

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
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Venerable John, the Disciple of St. Gregory Decapolis

At the time of the Iconoclastic heresy, Emperor Leo the Armenian subjected John to torture along with his teacher Gregory and St. Joseph the Hymnographer. When Gregory departed this life, John became the abbot of the Decapolis Monastery in Constantinople. Having become abbot, he intensified his ascetical efforts for the sake of the kingdom of God. He died peacefully about the year 820 A.D. Following his death, St. Joseph buried him with honors next to the grave of St. Gregory.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid

St. Basil
Antiochian
Orthodox Church



April 18, 2021
The 5th Sunday of Great Lent

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... we stand as long as the Holy Eucharist is in the nave; we are in the presence of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. We remain standing as communicants come forward to receive the Holy Gifts. Of course, if you have a physical disability or are unable to stand due to pain, please do sit as necessary. Otherwise, we should always stand at this time.

Epistle Reading: Hebrews: 9:11-14

Gospel Reading: St. Mark 10:32-45

Saints of the Day

Venerable John, disciple of Gregory of Decapolis; Venerable Euthymios and Athanasios of Aegina; Cosmas the Confessor, bishop of Chalcedon; New-martyr John of Epiros; Venerable Euthymios, enlightener of Karelia.

A Spring Message from the Parish Council

Dear Parishioners, as we welcome the spring, we are now able to ease some of the restrictions required by the Archdiocese and Jefferson Parish. We were able to have our annual parish meeting and thank you for your participation. Until we are completely sure that it is safe, please continue to wear masks and observe social distancing in church and in the parish hall. The reception of Holy Communion is encouraged but, as always, is optional. Our choir continues to be restricted to the choir director and three choir members. We will try to offer snacks and coffee again after the liturgy as soon as possible. Thanks be to God for blessing our parish during these difficult times

—Rob Booms, Chairman of the Parish Council.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Friday, Apr. 16th – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, Apr. 17th – No Great Vespers & Confessions
Sunday, Apr. 18th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, Apr. 21st – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, Apr. 23rd – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Saturday, Apr. 24th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, Apr. 24th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Apr. 25th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Sunday, Apr. 25th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Monday, Apr. 26th – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Monday, Mar. 26th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Tuesday, Apr. 27th – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Tuesday, Apr. 27th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday, Apr. 28th – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.
Wednesday, April 28th – Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:30 P.M.
Thursday, April 29th – Vespers Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 29th – Orthros of the 12 Passion Gospels, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 30th – Royal Hours, 9:00 A.M.
Friday, April 30th – Unnailing Vespers, 3:00 P.M.
Friday, April 30th – Lamentations Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, May 1st – Vespers Divine Liturgy & Chrismations, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, May 1st – Rush Procession & Orthros, 11:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 2nd – Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy PASCHA, 12:00 A.M.
Sunday, May 2nd – Agape Vespers, 11:00 A.M.
Saturday, May 8th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 9th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



The possum family was under the altar, a few Sundays ago, listening to Father Peter's sermon about angels. Except for some of the new age people, our secular society does not believe in angels. Yet the Bible and the Orthodox Church teach that they are very real and have played important roles in the Old and New Testaments. To mention just a few, think of Gabriel and Michael and the angel who was present at the tomb of our Lord. Orthodox Saints and theologians also tell us that each of us has a guardian angel whose job is to protect and guide us. After we die, the guardian angel can advocate for us. Whether we wish to acknowledge the angel's presence is a personal decision but the angel is always

there and ready to help. It is proper to pray to your guardian angel and to view the angel as your adviser and companion. In the Orthodox liturgy, there is a prayer for “an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies.” For such an angel, let us entreat the Lord — Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“Obey your leaders and submit to them: for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you.” – Hebrews 13:17

Today’s Ushers: Yordan Yordanov. **Next Week:** Tania or Sevin Russell.

Today’s coffee hour: . **Next Sunday:** .

A-Peal for the Bell...



The bell was originally used in the National Shrine of St. Anna in the Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans during the 19th century and early part of the 20th century. Please consider contributing to the cost of the bell and its installation. Any gifts should be marked “Church Bell”. You are also invited to several upcoming fundraising lunches and hope that you can attend. —Rob Booms, Chairman of the Parish Council



The Bookstore Bee

This month in St. Basil’s bookstore we would like to bring attention to the beautiful icons we have for sale. We offer a variety of icons in many sizes. For your traveling purposes, we also have small triptych and diptych icons. These are also a great addition to an icon corner in your home. If you are looking for a particular icon, we can also order those.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Parish Council** shall hold its April meeting today after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

Each year we begin our Archdiocese-wide **Food For Hungry People Campaign** at this time. This campaign has raised millions of dollars over the 40+ years of its existence. Please take one of the coin boxes in the narthex home with you and place your coins in it during Great Lent and return the boxes at PASCHA. The proceeds will be collected and forwarded to the Archdiocese Chancery for distribution to the needy. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

The traditional fasting discipline of Great and Holy Lent (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, alcohol and oil) is observed during the entire Great Fast, which lasts from Pure Monday through Great and Holy Saturday. On Saturdays and Sundays, however, alcohol and oil are allowed, except on Great and Holy Saturday when no oil is permitted. Fish, alcohol and oil are permitted on the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25) and Palm Sunday.

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.

As of April 1, 2021, 35 pledges were received for 2021 totaling \$78,874. The donations for March 2021 totaled \$23,004.00. The expenses were \$9,619.19 for an end-of-month balance of \$47,734.36. Thank you.