

**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 Sunday of the Holy Father of the Fourth Ecumenical Council**

On this Sunday, we commemorate the 630 holy and God-bearing Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council, which convened in Chalcedon in 451 against the Monophysites.

The Holy Fathers were, once again, concerned with the nature of Jesus Christ. The false teaching arose that Christ's human nature (considered by heretics as less perfect) dissolved itself in His divine nature (considered by heretics as more perfect): like a cube of sugar in a parcel of water. Thus, in that scenario, Christ had only one nature, the Divine. These false preachers were called Monophysites ("mono", meaning "one" and "physis", meaning "nature"), and they were led by Eutyches and Dioscorus. Monophysitism overemphasized the divine nature of Christ, at the expense of the human. The Fourth Ecumenical Council condemned Monophysitism and proclaimed that Christ has two complete natures: the divine and the human, as defined by previous Councils. These two natures function as equally perfect, without confusion, and are neither divided nor separate. The Fathers declared that at no time did they undergo any change.

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



**July 19, 2020**  
**The Sunday of the Holy Fathers**  
**of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council**

# 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.***

**Epistle Reading:** Titus: 3:8-15

**Gospel Reading:** St. Matthew 5:14-19

## Saints of the Day

Venerable Macrina, sister of Basil the Great; Venerable Dios of Antioch; Theodore, archbishop of Ephesus; uncovering of the relics of Venerable Seraphim of Sarov; Stephen Lazarevic.

## A Message from the Parish Council on the Corona Virus

Dear Parishioners,

St. Basil has always been a good citizen of Metairie and Jefferson Parish. The Lord has blessed us with no active cases of the corona virus. We have acted cautiously, made our weekly worship available through live-streaming on the internet and provided additional sanitary measures. Sadly, the virus seems to be taking another swing at the community. Our Governor and Parish President have asked us to take additional and stricter precautions. Starting on Sunday, July 5, we are asking that all persons wear a facemask in church or in the parish hall. The only exceptions are the priest, the subdeacon, the acolytes and choir members during the liturgy when their duties require it. In addition, we

ask that parishioners in the pews sit 6 feet apart unless they are members of the same family. We will have a limited supply of facemasks if you did not bring your own. Thank you for cooperation—Rob Booms, Chairman, Parish Council.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Thursday, Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M., Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Aug. 9<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

## Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



When people in church approach the icons of our Lord and the Theotokos, I often hear them whisper the words “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner.” This prayer is commonly known as the “Jesus Prayer.” Even church possums know and use this prayer. With the exception of the Lord’s Prayer, it is the most powerful way to communicate with our Lord. According to St. Paul, we are to pray without ceasing. St. Seraphim of Sarov says that, if the Jesus Prayer is always on our lips and in our hearts, we will attain purity of spirit and body. St. Chrysostom teaches that the prayer will “subdue the pernicious serpent and save and quicken the soul.” St. Theophanes the Recluse and St. John of Kronstadt also recommend it because it guards us from distraction and preserves the peace of one’s conscience. Many of us spend too much time being guilt-ridden, anxious and fearful, especially in this time of pandemic. It is important to supplant such thoughts by focusing instead on God’s power to redeem us. If you cannot sleep because you are wrestling with feelings of guilt, anger or worry, saying this prayer out loud or mentally, without interruption, is a powerful antidote. You will find yourself drifting off in peace. Even during the day, the Jesus Prayer helps to overcome stress and draws us nearer to our Lord. May you find it beneficial —God bless all, Theo

\*\*\*

***Spiritual Counsels...***

“The sacrifice of the wicked is abhorrent to the Lord, dear to Him is the prayer of honest men.” – Prov. 15:8

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

**Today's coffee hour:** Team #3. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team #4.

As of July 14, 2020, 42 pledges were received for 2020 totaling \$84,710. The donations for June 2020 totaled \$12,971.96. The expenses were \$5,607.85, for an end-of-month balance of \$35,166.63. Thank you.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The altar candle is offered today by **Dwight Gillis** for the health of **Dwight, the Gillis family** and **the Russell family** (many years); and for the repose of **Dorthie Gillis** and **Dorothy Farris** (memory eternal) on the occasion of **Dwight** and **Dorthie's** 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to have their July meeting today after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

As God so wills, we shall celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord on Thursday, Aug. 6. Those persons who wish to bring grapes for the blessing of the grapes at that time are invited to do so. Please see the worship schedule for more information.

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.