

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York And Metropolitan of all North America His Grace 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



www.stbasilneworleans.org * 504-888-8114 * sbno@att.net

Saturday: Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday: Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

> March 3, 2019 **Sunday of the Last Judgment Varys Tone ~ Eothinon 7**

Christ is in our midst. He is and ever shall be.

To Our Guests:

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. If you are not in good standing with the Church or are not an Orthodox Christian please do not be offended by this. 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. We welcome you to our church and invite you to receive a blessing and partake of the antidoron at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Please Note: Food and drinks in church are not appropriate except for life threatening circumstances. This includes, but is not limited to, snack items, cheerios, fruit, fruit snacks, sandwiches, meals, or drink items of any sort. If your child cannot wait until liturgy is over in order to eat, please take him or her to the church hall. Thank you.

The Mission of St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church...

We love and worship God, proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ through the teachings of the Holy Orthodox Christian Faith, and serve those in our parish, our larger community, and God's people everywhere through worship, prayer, fellowship, education, charity, and outreach.

The Vision of St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church...

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church is committed to growth: growth of our members spiritually, and growth of our members in the participation of parish life. We are committed to the education in the faith of our members and non-members. We will identify and initiate strategies to increase the involvement of the teens and the 20-40 age group of the parish. We will reach out to the larger community with invitations and messages about the Holy Orthodox Christian Faith and St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church. We will identify and implement strategies to enhance our financial stability.

Saints du Jour (March 3)

Martyrs Eutropios, Kleonikos, and Basilikos of Amasea; Hieromartyr Theodoretos of Antioch; Nonnita, mother of St. David.

Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Varys Tone: Thou didst shatter death by Thy cross. Thou didst open paradise to the thief. Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy, and didst bid Thine apostles proclaim a warning that Thou hast risen, O Christ, granting to the world the great mercy.

Apolytikion of St. Basil the Great - Tone 1: Into all the world that received thy word went out thy voice; thereby didst thou divinely teach, explaining the nature of existing things and ordering the conduct of men. O venerable father, royal priesthood Basil, intercede with Christ our God for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion of the Sunday of the Last Judgment – Tone 1: When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory, all things shall tremble, and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat; the books shall be opened, and the hidden things made public; then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at thy right hand, O righteous Judge.

Prokeimenon: The Lord is my strength and my song. Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

> **Epistle:** The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. (Chapters 8:8-13; 9:1-2)

BRETHREN, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if anyone sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall.

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

> **Gospel:** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (Chapter 25:31-46)

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in His glory and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, O blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry and feed Thee or thirsty and give Thee drink? And when did we see Thee a stranger and welcome thee or

GOSPEL CONTINUED

naked and clothe Thee? And when did we see Thee sick or in prison and visit Thee?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren you did it to Me.' Then He will say to those at His left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not minister to Thee?' Then He will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these you did it not to Me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 9th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, March 10th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Sunday, March 10th – Forgiveness Vespers, 6:30 P.M. Wednesday, March 13th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M. Friday, March 15th – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M. Friday, March 15th – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. Saturday, March 16th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, March 17th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Wednesday, March 20th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M. Friday, March 22nd – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M. Friday, March 22nd – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. Saturday, March 23rd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, March 24th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Monday, March 25th - Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Annunciation) Wednesday, March 27th – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M. Friday, March 29th – Presanctified Liturgy, 9:00 A.M. Friday, March 29th – Akathist Hymn, 6:30 P.M. Saturday, March 30th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, March 31st – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

From Rob Booms, Chairman of Parish Council

The Parish Council thanks Fr. Peter and the Parish for the great annual meeting and assisting with the visit of His Grace BISHOP Nicholas. We had the best attendance at the annual meeting in recent years and it was good to see contested elections for vacant seats on the Parish Council. Cesar El-Hajj, and Greg Lindley were elected to 3-year terms. Dwight Gillis was elected to a one-year term. In addition, Fr. Peter also appointed April Pituch to a three-year term and Tania Russell to a one-year term to the Council. The 2019 Parish Council and its officers consist of the following persons: Rob Booms, Chairman; Greg Lindley, Vice Chairman; Dave Abramson, Treasurer, Tania Russell, Secretary; Cesar El-Hajj, Mark Fleming, Dwight Gillis, April Pituch and Michael Zelesnik. Please support them in your prayers and with your service. Thanks and God Bless--Rob

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to silence your cell phones before you come into the church temple. Thank you.

Today's Ushers: Emma Nugent and Maria Pulucciu. Next Sunday: Ladies Guild.

Today's Epistle Reader: Cheryl Pituch. Next Sunday: Ladies Guild.

Today's coffee hour: Team 1. Thank you. Next Sunday: Team 24.

We fast from meat all this week.

The **Antiochian Men** meeting is scheduled for today, March 3, after liturgy. All men of the parish are welcome to attend.

The **Ladies Guild** meeting is scheduled for next Sunday, March 10, after liturgy. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend.

Our annual **Wine** and **Cheese Social** shall be held on Cheesefare Sunday, March 10th, in the Church Hall after Divine Liturgy. Please bring enough wine, cheese and crackers for yourself and friends.

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

The Diocese of Miami and the Southeast (DOMSE) is hosting a **Cyber Teen Retreat** on April 13, 2019. The teens of St. Basil Church are invited to gather here at our Church Hall for activities. Please see **Emma Nugent** for more information.

The **Parish Life Conference** for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast (DOMSE) is scheduled for June 12-15, 2019. It is hosted by All Saints Antiochian Orthodox Church at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Raleigh, North Carolina. Please visit www.antiochianevents.com/miami.html for more information.

The traditional fasting discipline of Great and Holy Lent (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, alcohol and oil) is observed 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.

Each year we begin our Archdiocese-wide **Food For Hungry People Campaign** at this time. This campaign has raised millions of dollars over the 30+ years of its existence. 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 Chancery for distribution to the needy. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Approximately 110 **Red Carnations** are needed for the veneration of the Holy Cross on Sunday, March 31. 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.

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 Father expects you to make every effort to care for your soul and have confession at least once during Great Lent.

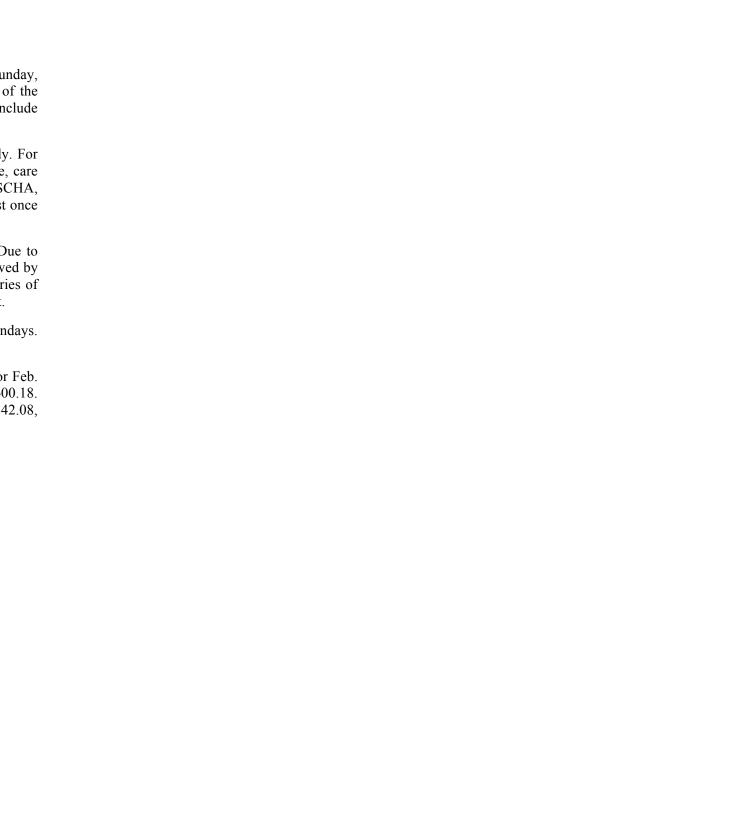
An **Orthodoxy 101/Inquirers' Class** shall be offered on the first Tuesday of each month. Due to Great Lent, our next gathering is on May 7 at 6:30 P.M. A potluck meal shall be served followed by a presentation and discussion. Everyone is welcome! Using the text, <u>Beginning to Pray</u>, a series of discussions on prayer will occur after the Wednesday Presanctified Liturgies during Great Lent.

Russian lessons for beginners started on September 17. The group meets at 12 P.M. on Mondays. Please contact **Oksana Mahecha** for more questions.

As of Feb. 26, 2019, 42 pledges were received for 2019 totaling \$88,616.00. The collection for Feb. 24, 2019, totaled \$2,017.84 for a year-to-date amount of \$28,801.42, a weekly average of \$3,600.18. For the week of Feb. 26, 2019, our expenses are \$4708.89, for a year-to-date amount of \$24,842.08, a weekly average of \$3,105.26.

Spiritual Counsels...

"The light of virtuous men burns bright, the lamp of the wicked goes out." – Prov. 13:9



The Sunday of the Last Judgment

Today, we commemorate the Second and impartial Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Verses

When the Judge of all sitteth to judge the earth, Come now! Mayest Thou judge me worthy of Thy voice!

It is the Sunday of the Last Judgment—known also as Meat Fare Sunday—the lesson of which occurs in today's Holy Gospel. Jesus illustrates to us God's ineffable goodness and His great love for mankind. And so lest some who are lazy should loiter and spend the time appropriate to their salvation in the pursuit of sin, and be suddenly overtaken by death, the divine Fathers decree that on this day the remembrance of the Second Appearance of Christ may be celebrated. The intention is to remind them that, as God is good and loving to mankind, He is also a very righteous Judge Who recompenses each according to his deeds. Our Lord teaches us that when we minister to our brother or sister, we really minister to Him. This brings us righteousness and life eternal.

By Thine ineffable love for mankind, O Christ God, make us worthy of Thy devoted voice, number us among Thy righteous ones and have mercy on us. Amen.

The Holy Martyrs, Eutropius, Cleonicus and Basilliscus

They were companions of St. Theodore Tyro. When the righteous Theodore gloriously died, they remained behind in prison, and for a long time they were not sentenced due to a change in the emperor's deputy in the city of Amasea. When the new governor arrived, more inhuman than his predecessor, he ordered that these three be brought before him. All three were youths. Eutropius and Cleonicus were blood brothers, and Basilliscus was a kinsman of St. Theodore. All three were like blood brothers in brotherly love. As such, they said before the governor, "As the Holy Trinity is undivided, so also are we by our faith undivided and in love inseparable." In vain was all the flattery on the part of the governor and in vain were his attempts to bribe Eutropius. First of all, the deputy invited Eutropius to dine with him. Eutropius refused, quoting from the Psalms, "Happy the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked" (Psalm 1:1). After that, the deputy offered him a large amount of money, 150 litres of silver, which Eutropius also refused and reminded the governor that because of silver, Judas lost his soul. After all attempts at interrogation and torture, the first two were sentenced to be crucified, and Basilliscus was sentenced to be beheaded. And so it was, two brothers crucified on two crosses for which they gave thanks to Christ that He made them worthy of the same death by which He Himself died. The third, Basilliscus, was beheaded. They all entered the Kingdom of Joy where St. Theodore, their commander, awaited them and who, before them, was glorified by Christ the Lord and Victor. They suffered honorably in the year 308 A.D.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid