

**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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**St. Ephrem, Patriarch of Antioch**

During the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Anastasius, Ephrem was commander of the eastern regions. He was known to all for his great piety and charity and because of this was greatly respected. When it was necessary to rebuild Antioch, destroyed by earthquake and fire, the emperor assigned Ephrem the commander to direct this task. Ephrem fulfilled his duty with diligence and love. Among the ordinary masons was a bishop who, for unknown reasons, had left his episcopal see and labored as an ordinary laborer and no one knew that he was a bishop. One day he, with the other laborers, lay down to rest from the exhausting work and fell asleep. The commander Ephrem glanced at him and saw a fiery pillar rising from this man to the heavens. Amazed and frightened, Ephrem summoned this man and made him swear to tell him who he was. The man hesitated, but finally acknowledged that he is a bishop and prophesied to Ephrem that he will shortly be consecrated as patriarch of Antioch for the throne of the patriarchal see was vacant because the aged Patriarch Euphrasius perished in the earthquake. Indeed, Ephrem was elected and consecrated patriarch. Because of his goodness, purity and zeal for Orthodoxy, God gave him the great gift of working miracles. One time, in order to convince a heretic that Orthodoxy is true, he placed his pallium in a fire and prayed to God. His pallium remained in the fire for three hours and remained intact. Seeing this, the heretic was astonished and rejected the heresy. St. Ephrem died in peace in the year 546 A.D. and took up habitation in the Kingdom of God.

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

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



**June 8, 2025**  
**The Holy and Great Feast of Pentecost**

# 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.

*The weather is always very warm during the summer months. While we need to dress comfortably because of this please remember that **shorts or above-the-knee attire, strapless garments, “spaghetti” strap garments, sleeveless or “tanktop” type garments, and tight-fitting, open or low-cut garments are not appropriate, especially for men, women and teenagers. It has always been our tradition to dress modestly and without drawing attention to oneself. Thank you.***

**Epistle Reading:** Acts 2:1-11

**Gospel Reading:** St. John 7:37-52; 8:12

## Saints of the Day

The translation of the relics of Great-martyr Theodore the General (Stratelates); Martyrs Nicander and Kalliope; New-martyr Theophanes of Constantinople.

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## Spiritual Counsels...

The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord. – Proverbs 21:31

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## Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum

In the Russian and Ukrainian Orthodox Churches, the celebration of Pascha is followed closely by the Radonitsa holiday. It is observed nine days after, on the Tuesday following Bright Week. On this day, faithful Orthodox Christians clean and decorate the graves of family and friends and say prayers for them. However, in the spirit of Pascha, it is not to cry for the dead but to feast with them. Radonitsa means “day of rejoicing.” The custom goes back to the 4th Century and was promoted by St. John Chrysostom. At the grave, Paschal hymns and “Memory Eternal” are sung. Remaining Paschal foods are consumed, and a Paschal egg is placed on the graves with the chant “Christ is Risen”. While this event for the dead may seem out of place during the Paschal season, it is consistent with the Orthodox faith’s emphasis on resurrection to eternal life rather than on death. Bringing to the graveyard a festive spirit with foods, sweets and drink is a reminder that we will all be resurrected some day with Christ. Then, in our incorruptible bodies, we will eat and drink together with our loved ones. In the words of St. John Chrysostom’s Paschal sermon: “O Death where is thy sting? O Hell, where is thy victory? Christ is risen, and thou art overthrown...Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. To him be glory and dominion unto the ages of ages.”—Theo

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## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

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

Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> – Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost following liturgy

Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We fast Wednesday and Friday this week.

On Saturday, June 7, God willing, Orthros and Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 9 A.M. and 10 A.M., respectively, for the **Saturday of Souls**.

With God's help, Orthros, Divine Liturgy and the Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost shall be served consecutively on Pentecost Sunday, June 8.

On Sunday, June 15, we, God being our Helper, will have memorial prayers for the departed fathers, husbands, brothers, etc., of the parish. Please provide the names of your loved ones to Fr. Peter if you wish to have him pray for them.

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold their June meeting next Sunday, June 15, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

God willing, Fr. Peter will attend the **Parish Life Conference** June 11-14. Great Vespers will not be served that Saturday, June 14; however, Orthros and Liturgy are scheduled for June 15.

Our **Diocese of Miami Parish Life Conference** is scheduled for June 11-14, 2025, and is hosted by St. George Church in Jacksonville, Florida. There is still time to register for, and participate in, the conference. Please go to [DOMSE.ORG](http://DOMSE.ORG) for more information.

The **Apostles Fast** begins on Monday, June 16, and ends on Saturday, June 28, inclusively.

Fr. Peter will meet with all **inquirers** and **catechumens** after coffee hour on Sunday, June 22, in the nave of the church. The discussion is open to everyone.

The **Ladies Guild** shall hold its June meeting on Sunday, June 22, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

On Tuesday, June 24, God willing, Orthros and Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 9 A.M. and 10 A.M., respectively, for **Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist**.

**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.)

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