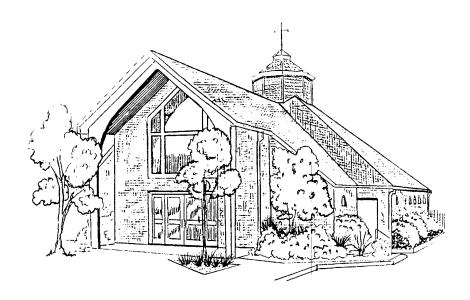
St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York And Metropolitan of all North America The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor 3916 Hudson St., Metairie,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

The Holy Martyr Euplus

Euplus was a deacon in Catania, Sicily. Emperor Diocletian dispatched Commander Pentagurus to Sicily to exterminate any Christians he found there. Pentagurus did not find a single Christian, for the few that were there, hid from the persecutor and did not reveal themselves. Then someone accused St. Euplus of taking a book to secret Christians and reading to them. This book was the Holy Gospel. They soon brought him to court, hung that book around his neck and led him to prison. After seven days of imprisonment and hunger Euplus was handed over for torture. While they were beating him with iron rods, Euplus, mockingly said to the torturing judge: "O ignorant one, do you not see that because of God's help, these tortures are for me as a cobweb? If you can, find other harsher tortures, for all of these are as toys." Finally, they led the martyr of Christ out to the scaffold. Then St. Euplus opened the Holy Gospel and read from it to the people for a long time. Many converted to the Faith of Christ. St. Euplus was beheaded in the year 304 A.D. and took up habitation in the Kingdom of Heaven. His miracle-working relics repose in a village near Naples called Vico della Batonia.

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



August 11, 2024 7th 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: Romans 15:1-7 **Gospel Reading:** Matthew 9:27-35

<u>Saints of the Day</u>

Martyr and Archdeacon Euplos of Catania; Niphon, patriarch of Constantinople; Commemoration of the Miracle of Spyridon the wonder-worker on Kerkyra; New-martyrs Anastasios and Demetrios of Lesvos; Blane, bishop of Bute.

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, Aug. 10th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Aug. 11th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Thurs., Aug. 15th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. Saturday, Aug. 17th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Aug. 18th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Aug. 24th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Aug. 25th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Wed. Aug. 28th – Vesperal Divine Liturgy, 6:30 P.M. Saturday, Aug. 31st – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Sept. 1st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Sept. 7th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



During the month of August, it is good for Orthodox believers to reflect on the importance of Mary, the Mother of God, whom we call the Theotokos. In almost every petition to God, we invoke her name by saying "through the prayers of the Theotokos." After a two week fast, on

August 15, we observe the remembrance of her falling asleep at the feast of Dormition. Mary was present at the Crucifixion. After the Resurrection, she saw the risen Christ and kissed his feet. She was with the apostles at the Ascension on the Mount of Olives. She is also believed to have been with the apostles at Pentecost. Afterwards, she lived in Jerusalem under the protection of St. John the Evangelist. She fell asleep at the age of 59 and was buried in the Garden of Gethsemane. She died surrounded by the all of the apostles except for St. Thomas. Thomas arrived a few days later and asked to see her in the grave. She was no longer in the tomb. She died as all people die but was raised up by her son into eternal life. Her body and soul were assumed into heaven, to join the eternal glory of her son. You were translated to life, O Mother of Life. By your prayers you deliver our souls from death. Neither the tomb, nor death, can hold you, all-holy and spotless Theotokos. You are constant in prayer and our firm hope through your intercessions. —Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

"A man's steps are ordered by the Lord; how then can man understand his way?" Proverbs 20:24

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Ladies Guild** shall hold its August meeting today, Aug. 11, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

Parents and Church School teachers please note **Church School** shall begin, God willing, on Sunday Aug. 18, after Divine Liturgy. A blessing prayer for all students returning to school shall be offered on Sunday, Aug. 11.

God willing, Orthros and Divine Liturgy shall be celebrated for the feast of the **Dormition of the Theotokos** at 9:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M., respectively, on Thursday, Aug. 15.

The **Parish Council** shall hold its August meeting on Sunday, Aug. 18, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

God willing, a **Vesperal Divine Liturgy** shall be celebrated for the feast of the Beheading of the Forerunner at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, Aug. 28.

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