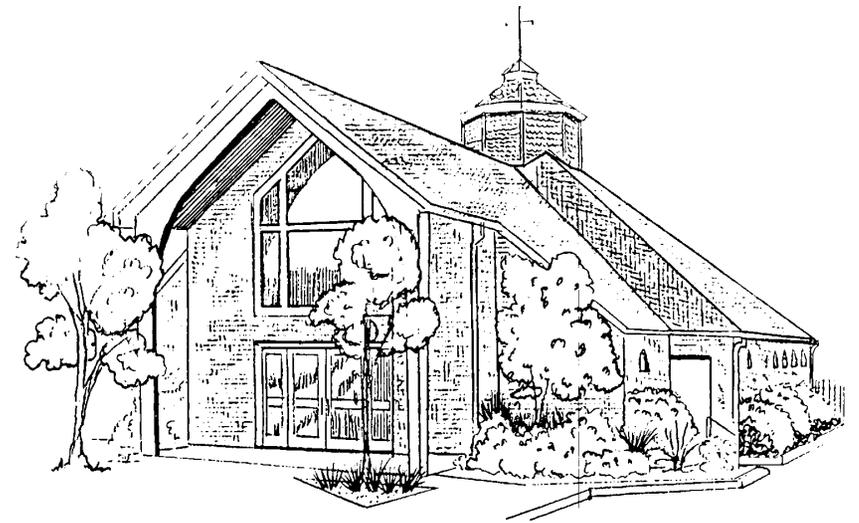


St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor
3916 Hudson St., Metairie, LA 70006
504.888.8114
sbno@att.net
www.stbasilneworleans.org

The Venerable Isidore of Pelusium

Isidore was an Egyptian by birth and the son of a prominent family and kinsman of the Alexandrian Patriarchs Theophilus and Cyril. Having studied all the secular disciplines, he renounced worldly riches and glories and devoted himself completely to the spiritual life for the love of Christ. He was a great and ardent defender and interpreter of the Orthodox Faith. According to the statements of Nicephorus the historian, St. Isidore wrote more than 10,000 letters to various individuals in which he reproached some, counseled some, and comforted and instructed others. In one letter St. Isidore writes: "It is more important to teach by a life of doing good than to preach in eloquent terms." In another, he says: "If one desires that his virtues appear great, let him consider them small and they will surely manifest themselves as great." The first and basic rule for St. Isidore was this: "First do, then teach according to the example of our Lord Jesus." At the time of the persecution of St. John Chrysostom when the entire population was divided into two camps; one for and one against, St. Isidore, this great pillar of Orthodoxy, sided with St. John Chrysostom. He wrote to Patriarch Theophilus saying what a great light of the Church Chrysostom is and begged him to avoid hatefulness toward him. Isidore lived long and accomplished much, glorifying Christ the God with his life and his writings. Isidore took up habitation in the kingdom of Christ about the year 436 A.D.

St. Basil
Antiochian
Orthodox Church



February 4, 2024
15th Sunday of Luke

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: Timothy 4:9-15

Gospel Reading: Luke 19:1-10

Saints of the Day

Venerable Isadore of Pelusium; Venerable Nicholas the Confessor of Studion; New-martyr Joseph of Aleppo; George, prince of Vladimir; Venerable Cyril, wonder-worker of Novoezersk.

A Message from the Parish Council

Dear parishioners, as we plan for a new year, we ask you to consider the level of your commitment to St. Basil. We face increasing property insurance premiums and higher medical insurance costs for Father Peter and his family. In addition, we need more financial and human resources to build up our parish if we are going to give birth to a Northshore mission. Let us pray to the Lord for guidance as we make our pledge to further the ministry of St. Basil—Rob Booms, Council Chairman.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



The year 1054 will be remembered for the “Great Schism” between the Eastern and Western Christian churches when the Pope excommunicated the Patriarch of Constantinople. The split was, in fact, a long time in coming. For at least six centuries, the Western and Eastern churches had developed cultural and theological differences. There were arguments over whether the Patriarch of Rome or the Patri-arch of Constantinople is “first among equals.” There was also a dispute about the “filioque clause” in the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed. The Eastern church insisted that the Holy Spirit descended only from God the Father and not, as the West contended, from both the Father and the Son. Indeed, the Roman prelate believed that he could alter the ancient Creed without the consent of an ecumenical council. In later years, the Roman church went on to declare that the Pope is infallible on theological matters and that the Theotokos, not just Christ, was immaculately conceived. The Roman church decreed the celibacy of clergy and the existence of purgatory which are not shared by the Orthodox church. After the Crusaders brutally sacked Constantinople in 1204, there was little love lost between the East and West. Sadly, there was never a re-conciliation and no ecumenical council to reunify the churches has been possible. While we await the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us not dwell on our differences with our Roman brothers and sisters but rejoice in much of the ancient faith that we hold in common—Theo.

Spiritual Counsels...

"Cease, my son, to hear instruction only to stray from the words of knowledge." Proverbs 19:27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church calendars, donation envelopes, pledge forms and house blessing forms for 2024 are now available in the Church Hall. Please see Fr. Peter for assistance, if needed.

House blessings are occurring this time of year. Please see Fr. Peter to schedule the blessing of your home.

The Ladies Guild is scheduled to hold their February meeting next Sunday, Feb. 11, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

Dear parents, Our Sunday School classes are now gearing up to get ready for the PLC Creative Festivals. They have been learning about this year's theme "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His Purpose." This year we will hold three workshops after church to give them time to get their submissions ready.

These workshops will be on February 18 & March 24 from 12pm to 4pm.

Today's Coffee Hour: Team 1. Thank you. **Next Week:** Team 2.