



## **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**

**[www.stbasilneworleans.org](http://www.stbasilneworleans.org) \* 504-888-8114 \* [sbno@att.net](mailto:sbno@att.net)**

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

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

**January 6, 2019**

**The Great and Brilliant Feast of the Theophany of Christ**

**Tone: Of the Feast ~ Eothinon: Of the Feast**

*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.

**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 (January 6)**

The Theophany of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ; Venerable Makarios Makris of Vatopedi monastery on Athos and Pantocratoros monastery in Constantinople; Theophan the Recluse.

**Apolytikion of Theophany – Tone 1:** By Thy baptism, O Lord, in the River Jordan, worship to the Trinity hath made its appearance; for the voice of the Lord did come forth to Thee with the testimony, naming Thee beloved Son, and the Spirit in the likeness of a dove, confirming the truth of the word. Wherefore, O Thou, Who didst appear and lighted the world, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Kontakion of Theophany – Tone 4:** Today Thou hast appeared to the universe, O Lord; and Thy light hath been signed upon us, who praise Thee with knowledge, saying: Thou hast come and appeared, O unapproachable Light.

**Prokeimenon:** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Verse:** Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

**Epistle:** The reading is from St. Paul's letter to Titus.

(Chapter 2:11-14; 3:4-7)

TITUS, my son, the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of the great God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for Himself a people of His Own who are zealous for good deeds.

Declare these things; exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of His Own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

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

(Chapter 3:13-17)

At that time, Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You and do You come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized He went up immediately from the water and, behold, the heavens were opened and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son with Whom I am well pleased."

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sunday, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> – Badnjak Service, 6:00 P.M.

Monday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Synaxis of St. John the Baptist)

Saturday, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Thursday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (St. Anthony the Great)

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE CONTINUED

Saturday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> – No Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday, Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (3 Hierarchs)

Saturday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M. (Presentation of Christ)

Saturday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

As God so wills, **His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS** shall visit our parish on Feb. 22-24, 2019. Please mark your calendars for this wonderful occasion.

Please remember to **silence your cell phones** before you come into the church temple. Thank you.

**Today's Ushers:** Michael Zelesnik. **Next Sunday:** Dwight Gillis and Tania Russell.

Today's **coffee hour:** Team 5. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team 6.

**LADIES CHRISTMAS SOCIAL** will be January 6 after Liturgy. All ladies are invited. Please bring a snack to share and a gift to exchange (value no more than \$15). We have fun playing a gift exchange game!

An **Orthodoxy 101/Inquirers' Class** shall be offered on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next gathering is on Jan. 8 at 6:30 P.M. A potluck meal shall be served followed by a presentation and discussion. Everyone is welcome!

The **Ladies Guild** are scheduled to hold their January meeting next Sunday, Jan. 13, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

Our **Annual Pledge Drive** is currently underway for the calendar year 2019. 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 General Parish Meeting** is scheduled for February 24, 2019, after Divine Liturgy. All members of the parish are encouraged to attend the meeting. Those adults, who have been a member of the parish for at least one year and are in good sacramental and financial standing with the parish, are eligible to vote.

Registration for **Camp St. Thekla** is currently underway. Registration forms may be downloaded at [www.campsthekla.org](http://www.campsthekla.org) Campers are accepted on a first come, first serve basis; therefore, registration should occur as quickly as possible.

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Please contact Fr. Peter at 504-888-8114 if you want to have your home blessed.

Only a few containers of lentil soup remain. Please purchase your lentil soup today from the Ladies Guild. Thank you!

**Russian lessons** for beginners started on September 17. The group meets at 12 P.M. on Mondays. Please contact **Oksana Mehecha** for more questions.

As of Dec. 27, 2018, 43 pledges were received totaling \$100,750. The collection for Dec. 23, 2018, totaled \$2,227.05, and the collection for Dec. 25, 2018, totaled \$2,431.10, and the collection for Dec. 30, 2018, totaled \$2,608.00 for a year-to-date total of \$135,602.03, a weekly average of \$2,607.73. As of Dec. 28, 2018, our expenses are \$137,918.89, a weekly average of \$2,652.29.

### From Rob Booms, Chairman of Parish Council

We have a new Parish registration form! It allows you to update your contact information. It's also for visitors who are interested in becoming members of St. Basil. Finally, it's the new pledge form for 2019, not just for your financial support but also for volunteering. Please help the Parish Council plan for the new year by completing this form. It is located in the back of the church, next to the weekly bulletins. The completed form should be returned to the church in a sealed envelope. Thanks and God bless. -- Rob

### Spiritual Counsels...

“When a man has good things to eat, it is the fruit of his own words, but the appetite of the treacherous feeds on violence.” – Prov. 13:2

### The Theophany

When the Lord Jesus had lived for 30 years from His birth in the flesh, He began His teaching and saving work. He marked this very beginning of the beginning by His Baptism in the Jordan. St Cyril of Jerusalem says: ‘The beginning of the world - water; the beginning of the Gospel - the Jordan.’ At the Baptism of the Lord in the water, that mystery was revealed to the world that was predicted in the Old Testament and fabled in ancient Egypt and India - the mystery of the Holy Trinity of God. The Father revealed Himself to the sense of hearing, the Spirit to the sense of sight and the Son, further beyond these, to the sense of touch. The Father gave His testimony of the Son, the Son was baptized in the waters and the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, hovered over the waters. And when John the Baptist bore witness of Christ and said: ‘Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world’ (Jn. 1:29), and when he immersed the Lord in the Jordan and baptized Him, there were thus revealed both the mission of Christ in the world and the path of our salvation. That is to say: Christ takes upon Himself the sin of the whole human race. He dies under it (the immersion) and rises again (the coming up out of the water), and we must die to the old, sinful man and rise again, cleansed, renewed and re-born. Here is the Saviour and here is the way of salvation. The Feast of the Theophany is also called the Illuminating, for in the Jordan there is given to us an illumining, revealing God to us as Trinity, consubstantial and undivided. That is one thing. And the other is that each of us baptized in the water is illumined by the Father of lights, through the merits of the Son and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*

# Diocese Of Miami & the SouthEast

## 2019 Winter Retreat

~ Bishop NICHOLAS, presiding, cordially invites you to attend ~



### DOMSE 2nd Annual Winter Retreat

Hosted at St. Elias Church in Atlanta, GA

**Pastors Only: Jan. 23 - 24, 2019; all Pastors to arrive in Atlanta by Jan. 22**

Attached Clergy & Assistant Pastors are strongly encouraged to participate & arrive on the same date!

**Clergy, Antiochian Men, Women, & Young Adults: Jan. 25 - 27, 2019**

*Note: Teen SOYO's part in the Winter Retreat will be moved to the Spring to accommodate for Winter Camp*

ALL must register! \$50 fee per person to cover meals & all other retreat expenses

**REGISTER HERE (includes hotel info): <http://bit.ly/DMC-Winter-Retreat>**

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