



## 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

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

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

August 18, 2019

The 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost and the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Matthew

Plagal Tone 4 ~ Eothinon 9

*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 (August 18)***

Monk-Martyrs Floros and Lauros of Illyria; Martyr Hermos; Martyr Leontus; John and George, patriarchs of Constantinople; Venerable Sophronios of St. Anne skete on Athos; Venerable Barnabas and Christopher of Mt. Mela; Relics of Venerable Arsenios the New of Paros; New-martyr Demetrios; repose of Venerable John of Rila; New-martyr Constantine of Capua, New-martyr Matthew of Gerakari.

***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 the Dormition – Tone 1:*** In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for living thou wast translated, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

***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 Dormition of the Theotokos – Tone 2:*** Neither the grave nor death had power over the Theotokos, who is ever watchful in intercession and whose protection is an unchanging hope; for being the Mother of Life, she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.

***Prokeimenon:*** Make your vows unto the Lord our God and perform them.

***Verse:*** God is known in Judah; His name is great in Israel.

***Epistle:*** The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

(Chapter 3:9-17)

BRETHREN, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw – each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through the fire.

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy and that temple you are.

***Gospel:*** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

(Chapter 14:22-34)

At that time, Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came He was there alone but the boat was in the middle of the sea, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against it. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus came to

## **GOSPEL CONTINUED**

them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart, it is I; have no fear.”

And Peter answered Him, saying, “Lord, if it is You, bid me come to You on the water.” Jesus said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the mighty wind he was afraid and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, “O man of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they got into the boat the wind became calm. And those in the boat came and worshipped Jesus, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

And when they had crossed over they came to land at Gennesaret.

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Saturday, Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Thursday, Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Beheading of St. John)

Saturday, Aug. 31<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Nativity of the Theotokos)

Saturday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Elevation of the Holy Cross)

Saturday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

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

“No oxen, no cattle feed; stout ox, rich crop.” – Prov. 14:4

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

The Parish Council thanks all donors, chefs and helpers who have provided the wonderful food after our liturgies. We had five groups of volunteers. As we prepare for the rest of the church year, we hope to have six groups sharing this ministry. But we need more volunteers to make this happen. Please remember that it is not necessary for any group to prepare a big meal and the groups are not in competition. It's really just about breaking the fast and having fellowship. If you would like to be involved in a group, please contact Tania Russell after church. God bless--Rob Booms

Diocesan Fall Spiritual Retreat. Please consider attending the Diocesan Fall Spiritual Retreat on September 6 and 7. It's going to be held in Franklin, Tennessee, about 20 miles south of Nashville. If you drive it will take about 7 hours to cover a little over 500 miles, mostly on interstate highway. The conference registration fee is \$40 per person but that covers all your meals. Flight connections are good and not expensive. However, if you need help with expenses for travel, hotel and registration, please let Father Peter know and we will try to help.

Parish Library. Yes, we do have a Parish library. It's on the left wall of the Parish Hall across from the bookstore. Unfortunately, it has not been kept up. Several folks have volunteered to inventory and catalog the books but we need more help. We are also soliciting Orthodox book donations and

may acquire some books from the Parish bookstore. If you would like to help or donate books, please see me after church.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today's Ushers:** Mihai Leustean. **Next Week:** Dwight Gillis.

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

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to have their August meeting today, Aug. 18, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

**SAVE THE DATE...****Ice Cream Social** will be today, **August 18** immediately after coffee hour. See any Ladies Guild member for tickets (\$5 donation). Thank you for supporting our projects!

At the end of liturgy on Sunday, Aug. 25, we shall, with God's help, have the blessing of children for the beginning of Church School.

An **Orthodoxy 101/Inquirers' Class** shall be offered on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next gathering is on Sept. 3 at 6:30 P.M. A potluck meal shall be served followed by a presentation and discussion. Everyone is welcome!

Approximately 2 dozen **red carnations** are needed for the **Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross** on Saturday, Sept. 14. If you are interested in donating all or part of these flowers, please fill out one of the envelopes in the narthex and on the “Special Occasion” line, please write, “Red Carnations.” Include your commemorations and donation, and turn the envelope in to the church office. Thank you.

As God so wills, **His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS** shall visit our parish on Sunday afternoon and Monday, Sept. 22 & 23. The schedule for his visit is: Monday, Sept. 23: Vespers, 6:30 P.M. followed by a potluck meal and parish-wide meeting with His Grace.

As of August 13, 2019, 48 pledges were received for 2019 totaling \$93,256.00. The collection for August 11, 2019, totaled \$1,622.00, for a year-to-date amount of \$89,957.16, a weekly average of \$2,811.16. As of Aug. 15, 2019, our expenses are \$82,367.59, a weekly average of \$2,573.99.

## **Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum**



Our possum family came to live under the altar at St. Basil around 2003, according to the stories passed on by our elders. Fourteen years ago, in late August 2005, Hurricane Katrina came along and we were flooded out. The church was flooded and the possum family had to move to the hospital parking lot for a while. When we came back, a lot of people had left and things were mighty quiet on Sundays. We were amazed to find that the floodwater never damaged the large icons in the church. The icon of our Lord that sits on the stand in the entrance area had swelled up with water from a roof leak. Father Peter laid it aside to dry and, when he had almost forgotten about it, it had completely returned to its original size and appearance! Thanks be to God that all was restored and that the possum family can still join you in singing ALLELUIA in our beautiful church. Peace to you, Theo, the Orthodox possum.

### **The Venerable John of Rila**

This great ascetic and saint of the Orthodox Church was born near Sophia, Bulgaria in the town of Skrino during the reign of King Boris. He was of poor but honorable parents. After the death of his parents, John was tonsured a monk and withdrew to a mountain wilderness and, began to live a life of strict asceticism in a cave. There, he endured many assaults, both from demons and men, from robbers and his relatives. After this, he moved to the Rila mountain and settled in a hollow tree. He fed only on herbs and broad beans, which, according to God's Providence began to grow in the vicinity. For many years, he did not see a man's face until again, by God's Providence, he was discovered by shepherders who were seeking their lost sheep. Thus, the saint was heard of among the people and they began to come to him seeking help in sickness and in sufferings. The Bulgarian King Peter himself visited John and sought counsel from him. Many who were zealots for the spiritual life settled in the proximity of John. There, a church and monastery was quickly built. St. John rested peacefully in the Lord on August 18, 946 A.D. at the age of 70. After his death, he appeared to his disciples. At first, his relics were translated to Sophia, then to Hungary, then to Trnovo and finally to the Rila monastery where they repose today. Throughout the centuries, the Rila monastery was a beacon of light, a place of miracle-working power and a spiritual comfort for the Christian people of Bulgaria especially during the difficult times of bondage under the Turks.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*