

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
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The Sunday of the Holy Father of the 4th Ecumenical Council

On this Sunday, we commemorate the 630 holy and God-bearing Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council, which convened in Chalcedon in A.D. 451 against the Monophysites.

Verses

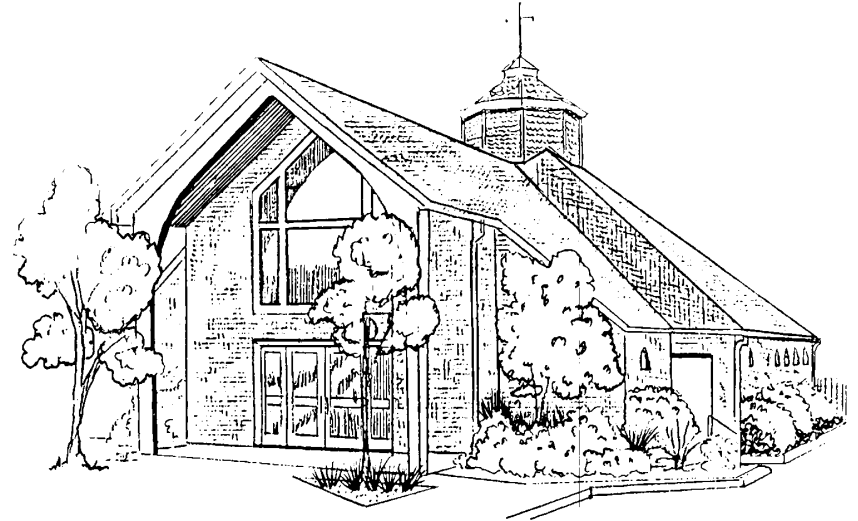
Shunning opposite errors like the sea monsters Scylla and
Charybdis,

The Fathers steer the Church on a straight course to safety.

The Holy Fathers were, once again, concerned with the nature of Jesus Christ. The false teaching arose that Christ's human nature (considered by heretics as less perfect) dissolved itself in His divine nature (considered by heretics as more perfect): like a cube of sugar in a parcel of water. Thus, in that scenario, Christ had only one nature, the Divine. These false preachers were called Monophysites ("mono", meaning "one" and "physis", meaning "nature"), and they were led by Eutyches and Dioscorus. Monophysitism overemphasized the divine nature of Christ, at the expense of the human. The Fourth Ecumenical Council condemned Monophysitism and proclaimed that Christ has two complete natures: the divine and the human, as defined by previous Councils. These two natures function as equally perfect, without confusion, and are neither divided nor separate. The Fathers declared that at no time did they undergo any change.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

St. Basil
Antiochian
Orthodox Church



July 19, 2026
The 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.

*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: Titus 3:8-15

Gospel Reading: St. Matthew 5:14-19

Saints of the Day

The Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council; Venerable Macrina, sister of Basil the Great; Venerable Dios of Antioch; Theodore, archbishop of Ephesus; uncovering of the relics of Venerable Seraphim of Sarov; Stephen Lazarevic.

Spiritual Counsels...

Fret not yourself because of evildoers, and be not envious of the wicked; for the evil man has no future; the lamp of the wicked will be put out. – Prov. 24:19, 20



Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum

Since most parishioners never enter the Sanctuary, little is known by most Orthodox about the furnishings behind the Iconostasis. On the Altar, there is always a rectangular cloth called the Antimension. In Greek, the word means “in place of a table.” It depicts the Entombment of Christ. The four Evangelists are shown in the corners. Sewn into it is a small relic of a Saint. (At St. Basil, the Antimension contains a relic of St. James the Apostle). The Antimension identifies the church name, the date the Antimension was issued and the Bishop’s signature. This cloth is, in effect, the permission slip for celebrating the Eucharist at a particular Orthodox church. Such cloths have been in use since the late 12th century when clergy, in addition to Bishops, were needed to celebrate the Eucharist. Ordinarily, the Antimension is not removed from the Altar. As a consecrated object, it may only be touched by a Bishop. Priest or Deacon. In emergencies, or with the Bishop’s permission, the Antimension may be used as a portable Altar. St. Basil has been granted the right to use its Antimension for the celebration of the Eucharist at the Northshore Mission. During the Liturgy, the Antimension is unfolded and the Eucharist is celebrated upon it. When not in use, the Antimension stays under the Gospel book on the Altar folded within a second wine-colored cloth known as the Eiliton. Thanks be to God for our Mother Church. — Theo

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 18th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, July 19th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, July 25th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, July 26th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 1st – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 2nd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Thursday, Aug. 6th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 8th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 9th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 15th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, Aug. 15th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, Aug. 16th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We fast Wednesday and Friday this week.

ATTENTION ST. BASIL FAMILY: It is once again time to update our **coffee hour teams**. As you know, life has a way of bringing families in and out of our wonderful parish. With this in mind it is time to see if any of our new or long-time families would like to be part of our coffee hour traditions by joining one of our teams. It is such a joyous occasion to be able to break the fast together on Sunday and enjoy good food and good company. Please consider joining one of our coffee hour teams and being a part of this wonderful event. For more information or to sign up, please see **Tania Russell**.

God willing, the **Parish Council** shall hold its July meeting today, July 19th, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

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

The **Dormition Fast** begins Saturday, August 1st, with the traditional fasting discipline observed (no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, alcohol and oil). There is an allowance for alcohol, oil and fish on Thursday, Aug. 6th, for the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, and an allowance for alcohol and oil on Saturdays and Sundays. The fast ends on the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos on Saturday, August 15.

God willing, Orthros and Divine Liturgy shall be celebrated on Thursday, Aug. 6, at 9 A.M. and 10 A.M., respectively, for the **Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord**.

The **blessing of the grapes**, God willing, shall occur at the end of Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Transfiguration. Those persons, who interested in bringing grapes to be blessed, are encouraged to do so.

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

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

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 Saturday, August 8, at 10:00 A.M. The address is 4499 Sharp Road, Mandeville, Louisiana, 70471. Everyone is welcome, Orthodox Christians as well as non-Orthodox. Food and drinks are encouraged for the social hour afterward. The next dates of worship are Saturdays, September 12, October 24, November 14, and December 12, at St. Michael Church at 10:00 A.M.