



**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 3, 2019**  
**The 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost & the 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**  
**Tone 3 ~ Eothinon 3**

*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 3)***

Holy and Righteous Simeon the God-receiver and Anna the Prophetess; New-martyrs Nicholas, Stamatis and John of Spetson; Anschar, enlightener of Denmark and Sweden; Nicholas, equal-to-the-Apostles, bishop and evangelizer of Japan; James, archbishop of Serbia; Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos, Werburga; Synaxis of the Holy Mothers of the Three Heirarchs: Emmelia, Nonna and Anthousa.

***Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Tone 3:*** Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death and became the First-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the great mercy.

***Apolytikion of the Presentation of Christ – Tone 1:*** Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness. Rejoice, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, who granteth us the resurrection.

***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 Presentation of Christ – Tone 1:*** Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love; for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

***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 Second Letter to the Corinthians.  
 (Chapter 6:1-10)

BRETHREN, working together with Him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation." We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, and yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

**Gospel:** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew  
(Chapter 25:14-30)

The Lord spoke this parable, “A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.’ And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter in to the joy of your master.’ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.’ But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has more will be given and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.’” As He said this, He called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

#### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Saturday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

As God so wills, **His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS** shall visit our parish on Feb. 22-24, 2019. Please mark your calendars for this wonderful occasion.

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

**Today’s Ushers:** Michael Zelesnik. **Next Sunday:** Dwight Gillis and Tania Russell.

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

#### **WEEKEND SCHEDULE WITH BISHOP NICHOLAS**

##### **On Friday evening, Feb. 22:**

6:30 – 8:30 P.M. dinner with the Parish Council at a local restaurant

##### **On Saturday, Feb. 23:**

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 ladies  
5 – 6 P.M.: Great Vespers  
6 – 7 P.M.: Parish-wide dinner with His Grace  
7 – 9 P.M.: Meeting with the young adults

##### **On Sunday, Feb. 24:**

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

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

Trisagion prayers are offered by the **Gillis** and **Russell** families for the repose of **Dorthie Gillis**. May her memory be eternal.

The altar candle is offered today by **Cesar & Leila El-Hajj** for the health of **Jamal, Najla, Cesar, Leila, Stephanie, Milad, Elia, Rabih, Maria, Amelia, Nicholas, Christopher, Milad, Yasmine, Lebnan, Arzeh, Ghantous, Assad, Dolly, Marlene** and their families (many years); and in memory of **Milad, Ramzi, Elia, Jamil, Joseph, Vagar** and **Marwan** (memory eternal).

The **Antiochian Men (AMEN)** meeting is scheduled for today after liturgy. All men of the parish are invited to attend.

Please call Fr. Peter at 888-8114, or send an email to him, if you want to have your home blessed.

Our **Annual Pledge Drive** is currently underway for the calendar year 2019. 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.

Registration for **Camp St. Thekla** is currently underway. Registration forms may be downloaded at [www.campstthekla.org](http://www.campstthekla.org) Campers are accepted on a first come, first serve basis; therefore, registration should occur as quickly as possible.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

The **Parish Council** has scheduled a church clean-up day on Saturday, Feb. 9, from 10 A.M. until 1 P.M. Please join us as we prepare to receive His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS. Thank you.

Our **Annual General Parish Meeting** is scheduled for February 24, 2019, after Divine Liturgy. All members of the parish are encouraged to attend the meeting. Those adults, who have been a member of the parish for at least one year and are in good sacramental and financial standing with the parish, are eligible to vote.

**Russian lessons** for beginners started on September 17. The group meets at 12 P.M. on Mondays. Please contact **Oksana Mahecha** for more questions.

An **Orthodoxy 101/Inquirers' Class** shall be offered on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next gathering is on Feb. 5 at 6:30 P.M. A potluck meal shall be served followed by a presentation and discussion. Everyone is welcome!

As of Jan. 31, 2019, 25 pledges were received for 2019 totaling \$69,360. The collection for Jan. 20, 2019, totaled \$2,301.00 for a year-to-date amount of \$15,145.00, a weekly average of \$3,786.25. As of Jan. 31, 2019, our expenses are \$3,444.41, for a year-to-date amount of \$15,324.31, a weekly average of \$3,831.08.

#### ***From Rob Booms, Chairman of Parish Council***

Ask what you can do for your Parish. At the direction of His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS, we changed the next annual Parish Annual meeting to February so that he can join us. At that time, we will be adding new members to the Parish Council. The Council meets once a month after church for about an hour. Please consider serving on the Council. There are three open positions to be elected, two for a 3-year term and one for a one-year term. If you wish to have your name placed in nomination, please let Fr. Peter or me know by January 20. If you do not want to be involved in an election, our Parish Constitution also permits Fr. Peter to appoint one member for a 3-year term and one for a one-year term. Let him know if you would like to be considered for an appointment. We anticipate continued growth in 2019 and need your participation and prayers for the challenges that lie ahead. Thanks and God Bless--Rob

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

“The virtuous man hates lying words, but the wicked man slanders and defames.” – Prov. 13:5

### **St. Simeon the Host of God**

This Simeon was chosen, in the time of the Egyptian Pharaoh Ptolemy Philadelphus (285-246 B.C.), as one of the famous Seventy to whom was committed the task of translating the Bible from the Hebrew into Greek. Simeon worked conscientiously, but when, translating the Prophet Isaiah, he came to the prophecy: 'Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son', he was puzzled and took a knife to scratch out the word 'virgin' and substitute 'young woman', and thus translate it into Greek. But at that moment an angel of God appeared to him and held him back from his intention, explaining to him that the prophecy was true and rightly-expressed. And to confirm its veracity, the messenger from God said that he, Simeon, by the will of God, would not die until he had seen the Messiah born of a virgin. The righteous Simeon rejoiced at these heavenly tidings, left the prophecy unchanged and thanked God that He had found him worthy to live to see the Promised One. When the Christ Child was brought to the Temple in Jerusalem by the Virgin Mary, the Spirit of God revealed this to Simeon, who was now a very old man with snow-white hair. He went quickly to the Temple and found there both the Virgin and the Child, bathed in a light that shone round their heads like a halo. The joyful elder took Christ in his arms and prayed God to let him leave this world: 'Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart ... according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.' Thither came also Anna the prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, who recognised the Messiah and made Him known to the people. Anna was then 84 years old. Soon after that, St Simeon departed this life. This righteous elder is venerated as the protector of young children.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*