

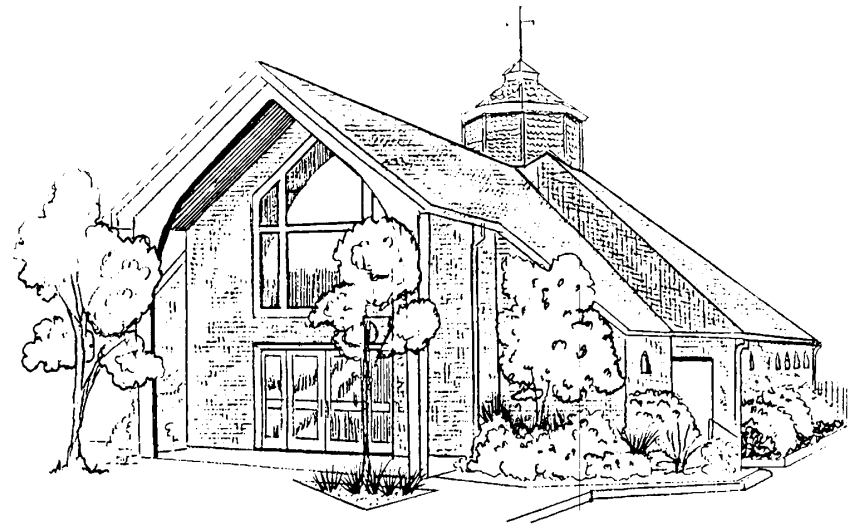
St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
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St. Emilian the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzicus

Emilian served as bishop in Cyzicus during the reign of the nefarious Emperor Leo the Armenian, the iconoclast. Since he did not want to submit to the decrees of the emperor concerning the removal of icons from the churches, Emilian and other Orthodox bishops were banished into exile. He spent five years in exile, enduring much pain and humiliation for the sake of Christ. Emilian died in the year 820 A.D. and took up habitation among the citizens of heaven.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



August 8, 2021
The 7th Sunday after Pentecost
The 7th 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 15:1-7

Gospel Reading: St. Matthew 9:27-35

Saints of the Day

Emilianos the Confessor, archbishop of Kyzikos; Myron, archbishop of Crete; Venerable Gregory of Sinai; New-martyrs Anastasios and Triandaphylos of Thessaly; translation of the relics of Venerable Zosimas and Savvatos of Solovky.

A Message from the Parish Council on the Corona Virus

Dear Parishioners, unfortunately, the COVID virus remains a problem for Louisianans. Unvaccinated persons and children under 12 are especially vulnerable. Governor Edwards has requested that masks be worn at all public gatherings. For this reason, as well as the previous directions from the Antiochian Archdiocese, we recommend that you wear a face mask in church except when receiving communion. In the Parish Hall, please wear a face mask unless you are drinking a beverage or eating food. Persons who are involved in the Liturgy and the Choir need not wear a mask while performing their duties. Please refrain from attending church if you are feeling unwell or are running a fever. We will have a limited supply of face masks if you did not bring your own. Thank you for your cooperation—Rob Booms, Chairman, Parish Council.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Aug. 7th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 8th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Monday, Aug. 9th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday, Aug. 11th – Paraclesis Service, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, Aug. 13th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 14th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 15th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 21st – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 22nd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 28th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 29th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



Like most Orthodox homes, St. Basil's possum family has a place for icons where family prayers are said. If you don't have one, the proper location is in a quiet corner facing east towards Jerusalem. A proper icon corner contains an icon of our Lord, the Theotokos and the patron saints of family members. A candle or oil lamp often hangs down in front of the icons. The corner should also have a place for a blessing cross, a Gospel book, a prayer book, incense, Holy Water and a palm or pussy willow from the previous Palm Sunday. This is also the proper place for a Commemoration Book in which are listed the names of persons for whom prayers are to be offered, including the dead and the sick. Devout Orthodox families gather to pray before the icons in the morning and in the evening. It is hard to underestimate the importance of having a special place in the home for prayer especially in times of "tribulation, wrath, danger and necessity" saying, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner." God bless all— Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

"A man's heart plans out his way, but it is the Lord Who makes his steps secure." – Proverbs 16:9

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

Today's coffee hour: Team 2 & Majeda Khoury. **Next Sunday:** Team 3.



The Bookstore Bee

This month in St. Basil's bookstore, we hope you notice the wide variety of books we have in our bookcases, from learning more about the Orthodox faith and books for our new catechumens to learning more on the Divine Liturgy or lives of the saints. The bookstore has also donated quite a few books to our parish library. **Charles** and **Yazmin Incaprera** have graciously taken the time to revamp the library and put it back in order. If you have any questions on ordering books from the bookstore or checking out books from the library, please see **April Pituch**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Dormition Fast** begins Sunday, August 1st, with the traditional fasting discipline observed (no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, alcohol and oil). There is an allowance for alcohol, oil and fish on Friday, Aug. 6th, for the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, and an allowance for alcohol and oil on Saturdays and Sundays. The fast ends with the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos on Sunday, August 15.

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

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

God willing, on Monday, Aug. 9, we shall celebrate the **feast of St. Herman of Alaska** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Wednesday, Aug. 11, a **Paraclesis Service to the Mother of God** will be served. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Friday, Aug. 13, we shall celebrate the **leave-taking of the feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

Our men's fellowship, **Antiochian Men** are scheduled to meet on Sunday, Sept. 22, after Divine Liturgy. For more information, please see **Michael Zelesnik**.

Church School begins on Sunday, Sept. 12, God willing.

As of July 30, 2021, 35 pledges were received for 2021 totaling \$78,874. The donations for June 2021 totaled \$17,090.50. The expenses were \$18,990.47 for an end-of-month balance of \$20,058.56. Thank you.