

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
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Hieromartyr Stephen, Pope of Rome and Others with Him

Stephen was Pope of Rome between the years 253-257 A.D. He struggled against the heretic Novatian. He cured Lucilla, the daughter of Nemesius, the tribune and baptized them both. Stephen, with 12 of his clerics, suffered during the reign of Valerian. He was beheaded during the celebration of the Liturgy.

St. Basil
Antiochian
Orthodox Church



August 2, 2020
The 8th Sunday after Pentecost
The 8th Sunday of Matthew

Welcome!

To Our Guests:

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. In our tradition, **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.** Please do not be offended by this if you are not an Orthodox Christian or in good standing with the Church. We welcome you to our church and invite you to receive a blessing and partake of the blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

*The weather is always very warm during the summer months. 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.***

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians: 1:10-17

Gospel Reading: St. Matthew 14:14-22

Saints of the Day

The Translation of the Relics of the Proto-martyr Stephen the Archdeacon; Venerable Photeini the wonderworker of Carpasia in Cyprus; New-martyr Theodore; Blessed Basil the fool-for-Christ, wonderworker of Moscow.

A Message from the Parish Council on the Corona Virus

Dear Parishioners,

St. Basil has always been a good citizen of Metairie and Jefferson Parish. The Lord has blessed us with no active cases of the corona virus. We have acted cautiously, made our weekly worship available through live-streaming on the internet and provided additional sanitary measures. Sadly, the virus seems to be taking another swing at the community. Our Governor and Parish President have asked us to take additional and stricter precautions. Starting on Sunday, July 5, we are asking that all persons wear a facemask in church or in the parish hall. The only exceptions are the priest, the subdeacon, the acolytes and choir

members during the liturgy when their duties require it. In addition, we ask that parishioners in the pews sit 6 feet apart unless they are members of the same family. We will have a limited supply of facemasks if you did not bring your own. Thank you for cooperation—Rob Booms, Chairman, Parish Council.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Aug. 1st – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Aug. 2nd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Thursday, Aug. 6th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M., Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, Aug. 8th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

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

Saturday, Aug. 15th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, Aug. 15th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Aug. 16th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, Aug. 22nd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, Aug. 23rd – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum

Making the Sign of the Cross, Part I



There is a little crack between the steps under the altar. So from our possum den, we can watch all of you during the liturgy. We are curious why some people make the sign of the cross when others don't. It's hard enough to

know when to stand and when to sit but the prayer book in the pew has directions about that. Here are some simple guidelines about making the sign of the cross. First, unlike Roman Catholics, we cross ourselves by going to the right. Using our right hand, we put the tips of the thumb and the first two fingers together and lay the other fingers into the palm of the hand. Touching first the forehead, we then touch the belly, followed by the right shoulder and then the left shoulder. A slight bow is usually also made. The sign of the cross is always made:

1. When going in and out of the Church (THREE TIMES).
2. At the beginning of the Creed.
3. At the beginning of the reading of the Epistle and the Gospel.
4. Whenever the priest invokes the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
5. At the words "More Honourable."

6. During the words “Alleluia,” “Holy God...,” and “O come let us worship...”

7. During the words “Take, eat...,” “Drink of it all of you...,” “Thine Own of Thine Own...,” and “Holy Things are for the Holy.”

More to come next time!—God bless all, Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“Correction is severe for him who leaves the way; he who hates being reprimanded will die.” – Prov. 15:10

Today’s Ushers: ???. **Next Week: ???.**

Today’s coffee hour: Team #5. Thank you. **Next Sunday:** Team #1.

As of July 27, 2020, 42 pledges were received for 2020 totaling \$84,710. The donations for June 2020 totaled \$12,971.96. The expenses were \$5,607.85, for an end-of-month balance of \$35,166.63. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Dormition Fast** began Saturday, August 1st with the traditional fasting discipline observed (no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, alcohol and oil). There is an allowance for alcohol, oil and fish on Thursday, Aug. 6th for the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, and an allowance for alcohol and oil on Saturdays and Sundays.

The altar candle is offered today by **Dwight Gillis** for the health of **Dwight, the Gillis family** and **the Russell family** (many years); and for the repose of **Dorthie Gillis** and **Dorothy Farris** (memory eternal) on the occasion of **Dorthie’s** birthday.

The Ladies Guild is scheduled to hold their August meeting next Sunday after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

As God so wills, we shall celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord on Thursday, Aug. 6. Those persons who wish to bring grapes for the blessing of the grapes at that time are invited to do so. Please see the worship schedule for more information.

God willing, we shall celebrate the feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God on Saturday, Aug. 15. Please see the worship schedule for more information.

Pledge Forms are available in the narthex of the church.

An **Orthodoxy 101/Inquirers’ Class** shall be offered on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next gathering is postponed until further notice. A potluck meal is included followed by a discussion.