



## St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor

3916 Hudson St. Metairie, LA 70006

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

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



September 10, 2017

The Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross

The After-Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Plagal Tone 1 ~ Eothinon 3

*Glory to Jesus Christ. Glory to God forever.*

### 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.

*As we move into the summer months, the weather is always very warm. 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.***

### ***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 (September 10)***

Martrys Menodora, Metrodora and Nymphodora of Bithynia; Empress Pulcheria; Peter, bishop of Nicaea.

***Apolytikion of the Resurrection – Tone 3:*** Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death and became the First-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the great mercy.

***Apolytikion of the Nativity of the Theotokos – Tone 4:*** Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, annulling the curse, and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

***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 Nativity of the Theotokos – Tone 4:*** By thy holy nativity, O immaculate one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death; thy people celebrate it, having been saved from the penalty of their transgressions, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of Life.

***Prokeimenon:*** O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

***Verse:*** To You, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

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

(Chapter 6:11-18)

BRETHREN, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and not only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

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

(Chapter 3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He Who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Thursday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Elevation of the Holy Cross)  
Saturday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today's Ushers:** Pam Nugent & Mihai Leustean. **Next Week:** Michael Zelesnik & Emma Nugent.

**Coffee hour:** Team 4. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 5.

Parents and Church School teachers please note that Church School shall begin today, Sept. 10.

The **Ladies Guild** shall hold their monthly meeting today, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

On behalf of His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS, Fr. Peter, the Parish Council, and all the Faithful of St. Basil Church, many thanks to everyone in the parish who responded so quickly in gathering recovery supplies and donating money in order to assist the victims of Hurricane Harvey, especially Charles and Yazmin Incaprera, and Dwight Gillis. According to Deacon Dan Gray, who is working with IOCC in Houston, "The donations that you all dropped off today were exactly what the doctor ordered (Great Physician)!! So many of those things we have immediate need for. You got a love the way the Lord works." Thank you all and may God bless your generosity.

Approximately two dozen **Red Carnations** are needed for the veneration of the Holy Cross on Thursday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>. 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.

God willing, our next **festival workshops** will be on Saturday, Sept 16 & 30. We will be preparing baklava on Sept. 16 and preparing and organizing festival supplies on Sept. 30. The start time is 10:30 A.M. For more information, please see **Alexa Hamauei**.

The **Parish Council** shall hold their monthly meeting next Sunday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members are asked to attend.

Our annual **St. Basil International Food Festival** is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> & Saturday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>. Details regarding food workshop dates and times are forthcoming. Please see our **Festival Chairwoman, Alexa Hamauei**, for more information.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

The Hurricane Harvey collection totaled \$853.00. As directed, the proceeds of the collection shall be forwarded to the Archdiocese Chancery at the end of the month for distribution to the Hurricane victims. Thank you for your generosity.

As of Sept. 6, 2017, 41 pledges were received totaling \$87,180. The collection for Sept. 3, 2017, totaled \$2,556.00 for a year-to-date total of \$104,760.46, a weekly average of \$2,910.01. As of Sept. 6, 2017, our expenses are \$121,501.58, a weekly average of \$3,375.04.

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

### *Spiritual Counsels...*

"Pride comes first, disgrace comes after; with the humble is wisdom found." – Proverbs 11:2

### **The Holy Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora and Nymphodora**

They were sisters by birth and grew up somewhere in Asian Bithynia. Reared in the spirit of Christianity, they withdrew from the city to the wilderness, wishing to elevate their minds to God and to free themselves of everything in this deceitful world, and to live this life in purity and virginity as true brides of Christ. They dedicated themselves to great labor, fasting and prayer, until God adorned them with the gift of miracle-working. When people began to bring the sick to them for healing, they became well known against their will. A certain governor, Fronton, heard of them and brought them to trial. Upon seeing them, the governor was amazed at the beauty of their faces. For, even though they were great fasters and their bodies were withered, their faces were radiant, illumined by inward peace and the grace of God. At first, the governor flattered them and promised to send them to the emperor, who would give them in marriage to his noblemen. But when he was convinced that all of his flattery and promises had no effect on these brides of Christ, he ordered that Menodora be tortured first, and her sisters thrown into prison. After cruel tortures, the governor cried out to Menodora, who was wounded and bloody: "Offer sacrifice to the gods!" To this the holy martyr replied: "Do you not see that I am offering my entire self as a sacrifice to my God?" When St. Menodora was slain by the tortures, the governor then brought out the remaining two sisters, and stood them by the dead body of Menodora. Pointing to the body of their sister, he counseled them to deny Christ. Since they remained steadfast, he slew them by harsh tortures. Just then, a thunderbolt struck from heaven, and killed the soulless Fronton and his servants. Christians honorably buried the bodies of these holy martyrs of God. They suffered between the years of 305 and 311, during the reign of Maximian Galerius, and found rest in the Kingdom of Christ.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*