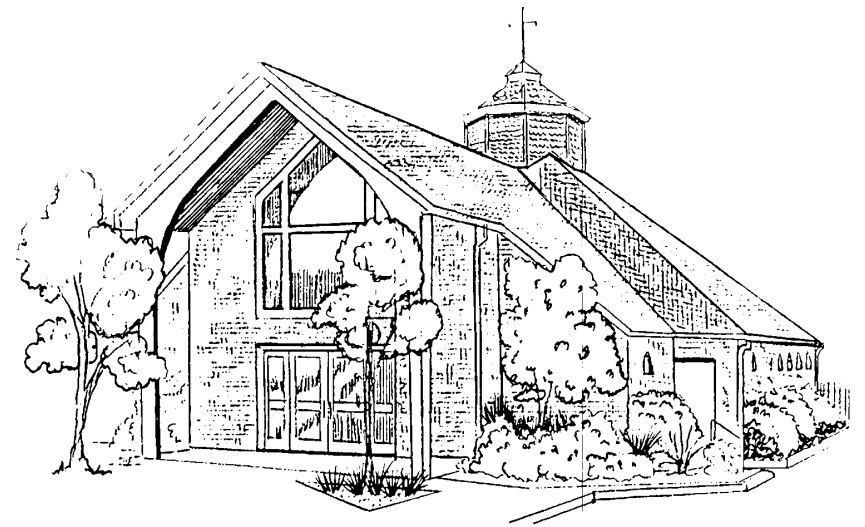


St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church
The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York
And Metropolitan of all North America
The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop
Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast
The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor
3916 Hudson St., Metairie, LA 70006
504.888.8114
sbno@att.net
www.stbasilneworleans.org

St. Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria

Cyril was of noble birth and a close relative of Theophilus, Patriarch of Alexandria, after whose death he was consecrated as patriarch. During his lifetime, he led three bitter struggles: with the Novatian heretics, with the heretic Nestor and with the Jews in Alexandria. The Novatianists had their origin in Rome and were named after Novatian the presbyter and leader of the heresy. They took pride in their virtues, walked about dressed in white garments, forbade a second marriage, held that prayers should not be said for those who committed a mortal sin, nor to receive back into the Church those who, at one time, had fallen away from the Church even though they bitterly repented. Cyril defeated them and drove them out of Alexandria together with their bishop. The struggle with the Jews was more difficult and bloodier. Since Alexander the Great founded that city, the Jews from the beginning, became strong in Alexandria. Their hatred toward Christians was vicious and insane. They killed Christians by treachery, by poisoning and by crucifying them on a cross. After a long and difficult struggle, Cyril succeeded with Emperor Theodosius the Younger to drive the Jews out of Alexandria. However, his struggle against Nestor, the Patriarch of Constantinople, was resolved at the Third Ecumenical Council [Ephesus 431 A.D]. Cyril himself presided at this Council and, at the same time, represented Celestine the Pope of Rome at his request who was unable to attend the Council because of old age. Nestorius was condemned, anathematized and was banished by the emperor to the eastern boundary of the empire where he died a horrible death (for worms consumed his tongue by which he had blasphemed the Birth-giver of God calling her the Birth-giver of Christ). After the completion of this struggle, Cyril lived in peace and zealously tended Christ's flock. He presented himself to the Lord in the year 444 A.D. It is said that he composed the prayer: "Rejoice, O Virgin Birth-giver of God, Mary full of grace!" [The Hail Mary].

St. Basil
Antiochian
Orthodox Church



June 9, 2024
Sunday of the Blindman

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: Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34

Gospel Reading: John 9:1-38

Saints of the Day

Cyril, patriarch of Alexandria; Pelagia and the three Virgin-martyrs of Chios; Venerable Cyril of Belozersk; Venerable Columba, enlightener of Scotland; Five Nuns beheaded in Persia: Thecla, Mariamne, Martha, Mary, and Enmatha; Hieromartyr Alexander, bishop of Prusa; Martyr Ananias; Hieromartyr Vincent the deacon of Agen in Gaul; John of Shavtel-Gaeneti in Georgia; Alexander of Kushta.

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 and 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, June 8th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

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

Saturday, June 15th – No Great Vespers & Confessions

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

Saturday, June 22nd – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:0 A.M.

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

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

Sunday, June 23rd – Great Vespers of Pentecost, ~11:00 A.M.

Saturday, June 29th – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

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

Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum



After Pascha, we chant “Christ is Risen from the Dead”, celebrating Christ’s miraculous resurrection. We are also mindful of the risen Christ’s promise that he will not abandon us after he ascends to the Father. He promises to send the Holy Spirit to be the Comforter of mankind.

Indeed, that is what happened at Pentecost. On that day, we remember the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, sent to empower an anxious band of Christ’s followers for preaching the good news to all. As Orthodox believers, we frequently pray to the Father and the Son. However, it seems difficult for us to pray directly to the Holy Spirit even though he is ever present in our lives. The Holy Orthodox Church has designated the Monday after Pentecost as Holy Spirit Day. St. Maximos the Greek (+1556), while suffering in a Russian prison, without prayerbooks or Holy Communion, was visited by an angel who assured of him of salvation. In gratitude, he composed “A Canon to the Holy Spirit,” writing it in charcoal on the walls of his cell. This Canon is still sung in Russian and Serbian monasteries on this special day. Let us also pray to the Holy Spirit in its powerful words:

O Most Holy Spirit, Thou life, light and consolation, hope and delight of all: Vouchsafe Thy gifts unto those who acknowledge Thee to be God, equally enthroned with the Father and the Son; and grant them remission of sins. —Theo

Spiritual Counsels...

“Take a man’s garment when he has given surety for a stranger, and hold him in pledge when he gives surety for foreigners.” Prov. 20:16

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Ladies Guild** is scheduled to hold their April meeting today, June 9, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

The **Parish Life Conference** for the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast is June 12-15, 2024. Those persons interested in attending should go to www.DOMSE.org for registration and more information.

Unfortunately, Fr. Peter will be attending the Parish Life Conference at the time of the feast of the Ascension of our Lord (June 13). Those persons interested in celebrating this feast should contact Fr. George Wilson at Holy Trinity Cathedral (504-282-0259).

Great Vespers is cancelled for Saturday, June 15.

The **Parish Council** is scheduled to hold their June meeting Sunday, June 16, after Divine Liturgy. All Council members please attend.

June 16 is **Father’s Day**. Those of you who wish to have prayers offered for our departed fathers, husbands, etc., may give their names to Fr. Peter. Trisagion prayers will also be offered for the departed Orthodox men of the parish.

Orthros and Liturgy are scheduled for Saturday, June 22, at 9 and 10 A.M., respectively for the **Saturday of Souls**.

The **Great Vespers of Pentecost** will be served immediately after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 23.

Orthros and Divine Liturgy for the **feast of Ss. Peter and Paul**, God willing, will be concelebrated at Holy Trinity Cathedral by Frs. George and Peter. Everyone is welcome to attend. Time TBA.

Fr. Peter will meet with the **inquirers and catechumens** of the parish on Sunday, June 30, after coffee hour. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Today’s Coffee Hour: Team 2. Thank you. **Next Week:** Team 3.