, be alert remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you so that by toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

**Gospel:** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John  
(Chapter 17:1-13)

At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth having accomplished the work which Thou gavest Me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou Me in Thy Own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were and Thou gavest them to me and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world, but for those whom Thou hast given Me, for they are Thine; all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world and I am coming to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one even as We are one. While I was with them I kept them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me; I have guarded them and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to Thee; and these things I speak in the world that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.”

#### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> – Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost, 30 mins. after the end of liturgy

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

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

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

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

Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup> – Typica Service, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today’s Ushers:** Rose Hrabar & Mihai Leustean. **Next Sunday:** Michael Zelesnik.

Today’s **coffee hour:** Team 3. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 4.

In the Antiochian tradition, there is a general dispensation from fasting from Pascha until the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord (May 17). (Remember... Our Lord said as long as the bridegroom was with the disciples they would not fast?)

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold their monthly meeting today, May 20, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

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.

We fast Wednesday and Friday this week.

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

As of May 1, 2018, 40 pledges were received totaling \$99,150. The collection for May 6, 2018, totaled \$2,273.00, for a year-to-date total of \$49,452.57, a weekly average of \$2,747.37. As of May 11, 2018, our expenses are \$51,056.18, a weekly average of \$2,896.54.

#### **Parish Council News from our Parish Council Chairman, Rob Booms:**

The front of our church needs some sprucing up. Do you have a power washer we can borrow for a day or two? We could also use volunteers to help with this important clean-up project. Please contact Rob Booms or Dwight Gillis.

We are considering starting an **Inquirers Class** for adults who would like to have a deeper understanding of what is involved in being Orthodox. Newcomers, future catechumens and even cradle Orthodox will be welcome. Please let Fr. Peter or Rob Booms know if you are interested and, if so, what would be the best time for you to attend such a class.

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

“If here on Earth the virtuous man gets his due, how much more the wicked, how much the sinner!”

– Proverbs 11:31

### **The Holy Martyr Thalelaeus**

Thalelaeus was born in Lebanon. His father was called Berucius and his mother was called Romila. Thalelaeus was an 18 year old youth, handsome of countenance, physically tall and with reddish yellow hair. He was a physician by profession. He suffered for Christ during the reign of Numerian. When he bravely confessed his faith in Christ the Lord before his tormenting judge, the judge ordered the two executioners, Alexander and Asterius, to bore through his knees with a drill, to thread a rope through the perforated bones and to hang him from a tree. But God through an invisible power, took away the sight of the executioners. In place of Thalelaeus they bored through a board and hung it from a tree. When the judge-torturer found out, he thought that the executioners did this intentionally and ordered them both to be flogged. Then Alexander and Asterius, in the midst of their flogging, cried out: "The Lord is alive to us and, from now on, we are also becoming Christians. We believe in Christ and suffer for Him." Upon hearing this, the judge-torturer ordered that both be beheaded. Then the judge took the drill to bore the knees of Thalelaeus himself but his hands became paralyzed and he begged Thalelaeus to save him, which the innocent martyr of Christ did, with the help of prayer. Following that, Thalelaeus was thrown into water but appeared alive before his tormentor (for Thalelaeus prayed to God inwardly to prolong his sufferings that he not die immediately). When he was thrown before wild beasts, they licked his feet and were amiable toward him. Finally, Thalelaeus was beheaded and took up his habitation in life eternal in the year 284 A.D.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*

### **The Synaxarion**

On this day, the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the first Ecumenical Council of the 318 God-bearing Fathers, which took place in Nicaea in Bithynia.

#### **Verses**

O ye light-bearing stars of the spiritual firmament, enlighten my mind with your rays.

#### **Verses Against Arius**

Calling the Son a stranger to the Father's essence, Arius proved to be a stranger to God's glory.

Arius, the notorious heretic, began to blaspheme against God and His Son the Word, saying that the latter was not God consubstantial with the Father, but that He was created as a stranger to the Substance of the Father and His glory. Alexander, the Archbishop of Alexandria, tried to constrain Arius from disturbing the faithful with this teaching; even though Alexander excommunicated him, Arius did not cease his blasphemy, which spread throughout the Church in all nations. Thus, Emperor Constantine the Great called the First Ecumenical Council, which gathered bishops and teachers in the Church from all lands. They all proclaimed, as by one mouth, the equality of the Son of God with the Father in Substance, thus laying down the noble Confession of Faith – "The Creed" – which we Orthodox Christians recite to this day. The Church regards these divine Fathers as preachers of the Faith next to the holy Apostles.