

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
504.888.8114
sbno@att.net
www.stbasilneworleans.org

The Holy Female Martyr Aquilina

Aquilina was born in the Palestinian town of Byblus of honorable Christian parents. At age seven, little Aquilina was already completely versed in the true Christian life and at age 10 she was so filled with divine understanding and the grace of the Holy Spirit that she, with great power and zealously, preached Christ to her female companions. When Diocletian's persecution began, someone accused Aquilina before Volusian, the imperial deputy, who was more like a beast than a man. At first, Volusian ordered that Aquilina be flogged and after that, a red hot rod be pierced through her ears and brain. Until the last moment, the virgin Aquilina freely and openly confessed Christ the Lord and when her brain and blood began to flow from her head, she fell as though dead. The deputy, thinking Aquilina was indeed dead, ordered her body to be carried outside the city and thrown upon a dung heap for the dogs to consume. But, an angel of God appeared to her at night and said to her: "Arise, and be whole!" And the virgin arose and was whole and for a long time she offered up praise of thanksgiving to God imploring Him not to deprive her to fulfill her martyr's mortification. A voice from heaven was heard: "Go, it will be to you as you pray" and Aquilina set out for the town. The gates of the town opened on their own accord before her and she entered like a spirit into the palace of the deputy and appeared before his bed. The deputy was seized with unspeakable fear, seeing the virgin alive whom he thought was dead. The following day, according to his command, the executioners led Aquilina out to behead her. Before her beheading, the virgin Aquilina prayed to God on her knees and gave up her soul. The executioner beheaded her lifeless head. Her relics gave healing to many of the sick. Aquilina was 12 years old when she suffered for the Lord: suffered and crowned with the martyr's wreath in the year 293 A.D.

from: The Prologue from Ochrid

St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church



June 13, 2021
The Sunday of the Holy Fathers
of the 1st Ecumenical Council

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.

In our tradition... we stand as long as the Holy Eucharist is in the nave; we are in the presence of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. We remain standing as communicants come forward to receive the Holy Gifts. Of course, if you have a physical disability or are unable to stand due to pain, please do sit as necessary. Otherwise, we should always stand at this time.

Epistle Reading: Acts: 20:16-18, 28-36

Gospel Reading: St. John 17:1-13

Saints of the Day

Martyr Aquilina of Byblos in Syria; Antipater, bishop of Bostra in Arabia; Triphyllios, bishop of Leucosia (Nicosia) in Cyprus.

A Spring Message from the Parish Council

Dear Parishioners,

The Antiochian Archdiocese and Jefferson Parish have now lifted the masking and social distancing requirements which we have been observing. However, we recommend that persons who have not been vaccinated, or who are feeling unwell, should wear a mask in church and in the parish hall. As for activities, there are no longer any restrictions on participating in choir, church school, coffee hour, meals and other social activities. As before, if you are more comfortable wearing a mask, please feel free to do so. Likewise, the decision to receive Holy Communion is a matter of individual choice. Let us pray that the worst of the epidemic is over—Rob Booms, Chairman of the Parish Council

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, June 12th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, June 13th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, June 19th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, June 19th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:30 P.M.

Sunday, June 20th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, June 20th – Kneeling Vespers, 30 mins after the end of Liturgy

Thursday, June 24th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, June 26th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, June 27th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, June 29th – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, July 3rd – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 4th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



When I tell my possum relatives that our family lives under the altar at St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church, they are usually puzzled. They have heard about the Eastern Orthodox Church but do not know why our church is called “Antiochian.” I tell them that it is, in fact, the oldest of the five original Orthodox patriarchal churches. The others were in Alexandria, Rome, Jerusalem and Constantinople. Later they were joined by the Patriarchates of Russia, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria and Georgia. The Antiochian Church was founded by St. Paul. Since then, it has had 169 patriarchs. Our current Patriarch, since 2012, is His Beatitude John X. The old city of Antioch is in ruins now but can be visited from the nearby Turkish city of Antakya. The church’s headquarters is currently in Damascus, Syria. According to Acts 11:26, our Lord’s followers were first called “Christians” in Antioch. We are part of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America which is in full communion with all the other historic Orthodox churches — Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“Man’s heart makes the plans, the Lord gives the answer.” – Proverbs 16:1

Today's Ushers: Yordan Yordanov. **Next Week:** Mihai Leustean.

Today's coffee hour: Team 2. **Next Sunday:** Team 3.

A-Peal for the Bell...



The bell was originally used in the National Shrine of St. Anna in the Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans during the 19th century and early part of the 20th century. Please consider contributing to the cost of the bell and its installation. Any gifts should be marked "Church Bell". You are also invited to several upcoming fundraising lunches and hope that you can attend. —Rob Booms, Chairman of the Parish Council



The Bookstore Bee

This month in St. Basil's bookstore we would like to bring attention to the beautiful icons we have for sale. We offer a variety of icons in many sizes. For your traveling purposes, we also have small triptych and diptych icons. These are also a great addition to an icon corner in your home. If you are looking for a particular icon, we can also order those.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Parish Council** shall hold its June meeting today after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

We fast Wednesday and Friday this week.

God willing, on Saturday, June 19, **Orthros and Divine Liturgy** for the Saturday of Souls shall be celebrated in preparation for the Great Feast of Pentecost.

God willing, on Sunday, June 20, the **Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost** will be served after Divine Liturgy. It will begin 30 minutes after the end of Liturgy.

God willing, on Thursday, June 24, we shall celebrate the **feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Tuesday, June 29, we shall celebrate the **feast of the Nativity of Ss. Peter and Paul** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

As of June 7, 2021, 35 pledges were received for 2021 totaling \$78,874. The donations for May 2021 totaled \$9,696.19. The expenses were \$28,803.12 for an end-of-month balance of \$21,958.53. Thank you.