# St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor 3916 Hudson St. Metairie, LA 70006 <u>www.stbasilneworleans.org</u> \* 504-888-8114 \* <u>sbno@att.net</u> Saturday: Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday: Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

<u>November 22, 2015</u> <u>The 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost and the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Luke</u> <u>Plagal Tone 4 ~ Eothinon 3 ~ Psalm 109:8</u>

# Christ Is In Our Midst! He Is And Ever Shall Be!

#### <u>To Our Guests:</u>

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.

## 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 invitiations 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 (Nov. 22)

Apostles Philemon, Apphia, Archippos and Onesimos of the Seventy; Clement, bishop of Ochrid and enlightener of Bulgaria; Heiromartyr Sisinios; Martyr Cecilia of Rome and those with her; Venerable Kallistos Xanthopoulos of Athos; Martyr Michael, prince of Tver.

*Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Plagal Tone 4:* From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*Apolytikion of the Presentation of the Theotokos – Tone 4:* Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying: Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.

*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 Presentation of the Theotokos – Tone 4:* The all-pure temple of the Savior, the most precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the treasure-house of the glory of God, today entered the Temple of the Lord, bringing with her the grace which is in the divine Spirit: whom also the angels of God do celebrate in song; for she is the heavenly tabernacle.

**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 Ephesians. (Chapter 4:1-7)

BRETHREN, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

**Gospel:** The reading form the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (Chapter 12:16-21)

The Lord spoke this parable, "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry."' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich towards God." As he said this, Jesus called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

#### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Saturday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions Sunday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> – Typica Service, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. Saturday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today's Ushers:** Dwight Gillis & Kume Mamo; **Ushers for next Sunday:** Fitsum Ejigu & Tania Russell.

The **Parish Council** rescheduled its monthly meeting for today after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend. Thank you.

The Advent Fast began Sunday, November  $15^{\text{th}}$ , and is divided into two periods. The first period is Nov. 15 - Dec. 19, with the traditional fasting discipline observed (no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, alcohol and oil). There is an allowance, however, for alcohol and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and an allowance for alcohol, oil and fish on Saturdays and Sundays. The second period is Dec. 20 - 24, with the traditional fasting discipline observed. There is an allowance, however, for alcohol and oil only on Saturday and Sunday.

Donations for **poinsettias** will be accepted from Nov. 15 - Dec. 6. If you would like to make a donation, please fill out one of the envelopes in the narthex and on the "Special Occasion" line, please write, "Poinsettias." Donations are \$10.00 per plant. Checks should be made payable to **St. Basil Ladies Guild**. Thank you.

**Choir practice** is held on Sunday mornings at 8:30 A.M. Choir members and other members of the parish should see our choir director, **Andy Mahoney**, for more information.

Our annual **Cookies with St. Nicholas Party** is scheduled for Saturday, December 12, from 2:30-4:00 P.M. Youngsters of all ages are welcome. Please see **Khouriyeh Pam Nugent** for more details.

Our annual **Christmas Pageant** will be held after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. Parents who are interested in having their children participate in the pageant should see **Khouriyeh Pam Nugent**.

If you have moved recently and your mailing/street address has changed, please see Larry Jones to update your listing in our **church directory**. Thank you.

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.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

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

As of November 15, 2015, 46 pledges were received totaling \$97,752. Approximately \$2,660/week is needed in donations to meet our budgetary obligation. The collection for the week ending November 15, 2015, totaled \$1,130.84 for a year-to-date total of \$112,818.06.

## Spiritual Counsels...

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

# The Holy Martyr Cecilia

Cecilia was born in Rome of wealthy and eminent parents. She had great faith in Christ the Lord and a great zeal for the Faith. Vowing life-long virginity to God, St. Cecilia wore a coarse hair shirt beneath the costly raiment that her parents gave her. When her parents coerced her into marriage with Valerian, a pagan, Cecilia counseled her bridegroom on their wedding night to go to Bishop Urban to be baptized, and then live in chastity. Accepting the Christian Faith, Valerian also converted his brother Tiburtius. Soon after, both brothers were condemned to death for their faith. But their faithfulness did not falter, even in the face of death. Led to the place of execution, these wonderful brothers also succeeded in converting the captain of the guard, Maximus, to the Faith. Then all three suffered together for Christ the Lord. St. Cecilia buried their bodies together. Cecilia was then brought to trial, for she tirelessly won pagans over to the Christian Faith. In only one evening, she won over 400 souls. When the judge asked her from whence such boldness came, she answered: "From a pure conscience and undoubting faith." After cruel torture, Cecilia was condemned to beheading. The executioner struck her three times on the neck with the sword, but he was unable to kill her. She was only wounded, and blood flowed from her wounds, which the faithful collected in handkerchiefs, sponges and bowls for the sake of healing. Three days after this, the martyr and virgin of Christ gave her soul to her Lord, with Whom she eternally rejoices. St. Cecilia suffered with the others in about the year 230. Her relics lie in Rome, in the church dedicated to her. In the Western Church, St. Cecilia is regarded as the patroness of church singing and music.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid