

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
www.stbasilneworleans.org

The Holy Apostle And Evangelist Mark

Mark was a traveling companion and assistant to the Apostle Peter who, in his first epistle calls him his son, “*The chosen one at Babylon sends you his greeting as does Mark, my son*” (1 Peter 5:13), not according to the flesh but a son according to the spirit. While Mark was in Rome with Peter, the faithful begged him to write down for them the saving teaching of the Lord Jesus, His miracles and His life. Thus, Mark wrote the Holy Gospel, which the Apostle Peter himself saw and attested to its truthfulness. Mark was appointed a bishop by the Apostle Peter and was sent to Egypt to preach. As so, St. Mark was the first preacher of the Good News [Gospel] in Egypt and was the first bishop in Egypt. Egypt was entirely oppressed by the thick darkness of paganism, idolatry, soothsaying and malice. With the help of God, St. Mark succeeded to sow the seed of the teaching of Christ throughout Libya, Ammonicia and Pentopolis. From Pentopolis, St. Mark came to Alexandria where the Spirit of God led him. In Alexandria, he succeeded in establishing the Church of God and installed bishops, priests and deacons and to firmly strengthen them all in the honorable Faith. Mark confirmed his preaching through many and great miracles. When the heathens raised accusations against Mark, as a destroyer of their idolatrous faith, and when the mayor of the city began to search for Mark, he again fled to Pentopolis where he continued to strengthen his earlier work. After two years, Mark again returned to Alexandria to the great joy of all the faithful, whose number was greatly multiplied. On this occasion, the pagans seized Mark, bound him tightly and began to drag him over the cobblestone pavement crying out: “Let us drag the ox to the pen.” Wounded and bloodied throughout, they cast Mark into prison where, at first, a heavenly angel appeared to him encouraging and strengthening him. After that, the Lord Jesus Himself appeared to him and said: “Peace be to you Mark, my Evangelist!” To that Mark replied: “Peace be to you also my Lord Jesus Christ!” The next day the vicious men brought Mark out of prison and again dragged him throughout the streets with the same cry: “Let us drag the ox to the pen.” Completely exhausted and worn out, Mark uttered: “Into Your hands, O Lord, I give up my spirit.” Mark expired and his soul was translated into a better world. His holy relics were honorably buried by Christians and, through the centuries, his relics give healing to people from all of their afflictions, pains and diseases.

from: *The Prologue from Ochrid*

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



April 25, 2021
Palm Sunday

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: Philippians: 4:4-9

Gospel Reading: St. John 12:1-18

Saints of the Day

Apostle and Evangelist Mark; Martyr Niki; Macedonios, patriarch of Constantinople; New-martyr George; Elias, catholicos of Khorassan.

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. 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. 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 – Vespertal 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 – Vespertal 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.

Saturday, May 15th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 16th – 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: Tania or Sevin Russell. **Next Week:** Michael Zelesnik & Dwight Gillis.

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

Our new **antidoron bowl and stand** are donated by **Cynthia Capobianco** in the memory of **Olga Kogos**, the first legal counsel of the church and **Theodore Kogos**, founder and the first Parish President of St. Basil Church. May their memory be eternal!

Please note that we shall have a **second collection** this Sunday for the **Patriarchate of Antioch**. Donations by check should be made payable to St. Basil. Our parish will forward one check to the archdiocese thereafter. May God bless your generosity.

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.