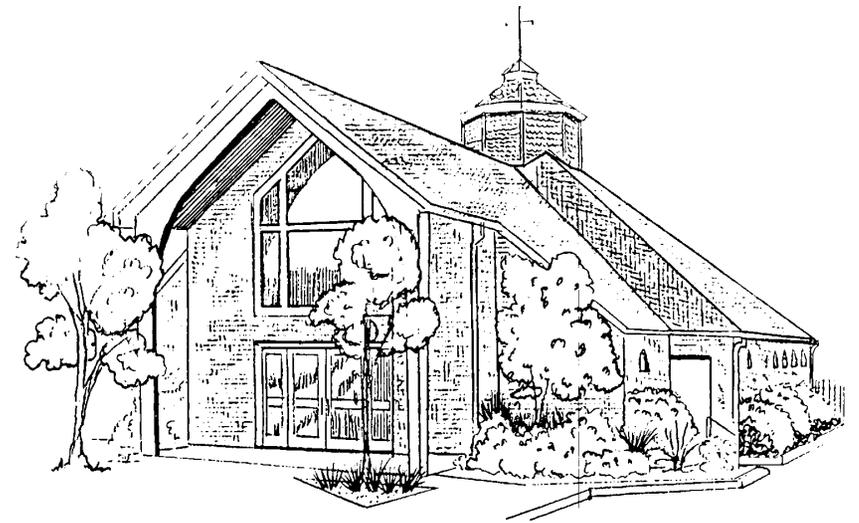


St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor
3916 Hudson St., Metairie,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

St. Theodora

Theodora, a Greek empress, was the wife of the nefarious Emperor Theophilus the Iconoclast. After the death of Theophilus, Theodora became the ruling empress and reigned together with her son Michael III. At the Council in Constantinople (842 A.D.), she immediately restored the veneration of icons. On this occasion, the Feast of the Triumph of Orthodoxy was instituted which is still celebrated today on the First Sunday of the Honorable Fast [First Sunday in Lent]. This holy and meritorious woman of the Church gave up her soul to God on February 11, 867 A.D. It was at that time, by the divine and wonderful Providence of God, at the solemn triumph of Orthodoxy over all heresies, that St. Cyril and St. Methodius were sent as Christian missionaries to the Slavs.

St. Basil
Antiochian
Orthodox Church



February 11, 2024
16th 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... *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: Corinthians 6:1-10

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

Saints of the Day

Hieromartyr Blaise, bishop of Sebaste, and companions; Theodora the empress; New-martyr George of Serbia; Vsevolod, prince and wonder-worker of Pskov; Venerable Demetrios of Prilutsk; Venerable Gobnait of Ballyvourney.

A Message from the Parish Council

Dear Parishioners, note that the Annual Parish meeting will take place on Sunday, March 17, after the Liturgy. At that time, we will approve reports, elect Parish Council members and vote on the budget for the year. If you wish to submit your name nor any other names for nomination to the Parish Council, please give them to me or Father Peter no later than February 18. To vote at the meeting, you must be a member of the parish for at least one year, have completed the Parish Registration/Pledge Form and return it to the church office, and be in good sacramental standing with the Church and good financial standing with the parish—Rob Booms, Council Chairman.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Feb. 10th – No Great Vespers & Confessions

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.

Saturday, March 2nd – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, March 3rd – Typica Service, 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 Patriarch 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 reconciliation 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...

“A worthless witness mocks at justice, and the mouth of the wicked devours iniquity.” Proverbs 19:28

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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.

Great Vespers is cancelled on Saturday, Feb. 10.

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

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold their February meeting next Sunday, Feb. 18, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

Great Vespers is cancelled on Saturday, March 2.

Today's Coffee Hour: Team 2, Thank you. **Next Week:** Team 3.