

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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St. Andrew, Archbishop of Crete

Andrew was born in Damascus of Christian parents. He was a mute from birth until the age of seven. When his parents brought him to church and he received Holy Communion, he began to speak. So great is the power of the Divine and Holy Communion. At age 14, Andrew went to Jerusalem and was tonsured in the Lavra of St. Sabas the Sanctified. By virtue of his understanding and asceticism, he surpassed many of the older monks and was an example to them. After a while, the patriarch took him as his personal secretary. When the Monothelite heresy began to rage, the heresy which taught that the Lord Jesus did not possess a human will but only a divine will, the Sixth Ecumenical Council convened in Constantinople in the year 681 A.D. during the reign of Constantine IV [Bearded One]. Theodore, the Patriarch of Jerusalem, was unable to attend the council but sent Andrew as his representative who, at that time, was an Archdeacon. At the council, Andrew displayed his wonderful gift of oratory, his zeal for the Faith and rare prudence. Having assisted in strengthening the Orthodox Faith, Andrew returned to his duties in Jerusalem. Later, he was elected and installed as the Archbishop of the Island of Crete. As an archbishop, he was greatly loved by the people. Andrew was very zealous for Orthodoxy and vehemently eradicated all heresies. Through his prayers he worked miracles. By his prayers, he drove the Saracens from the Island of Crete. Andrew wrote many books of instruction, hymns and canons of which the most renown is the Great Canon to the Birth-giver of God read on Thursday of the Fifth Sunday of the Great Lenten Season. His outward appearance was such that "seeing his face and hearing his words flowing like honey, everyone found pleasure and amended their ways." On one occasion, returning from Constantinople, Andrew foretold his death before he arrived in Crete. And so it happened. When the boat in which he traveled sailed near the island of Mitylene, this beacon of the Church ended his earthly life and with his soul, took up habitation in the Kingdom of Christ in the year 721 A.D.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



July 4, 2021
The 2nd Sunday After Pentecost
The 2nd Sunday of Matthew

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: Romans: 2:10-16

Gospel Reading: St. Matthew 4:18-23

Saints of the Day

Andrew, bishop of Crete, author of the Great Canon; Martyrs Theodore of Cyrene and Lucia; Venerable Andrew Rublev; New Royal Passion-bearers Nicholas II and his family.

A Spring Message from the Parish Council

Dear Parishioners,

The Antiochian Archdiocese and Jefferson Parish have now lifted the masking and social distancing requirements which we have been observing. However, we recommend that persons who have not been vaccinated, or who are feeling unwell, should wear a mask in church and in the parish hall. As for activities, there are no longer any restrictions on participating in choir, church school, coffee hour, meals and other social activities. As before, if you are more comfortable wearing a mask, please feel free to do so. Likewise, the decision to receive Holy Communion is a matter of individual choice. Let us pray that the worst of the epidemic is over—Rob Booms, Chairman of the Parish Council

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Tuesday, June 29th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, July 3rd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 4th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, July 10th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 11th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, July 17th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 18th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, July 20th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, July 24th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 25th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, July 27th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



When I tell my possum relatives that our family lives under the altar at St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church, they are usually puzzled. They have heard about the Eastern Orthodox Church but do not know why our church is called “Antiochian.” I tell them that it is, in fact, the oldest of the five original Orthodox patriarchal churches. The others were in Alexandria, Rome, Jerusalem and Constantinople. Later they were joined by the Patriarchates of Russia, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria and Georgia. The Antiochian Church was founded by St. Paul. Since then, it has had 169 patriarchs. Our current Patriarch, since 2012, is His Beatitude John X. The old city of Antioch is in ruins now but can be visited from the nearby Turkish city of Antakya. The church’s headquarters is currently in Damascus, Syria. According to Acts 11:26, our Lord’s followers were first called “Christians” in Antioch. We are part of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America which is in full communion with all the other historic Orthodox churches — Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“The Lord made everything for its own purpose, yes, even the wicked for the day of disaster.” – Proverbs 16:4

Today’s Ushers: Dwight Gillis. **Next Week:** Michael Zelesnik.

Today’s coffee hour: Team 1. **Next Sunday:** Team 2.

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

We fast Wednesday and Friday this week.

God willing, on Tuesday, July 20, we shall celebrate the **feast of the holy Prophet Elias** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the “Worship Schedule” for times.

God willing, on Tuesday, June 27, we shall celebrate the **feast of the Great-martyr Panteleimon** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the “Worship Schedule” for times.

The **Ladies Guild** are scheduled to hold their July meeting next Sunday after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

As of June 21, 2021, 35 pledges were received for 2021 totaling \$78,874. The donations for May 2021 totaled \$9,696.19. The expenses were \$28,803.12 for an end-of-month balance of \$21,958.53. Thank you.