



## **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**

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

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

**February 11, 2018**

**The Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meatfare Sunday)**

**Tone 3 ~ Eothinon 3**

*Forgive Me, a Sinner. God Forgives and I Forgive. May God  
Forgive Us All.*

### **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 (February 11)**

Hieromartyr Blaise, bishop of Sebaste, and companions; Theodora the empress; New-martyr George of Serbia; Vsevolod, prince and wonder-worker of Pskov; Venerable Demetrios of Prilutsk; Venerable Gobnait of Ballyvourney.

***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 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

### GOSPEL CONTINUED

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 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, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Cheesefare Sunday)  
Sunday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> – Forgiveness Vespers, 5:00 P.M.  
Wednesday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.  
Friday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Akathist Hymn (1<sup>st</sup> Stasis)  
Saturday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Sunday of Orthodoxy)  
Wednesday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.  
Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Akathist Hymn (2<sup>nd</sup> Stasis)  
Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (St. Gregory Palamas)  
Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> – Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 P.M.  
Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – Akathist Hymn (3<sup>rd</sup> Stasis)  
Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M. (Sunday of the Holy Cross)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today’s Ushers:** Rose Hrabar & Mihai Leustean. **Next Sunday:** ?.

Today’s **coffee hour:** Team 2. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 3 & Church Community.

The altar candle is offered today by **Cesar** and **Leila El-Hajj** in memory of **Elia**, **Cesar’s** father, and for the health of **Jamal**, **Najla**, **Leila**, **Cesar**, **Stephanie**, **Elia**, **Milad**, **Rabih**, **Yasmine**, **Lebnan**, **Arzeh**, **Ghantous**, **Dolly**, **Assad**, **Marlene** and their families (many years), and in memory of **Elia**, **Ramzi**, **Milad**, **Vagar** and **Peter-Boulos**.

**Need a gift for that special someone for Valentine’s Day?** Ladies Guild will have pink bracelets and pens and other items for sale in the Church Hall today and on Sunday, Feb 10. Support the Ladies’ projects!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Our **Annual Pledge Drive** is currently underway for the calendar year 2018. All adult members of the parish are encouraged to complete and return a pledge form to the church office. Pledge forms may be found in the narthex of the church building. All pledges are held in strict confidence. Only the total number of pledges and the total pledge amount is made available to the public. Your financial support of our church community is your support of yourself and your contribution to help insure you and your family has a place to worship. Thank you and God bless you.

Our annual **Wine and Cheese Social** shall be held on Cheesefare Sunday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, in the Church Hall after Divine Liturgy. Please bring enough wine, cheese and crackers for yourself and friends.

Please join St. Basil Church and Holy Trinity Cathedral for the **Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers** at the Cathedral (1200 Robert E. Lee, NOLA) at 6:00 P.M on Sunday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments shall be served afterwards.

Meatfare Week begins on Monday, Feb. 12. From that date until PASCHA it is our tradition to refrain from eating meat and meat products. From Pure Monday, Feb. 19, we observe the traditional fasting discipline of Great and Holy Lent (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, alcohol and oil) during the entire **Great Fast**, which lasts from Pure Monday through and including 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 1.

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.

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

Approximately 100 **Red Carnations** are needed for the veneration of the Holy Cross on Sunday, March 11. 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.

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 donated to Ozanam Inn, a New Orleans-based shelter for the homeless. May God bless your generosity and ascetic practice of almsgiving.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

**Free English and Russian language classes** started in October in the Church Hall. For more information, please see **Marianna Avery**. Thank you.

The **2018 Parish Life Conference** for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13 – Saturday, June 16, 2018. The Conference is at the Hilton Palm Beach Airport Hotel in West Palm Beach, Florida. For more information, please see the flyers in the narthex.

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

As of Feb. 8, 2018, 30 pledges were received totaling \$86,270. The collection for Feb. 4, 2018, totaled \$3,877.00, for a year-to-date total of \$13,552.80, a weekly average of \$2,710.56. As of Feb. 4, 2018, our expenses are \$17,356.50, a weekly average of \$3,471.30.

#### ***Spiritual Counsels...***

“The livelihood won by the wicked is illusory, he who sows virtue reaps a solid reward.” – Proverbs 11:18

### **The Priestly-Martyr Blaise**

Blaise was born in the Province of Cappadocia. From his early childhood, he was God-fearing and meek. Because of his great virtues, he was chosen as bishop of the city of Sebastea [in Armenia].

Blaise was a great spiritual and moral beacon in this pagan city. At the time of a grave persecution of Christians, St. Blaise encouraged his flock and visited the martyrs of Christ in prison, especially among them was the eminent and glorious Eustratius. When the city of Sebastea was completely depleted of Christians - some were slain, and others fled - the Elder Blaise withdrew to Mt. Argeos and settled there in a cave. Wild beasts recognized the holy man, gathered around him and he tenderly caressed them. But the persecutors found the saint in this remote place and brought him to trial. Along the way, Blaise cured a young boy who had a bone caught in his throat. To the plea of the poor widow whose pig had been snatched by a wolf, the saint, by the power of his prayer, commanded the wolf to return it. The sinister judges tortured Blaise severely: flogging him and scraping him with an iron comb. By his steadfastness in the Faith of Christ, Blaise converted many pagans to the Faith. Seven women and two children languished in prison with him. The women were beheaded first and, after that, the wonderful Blaise with these two children was beheaded. He suffered and was glorified in the year 316 A.D. People pray to St. Blaise for the well being of their domestic livestock and for protection against wild beasts. However, in the west, he is also invoked for diseases of the throat.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*