



## St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor

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Saturday: Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday: Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.



December 4, 2016

The Great-martyr Barbara & Venerable John Damascene & 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Luke

Varys Tone ~ Eothinon 2 ~ Psalm 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.

### *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 (December 4)

Great-martyr Barbara of Heliopolis in Syria; Venerable John of Damascus; Martyr Juliana; New-hieromartyr Seraphim, bishop of Phanar in Greece; Hieromartyr Alexander Hotovitsky, missionary in America.

*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. Barbara the Great-martyr – Tone 4:* Let us honor the all-revered St. Barbara; for she did demolish the gins of the adversary and escaped from them like a bird, by the help of the Cross as with a weapon.

*Apolytikion of St. John of Damascus – Plagal Tone 4:* Thou hast shown thyself, O God-inspired John, as a guide to the Orthodox Faith, a teacher of true worship and purity, O star of the universe and companion of the Bishops, O wise one. Through thy light thou hast enlightened all, O harp of the Spirit. Therefore, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

*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 Preparatory for the Nativity of Christ – Tone 3:* Today the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth in an ineffable manner to the pre-eternal Word. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest, and glorify with the angels and shepherds Him Who shall appear by His Own will as a new Child, the pre-eternal God.

*Prokeimenon:* God is wonderful in His saints.

*Verse:* Bless God in the congregations.

**Epistle:** The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

(Chapters 3:23-4:5)

BRETHREN, before faith came, we were confined under the law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

**Gospel:** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

(Chapter 13:10-17)

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her and immediately she was made straight and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed and

### GOSPEL CONTINUED

not the sabbath day.” Then the Lord answered him, “You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?” As Jesus said this all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions  
Sunday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today’s Ushers:** Dwight Gillis & Helen Merid. **Next Week:** Stephen Zelesnik & Mihai Leustean.

Coffee hour is provided today by Team 4. Thank you.

The **St. Basil Youth Group** shall hold their monthly meeting today after Divine Liturgy. All teens and tweens of the parish are invited to attend.

The **Ladies Guild** shall hold their monthly meeting next Sunday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

The **Advent Fast** began Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 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.

The Youth of our Parish will visit Colonial Oaks Nursing Home after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please see **Khouriyeh Pam Nugent** for more information.

Our annual **Christmas Pageant** will be held after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Parents who are interested in having their children participate in the pageant should see **Khouriyeh Pam Nugent**.

**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.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

On May 19-21, 2017, we shall celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish. His Grace Bishop ANTHONY of the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest shall preside over our festivities. As gifts to the parish on this occasion, we are attempting to: 1) Refurbish and replating an existing chalice. The donations needed for this are \$2,000.00, and, 2.) Purchase a decorative chalice and discos set to use for Divine Liturgy during the festive periods of the year and on major feasts of the church. Approximately \$5,000.00 are needed to purchase this new set. Pictures of these two chalice and discos sets may be seen on the bulletin board outside the kitchen. Donations of any amount are welcome. Please see Fr. Peter if you are interested in helping with either of these items.

As of Dec. 1, 2016, 46 pledges were received totaling \$99,650. Our operating budget for this year is \$146,125.00. Approximately \$2,810/week is needed to meet this obligation. The collection for Nov. 27, 2016, totaled \$1,954.23. for a year-to-date total of \$113,650.12, a weekly average of \$2,367.71. As of Nov. 27, 2016, our expenses are \$131,749.68, a weekly average of \$2,744.79.

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

### *Spiritual Counsels...*

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

### **The Holy Great-martyr Barbara**

This glorious follower of Christ was betrothed to Christ from early childhood. Her father Dioscorus was a pagan and was renowned for his position and wealth in the city of Heliopolis in Egypt. Dioscorus locked up his only daughter Barbara, brilliant in mind and of beautiful countenance, in a high tower. He surrounded her with every comfort, gave her female servants, erected idols for worship, and built her a bathing room with two windows. Looking through the window at the earth below and the starry heavens above, Barbara's mind was opened by the grace of God. She recognized the One True God, the Creator, despite the fact that she did not have a human teacher to bring her to this knowledge. Once, while her father was away from the city, she came down from the tower and, according to God's providence, met some Christian women who revealed the true Faith of Christ to her. Barbara's heart became inflamed with love for Christ the Lord. She ordered that a third window be cut open in the bath so that the three windows would represent the Holy Trinity. On one wall she traced a Cross with her finger, and the Cross etched itself deep in the stone as if cut by a chisel. A pool of water sprang forth from her footprints on the floor of the bath, which later gave healing of diseases to many. Learning of his daughter's faith, Dioscorus beat her severely and drove her from the tower. He pursued her in order to kill her, but a cliff opened up and hid Barbara from her brutal father. When she appeared again, her father brought her to Martianus, the magistrate, who handed her over for torture. They stripped the innocent Barbara and flogged her until her entire body was covered with blood and wounds, but the Lord Himself appeared to her in prison with His angels and healed her. A certain woman, Juliana, upon seeing this, desired martyrdom for herself. Both women were severely tortured and with mockery were led through the city. Their breasts were cut off and much blood flowed from them. They were finally led to the place of execution, where Dioscorus himself slaughtered his daughter, and Juliana was slain by the soldiers. That same day, lightning struck the house of Dioscorus, killing him and Martianus. St. Barbara suffered in the year 306. Her miracle-working relics rest in Kiev. Glorified in the Kingdom of Christ, she has appeared many times even in our own day, sometimes alone and sometimes in the company of the Most-holy Theotokos.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*