

**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 the Paralytic**

On this day, the fourth Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the Paralytic and, as is right, we celebrate the miracle wrought for him.

**Verses**

The word of Christ was strength for the paralytic;  
So that this word alone was the man's full healing.

Jesus healed the Paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, located near the Sheep's Gate of Jerusalem, where people sacrificed their beasts and washed their insides. The pool had five sides, with a porch and arch on each. A number of people, afflicted with various diseases, passed through them, waiting at the water for an angel to come down and stir it. Once it moved, whoever stepped into the water first was instantly healed. One poor man, whose story is recounted in today's Gospel lection in the Divine Liturgy, waited 38 years for someone to lower him into the water, because he was unable to move into the water himself. However, the Savior merely commanded the man to get up and walk, and he was healed.

In Thine infinite mercy, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.  
Amen.

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



**May 10, 2020**  
**The Sunday of the Paralytic**

# 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.

*The weather is always very warm during the summer months. 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.***

## Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

**Epistle Reading:** Acts 9:32-42

**Gospel Reading:** St. John 5:1-15

### Saints of the Day

Apostle Simon the Zealot; Venerable Laurence of Egypt.

### **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 spiritual discipline, please remember your pledge

and, if you are able, continue to make your regular contributions when you cannot attend the Liturgy, by mail, or by going to our website, [stbasilneworleans.org](http://stbasilneworleans.org) and clicking on the link. 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, May 9<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> – Typica Service, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – Kneeling Vespers, 30 min after the end of liturgy.

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



Possums have white faces, which give us kind of a ghostly appearance. As a result of the coronavirus, we've been seeing humans with all sorts of face coverings including white ones. We overheard a conversation between some parishioners about how different it is to interact with people when you can't see the person's mouth as they speak or smile. God has given each of his creatures a unique face, even possums. Most of us tend to be nicer to those who have an attractive and friendly appearance. But what do we do now when folks are wearing a mask that covers the nose and mouth? Is the grocery store clerk and sanitation worker still as much of a person as before or do we treat them differently now? Do people relate to you the same way when you are wearing a mask? Is everybody now finally going to be treated equally or is everybody going to be diminished? Our Lord Jesus looked to the inner man and cared little for outward trappings. It seems clear that God calls us to respect, love and honor everyone regardless of appearance. That will be the challenge for us as Orthodox Christians as we face the days ahead—Theo

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

"A clever servant enjoys the favor of the king, he uses his shrewdness to avoid disgrace." – Prov. 14:35

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

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

As of May 8, 2020, 42 pledges were received for 2020 totaling \$84,710. The donations for April 2020 totaled \$11,524.32. The expenses were \$5,171.69, for an end-of-month balance of \$34,684.31. Thank you.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Happy Mother's Day to all the women of the parish. Thank you for all you do in- and outside the home. May God grant you many years!

The altar candle is cosponsored today by **Therese Dagher** for the health of **Bruno, Toufic, Ayman, Caroline** and **Therese** (many years); and in memory of **Alex, Marie** and **Anthony** (memory eternal).

The altar candle is cosponsored today by **Donea family** for the health of **Simion, Olga, Xenia, Maxim** and **Dumitru** (many years).

Those of us who took some of the Food For Hungry People coin boxes home for Great Lent – it's time to bring those back and place them in the narthex of the church. The proceeds will be tallied up and forwarded to the Archdiocese chancery for distribution. Thank you for your participation!

God willing, we shall celebrate the leave-taking of Pascha on Wednesday, May 27, with Orthros at 9:00 A.M. and Divine Liturgy at 10:00 A.M. On Thursday, May 28, we shall celebrate the Ascension of our Lord with Orthros at 9:00 A.M. and Divine Liturgy at 10:00 A.M.

Sunday, June 7, is the great feast of Pentecost. Thirty minutes after the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy that morning we shall, God willing, have the Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost during which time we shall ask the Holy Spirit to descend upon us as he did upon the apostles. Please join us for this occasion.

We appreciate all of who continue to support St. Basil on a regular basis even though it is not possible to bring your gifts to the Sunday liturgy. It

is now possible to provide financial support on line by going to our website, [www.stbasilneworleans.org](http://www.stbasilneworleans.org). Just go to the opening page and click on the link. Thank you!

On Sunday, May 31, we shall have a **church-wide potluck meal** in the Church Hall to kick off the summer. If the first letter of your last name begins with the letters A thru G, please bring a meat dish. If the first letter of your last name begins with the letters H thru K, please bring a vegetable. If the first letter of your last name begins with the letters L thru O, please bring a starch. If the first letter of your last name begins with the letters P thru T, please bring a dessert. If the first letter of your last name begins with the letters U thru Z, please bring a drinks and ice.

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 is included followed by a discussion.