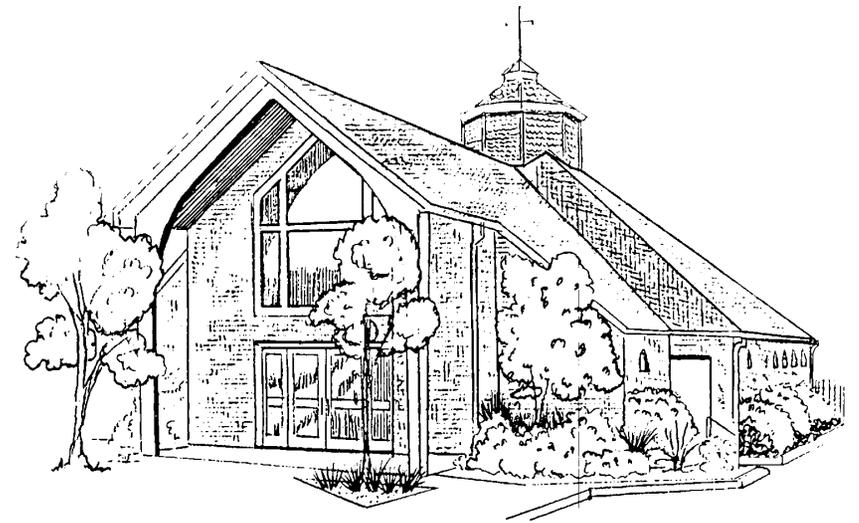


St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor
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St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

The Venerable Zacharias

Zacharias was the son of Carion the Egyptian. Zacharias left his wife and children and became a monk. He took his father with him because his mother was unable to care for him. Even though Zacharias was younger than most of the elders in the Scete, he was favored with greater gifts of Grace than many of the others were. He felt that his whole being was on fire with the Grace of God. To the question of St. Macarius: "Who is the ideal monk?" Zacharias replied, "He who continually compels himself to fulfill the commandments of God." To the question of Abba Moses: "What does it mean to be a monk?" Zacharias removed his monastic head gear [*Kamilavka*] and trampled it underfoot and said, "If a man is not shattered as this, he cannot be a monk." He was a great light among the monks of the wilderness and while still young died to the Lord.



March 24, 2024
Sunday of Orthodoxy

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: Hebrews 11:24-26; 32-40

Gospel Reading: John 1:43-51

Saints of the Day

Forefeast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos; Venerable Zachariah the recluse and Artemon, bishop of Seleucia; New-hieromartyr Parthenios, patriarch of Constantinople; Theonas, archbishop of Thessalonica.

A Message from the Parish Council

Dear Parishioners, the following persons will serve as your Parish Council until the next annual meeting in 2025: Fr. Peter Nugent, Sevin Russell (Chairman), Stephen Pituch (Vice-Chairman), Bill Harrison (Treasurer), Elias Ioup (Secretary), Laurie Bolanos, Therese Dagher, Mark Fleming, Natalia Flint and Yordan Yordanov. Please pray for them, support them in their work and contact them if you have any questions or concerns about the Parish.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 23rd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, March 24th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Monday, March 25th – Orthros, 9 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10 A.M.
Wednesday, March 27th – Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 P.M.
Friday, March 29th – Akathist Hymn (2nd Stasis) 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, March 30th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, March 31st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, April 3rd – Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 5th – Akathist Hymn (3rd Stasis) 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 6th Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, April 6th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 7th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday, April 10th – Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 12th – Akathist Hymn (4th Stasis) 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 13th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 14th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



The Holy Orthodox Church presents us with a wonderful gift during Great Lent. Beginning with the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, the Church uses the ancient prayers and chants of the Triodion. This book is used during the forty days of the Great Fast until Vespers on Holy Saturday. Parts of the Triodion were composed during the second and third centuries and others are over a thousand years old. Each day of Great Lent has psalms, prayers, chants and readings from the Old Testament. The book contains hymns by St. Romanos the Melodist, St. Andrew of Crete, St. John of Damascus, and the Prayer of St. Ephraim. Surprisingly, the Triodion emphasizes not the things that are forbidden, such as dietary restrictions, but a return to the blissful “normal” life once enjoyed by Adam and Eve. Father Alexander Schmemmann calls us to return to this “unknown and neglected book” to discover the need for a “spiritual” fast that prepares us to properly celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. The Triodion is available through internet booksellers and is a worthwhile addition to any Orthodox believer’s library. In its words: “Let us observe a fast acceptable and pleasing to the Lord. True fasting is to put away all evil, to control the tongue, to forebear from anger, to abstain from lust, slander, falsehood and perjury. If we renounce these things, then is our fasting true and acceptable to God.”—Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“The purpose in a man’s mind is like a deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out.” Proverbs 20:5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meatfare Week begins on Monday, March 11. From that date until PASCHA it is our tradition to refrain from eating meat and meat products. From Pure Monday, March 18, we observe the traditional fasting discipline of Great and Holy Lent (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, alcohol and oil) during the entire Great Fast, which lasts from Pure Monday through Great and Holy Saturday. On Saturdays and Sundays, however, alcohol and oil are allowed, except on Great and Holy Saturday when no oil is permitted. Fish, alcohol and oil are permitted on the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25) and Palm Sunday (April 28).

Each year we begin our Archdiocese-wide **Food For Hungry People Campaign** at this time. This campaign has raised millions of dollars over the 30+ years of its existence. Please take one of the coin boxes in the narthex home with you and place your coins in it during Great Lent and return the boxes at PASCHA. The proceeds will be collected and forwarded to the Archdiocese Chancery for distribution to the needy. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

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. The next workshop is March 24 from 12pm to 4pm.

Fr. Peter will meet with all catechumens in the church after coffee hour on Sunday, March 24.

God willing, on Saturday, April 6, we shall have Orthros and Divine Liturgy at 9 and 10 A.M., respectively for the **Saturday of Souls**.

Approximately 100 **Red Carnations** are needed for the veneration of the Holy Cross on Sunday, April 7. 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, donation and turn the envelope in to the church office. Thank you.

The **Sacrament of Holy Confession** is good for the health and salvation of the soul and body. For long-term, good, physical health, regular visits to the family doctor are appropriate. Likewise, care for our souls is a necessity. If it is your desire to receive the Eucharist at Great and Holy PASCHA, then please make every effort to care for your soul and have confession at least once during Great Lent.

Lenten potluck meals shall be served after Presanctified Liturgies on Wednesday evenings during Great Lent.

Today’s Coffee Hour: Team 4. **Next Week:** Potluck.