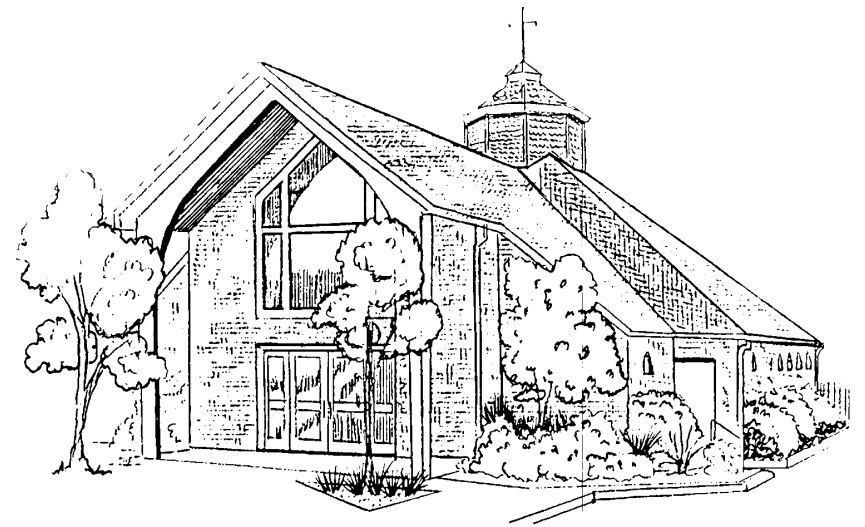


St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor
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The Holy Apostles Jason, Sospater and the Virgin Cercyra

The first two were of the Seventy Apostles and the latter was the daughter of a king from the island of Corfu. Jason and Sospater are mentioned by St. Paul and he calls them his relatives. "*Jason and Sospater, my relatives*" ([Romans 16:21](#)). Jason was born in Tarsus as was the Apostle Paul and Sospater was born in Achaia. The first was appointed bishop of Tarsus by the apostle and the other was appointed bishop of Iconium. Traveling about and preaching the Gospel these two apostles arrived on the island of Corfu, where they succeeded to build a church to the honor of St. Stephen the First-martyr and to win over some heathens to the Church. The king of the island threw them both into prison where seven thieves were also imprisoned. Their names were: Sagornius, Jakishol, Faustian, Januarius, Marsalus, Euphrasius and Mamminus. The apostles converted these seven to the Faith of Christ and turned these wolves into lambs. Upon hearing this, the king ordered that these seven be put to death in boiling pitch. Thus, they received the wreath of the martyrs. While the king was torturing the apostles, his daughter, the virgin Cercyra, watched from the window at the suffering of these men of God and learning for what reason they were being tortured, she declared herself a Christian and distributed all of her jewels to the poor. The king became enraged at his daughter and closed her in a special prison. Since he did not succeed to dissuade her from Christ by this imprisonment, he ordered that the prison be burned. The prison burned, but the virgin remained alive. Upon seeing this miracle many people were baptized. The infuriated king then ordered his daughter to be tied to a tree and Cercyra was slain by arrows. Those who believed in Christ fled from the terrible king to the nearest island and hid themselves. The king pursued them by boat in order to apprehend them, but the boat sank into the sea and thus the unrighteous one perished as did the one-time pharaoh. The new king embraced the Faith of Christ, was baptized and received the name Sebastian. Jason and Sospater freely preached the Gospel and strengthened the Church of God in Corfu. They lived to a ripe old age and there ended their earthly life and took up habitation in the mansions of the Lord.

St. Basil
Antiochian
Orthodox Church



April 28, 2024
Palm Sunday

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... *the church temple is a house of prayer. Upon entering it, please refrain from unnecessary conversation before, during and after church services, most especially during the Divine Liturgy from the time of the consecration of the Gifts until the last person has received the Eucharist. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, please come quietly forward to receive a piece of the antidoron and exit the church temple without talking. During coffee hour in the Church Hall is the appropriate place to exchange personal greetings and converse with one another. May God bless your reverence and piety.*

Epistle Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel Reading: John 12:1-18

Saints of the Day

The Nine Martyrs of Kyzikos; Martyr John of Romania; Venerable Memnon the wonderworker; Righteous Auxibius; Martyrs Vitalis and Valeria of Milan; Cronan, abbot of Roscrea; Cyril, bishop of Turov; Cyriacus of Kargopol.

A Message from the Parish Council

Dear Parishioners, the following persons will serve as your Parish Council until the next annual meeting in 2025: Fr. Peter Nugent, Sevin Russell (Chairman), Stephen Pituch (Vice-Chairman), Bill Harrison (Treasurer), Elias Ioup (Secretary), Laurie Bolanos, Therese Dagher, Mark Fleming, Natalia Flint & Yordan Yordanov. Please pray for them, support them in their work and contact them if you have any questions or concerns about the Parish.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 27th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Saturday, April 27th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 28th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.
Sunday, Apr. 28th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Monday, Apr. 29th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Tuesday, Apr. 30th – Bridegroom Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday, May 1st – Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:30 P.M.
Thursday, May 2nd – Vespereal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, May 2nd – Orthros of the 12 Passion Gospels, 6:30 P.M.
Friday, May 3rd – Royal Hours, 9:00 A.M.
Friday, May 3rd – Unnailing Vespers, 3:00 P.M.
Friday, May 3rd – Lamentations Orthros, 6:30 P.M.
Saturday, May 4th – Vespereal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.
Saturday, May 4th – Rush Procession & Orthros, 11:00 P.M.
Sun., May 5th – Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy PASCHA, 12:00 A.M.
Sunday, May 5th – Agape Vespers, 11:00 A.M.
Saturday, May 11th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 12th – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



A constant refrain during the prayers of Great Lent is the Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian. It is read twice each day at the end of the Lenten services, including during the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. St. Ephraim lived in the fourth century near the Syrian/Turkish border. This was a time of great political upheaval and persecution of Christians. He was a prolific writer of hymns and, of course, the famous prayer that we use. The prayer's initial focus is on negative objects of repentance--the sins of sloth, meddling, lust of power and idle talk. These are spiritual diseases from which we can only be healed with God's help. Then the focus shifts to the positive aims of repentance--a spirit of chastity, humility, patience, love, the ability to recognize our own sins and to refrain from judging others for theirs. Each petition is followed by a prostration because, in the words of Father Alexander Schmemmann, "the body participates in the prayer of the soul just as the soul prays through and in the body." The prayer ends with everyone bowing 12 times saying, "O God, cleanse me a sinner." St. Ephraim teaches us "Prayer that rises up in someone's heart serves to open up for us the door of heaven: that person stands in converse with the Divinity and gives pleasure to the Son

of God.” O Holy Father Ephraim, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.
— Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“Diverse weights and diverse measures and both alike an abomination to the LORD.” Proverbs 20:10

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meatfare Week begins on Monday, March 11. From that date until PASCHA it is our tradition to refrain from eating meat and meat products. From Pure Monday, March 18, 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 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 28).

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 please make every effort to care for your soul and have confession. The last day to do so is Great and Holy Thursday.

There is no **Church School** on Sundays, April 28 and May 5.

In anticipation of Great and Holy PASCHA, clean-up days are scheduled for the Church Hall on Thursday, April 25th, at 9:00 A.M. On Friday, April 26th, the Church will be cleaned at 1:00 P.M.

An **Easter Egg Hunt** for the little people in our parish shall be held after Liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 28th. For more information, please see Pam Nugent.

Twelve dozen boiled, **red eggs** are needed for the Paschal Liturgy. If you would like to bring one or two dozen, please place them in the bowl provided on the auxiliary table at the front of the church temple prior to the beginning of the Paschal services. Thank you.

An archdiocese-wide second collection shall be taken up for our patriarchate. Donations by check should be made payable to “St. Basil

Church.” On the memo line, please write, “**Patriarchate Collection**”. May God bless your generosity.

The **Ladies Guild** will be providing fried fish for Palm Sunday (April 28). Side dishes are welcome from anyone who would like to bring something. Remember fish and oil are permitted on that day. Donations to help with the cost of the fish are appreciated.

Pascha is on May 5; that day is Cinco de Mayo. Chips and salsa will be served for communion.

Twelve dozen boiled, **red eggs** are needed for the Paschal Liturgy. If you would like to bring one or two dozen, please place them in the bowl provided on the auxiliary table at the front of the church temple prior to the beginning of the Paschal services. Thank you.

Please remember to return your **Food For Hungry People coin boxes** at Pacha.

The **Ladies Guild** is raffling off two bowls made by Dwight Gillis. Tickets are \$5 each and the drawing will be held on May 12, 2024. For more information, please see Tania Russell.

Trisagion prayers, God willing, shall be offered on Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 12, for the departed mothers and ladies of the parish. Please forward their names to the church office and identify them as either Orthodox or non-Orthodox Christians.

Today’s Coffee Hour: Ladies Guild. **Next Week:** Potluck.