

**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**  
**504.888.8114**  
[sbno@att.net](mailto:sbno@att.net)  
[www.stbasilneworleans.org](http://www.stbasilneworleans.org)

**The Holy Neo-Martyr Jordan**

Jordan, born in Trebizond, was a coppersmith by trade. Because he openly defended his faith in Christ and unmasked the faith of Islam, Jordan suffered at the hands of the Turks in 1650 A.D. at Galata in Constantinople. The monk Gabriel, a Canonarch of the Great Church in Constantinople [St. Sophia], suffered in the same manner in the year 1672 A.D.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*

**St. Basil**  
**Antiochian**  
**Orthodox Church**



**February 2, 2020**  
**The Feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple**

# Welcome!

## To Our Guests:

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. In our tradition, **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.** Please do not be offended by this if you are not an Orthodox Christian or in good standing with the Church. We welcome you to our church and invite you to receive a blessing and partake of the blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

**In our tradition...** *the church temple is a house of prayer. Upon entering it, please refrain from unnecessary conversation before, during and after church services, most especially during the Divine Liturgy from the time of the consecration of the Gifts until the last person has received the Eucharist. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, please come quietly forward to receive a piece of the antidoron and exit the church temple. During coffee hour in the Church Hall is the appropriate place to exchange personal greetings and converse with one another. May God bless your reverence and piety.*

**Epistle Reading:** Hebrews 7:7-17

**Gospel Reading:** St. Luke 2:22-40

## ***Saints of the Day***

The Meeting of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ; Martyr Agathodoros of Cappadocia; New-martyrs Jordan of Trebizond and Gabriel of Constantinople.

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Saturday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

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

Saturday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:30 P.M.

Sunday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Feb. 29<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

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

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



While our possum family lives under the altar, sometimes we peek through some cracks and watch what happens on Sunday morning. We had the idea that the altar area behind the Iconostasis must be a very special place. Only the priest and the Bishop are allowed to go through the doors in the middle (the Royal Doors) since they represent

Jesus Christ. The doors are closed sometimes and there are also curtains that are drawn from time to time. We went to the Parish library and learned that the doors are closed to emphasize the sacred prayers that take place at the altar such as the Ektenias. The doors are opened to facilitate the Little Entrance and the procession (Great Entrance) after the Cherubic Hymn is sung. Just before the Ektenia that precedes the consecration, the doors are closed and the curtains are drawn to emphasize the great mystery that is about to take place. The curtains, but not the doors, are opened for the Creed but are closed again after the priest says, “Holy things are for the Holy.” The doors and curtains remain closed while the priest receives the consecrated bread and wine. Finally, everything is opened up for the Communion of the people. Many years ago, and in some Orthodox churches, the doors and curtains remain closed most of the time. We follow the Antiochian tradition in which we can see what the priest is doing most of the time. But, the books tell us that our participation and focus on the Liturgy is much more important than what we see through the Royal Doors. Let us attend!—Theo, the Orthodox possum

\*\*\*

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

“To be a schemer, is this not evil? Lay worthy plans and kindness and loyalty await you.” – Prov. 14:22

**Today's Ushers:** Michael Zelesnik. **Next Week:** Rose Hrabar.

**Today's coffee hour:** Team 4. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 5.

As of Jan. 14, 2020, 24 pledges were received for 2020 totaling \$61,800.00. The collection for Dec. 25, 2019, totaled \$3,132.85, and the collection for Dec. 29, 2019, totaled \$1,262.00, for a year-to-date amount of \$146,322.81, a weekly average of \$2,813.90. As of Dec. 30, 2019, our expenses were \$126,307.55, a weekly average of \$2,428.99.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Trisagion prayers are offered today by **Tania Russell** for the health of **Dwight** and the **Gillis** and **Russell families** (many years), and for the repose of **Dorthie Gillis** (memory eternal).

The altar candle is sponsored today by **Phil** and **Rose Hrabar** for the health of the **Goff, Hrabar, Campbell, Do** and **Duddish families** (many years), and for the repose of **June Hrabar** (memory eternal).

The Antiochian Men shall hold their January meeting today after Divine Liturgy. All men of the parish are invited to participate.

#### **Ladies Guild:**

Saturday Feb 8 LENTIL SOUP production. Meet at 2pm in the kitchen. Ladies Guild dues are now \$24 and can be given to Diana Lindley. Make checks out to St. Basil Ladies Guild. Thank you.

Our Annual General Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 9, 2020, after Divine Liturgy. All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

Please contact Fr. Peter if you wish to have your home blessed.

His Grace Bishop **NICHOLAS** shall, God willing, visit us March 6-8, 2020, the first Sunday of Great Lent, the Sunday of Orthodoxy.

An **Orthodoxy 101/Inquirers' Class** shall be offered on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next gathering is postponed until further notice. A potluck meal shall be served followed by a presentation and discussion. Everyone is welcome!