# 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>May 12, 2019</u>

<u>Sunday of the Myrrhbearing Women,</u> <u>Pious Joseph of Arimathaea and Righteous Nicodemus</u> <u>Tone 2 ~ Eothinon 4</u>

# Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

#### **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.

*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 Ss. Joseph & Nicodemus – Tone 2:* The pious Joseph, having brought down thy pure body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen, embalmed it with ointment, provided for it, and laid it in a new tomb. But Thou didst verily rise, after three days, O Lord, granting the world the Great Mercy.

*Apolytikion of the Myrrh-bearers – Tone 2:* Verily, the angel came to the tomb and said to the ointment-bearing women: The ointment is meet for the dead, but Christ is shown to be remote from corruption. But cry ye: The Lord is risen, granting the world the Great Mercy.

*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 Pascha – Plagal Tone 4:* When Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of hades. In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God, proclaiming 'Rejoice' to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thine apostles and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

Prokeimenon: The Lord is my strength and my song.

Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

**Epistle:** The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. (Chapter 6:1-7)

IN THOSE DAYS, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

# **Gospel:** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (Chapters 15:43-47; 16:1-8)

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen

# **GOSPEL CONTINUED**

shroud and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Joses, saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was past Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away they stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up they saw that the stone was rolled back – it was very large. And entering the tomb they saw a young man sitting on the right side dressed in a white robe and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He has risen, He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go tell his disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb for trembling and astonishment had come upon them and they said nothing to anyone for they were afraid.

# Spiritual Counsels...

"For the man who rejects discipline: poverty and disgrace; for the man who accepts correction: honor." – Prov. 13:18

# From Rob Booms, Chairman of Parish Council

It takes a lot of hard work for Lent and Pascha services to be truly inspiring and spiritually nourishing. As Orthodox people we sometimes fail to thank people for things that always get done somehow. So here's thanks to Father Peter, Gene Pituch, Andy Mahoney, the choir, the food preparers, the gardeners, the decorators and all who served at the altar for making this a very special and beautiful time. Thanks be to God for all of you and our church! --Rob Booms, Parish Council Chairman.

#### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Mid-Pentecost) Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Ascension of our Lord) Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Today's Ushers: Michael Zelesnik. Next Week: Dwight Gillis and family.

Today's coffee hour: Team 5. Thank you. Next Sunday: Team 1.

There is no fasting until Friday, June 6.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

Happy Mother's Day to all the wives and mothers in the parish. Thank you for all you do. May God grant you many years!

Trisagion prayers are offered today by **Mariam Ammari** for the repose of the soul of **John Amari**. May his memory be eternal.

Please remember to return your **Food For Hungry People** coin boxes. The proceeds shall be forwarded to the Archdiocese office for distribution. Thank you for your generosity.

The **Ladies Guild** is scheduled to hold its May meeting today, May 12, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold its May meeting next Sunday, May 19, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

Our annual **St. Basil Birthday Party** is scheduled for Sunday, May 26, after Divine Liturgy. Please see the list posted on the bulletin board outside the kitchen if you are interested in bringing St. Basil Church a birthday gift. The A-Men will be cooking/grilling meat. Ladies Guild, please bring salads, starches, desserts or drinks. Thank you.

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

As of May 7, 2019, 47 pledges were received for 2019 totaling \$93,116.00. The collection for April 28, 2019, totaled \$3,487.75, and the collection for May 5, 2019, totaled \$3,170.30, for a year-to-date amount of \$60,101.26, a weekly average of \$3,338.96. As of April 30, 2019, our expenses are \$42,774.19, a weekly average of \$2,376.34.

#### The Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women

On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy Myrrh-bearing women. And we also commemorate Joseph of Arimathaea, the secret disciple, and Nicodemus, the disciple by night.

#### Verses

# Christ is brought myrrh by the wise women disciples; And to them, I bring a hymn as myrrh in offering.

The women went to Christ's tomb on Holy Pascha to anoint His body, only to discover it empty. We know the names of only eight of these women: Mary the Theotokos, the "mother" of James and Joses, who were the sons of Joseph the Betrothed from his previous marriage (Matt. 27:56 and Mark 15:40); Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna the wife of Chuza; Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Susanna; and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. Joseph was a rich and noble man, and a member of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. He dared to ask Pilate for the undefiled body of our Savior, which he took and buried in his own new tomb. Accompanying Joseph to the sepulcher was Nicodemus, a Jerusalemite who was one of the leaders of the Pharisees. Nicodemus brought 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes to scent and embalm the body of Christ.

By the intercessions of the holy Myrrh-bearers, Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.

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#### St. Herman, Patriarch of Constantinople

Herman was the son of the head imperial senator who was killed by Emperor Constantine Pogonatus. This same evil emperor castrated the senator's son, Herman, and forcibly banished him to a monastery. As a monk, Herman shone like a star by his life and good works. Because of that, he was chosen as the first bishop of Cyzicus and, when Anastatius II was crowned emperor, Herman was elected as patriarch of Constantinople. As patriarch he baptized the ill-reputed Copronymos who, during the time of his baptism, soiled the water with his uncleanliness. Then the patriarch prophesied that this child, when he becomes emperor, will introduce into the Holy Church some impure heresy. And this happened. When Copronymos became emperor, he restored the heresy of the iconoclasts. Leo Isaurian, the father of Copronymos, initiated the persecution of icons and when Patriarch Herman protested, the arrogant Leo cried out: "I am emperor and priest!" He removed Herman from the patriarchal throne and banished him to a monastery where this saint lived for 10 more years until the Lord called him to Himself and to the heavenly kingdom in the year 740 A.D.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid