

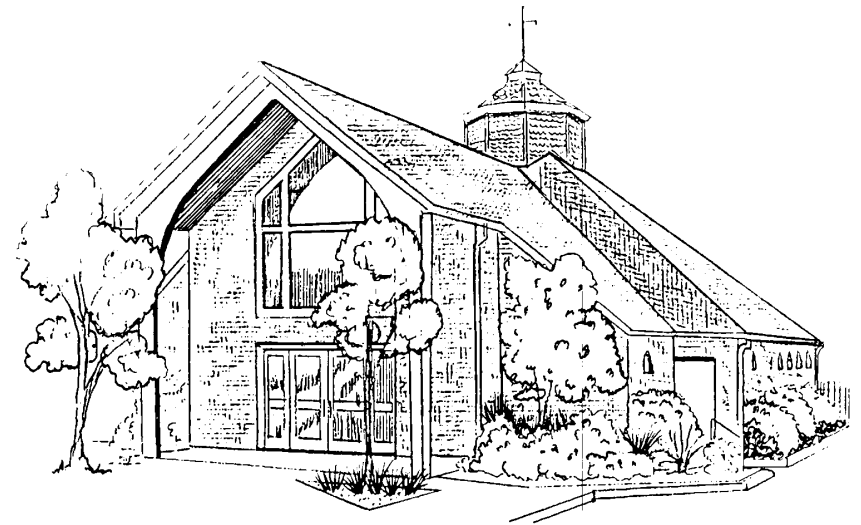
St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor
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St. Spyridon the Wonderworker, Bishop of Tremithus

The island of Cyprus was both the birthplace and the place where this glorious saint served the Church. Spyridon was born of simple parents, farmers, and he remained simple and humble until his death. He married in his youth and had children, but when his wife died he devoted himself completely to the service of God. Because of his exceptional piety, he was chosen as bishop of the city of Tremithus. Yet even as a bishop he did not change his simple way of living, handling his livestock and cultivating his land himself. He used very little of the fruits of his labor for himself; instead, he distributed a greater share to the needy. He manifested great miracles by God's power: he brought down rain in time of drought, stopped the flow of a river, raised several people from the dead, healed Emperor Constantius of a grave illness, saw and heard angels of God, foresaw future events, discerned the secrets of men's hearts, converted many to the true Faith, and did much else. He took part in the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea [325], and he brought many heretics back to Orthodoxy by his simple and clear expositions of the Faith as well as by his mighty miracles. He was so simply dressed that once, when he wanted to enter the imperial court at the invitation of the emperor, a soldier, thinking that he was a beggar, struck him on the face. Meek and guileless, Spyridon turned the other cheek to him. He glorified God through many miracles, and was of benefit, not only to many individuals but also to the whole Church of God. He entered into rest in the Lord in the year 348. His miracle-working relics rest on the island of Corfu, and even today they glorify God with many miracles.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



December 12, 2021
St. Spyridon the Wonderworker
The Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

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... the church temple is a house of prayer. Upon entering it, please refrain from unnecessary conversation before, during and after church services, most especially during the Divine Liturgy from the time of the consecration of the Gifts until the last person has received the Eucharist. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, please come quietly forward to receive a piece of the antidoron and exit the church temple without talking. During coffee hour in the Church Hall is the appropriate place to exchange personal greetings and converse with one another. May God bless your reverence and piety.

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 5:8-19

Gospel Reading: St. Luke 14:16-24

Saints of the Day

Spyridon the wonder-worker, bishop of Trimythous; John, metropolitan of Zichnon; Martyr Synetus of Rome; Hieromartyr Alexander, archbishop of Jerusalem; Amonathas and Anthus; John, metropolitan of Zichnae; John, abbot in Zedazeni; Venerable Finian of Clonard; Therapon of Monza; Herman of Alaska, enlightener of the Aleuts; Hieromartyr Juvenal of Alaska; Martyr Peter the Aleut.

A Message from the Parish Council on Parish Hall Repairs

Dear Parishioners, the Parish Council has decided to replace the damaged shingle roof on the Parish Hall with a metal roof like the one we have on the church. While a metal roof is more expensive, we believe it will pay off in the long run as we will surely be dealing with more hurricanes in the future. We accepted a bid (the lower of two) from the same contractor who put the metal roof on the church. That roof has served us well. The roof replacement will cost about \$80,000. Insurance,

donations from the Archdiocese, the Diocese and other angels will cover most of the cost but we also need to make repairs to the restrooms. We will, at least temporarily, need to dip into reserve funds. The roof repairs will be done in the spring. Restroom repairs cannot be made until the roof is restored. Please prayerfully consider these financial needs as you make your annual pledge. Thank you and God bless our Parish—Rob Booms, Chairman, Parish Council.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 11th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Dec. 12th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Monday, Dec. 13th – Daily Vespers, 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, Dec. 18th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Dec. 19th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Friday, Dec. 24th – Royal Hours of the Nativity, 9:00 A.M.

Friday, Dec. 24th – Vespers Divine Liturgy, 10:30 A.M.

Friday, Dec. 24th – Nativity Compline, 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, Dec. 25th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, Dec. 25th – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Dec. 26th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Friday, Dec. 31st – Vespers Divine Liturgy, 6:30 P.M. (St. Basil)

Saturday, Jan. 1st – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Jan. 2nd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



The possum family under the altar has noticed the joyful bell ringing at the Sunday Liturgy. It sent me to the Parish library to read up on Orthodox bell ringing. Bells were first used at the Hagia Sophia Cathedral in the late 800's and in Russia by the year 1000. Their primary purpose was to summon Parishioners to church and to mark important points in the Liturgy. They were also used to warn inhabitants of towns or cities of approaching armies and attackers. Unlike the Western Church where the bell swings and the dapper is stationary, in the Orthodox Church the dapper strikes against a stationary bell. For the time being, St. Basil will ring the bell at the beginning of the Liturgy and when the bread and wine are consecrated. In the future, it may be rung on other occasion as Fr. Peter deems appropriate. Let us give thanks to all whose gifts made the purchase and installation of the bell possible. God bless the ministry of bell ringing and all who hear St. Basil's bell---Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“Shrewdness is a fountain of life for its possessor, the folly of fools is their own punishment.” – Proverbs 16:22

Today's Ushers: Michael Zelesnik. **Next Week:** Yordan Yordanov.

Today's coffee hour: Khoury Family. **Next Sunday:** Team 3.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Advent Fast** began Monday, November 15th, and is divided into two periods. The first period is Nov. 15 – Dec. 19, with the traditional fasting discipline observed (no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, alcohol and oil). There is an allowance, however, for alcohol and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and an allowance for alcohol, oil and fish on Saturdays and Sundays. The second period is Dec. 20 – 24, with the traditional fasting discipline observed. There is an allowance, however, for alcohol and oil only on Saturday and Sunday.

His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS is scheduled to visit our parish today. He, God willing, will arrive this afternoon, Dec. 12. On Monday, Dec. 13, he would like to meet with the those who are not working that day and the seniors of our parish for a Lenten potluck lunch at 12 P.M. Monday evening at 6:30 P.M., daily vespers will be served followed by a Lenten potluck dinner with the rest of the parish. Please make every effort to attend one of those two occasions. Thank you.

The **Ladies Guild** is scheduled to hold their December meeting today, Dec. 12, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend.

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold their December meeting next Sunday, Dec. 19, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

The **Winter Retreat** for the **Diocese of Miami and the Southeast** (DOMSE) will be held on January 28 & 29, 2022, at St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Church in Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, please visit DOMSE.ORG.

Parish Financial Summary: The donations through November 2021 totaled \$270,853.88 (including approximately \$115,600 in financial assistance from Metropolitan JOSEPH, the insurance claim check and other benefactors). The expenses through November 2021 are \$159,315.51.

Christmas Angels Project

Christmas is coming and the Ladies Guild will sponsor children, from five families, who attend Bissonet Plaza Elementary School, as our traditional Christmas Angels Project. Those are children identified by the school's staff to be in the greatest need.

This year has been extremely difficult for many and we hope that St Basil Parish will again generously support these local families whose needs are greater than ever. Your donation will bring joy, smiles, and happiness to them all.

Again, due to COVID-19 pandemic, we will not purchase gifts but, instead, we will provide each of the five families with gift cards.

Please:

- Only **Monetary Donations** will be accepted.
- Make checks out to **St Basil Ladies Guild**.
- **Please write in memo 2021 Angels Project.**

Donations will be accepted by **Sunday, December 12, 2021.**

If you are attending church services, please give your donation (check) to Ms. Diana Lindley.

If you are NOT attending church services on regular bases and would like to participate, please mail the check to the church address or drop it in the church's mailbox.

Thank you for your always great generosity. God bless.