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 * 504-888-8114 * sbno@att.net Saturday: Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday: Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

<u>August 12, 2018</u> <u>The 11th Sunday after Pentecost & the 11th Sunday of Matthew</u> <u>The After-feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ</u> <u>Tone 2 ~ Eothinon 11</u>

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 (August 12)

Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; Holy Martyrs Photios and Anikytos of Nicomedia; Sergios, Stephen and Kastor; Palamon, elder of St. Pachomius the Great; Soldier-martyrs of Crete.

Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Tone 2: When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly pow'r, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth all the pow'rs of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou Giver of life, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of the Transfiguration – Varys Tone: When, O Christ our God, Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, Thou didst reveal Thy glory to Thy Disciples in proportion as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light also enlighten us sinners, through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Bestower of light, 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 Transfiguration – Varys Tone: Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could bear it; so that when they would behold Thee crucified, they would understand that Thy passion was voluntary and would proclaim to the world that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

Prokeimenon: The Lord is my strength and my song. *Verse:* The Lord has chastened me sorely.

Epistle: The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. (Chapter 9:2-12)

BRETHREN, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk?

Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do we not still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (Chapter 18:23-35)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold with his wife and children and all that he had and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place they were greatly distressed and went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers till he should pay all his debt. So also My heavenly Father will do to everyone of you if you do not forgive you brother from your heart."

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Aug. 15th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Dormition) Saturday, Aug. 18th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Aug. 19th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Aug. 25th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Aug. 26th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Sept. 1st – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Sept. 2nd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Sept. 2nd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Sept. 8th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Sept. 8th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Ushers: . Next Sunday:

Today's coffee hour: Team 3. Thank you. Next Sunday: Team 5.

The altar candle is offered today by **Philip** and **Elaine Khoury** for the health of the **Khoury family** (many years), and for the repose of **Ibrahim** and **Youseff** (memory eternal).

The Ladies Guild is scheduled to hold their monthly meeting today, Aug. 12, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold their monthly meeting next Sunday, Aug. 19, after Divine Liturgy. All council members are asked to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

We fast each day this week during the Dormition fast. There is an allowance on Monday, however, for fish, alcohol and oil in celebration of the Transfiguration of our Lord.

Ladies Guild would like to thank all who contributed through donations and buying tickets for the Ice Cream Social. We met are goal for the Children's Fund! We will continue to offer ice cream sundaes at half price (\$3 or 2 for \$5) as long as it lasts. Donations will go to our general fund, which supports many charities throughout the year.

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

As of July 30, 2018, 43 pledges were received totaling \$100,750. The collection for Aug. 5, 2018, totaled \$2,478.00, for a year-to-date total of \$78,068.07, a weekly average of \$2,518.32. As of July 30, 2018, our expenses are \$89,889.19, a weekly average of \$2,899.65.

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

With many parishioners traveling during the summer, financial support for the Parish is suffering right now. It takes about \$3,000 a week to pay our bills and we're running short. If you are behind in making your contributions, please catch up. If you have not made a pledge, it's not too late to start. In order to sustain our growth, we do need to support our priest, our facilities and programs. Thanks be to God for all he has given us. Let us respond in gratitude.

We are considering starting an <u>Inquirers</u> <u>Class</u> 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...

"The virtuous man looks after the lives of his beasts, but the wicked man's heart is ruthless." – Proverbs 12:10

The Holy Martyrs Anicetas and Photius

Emperor Diocletian once visited the city of Nicomedia with the evil intention to completely exterminate the Christians. But when he began his merciless torture of Christians, St. Anicetas, one of the high-ranking officials of the city, boldly confessed before the emperor his faith in Christ the Lord, God incarnate in the flesh for our salvation. Along with this, Anicetas also denounced the idols as deaf and dumb stones and the worship of which is unworthy of a rational man. The emperor ordered his tongue to be severed but Anicetas, by the power of God, continued to speak. They then released a lion against him but the lion cuddled around him. At that moment the temple of Hercules collapsed. Photius, a kinsman of Anicetas, seeing the miracles and endurance of Anicetas, kissed him, declared himself a Christian and cried out to the emperor: "O idolator, be ashamed, your gods are nothingness!" The emperor then ordered that Anicetas immediately be beheaded. However, the executioner, raising his hand against holy Photius, struck himself with the sword and died. After prolonged tortures, both Anicetas and Photius were cast into prison where they languished for three years. Then they were brought out, a fire was lighted in an enormous furnace and they cast them into the fire. Many other Christians, men, women and children, willingly followed them into the fire. From the fire was heard the prayer of the Christians who were praising God for the death of martyrdom. They all suffered about the year 305 A.D. "Saint Anicetas and Saint Photius are invoked in the prayers in the Sacrament of Anointing with Oil [Holy Unction] and in the Blessing of Water."

[The Sacrament of Holy Unction Anointing with Holy Oil].

O holy Father, Physician of souls and bodies, who did send Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who heals every infirmity and delivers from death. Heal Thou, also Your servant [Name] from the ills of body and soul which do hinder [Him Her] and quicken [Him Her] by the grace of Your Christ: through the prayers of our Most Holy Lady, the Birth-giver of God and Ever-virgin Mary; through the intercession of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; through the might of the precious and Life-giving Cross, through the protection of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of the holy and healing, unmercenaries, Cosmas and Damian, Cyrus and John, Pantaleon and Hermolaus, Samson and Diomedes, Photius and Anicetas of the holy righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and all the Saints.

For You are the Fountain of healing, O our God, and unto You do we ascribe glory, together with Your Only-begotten Son and Your Spirit, one in essence, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid