

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
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The Sunday of Palms

On this day in the Holy Orthodox Church, the Sunday of Palms, we celebrate the radiant and glorious festival of the Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem.

Verses

He Who stretcheth out the firmament and sat on the foal,
Seeketh to release mortals from un-reason.

Jesus came to Bethany on the Sunday falling before the six days of the Mosaic Passover. On the following day He sent two of His Disciples, who brought Him a donkey on which He sat to enter the city. And when the great multitude heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they immediately took palm branches in their hands and went out to meet Him. All cried, "Hosanna! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, King of Israel!" The branches of palm trees were a symbol of Christ's victory over Satan and Death. And the meaning of "Hosanna" is, "We pray Thee, save." The donkey's colt, which was still an untamed animal, and impure according to the law, as well as Christ's sitting thereon, symbolize the former savagery and impurity of the Gentiles; and their subsequent taming and obedience to the holy law of the Gospel.

By Thine ineffable compassion, O Christ our God, make us victors over the irrational passions, and make us worthy to see Thy tangible victory over death, Thy radiant and life-bearing Resurrection, and have mercy on us. Amen.

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



April 12, 2020
The Sunday of Palms

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: Phillipians 4:4-9

Gospel Reading: St. John 12:1-18

Saints of the Day

Basil the Confessor, bishop of Parium; Venerable Anthusa of Constantinople; Venerable Akakios the Younger, founder of Kafsokalyvia skete on Athos; Sergius II, patriarch of Constantinople.

A message from the Parish Council:

Dear Parishioners,

We have been given an unusual test of our faith during Lent 2020. We are threatened physically by a virus and, for many, by loss of income. Our life patterns have suddenly been disrupted. We were planning to sustain ourselves by regular church attendance but, at times, are finding it difficult or stressful to go. For those who are medically fragile, worship has been limited to the icon corner at home. Regrettably, our church's expenses, and especially the need to compensate our Priest, do not abate. As part of your Lenten discipline, please remember your pledge

and, if you are able, continue to make your regular contributions by mail when you cannot attend the Liturgy. May this crisis be of short duration and may it prove to be a source of spiritual growth for you and our St. Basil congregation—Rob Booms, Parish Council Chairman

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 11th – Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, April 11th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 12th – Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Sunday, April 12th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:00 P.M.
Monday, April 13th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, April 14th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday, April 15th – Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:00 P.M.
Thursday, April 16th – Vespertal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 16th – Orthros of the 12 Passion Gospels, 6:00 P.M.
Friday, April 17th – Royal Hours, 9:00 A.M.
Friday, April 17th – Unnailing Vespers, 3:00 P.M.
Friday, April 17th – Lamentations Orthros, 6:00 P.M.
Saturday, April 18th – Vespertal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, April 18th – Rush Procession & Orthros, 11:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 19th – Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy PASCHA, 12:00 A.M.
Sunday, April 19th – Agape Vespers, 11:00 A.M.
Sunday, April 26th – Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, May 2th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 3rd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, May 9th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 10th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



The possum family has noticed a lot of changes from our den under the altar. We figure something must be wrong with fewer people coming to church and a smaller choir. Still we give thanks for the breadcrumbs Father leaves for us in the side-yard after he cuts up the bread for the antidoron. We've heard from other possums about the corona virus. So far it's only affected humans and one tiger. Still we're worried. At the same time, we can't help but think that it could not have come at a better time than Lent. As Charles Dickens said, this is the worst of times, but also the best of times. The best time to press the pause button on our lives and reflect on God's gifts to us. The best time to realize how dependent we are on God's grace and mercy. The best time to remember that God loves

us and that all be well in the end for those who are faithful. The best time to remember that we are called to trust and not to fear. This will be the best Pascha yet if we make it so—Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“To oppress the poor is to insult his creator, to be kind to the needy is to honor him.” – Prov. 14:31

Today's Ushers: ???. **Next Week: ???.**

Today's coffee hour: Team #. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team #.
(suspended until further notice)

As of March 12, 2020, 42 pledges were received for 2020 totaling \$84,710. The donations for March 2020 totaled \$25,352. The expenses were \$27,767.56, for an end-of-month balance of \$28,331.68. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

A Request from Mt. Athos

The Holy Fathers of Mt. Athos are saying daily prayers concerning the coronavirus. Every day, at 10:00 p.m., they repeat the following prayer for 15 minutes. Please follow that practice at the same time joining all Orthodox people by praying in these words: **Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon the world!**

Lentil soup sales continue – \$8 each or 2 for \$15 (16 oz frozen container)
See Tania, Yazmin, or Diana. Support the Ladies Guild charities. Thank you.

Pledge Forms are available in the narthex of the church.

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