

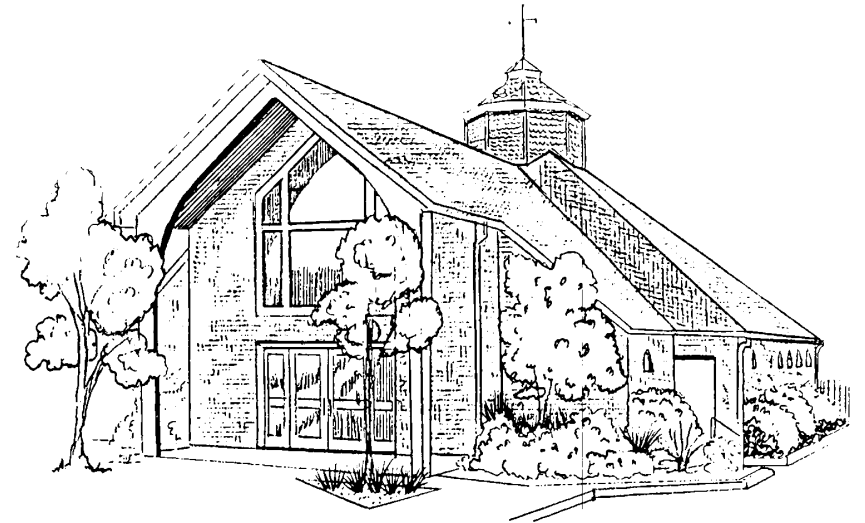
**St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church**  
**The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York**  
**And Metropolitan of all North America**  
**The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop**  
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# St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

## **The Holy Martyrs Agathopous and Theodulus**

The first was a deacon and the second a reader in the Church in Salonica; the first adorned with the white hairs of age and the second with the chastity of youth. In the time of Diocletian's hunting of Christians, these two were summoned for trial. They went there joyfully, and, each holding the other by the hand, went in crying: 'We are Christians!' The whole court's urging them to deny Christ and worship idols was in vain. After long imprisonment and starvation, they were condemned to death by drowning in the sea. Their hands were bound behind them and a large stone tied to their necks, and they were taken off to be drowned. When they went to throw Agathopous into the depths, he cried out: 'Lo, by second baptism we are washed from all our sins, and will go cleansed to Christ Jesus!' The sea quickly threw their drowned bodies onto the shore, and Christians gave them burial. St Theodulus appeared to his friends in the form of a shining angel in white raiment and commanded them to distribute all his remaining goods to the poor. These great soldiers of Christ suffered with honor under the Emperor Diocletian and Faustinus the governor of Salonica, in the year 30.

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



**April 5, 2026**  
**Palm Sunday**

# 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.

*As we move into the summer months, the weather is always very warm. 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:** Philippians 4:4-9

**Gospel Reading:** St. John 12:1-18

## Saints of the Day

Martyrs Claudios, Didymos and Diodoros and those with them; Agathopodes and Theodulos the Martyrs; New-martyr George of New Ephesos; Venerable Theodora of Thessalonika.

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## Spiritual Counsels...

By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. – Proverbs 24:3, 4

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## Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



St. Thalassios (commemorated on May 20) was the abbot of a Libyan monastery during the 7<sup>th</sup> century. His writings are found in Volume Two of the new edition of The Philokalia. A friend of St. Maximos the Confessor, he wrote about the difficulty of living a spiritual life. This powerful prayer by him seems very helpful for Orthodox Christians during Great

Lent:

“Christ, Master of all, free us from all these destructive passions and the thoughts born of them. For Thy sake we came into being, so that we might delight in the paradise which Thou hast planted and in which Thou hast placed us. We brought our present disgrace upon ourselves, preferring destruction to the delights of blessedness. We have paid for this, for we have exchanged eternal life for death. O Master, as once Thou hast looked on us, look on us now; as Thou becamest man, save all of us. For Thou camest to save us who were lost. Do not exclude us from the company of those who are being saved. Raise up our souls and save our bodies, cleansing us from all impurity. Break the fetters of the passions that constrain us, as once Thou hast broken the ranks of the impure demons. Free us from their tyranny, so that we may worship Thee alone, the eternal light, having risen from the dead and dancing with the angels in the blessed, eternal and indissoluble dance. Amen.”

—Theo

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sat., April 4<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Bridegroom Service, 6:30 P.M.

Monday, Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.

Monday, Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.

Tuesday, Apr. 7<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.

Tuesday, Apr. 7<sup>th</sup> – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, Apr. 8<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M.

Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> – Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:30 P.M.

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – Vespertal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – Orthros of the 12 Passion Gospels, 6:30 P.M.

Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – Royal Hours, 9:00 A.M.

Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – Unnailing Vespers, 3:00 P.M.  
Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – Lamentations Orthros, 6:30 P.M.  
Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> – Vespereal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> – Rush Procession & Orthros, 11:00 P.M.  
Sun., April 12<sup>th</sup> – Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy PASCHA, 12:00 AM  
Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> – Agape Vespers, 11:00 A.M.  
Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Thurs., April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions  
Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Typica Service, 9:30 A.M.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Meatfare Week began on Monday, Feb. 16. From that date until PASCHA it is our tradition to refrain from eating meat and meat products. From Pure Monday, Feb. 23, 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 5).

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

Today, April 5<sup>th</sup>, an **Archdiocese-wide second collection** shall be taken up for the Patriarchate of Antioch. Donations by check should be made payable to “St. Basil Church.” On the memo line, please write, “Patriarchate Collection”. May God bless your generosity.

Our **annual spring cleaning** of the church hall is planned for Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, following the conclusion of Presanctified Liturgy at 9 A.M. and Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, following the conclusion of Vespereal Divine Liturgy at 10 A.M. Please join us at one of these times. A TO-DO list is posted on the bulletin board across from the kitchen in the church hall. Please take a look; there is much to do. For additional information, please see **Tania Russell** or **Yazmin Incaprera**.

Twelve dozen boiled, **red eggs** are needed for the Paschal Liturgy. If you would like to bring one or two dozen, please place them in the bowl provided on the auxiliary table at the front of the church temple prior to the beginning of the Paschal services. Thank you.

**Today’s Coffee Hour:** Team 1. Thank you. Next Week: Potluck.

The **Parish Council** shall hold its April meeting on Sunday, April, 19, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

God willing, Orthros and Divine Liturgy shall be celebrated on Thursday, April 23, at 9 A.M. and 10 A.M., respectively, for the **Feast of the Great-martyr George the Trophy-bearer**.

Fr. Peter will meet with all **inquirers and catechumens** after coffee hour next Sunday, April 26, in the nave of the church. The discussion is open to everyone.

Next meeting for **The Art of Myrrh Bearing** will be **May 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 11 am. This meeting will be held in the church hall of St. Basil’s. This meeting will start part 3 MYRRHBEARERS IN ACTION. We will focus on the Introduction on p. 165 through Herman of Alaska ending on p. 234. June 6<sup>th</sup> will conclude our book study, time and place will be announced prior to that meeting. Please see Tania Russell for more information.

### **Our Littlest Members**

Christ said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for such is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 19:14). In the Orthodox Church, we embrace and welcome our littlest parishioners to join in the Divine Liturgy. They are our future and we want them raised from birth involved in the liturgical experience.

While generally, silence and stillness are valued in worship, the noise of children, especially if they are playfully making noise or expressing themselves, is often viewed as a part of the joyful and vibrant nature of Orthodox worship. It is considered "Holy Noise." The beautiful, resonating sound of our children's cooing or laughter is warming to our hearts.

However, if your child should become fussy, out of control, or inconsolable, please be respectful to those around you and leave the Nave to provide comfort for our little member. They can be brought outside or to St. Basil's Comfort Room. Once consoled and in good spirits, return with our sweet parishioner to resume the liturgy.

Please also remember that there is **NO FOOD** allowed in church and that includes baby formula (bottle-feeding) and snacks. If our little one is hungry, please bring them to the St. Basil's Comfort Room to feed them. The exception to that is our breastfed little ones. Breastfeeding during worship services is acceptable, but with a focus on discretion and modesty.

To our parents of little ones, we join you in loving prayer and support as you raise the next generation of Orthodox believers. GOD BLESS YOU!

### **ST. BASIL-NORTHSHORE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

God being our helper, the Northshore Orthodox community shall have their next worship service at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, April 19, at 5:00 P.M. The address is 4499 Sharp Road, Mandeville, Louisiana, 70471. Everyone is welcome to the occasion, Orthodox Christians as well as non-Orthodox. Food and drinks are welcome for the social hour afterward. The following dates of worship are Sundays, May 17, June 21, and July 12, at St. Michael Church at 5:00 P.M.