

**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**  
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**The Holy Martyr Sabinus**

Sabinus was a Syrian from the city of Hermopolis and an official of that city. At the time of a persecution against the Christians, he withdrew to a mountain with a large number of other Christians and closed himself off in a hut, where he spent his time in fasting and prayer. A certain beggar, who brought him food and for whom Sabinus performed a good deed, reported him. As did Judas to Christ, so also, this unfortunate one betrayed his benefactor for two pieces of gold. Sabinus, with six others, were apprehended, bound by the soldiers and brought to stand trial. After great and enormous pains, he was cast into the Nile River where he gave up his soul to God in the year 287.A.D.

***from: The Prologue from Ochrid***

**St. Basil**  
**Antiochian**  
**Orthodox Church**



**March 16, 2025**  
**The Second Sunday of Great Lent**

# 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 1:10-2:3

**Gospel Reading:** St. Mark 2:1-12

## Saints of the Day

Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica; Martyr Sabinos of Egypt; Venerable Christodoulos the wonder-worker of Patmos.

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## Spiritual Counsels...

"A wise man scales the city of the mighty and brings down the stronghold in which they trust." – Proverbs 21:22

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## Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum

During Great Lent, Orthodox Christians are expected to fast from many foods, go to confession, and regularly attend Divine Liturgy. But Lent is also a time for reflection. It can be helpful to receive guidance from the spiritual books passed down to us by the saints. One which stands out is The Ladder of Divine Ascent. It was written by St. John Climacus (of the ladder), who is commemorated on March 30 and on the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent. St. John served as Igumen of the famous monastery of St. Catherine at the foot of Mt. Sinai. He lived there from age 16 until his death in 649 at the age of 80. The "Ladder" is required reading in most monasteries during Lent and has been cited by many over the years including the Russian peasant-author of The Way of the Pilgrim, and Tsar Ivan the Terrible. The book provides a framework for "raising the soul to God" which St. John likens to climbing a ladder. While intended for monks, the book offers a thirty step-guide for attaining spiritual perfection. In his ending exhortation, St. John says "Ascend my brothers, ascend eagerly. Let your hearts' resolve be to climb... Run, I beg you, run with him who said, "Let us hurry until we all arrive at the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of God, at mature manhood, at the measure of Christ's fullness."—Theo

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Friday, March, 14<sup>th</sup> – Akathist Hymn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stasis, 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Divine Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March, 21<sup>st</sup> – Akathist Hymn, 3<sup>rd</sup> Stasis, 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Tues., March 25<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Divine Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March, 28<sup>th</sup> – Akathist Hymn, 4<sup>th</sup> Stasis, 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Presanctified Divine Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE CONTINUED

Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Divine Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Sat., April 12<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Annual Pledge Drive is currently underway for the calendar year 2025. All adult members of the parish are encouraged to complete and return a pledge form to the church office. Pledge forms may be found in the narthex of the church building. All pledges are held in strict confidence. Only the total number of pledges and the total pledge amount is made available to the public. Your financial support of our church community is your support of yourself and your contribution to help insure you and your family has a place to worship. Thank you and God bless you.

Our **Annual General Parish Meeting** is scheduled for today after Divine Liturgy and shall convene in the Church Hall. All members of the parish are encouraged to attend the meeting. Those adults, who have been a member of the parish for at least one year, have completed the Parish Registration/Pledge Form and returned it to the church office, and are in good sacramental with the Church and good financial standing with the parish, are eligible to vote.

Meatfare Week begins on Monday, Feb. 24. From that date until PASCHA, it is our tradition to refrain from eating meat and meat products. From Pure Monday, March 3, 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 13).

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

The **Sacrament of Holy Confession** is good for the health & salvation of the soul & 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 & Holy PASCHA, then please make every effort to care for your soul & have confession at least once during Great Lent.

Each year we begin our Archdiocese-wide **Food For Hungry People Campaign** at this time. 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 office for distribution. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

Approximately 120 **Red Carnations** are needed for the veneration of the Holy Cross on Sunday, March 23. 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.

**Bookstore News:** Purchases can now be made using the QR code by the clipboard in the bookstore area. Please see Kathleen Field or Elias Ioup for more information. (Remember to jot down your items on the clipboard, however you may pay for them.)

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold their March meeting Sunday, March 23, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

Fr. Peter will meet, God willing, with the inquirers and catechumens after coffee hour on Sunday, March 30.

**Today's Coffee Hour:** Team 3. Thank you. **Next Week:** Team 4.