



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**

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Saturday: Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday: Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

September 23, 2018

The Conception of St. John the Baptist and the 1st Sunday of St. Luke

Plagal Tone 4 ~ Eothinon 6

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 (September 23)

The conception of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; Martyr Raidos; New-martyrs Nicholas and John; Venerable Xanthippa and Polyxena of Spain.

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 the Baptist – Tone 4: Rejoice, O barren one, who had not given birth; for behold thou hast conceived clearly the one who is the dawn of the Sun who was about to illuminate the whole universe, blighted with sightlessness. Shout in joy, O Zacharias, crying in favour: Verily, the one to be born is the blest Prophet of God Most High.

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 Theotokos – Tone 2: O undisputed Intercessor of Christians, constant Advocate before the Creator, do not despise the cry of us sinners, but in thy goodness come speedily to help us who call on thee in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for thou always protect those who honor thee.

Prokeimenon: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord.

Verse: O God, hear my prayer.

Epistle: The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

(Chapter 4:22-27)

BRETHREN, Abraham had two sons, one by a slave and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, the son of the free woman through promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free and she is our mother. For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and shout, you who are not in travail; for the children of the desolate one are many more than the children of her that is married."

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

(Chapter 5:1-11)

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish and, as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But

GOSPEL CONTINUED

when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me for I am a sinful man, O Lord.” For he was astonished and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken, and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men.” And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Sept. 29th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Sept. 30th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Oct. 6th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Oct. 7th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Oct. 13th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Oct. 14th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Oct. 20th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Oct. 21st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to **silence your cell phones** before you come into the church temple. Thank you.

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

Today’s **coffee hour:** Team 5. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 6.

Russian lessons for beginners started on September 17. We have two groups - at 12 pm and at 6:30 pm. Please contact **Marianna Avery** for more questions.

BASKET RAFFLE – proceeds will go towards Cancer Research being done locally (Tulane/LSU). The Ladies Guild have put together several Gift Baskets and will be selling the tickets beginning Sept 23 for the next few weeks. Please see any of the Ladies Guild members.

An **Orthodoxy 101/Inquirers’ Class** shall be offered on the first Tuesday of each month starting Oct. 2. A potluck meal shall be offered at 6:30 pm, followed by a presentation and discussion. Everyone is welcome!

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

As of Sept. 13, 2018, 43 pledges were received totaling \$100,750. The collection for Sept. 16, 2018, totaled \$2,300.40 for a year-to-date total of \$93,419.82, a weekly average of \$2,524.86. As of Sept. 16, 2018, our expenses are \$103,572.96, a weekly average of \$2,799.27.

***Attention St. Basil’s:** As you know it is that time of year when we start taking inventory of our cold weather gear. Time to pull out our jackets and sweaters to make sure they still fit. What do you do if they don’t? Not to worry. St. Basil’s youth is holding a coat drive. We are looking for coats, jackets and sweaters that are in good condition. Please make sure that buttons and zippers are in good working order. Remember we are trying to keep someone warm this winter. Thank you for all you do. God Bless! (For more information, please see Tania Russell.)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Please note that His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast, our diocesan bishop, shall visit our parish Oct. 19-22, 2018.

In a recent phone conversation with him last week, he told me, "Tell them these are my exact words. I want to meet with each member of the parish personally. I want to get to know them and I want them to get to know me." Therefore, please try to be available this weekend.

With this in mind, he has set the following schedule for his visit:

On Friday evening (Oct. 19), he wants to have dinner with the Parish Council at 6:30 – 8:30 P.M. at a local seafood restaurant.

On Saturday (Oct. 20), the schedule is as follows:

10 A.M. – 12 P.M.: Meeting with youth
12 – 1 P.M.: Lunch with youth and teens
1 – 3 P.M.: Meeting with the teens
3 – 5 P.M.: Meeting with the young adults
5 – 6 P.M.: Great Vespers
6 – 7 P.M.: Parish-wide dinner with His Grace
7 – 9 P.M.: Meeting with the ladies

On Sunday (Oct. 21), the schedule is:

8:30 – 9:30 A.M.: Orthros
9:30 – 11 A.M.: Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
11 A.M. – 12 P.M.: Coffee Hour
12 – 2 P.M.: Meeting with the men

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.

Spiritual Counsels...

“In the eyes of a fool the way he goes is right, the wise man listens to advice.” – Proverbs 12:15

The Conception of St John the Baptist

On this day are celebrated God's mercy, His wondrous act and His wisdom: His mercy towards the devout and righteous parents of St John, the aged Zacharias and Elisabeth, who had all their lives begged a child of God; the wonder of the conception of John in Elisabeth's more-than-aged womb; and the wisdom of the dispensation of man's salvation. For John, God had a specially great plan: that he should be a prophet and the forerunner of Christ the Lord, the Saviour of the world. Through His angels, God revealed the birth of Isaac to the childless Sarah, and of Samson to the childless Manoah and his wife, and of John the Baptist to the childless Zacharias and Elisabeth. Through His angels, God revealed the birth of those for whom He had a special plan. How could children be born of aged parents? If someone is curious to find out, let him not ask men, for men do not know, nor does natural law (it being beyond natural law), but let him turn his gaze to the power of almighty God, who made the whole world from nothing and who, for the creation of Adam, the first man, used no parents, either young or old. Instead of being curious, let us thank God that He often reveals to us His power and mercy and wisdom beyond the natural law, by which we would otherwise be fettered and, without these special wonders of God, would fall into despair and forgetfulness of Him.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid