



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.

March 31, 2019

The Third Sunday of Great Lent, The Sunday of the Holy Cross

Tone 3 ~ Eothinon 11

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.

*As we move into the summer months, the weather is always very warm. While we need to dress comfortably because of this please remember that **shorts or above-the-knee attire, strapless garments, "spaghetti" strap garments, sleeveless or "tanktop" type garments, and tight-fitting, open or low-cut garments are not appropriate, especially for men, women and teenagers. It has always been our tradition to dress modestly and without drawing attention to oneself. 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 31)

Hieromartyr Hypatios the wonder-worker, bishop of Gangra; Venerable Akakios the Confessor, bishop of Melitene; Prophet Joel; repose of Innocent, metropolitan of Moscow, enlightener of the Aleuts and apostle to America; repose of Jonah, metropolitan of Moscow; Martyr Theophilus and those with him.

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 Holy Cross – Tone 1: O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all adversaries, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thine estate.

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: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

Verse: To You, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.

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

(Chapters 4:14-16; 5:1-6)

BRETHREN, since we have a high priest Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifices for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him who said to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten thee;" as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order Melchizedek."

Gospel: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark
(Chapter 8:34-38; 9:1)

The Lord said, “If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation of him will the Son of man also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.” And Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.”

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 3rd – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 5th – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Friday, April 5th – Akathist Hymn (Stasis 4), 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 6th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 7th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, April 10th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 12th – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Friday, April 12th – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 13th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 14th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, April 17th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 19th – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Saturday, April 20th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Lazarus Saturday)
Saturday, April 20th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 21st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Palm Sunday)
Sunday, April 21st – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Monday, April 22nd – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Monday, April 22nd – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Tuesday, April 23rd – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Tuesday, April 23rd – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday, April 24th – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Wednesday, April 24th – Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:30 P.M.
Thursday, April 25th – Vespereal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 25th – Orthros of the 12 Passion Gospels, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 26th – Royal Hours, 9:00 A.M.
Friday, April 26th – Unnailing Vespers, 3:00 P.M.
Friday, April 26th – Lamentations Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 27th – Vespereal Divine Liturgy & Chrismations, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, April 27th – Rush Procession & Orthros, 11:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 28th – Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy PASCHA, 12:00 A.M.
Sunday, April 28th – Agape Vespers, 11:00 A.M.

From Rob Booms, Chairman of Parish Council

You may have noticed new spotlights on our outdoor sign and a new railing for physically challenged parishioners and visitors. Thanks to the volunteers who made these happen. We're also working on painting all metal railings, video cams in the church, an improved sound system, securing our internet cable and sun proofing the windows at the rear of the church. Our kitchen could also use a garbage disposal. We're on a roll! If you're interested in helping or supporting any of these projects, let me Fr. Peter or me know. Thanks and God bless--Rob Booms, Parish Council Chairman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Today’s Usherettes: Mariam Ammari & Rose Hrabar

Today’s Epistle Reader: Georgette Ioup

Today’s **coffee hour:** Team 6. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 1.

The traditional fasting discipline of Great and Holy Lent (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, alcohol and oil) is observed during the entire Great Fast, which lasts from Pure Monday (March 11) through Great and Holy Saturday (April 27). 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 21).

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 forwarded to the Archdiocese Chancery for distribution to the needy. 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.

An **Easter Egg Hunt** for the little people in our parish shall be held after Liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 21st. For more information, please see **Pam Nugent**.

The Diocese of Miami and the Southeast (DOMSE) is hosting a **Cyber Teen Retreat** on April 13, 2019. The teens of St. Basil Church are invited to gather here at our Church Hall for activities. Please see **Emma Nugent** for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

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.

The **Parish Life Conference** for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast (DOMSE) is scheduled for June 12-15, 2019. It is hosted by All Saints Antiochian Orthodox Church at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Raleigh, North Carolina. Please visit www.antiochianevents.com/miami.html for more information.

LENTIL SOUP – The Ladies Guild is selling soup \$8 each, 2 for \$15. Thank you for your support of our many projects!

An **Orthodoxy 101/Inquirers' Class** shall be offered on the first Tuesday of each month. Due to Great Lent, our next gathering is on May 7 at 6:30 P.M. A potluck meal shall be served followed by a presentation and discussion. Everyone is welcome! Using the text, *Beginning to Pray*, a series of discussions on prayer will occur after the Wednesday Presanctified Liturgies during Great Lent.

The **Antiochian Men** are making sandwiches after church on Sunday, March 31, and then will distribute them after. Anyone who would like to help please let **Subdeacon Stephen Zelesnik** know at stephenmz@yahoo.com. We need assistance in the following areas:

- 1) Making sandwiches after church in one of the meeting rooms. We hope to make between 75-100 of them.
- 2) Distributing the sandwiches in downtown NOLA. Must be at least 15 to do this. If younger than 15, you must be accompanied by a parent.
- 3) Donate some bread, chips, water, or lunchmeat. Thank you for your support.

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

As of March 24, 2019, 43 pledges were received for 2019 totaling \$89,816.00. The collection for March 24, 2019, totaled \$2,415.05 for a year-to-date amount of \$39,734.27, a weekly average of \$3,311.19. As of March 29, 2019, our expenses are \$35,604.54, a weekly average of \$2,967.05.

Spiritual Counsels...

“He who despises the word will destroy himself, he who respects the commandment will be safe.” – Prov. 13:13

RED CARNATIONS

Our red carnations used in today's procession were graciously provided by:

Rabih Chedid & family for the health of **Rabih, Leila, Jasmine, Jamal, Libnan, Arzeh, Ghantous & their families**, (many years); & for the repose of **Milad Chedid, Ramzi Chedid, Elia El-Hajj, Peter Boulos, Vagar & Jamil** (memory eternal);

Adam Chkautovich;

Therese Dagher for the health of **Bruno, Toufic & Ayman** (many years); & for the repose of **Alex & Marie** (memory eternal);

Alexa Hamauei for the health of **Albert, & John & their families & Alexa** (many years); & for the repose of **Mike, Margaret & the departed members of the Hamauei & Kyame families** (memory eternal);

The **Kocic family** for the health of **Vlajko, Paulina, Ljiljyana, Nikola, Ljubomir, Lauren, Bella, Maximos & Karen & family** (many years); & for the repose of the **departed members of the Kocic, Djordjevic, Piskulic, Stevanovic, Pavasovic, Mitrovic & Lebedina families** (memory eternal);

Eugene & Cheryl Pituch;

The **Yordanov family** for the health of **Yordan, Maia, Iordan, Ioan & Anna** (many years); and for the repose of **Rayko, Yordan, Boyanka & Neyka** (memory eternal);

Michael Z. & Kay D.

DOMSE TEEN SOYO

CYBER SPRING RETREAT! 2019

APRIL 13TH



Guest Speaker: Drew Garrison

Retreat Theme:

"Joy is thankfulness, and when we are joyful, that is the best expression of thanks we can offer the Lord, Who delivers us from sorrow and sin."

Saint Jonah, Metropolitan of Moscow

Jonah was born in the province of Kostrom. In his twelfth year he was tonsured a monk and as such lived for a long time in the Simonov Monastery in Moscow. At the time of Metropolitan Photius, Jonah became Bishop of Ryazn. When Photius died, Jonah was elected as metropolitan and sent to the patriarch in Constantinople for approval and consecration. At the same time, Isidorus, a Bulgarian by descent, outwitted Jonah and arrived before him in Constantinople and was consecrated as the Metropolitan of the Russians. Jonah returned to his cathedral in Ryazn. Isidorus, the malicious one, ended his incumbency of the Metropolitan See nefariously. Isidorus attended the Council of Florence [1439 A.D.] and then, after three years, returned to Moscow. Everyone attacked him as an apostate from Orthodoxy and banished him. It is unknown where he ended his life. Jonah, the good and wise shepherd, ascended the throne of the Metropolitan See. He was a great worker of miracles, “a discerner,” and a spiritual director. When the Agarians surrounded Moscow, Jonah repelled them through his prayers. In his later years he wished that he could be afflicted by an illness so that he could suffer pain and that, through pain, completely purify himself before his departure to the other world. According to his wishes, God permitted a sore on his foot, which was preceded by a vision to a certain priest, James. The saint died from these wounds and took up habitation among the heavenly citizens on March 31, 1461 A.D. Many miracles have occurred over his relics. A certain mute, John by name, was brought before the relics of the saint. John kissed the hand of Jonah and, as he related later, the hand grabbed him by the tongue and he felt a sharp pain. When the hand released his tongue, John returned to those people who brought him and began to talk as though he was never a mute.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid

The Sunday of the Precious and Life-giving Cross

On the Third Sunday of the Fast, we keep the feast of the veneration of the Honorable and Life-creating Cross.

Verses

Let the whole world entire worship the Cross through
Which it truly knew to worship Thee, O Word.

Every hard and strenuous work is accomplished with great difficulty, which appears especially in the middle of such work; for the effort in this performance brings with it fatigue which makes the accomplishment of the rest difficult. Having arrived with God’s grace at the middle of the Fast, our compassionate Mother—the Holy Orthodox Church—thought fit to reveal to us the Holy Cross as the joy of the world and power of the faithful to help us carry on the struggles of the divine Fast.

By its power, O Christ God, preserve us from the crafty designs of the evil one and account us worthy to worship Thy divine Passion and life-giving Resurrection, as we achieve the course of the Forty Days with ease, and have mercy on us, as Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind. Amen.