

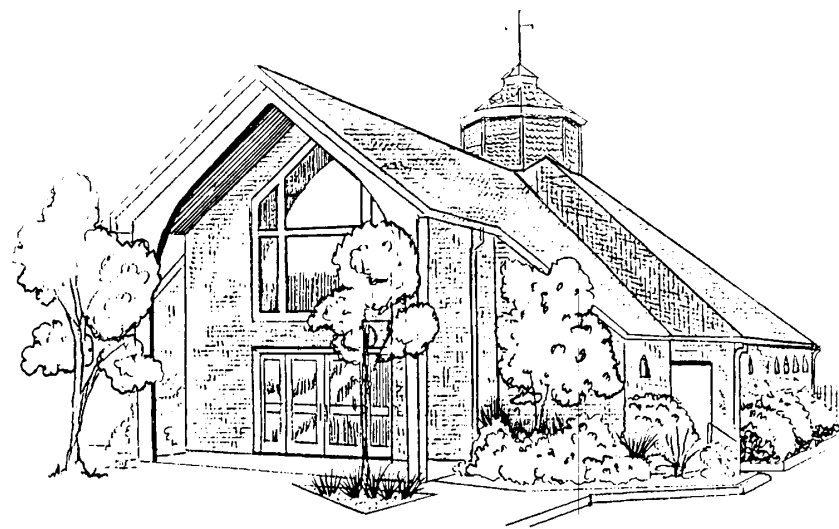
**St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church**  
**His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York**  
**And Metropolitan of all North America**  
**His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop**  
**Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast**  
**The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor**  
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**The Holy Martyrs Agathonicus, Zoticus and Others with Them**

St. Agathonicus was a citizen of Nicomedia and a Christian by faith. With great zeal he converted the Hellenes from idolatry and instructed them in the true Faith. By order of Emperor Maximian, the emperor's deputy cruelly persecuted the Christians. During the persecution, the deputy captured St. Zoticus in a place called Carpe, crucified his disciples and brought Zoticus to Nicomedia where he also captured and bound St. Agathonicus, Princeps, Theoprepus, (Bogoljepa), Acindynus, Severianus, Zeno and many others. Securely bound, they were all taken to Byzantium. However, along the way, Saints Zoticus, Theoprepus and Acindynus died of their many wounds and exhaustion. They killed Severianus near Chalcedon and, Agathonicus with the others were taken to Thrace to the town of Silybria where, after torture before the emperor himself, they were beheaded and entered into eternal life and into the joy of their Lord.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*

# St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



**August 22, 2021**  
**The 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**The 9<sup>th</sup> 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:** 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

**Gospel Reading:** St. Matthew 14:22-34

## Saints of the Day

Martyr Agathonikos of Nicomedia and those with him.

## 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 a 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. 21<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Monday, Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, Aug. 28<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Wednesday, Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Wednesday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> – 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

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## ***Spiritual Counsels...***

"To the Lord belong the balance and scales, all the weights in the bag are of His making." – Proverbs 16:11

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**Today's Ushers:** Yordan Yordanov. **Next Week:** Tania/Sevin Russell.

**Today's coffee hour:** Team 4. **Next Sunday:** Potluck.



### *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

Approximately 100 **Red Carnations** are needed for the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross on Tuesday, Sept. 14. If you are interested in donating all or part of these flowers, please fill out one of the envelopes in the narthex and on the "Special Occasion" line, please write, "Red Carnations." Include your commemorations and donation, and turn the envelope in to the church office. Thank you.

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

God willing, on Monday, Aug. 23, we shall celebrate **the leave-taking of the feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Wednesday, Sept. 1, we shall celebrate **the beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year** and the feast of **Venerable Simeon the Stylite** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Wednesday, Sept. 8, we shall celebrate the feast of the **Nativity of the Mother of God** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Saturday, Sept. 11, we shall celebrate the Saturday before the **Elevation of the Holy Cross** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

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

The Diocese of Miami and the Southeast (DOMSE) is hosting a **fall retreat** in Franklin, Tennessee, from Sept. 17-19, 2021. For more information, please visit [domse.org](http://domse.org) or domse's facebook page.

As of August 10, 2021, 35 pledges were received for 2021 totaling \$78,874. The donations for July 2021 totaled \$12,189.32. The expenses were \$11,245.20 for an end-of-month balance of \$21,002.68. Thank you.