



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.

September 15, 2019

Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross

Tone 4 ~ Eothinon 2

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 (September 15)

Great-martyr Nikita the Goth; Martyr Porphyrios the Mime; Vissarion, bishop of Larisa; New-martyr John of Crete; Venerable Philotheos and Gerasimos; Joseph the New of Partos, the wonder-worker, metropolitan of Timisoara. Venerable Symeon, archbishop of Thessalonica.

Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Tone 4: Having learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation and proudly broke the news to the disciples saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world 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 the Holy Cross – Tone 4: Do Thou, Who of Thine Own good will wast lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new nation, which is called by Thy name. Make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

Prokeimenon: O Lord, how magnificent are Your works. You have made all things in wisdom.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Epistle: The reading is from St. Paul’s Letter to the Galatians.
(Chapter 2:16-20)

BRETHREN, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law, but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things, which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

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

The Lord said, “If any man 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 of 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 He 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

Saturday, Sept. 21st – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Sept. 22nd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Monday, Sept. 23rd – Great Vespers, 6:30 P.M. (Nativity of the Forerunner)
Saturday, Sept. 28th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Sept. 29th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Oct. 5th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Oct. 6th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Oct. 12th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Oct. 13th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Spiritual Counsels...

“Keep well clear of the fool, you will not find wise lips there.” – Prov. 14:7

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

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: Sevin and Tania Russell. **Next Week:** Pam Nugent and Emma Nugent.

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

The **Parish Council** shall have their September meeting today, Sept. 15, 2019, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

The holy bread is sponsored today by **Nazih** and **Solange Nakhoul** for the health of **Solange, Nazih, Hani, Ramzi** and the **Nakhoul** and **Abdulnour families** (many years), and for the repose of **Michel, Marie, Labib, Nasri** and the departed members of the **Nakhoul** and **Abdulnour families** (memory eternal).

An **Orthodoxy 101/Inquirers' Class** shall be offered on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next gathering is on Oct. 1 at 6:30 P.M. A potluck meal shall be served followed by a presentation and discussion. Everyone is welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

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

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 Sept. 10, 2019, 48 pledges were received for 2019 totaling \$93,256.00. The collection for Sept. 1, 2019, totaled \$4,307.00, and the collection for Sept. 8, 2019, totaled \$1,300.92 for a year-to-date amount of \$101,559.63, a weekly average of \$2,821.10. As of Sept. 8, 2019, our expenses are \$88,938.21, a weekly average of \$2,470.51.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



Although a possum's life is very short, we are very privileged to live under the altar. That's because miracles happen over our heads every time a Liturgy is celebrated. There's always a very quiet time, in the middle of the service, when Father Peter says "Take, eat: this is My Body..." and "Drink ye all of this: this is My Blood..." We wondered when the miracle happens, the point in time when the bread and wine actually become the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Orthodox believe that it occurs when Father Peter invokes the Holy Spirit when he prays:

"... send down Thy Holy Spirit upon us and upon these Gifts here spread forth:
And make this bread the precious Body of Thy Christ;
And that which is in this cup, the precious Blood of Thy Christ;
Changing them by Thy Holy Spirit;
Amen, Amen, Amen."

In some traditions, when they hear the three “Amens”, some Orthodox people kneel or bow from the waist and cross themselves three times. Others do three prostrations. This is because the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ is now on the altar. In other traditions, we kneel, bow or make prostrations at certain times during the services during the week. On Sundays, however, we do not kneel because we are celebrating the resurrection of our Lord. Sunday is a day of celebration; our Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead! We never kneel during the 40 days after Pascha; our Lord is with us. This is the practice of our community. What a great gift we have been given! Thanks be to God--Theo, the Parish Possum

Red carnations for the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross were graciously provided by:

Therese Dagher for the health of **Bruno, Toufic, Ayman** and **Joe** (many years);

Georgette Ioup for the health of **Georgette, Juliette, Elias, Sarah, Layla, Zayd, Sylvia, Greg, Michael, Amanda, William, Emily, Alex** and **Maria** (many years), and for the repose of **Elias George, Angeline, Jean** and **George** (memory eternal);

Philip and **Elaine Khoury** for the health of **Philip, Elaine, Luna, Majdelena, Ghassan** and the **Khoury family** (many years), and for the repose of **Ibrahim, Yousef, Osama, Kamleh, Evon** and **Wafaa** (memory eternal);

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

Naheel Rafeedie for the health of **Naheel, Nadeem, Victor, Michael, Steven, Helen, Martha, Manal, Abigail, Michael Jr., Matthew** and **Hayley** (many years), and for the repose of **Basem, Michael, Nijmeh, Nicola, Zahiya, Essa, Ellen, Richard** and **Mary** (memory eternal);

The **Yordanov family** for the health of **Penka, Iordan** and **Zhenya** (many years), and for the repose of **Rayko, Yordan** and **Boyanka** (memory eternal).

The Holy Martyr Nicetas

Nicetas was a Goth by birth. He was a disciple of Theophilus, Bishop of the Goths, who participated in the First Ecumenical Council [Nicaea 325]. When the Gothic prince Athenarik began to torture Christians, St. Nicetas stood before the prince and denounced him for his paganism and inhumanity. Subsequently harshly tortured, Nicetas confessed his faith in Christ even more strongly, and prayed to God with thanksgiving. His mind was unceasingly raised up to God, and on his breast under his robe he bore an icon of the Most-holy Theotokos with the Pre-eternal Christ Child standing and holding the Cross in His hands. St. Nicetas carried this icon because the Holy Theotokos had appeared to him and comforted him. Finally, the torturer threw the soldier of Christ into the fire, where the holy martyr breathed his last, but his body remained untouched by the fire. His companion Marianus took his body from the land of the Goths (Wallachia and Bessarabia) to the town of Mopsuestia, in Cilicia. There, he built a church dedicated to St. Nicetas, and placed the miracle-working relics of the martyr in it. Nicetas suffered and was glorified in the year 372.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid