

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
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And Metropolitan of all North America
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Reflection

Holy Scripture clearly and irrefutably witnesses that angels ceaselessly communicate with this world. The Holy Scripture and Holy Tradition of the Orthodox Church teaches us the names of the seven leaders of the angelic powers: Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salathiel, Jegudiel, and Barachiel (an eighth, Jeremiel, is sometimes included).

“Michael” in the Hebrew language means “Who is like unto God?” or “Who is equal to God?” St. Michael has been depicted from earliest Christian times as a commander, who holds in his right hand a spear with which he attacks Lucifer, Satan, and in his left hand a green palm branch. At the top of the spear there is a linen ribbon with a red cross. The Archangel Michael is especially considered to be the Guardian of the Orthodox Faith and a fighter against heresies.

“Gabriel” means “Man of God” or “Might of God.” He is the herald of the mysteries of God, especially the Incarnation of God and all other mysteries related to it. He is depicted as follows: In his right hand, he holds a lantern with a lighted taper inside, and in his left hand, a mirror of green jasper. The mirror signifies the wisdom of God as a hidden mystery.

“Raphael” means “God’s healing” or “God the Healer.” (Tobit 3:17, 12:15). Raphael is depicted leading Tobit (who is carrying a fish caught in the Tigris) with his right hand, and holding a physician’s alabaster jar in his left hand.

“Uriel” means “Fire of God,” or “Light of God” (III Esdras 3:1, 5:20). He is depicted holding a sword against the Persians in his right hand, and a fiery flame in his left.

“Salathiel” means “Intercessor of God” (III Esdras 5:16). He is depicted with his face and eyes lowered, holding his hands on his bosom in prayer.

“Jegudiel” means “Glorifier of God.” He is depicted bearing a golden wreath in his right hand and a triple-thonged whip in his left hand.

“Barachiel” means “Blessing of God.” He is depicted holding a white rose in his hand against his breast.

“Jeremiel” means “God’s exaltation.” He is venerated as an inspirer and awakener of exalted thoughts that raise a man toward God (III Ezra 4:36).

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



November 8, 2020
The Synaxis of the Holy Archangels
The 7th Sunday of Luke

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 without talking. 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: 2:2-10

Gospel Reading: St. Luke 8:41-56

Saints of the Day

The synaxis of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salathiel, Jegudiel, Barachiel and Jeremiel, and all the bodiless powers of heaven.

A New Message from the Parish Council on the Corona Virus

Dear Parishioners,

As far as we know, the Lord has blessed our Parish with no active cases of the corona virus. In response to the pandemic, we have made the weekly Liturgy available on the internet and offered face masks. Many of you have observed social distancing and worn face masks. We appreciate your efforts. We are especially thankful that your financial support of the Parish has remained steady during this time. Our Governor has now relaxed the earlier limitations on crowd size. However, the virus has not gone away. Please continue to observe all reasonable precautions until

this threat to our health subsides. Thank you and God bless our Parish—
Rob Booms, Chairman of the Parish Council.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Nov. 14th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Nov. 15th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Nov. 21st – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, Nov. 21st – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Nov. 22nd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Nov. 28th – No Great Vespers & Confessions
Sunday, Nov. 29th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Dec. 5th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Dec. 6th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



The Orthodox possum family under your altar can see what is happening in the church through small cracks. We are very moved by the devotion shown by all of you as you venerate the icons and receive the Holy Gifts. Many of you light candles. This is a very important part of Orthodox worship. We have a possum-sized candle stand in our own icon corner. We light them as we pray, making this an offering to accompany our prayers. Orthodox typically light candles when coming into the church and that is usually the best time to light them. There are times when candles should not be lit. It is not proper to light candles during the Epistle or Gospel readings, during the Little or Great Entrances and most of the times when the faithful are standing. If you find yourself entering the church after the Liturgy has begun, it's best to wait until everyone is seated to light a candle. A good rule of thumb is to avoid lighting a candle if folks are standing or a sermon is in progress. May you and your family find this helpful as you worship our Lord. Blessings to all—Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

"Without deliberation plans come to nothing, where counselors are many plans succeed." – Prov. 15:22

Today's Ushers: Mihai Leustean. **Next Week:** Greg Lindley.

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

As of Nov. 3, 2020, 44 pledges were received for 2020 totaling \$86,950. The donations for October 2020 totaled \$4,911.93. The expenses were \$9,051.79, for an end-of-month balance of \$24,386.02. Thank you.

A-Peal for the Bell...



The Parish Council is always looking for ways to enhance the beauty of our church and worship services. About a year ago some of us considered the possibility of purchasing a bell. Unfortunately, the belfry on our church is not designed to hold a bell. We made inquiries about the cost of a bell that could be placed in a frame or structure near the church entrance and used during the liturgy. A large used bronze bell may cost as much \$8,000 to \$12,000. (To Be Continued...)

We are accepting donations for the bell. If you would like to give, please mark your check “Church Bell” and place it in the offering.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We fast Wednesday and Friday this week.

Trisagion prayers are offered today by **Mariam, Jawad** and **Mousa Ammari** for the repose of their brother, **Emil** (40 day). May his memory be eternal.

The **Ladies Guild** is scheduled to hold their November meeting today, Nov. 8, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

The **Advent Fast** begins Saturday, November 15th, and is divided into two periods. The first period is Nov. 15 – Dec. 19, with the traditional fasting discipline observed (no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, alcohol and oil). There is an allowance, however, for alcohol and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and an allowance for alcohol, oil and fish on Saturdays and Sundays. The second period is Dec. 20 – 24, with the traditional fasting discipline observed. There is an allowance, however, for alcohol and oil only on Saturday and Sunday.

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold their November meeting next Sunday, Nov. 15, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.