



St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

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 29, 2015

The Fifth Sunday of Great Lent (The Commemoration of St. Mary of Egypt)

Tone 1 ~ Eothion 9 ~ Ps. 109:8

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.

Saints du Jour (March 29)

Martyr Mark, bishop of Arethusa, Martyr Cyril the deacon of Heliopolis and those with them; Martyrs Jonah and Barachisios of Persia and those with them; Eustathios the Confessor, bishop of Bithynia.

Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Tone 1: While the stone was sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world, for which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O Giver of life: Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy kingdom; glory to Thy providence, O Thou, Who alone art the Lover of mankind.

Apolytikion of St. Mary of Egypt – Plagal Tone 4: Through thee the divine likeness was securely preserved, O Mother Mary, for thou didst carry the cross and followed Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

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 Great Lent – Plagal Tone 4: To thee the champion leader, I thy servant offer thanks for victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror. As thou hast power invincible, free me from every danger that I may cry unto thee: Rejoice, O bride without bridegroom.

Prokeimenon: Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

Verse: God is known in Judah; His name is great in Israel.

Epistle: The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.
(Chapter 9:11-14)

BRETHREN, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Gospel: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark
(Chapter 10:32-45)

At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples and began to tell them what was going to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him and scourge Him and spit upon Him and kill Him; and after three days He will rise again." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask You." And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Your right hand and one at Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized; but to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant with James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Spiritual Counsels...

"When virtuous men are in power, the people are joyful, when the wicked rule, the people groan."
Proverbs 29:2

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 1st – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, April 4th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Lazarus Saturday)

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

Sunday, April 5th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Palm Sunday)

Sunday, April 5th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE CONTINUED

Monday, April 6th – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Monday, April 6th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Tuesday, April 7th – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Tuesday, April 7th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday, April 8th – Presanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday, April 8th – Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:30 P.M.
Thursday, April 9th – Vespers Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 9th – Orthros of the 12 Passion Gospels, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, April 10th – Royal Hours of Pascha, 10:00 A.M.
Friday, April 10th – Unnailing Vespers, 3:00 P.M.
Friday, April 10th – Lamentations Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 11th – Vespers Divine Liturgy & Chrismations, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, April 11th – Rush Procession & Orthros, 11:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 12th – Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy PASCHA, 12:00 A.M.
Sunday, April 12th – Agape Vespers, 1:00 P.M.
Saturday, April 18th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 19th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, April 25th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 26th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March is Antiochian Women's month in our Archdiocese. Today's epistle reader is **Yazmin Incaprera**. The usherettes are **Leila El-Hajj** and **Mona DiGiovanni**. Thank you.

Today's coffee hour is provided today by **Mariam Ammari**. Thank you.

On Saturday, April 4, we will clean up the Church temple and Fellowship Hall after Divine Liturgy in preparation for Pascha. Everyone is encouraged to participate. At that time, we shall also attempt to form a **Men's Fellowship Group**. The men of the parish are asked to join us for a brief period of cleaning and an initial organizational meeting. For more information, please see **Ted Brewer**.

Donations for **Easter flowers** are currently being accepted through and including Palm Sunday. If you would like to make a donation for these flowers, please fill out one of the envelopes in the narthex and on the "Special Occasion" line, please write, "Easter flowers." Donations are \$10.00 per plant. Thank you.

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.

An Easter Egg Hunt for the little people in our parish shall be held after Liturgy on Sunday, April 5th. For more information, please see **Khouriyeh Pam Nugent**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Parents and Church School teachers: Please note there is no Church School on April 5 & 12.

The **Ladies Guild** has a new project. During the coming months, they shall sponsor several coffee hours in order to ask parishioners to donate to a collection basket to help fund very needed repairs to the parish kitchen. Of note, the huge double refrigerator/freezer is on its last legs and needs to be replaced soon. Please support them with this worthwhile project.

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 Ozanam Inn for distribution to the needy. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

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 (April 5).

The 22nd Annual Parish Life Conference for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast is scheduled for June 10-14, 2015. St. Ignatius Church in Franklin (Nashville), Tennessee, is hosting the conference. The deadline for early bird registration is May 15. Paper copies of the registration forms are available in the narthex. Online registration is available at www.saint-ignatius.org/PLC

52nd Antiochian Archdiocese Convention, Boston, MA – Sunday, July 19, 2015-Sunday, July 26, 2015 – Hosted by St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cambridge, Massachusetts, at the Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts. Go to www.acboston2015.com to register for hotel rooms, events and Boston excursions and to obtain Souvenir Journal information and information about family activities and events. Rooms are booking quickly for this historic convention. Please call the church at (617) 547-1234 with any questions.

The church bulletin is available by email. Please tell Fr. Peter if you would like to receive it.

As of March 22, 2015, 45 pledges were received totaling \$97,452. Approximately \$2,660/week is needed in donations to meet our budgetary obligation. The collection for the week ending March 22, 2015, totaled \$1,682 for a year-to-date total of \$34,466.72 (~\$2,872/week).

St. Basil Church shall have a **post-Lenten Retreat** on Friday evening, May 15, and all day Saturday, May 16. The theme of the retreat is "**Joyous Hearts: Living Christ in our Midst.**" Our retreat leaders are **Dr. Anthony Bashir** and **Richard Robbat**. Both men have worked across the archdiocese and have extensive experience in parish life. Dr. Bashir is a member of the Archdiocese Board of Trustees and is the nephew of the His Eminence Metropolitan ANTHONY (Bashir) of thrice-blessed memory. More details are forthcoming. Please make plans to join us.

St Mark the Confessor, Bishop of Arethusa in Syria

St. Gregory the Theologian and Blessed Theodoretus have given us an account of his sufferings. According to these accounts, Mark destroyed some pagan temples and brought many to the Christian faith during the reign of the Emperor Constantine. But when the Emperor Julian came to the throne and quickly became an apostate from the Faith, some of the inhabitants of Arethusa renounced Christ and lapsed into paganism. They rose up against Mark because he had demolished the temple and demanded that he either rebuild it or pay them a very large sum of money. As Mark refused to do either the one or the other, he was flogged and flayed and dragged through the streets. They then cut off his ears with strong, fine threads, stripped him naked, smeared him with honey and left him bound to a tree in the summer heat for the wasps, mosquitoes and hornets to eat. The martyr of Christ endured all this without complaint. He was quite old, and his face shone like an angel of the Lord. The pagans lowered the price of their temple again and again, finally demanding a quite insignificant amount, which Mark could easily have given. But he refused to give even a single coin for that purpose. His endurance made a great impression on the citizens, and they began to admire him for it and to feel sorry for him, and gradually reduced the price of their temple to nothing just to allow him to remain alive. Finally, they let him go free and, one by one, all came to him to receive instruction and become Christians again. A deacon, Cyril, also suffered at this time for a similar cause in Heliopolis at the foot of Mount Lebanon. He had broken some idols at the time of the liberation of Christianity and was cruelly tortured under Julian for this. The pagans were so enraged with him that, after they had killed him, they tore out his teeth and ripped open his stomach. Many others suffered on the same day as St. Cyril. The evil pagans cut their bodies into small pieces, coated them with barley and fed them to the pigs. But retribution came swiftly upon them; all their teeth fell out and their mouths emitted an unbearable stench.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid