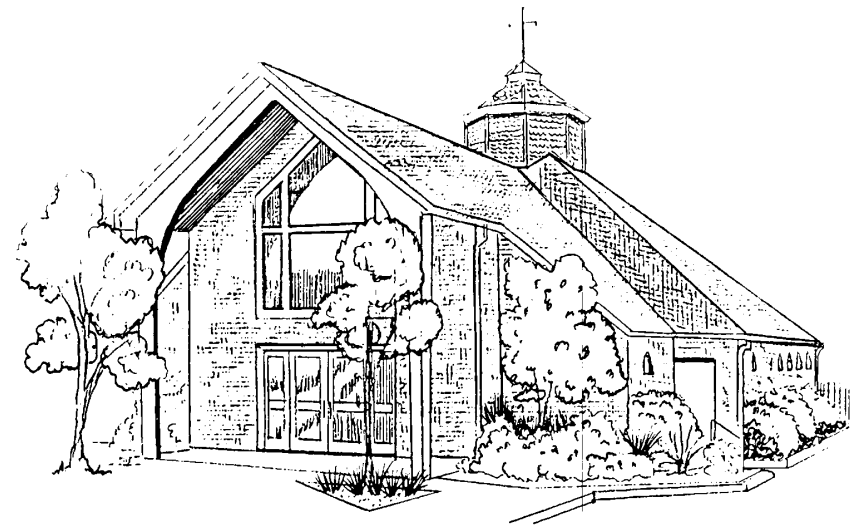


St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor
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The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

Aquila was one of the Seventy Apostles. As a Jew, he first lived in Italy with his wife Priscilla. When Emperor Claudius decreed that all Jews be driven from Rome and Italy, Aquila settled in Cornith, where the Apostle Paul met him for the first time and remained in his home for a year and a half and baptized him and his wife. Burning with zeal for the Faith of Christ, Aquila and Priscilla escorted Paul to Ephesus and assisted him in his apostolic labors. Paul wrote his first Epistle to the Corinthians from Ephesus in which, toward the end, he says: "Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the Church that is their house" (1 Corinthians 16:19). After the death of Emperor Claudius, the Jews were permitted to return to Italy, and so Aquila and Priscilla returned to Rome. After this the Apostle Paul writing the Epistle to the Romans from Cornith, greets his old friends and his co-laborers: "Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus; who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles" (Romans 16: 3-4). Later on, we see Aquila in Ephesus where he labors together with St. Timothy the Apostle. Chained in Rome, Paul writes to Timothy in Ephesus: "Salute Priscilla and Aquila" (2 Timothy 4:19). As a bishop, Aquila baptized many and illumined them with the Faith, destroyed idols, built churches, ordained priests and spread the glory of the Incarnate Son of God among men. In the end, he was murdered by the wicked heathens and took up habitation in the Kingdom of Christ.

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



July 14, 2024
Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical
Council

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: Titus 3:8-15
Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:14-19

Saints of the Day

Apostle Aquila of the Seventy; Joseph the Confessor, archbishop of Thessalonika; Peter, bishop of Crete; Venerable Onesimos of Magnesia and Nikodemos of the Holy Mountain (Hagiorite); Martyr Justus of Rome.

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 & 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, July 6th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, July 7th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, July 13th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, July 14th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, July 20th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, July 20th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, July 21st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, July 27th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, July 28th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 3rd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 4th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Monday, Aug. 5th – Great Vespers, 6:30 P.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



After Pentecost, Orthodox believers do not look for great feasts until the Transfiguration. But this season truly begins with the Great Vespers served after the Pentecost Liturgy. Known as the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost, this service is meant to prepare us for the challenges of life in the coming months. It contains three prayers written by St. Basil in the 4th century. They are read aloud quickly by the priest. Since they are long and said while kneeling (in some Orthodox churches on a bare floor), it is sometimes difficult to appreciate these prayers. Yet they are powerful. They seek forgiveness of sins, guidance in keeping the commandments and salvation for those who have departed. The Kneeling Prayers are included in the Liturgikon published by the Antiochian Orthodox Church, but are also available online. During this time after Pentecost, their beautiful language is a gold mine for private devotions. From the First Prayer:

“Thou art our God, but since our days have passed in vanity, we have been stripped of thine help, we have been deprived of every defense. But emboldened by thy compassions, we call out: Remember not the sins our youth and our ignorance and cleanse thou us of our secret sins, cast us not away in time of old age; when our strength faileth, forsake us not...make us worthy to turn again unto thee, and attend to us in favor and grace.”—Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“If one curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in utter darkness.” Proverbs 20:20

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Ladies Guild** is scheduled to hold their July meeting on Sunday, July 14, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited.

The **Antiochian Men (AMEN)** are meeting on Sunday, July 14, after Divine Liturgy. All men of the parish are invited.

God willing, the feast of the great and holy **Prophet Elias** will be celebrated with **Orthros and Divine Liturgy** at 9:00 and 10:00, respectively, on Saturday morning, July 20.

God willing, Fr. Peter will attend the archdiocesan **Clergy Symposium** from Monday, July 22 through Friday, July 26. For any pastoral emergencies, please contact Fr. George Wilson at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 504.282.0259.

God willing, **His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS** shall visit our parish on Monday, August 5. The ladies of the parish are invited to meet with His Grace from 9-11 A.M.; the youth are invited to meet with him from 11 A.M. until 1 P.M. and have lunch with him at that time. The men are invited to meet with him from 1-3 P.M. Great Vespers will be served that evening for the feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord. A potluck meal is available afterward. Fish may be served, but, due to the Dormition Fast, no meat or dairy products.

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