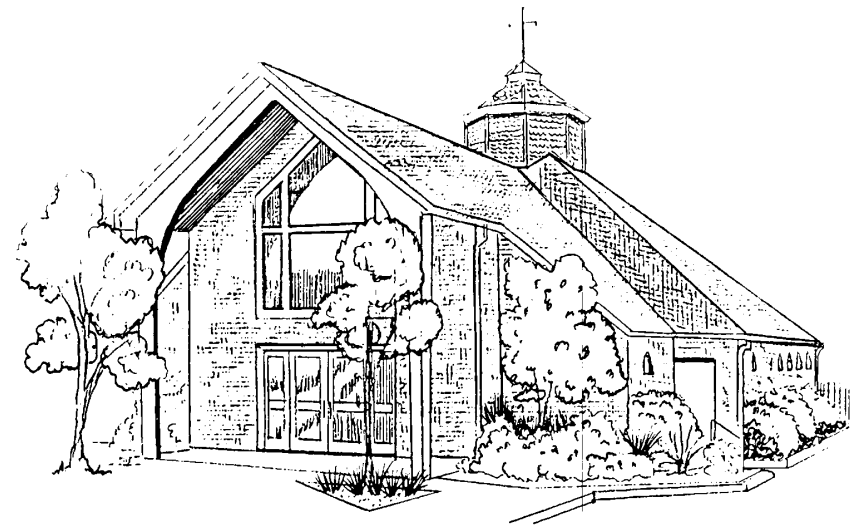


St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
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And Metropolitan of all North America
The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
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The Priestly-Martyr Erasmus of Ohrid

This saint was born in Antioch and lived during the reign of Emperors Diocletian and Maximian. He lived a strict life of asceticism on Mt. Lebanon and was endowed by God with the great gift of working miracles. As a bishop, he went out to preach the Good News. Arriving at the town of Ohrid, Erasmus, by his prayers, resurrected the son of a man named Anastasius and baptized him. At this time, Erasmus baptized many other pagans and destroyed the altars of the idols in Ohrid. For that he was denounced before Emperor Maximian who, at that time, was residing in Illyria. The emperor brought him before a copper idol of Zeus and ordered him to offer sacrifice and to worship the idol. St. Erasmus manifested so great a power that a horrible dragon came out from the idol, which frightened the people. Again the saint manifested great power and the dragon died. The saint then preached Christ and baptized 20,000 souls. The embittered emperor ordered that all 20,000 be beheaded and subjected Erasmus to severe tortures and then cast him into prison. An angel of God appeared to Erasmus as once to the Apostle Peter and led Erasmus out of the prison. After that, this servant of God departed for Campania where he preached the Gospel to the people and then again returned to the town of Hermelia where he retreated to a cave and desired to live a life of asceticism until his death. Before his death, he bowed down three times toward the east and with uplifted arms prayed to God that He forgive sins and to grant eternal life to all those who, with faith, would invoke his name. At the completion of his prayer a voice from heaven was heard: "So let it be as you prayed, my little healer Erasmus!" Completely joyful, the saint gazed up at the heavens once more and saw a wreath of glory as it was descending upon him and saw the choirs of angels, prophets, apostles and martyrs who came toward him to receive his holy soul. Finally he cried out: "O Lord, receive my spirit!" and died about the year 303 A.D. The cave with a small church dedicated to St. Erasmus, exists today not far from Ohrid and, from it, even today the great power of the chosen one of God, Erasmus the priestly-martyr, is manifested.

St. Basil
Antiochian
Orthodox Church



June 2, 2024
Sunday of Samaritan Woman

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: Acts of the Apostles 11:19-30

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

Saints of the Day

Nikephoros the Confessor, patriarch of Constantinople; Newmartyrs Demetrios of Philadelphia, John of Trebizond, and Constantine of Athos; Hieromartyr Pothinos bishop of Lyons and his companion Martyr Blandina; Erasmios of Ochrid and his companion martyrs.

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, June 1st – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

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

Saturday, June 8th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

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

Saturday, June 15th – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, June 16th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, June 22nd – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, June 22nd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, June 23rd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, June 23rd – Great Vespers of Pentecost, ~11:00 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



For the devout Orthodox believer, there are unlimited liturgical resources from which to draw strength. After the Great Lent, the penitential Triodion chants are left behind. A new historic text, the Pentecostarian, is used for worship services from the Great Sunday of Pascha until the Sunday of All

Saints. The known authors are mostly from the 10th century.

They include St. John Damascene, St. Andrew of Crete, and St. Joseph the Hymnographer. The first manuscript texts were in Greek and brought to the Kiev Caves Monastery in the eleventh century. The predominant theme of the Pentecostarian is water, including accounts of the miracles at the Sheep's Pool, the Well of Jacob, and the Pool of Siloam. The emphasis is on illumination, especially for those newly baptized during this season. The faithful are taught that Christ is the Living Water, received at Baptism and at the Eucharist, for the remission of sins and everlasting life. Many texts of the Pentecostarian are available online and are a rich source for prayer. From Matins of the Wednesday of Mid Pentecost: "With the streams of Thy Blood do Thou water my soul, which is grown dry and barren because of mine iniquities and offenses and show it forth to be fruitful in virtues. For Thou didst tell all to draw nigh Thee, O all-holy Word of God, and to draw forth the water of incorruption...for Thou art truly the Well-spring of life for all." —Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

"There is gold, and abundance of costly stones; but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel." Proverbs 20:15

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Ladies Guild** is scheduled to hold their June meeting next Sunday, June 9, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

The **Parish Life Conference** for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast is June 12-15, 2024. Those persons interested in attending should go to www.DOMSE.org for registration and more information.

Unfortunately, Fr. Peter will be attending the Parish Life Conference at the time of the feast of the **Ascension of our Lord** (June 13). Those persons interested in celebrating this feast should contact Fr. George Wilson at Holy Trinity Cathedral (504-282-0259).

Great Vespers is cancelled for Saturday, June 15.

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold their June meeting Sunday, June 16, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

June 16 is **Father's Day**. Those of you who wish to have prayers offered for our departed fathers, husbands, etc., may give their names to Fr. Peter. **Trisagion prayers** will also be offered for the departed Orthodox men of the parish.

Orthros and Liturgy are scheduled for Saturday, June 22, at 9 and 10 A.M., respectively for the **Saturday of Souls**.

The **Great Vespers of Pentecost** will be served immediately after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 23.

Orthros and Divine Liturgy for the feast of **Ss. Peter and Paul**, God willing, will be concelebrated at Holy Trinity Cathedral by Frs. George and Peter. Everyone is welcome to attend. Time TBA.

Fr. Peter will meet with the **inquirers and catechumens** of the parish on Sunday, June 30, after coffee hour. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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