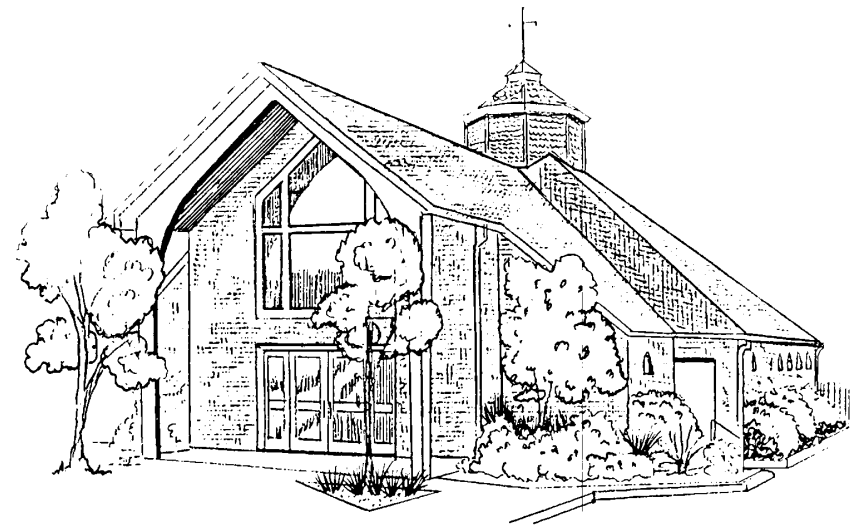


**St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church**  
**The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York**  
**And Metropolitan of all North America**  
**The Right Reverend Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop**  
**Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast**  
**The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent,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

# St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

## **The Holy Great Female Martyr Dominica [Nedelja-Kiriaki]**

During the reign of the adversaries of Christ, Emperor Diocletian and his son-in-law Maximian, there lived in Anatolia two pious and elderly souls, Dorotheus and Eusebia. They were devout Christians, wealthy but childless. Unceasing in prayer they obtained a child from God, this holy Dominica. From her childhood, Dominica consecrated herself to God restraining from everything that unruly children do. When she matured, beautiful in body and soul, many suitors came to ask for her hand in marriage but she refused them all saying that she betrothed herself to Christ the Lord and that she desires nothing more than to die as a virgin. One of the rejected suitors denounced Dominica and her parents to Emperor Diocletian as being Christians. The emperor ordered that Dominica's parents be tortured and after torturing them banished them to the town of Melitene where they died enduring much suffering for Christ. Diocletian, however, sent Dominica to Maximian to stand trial. As Dominica confirmed her faith in Christ before Maximian, he ordered that she be placed on the ground and flogged with oxen whips. After that, the emperor handed her over to the commanders, at first Hilarion and then, after his death, to Apollonius. Both of them tortured Dominica in a beastly manner in all possible ways but all was in vain. When St. Dominica lay in the prison cell, completely covered with wounds, Christ the Lord appeared to her, healed her and said: "Dominica, do not be afraid of torture, My grace is with you." And truly, the Grace of Christ saved this martyr both from fire and from wild beasts from which the godless judges thought that she would certainly meet death. Seeing the miraculous salvation of Dominica from so many deaths, many pagans believed in Christ. However, they were all beheaded. Dominica said to Apollonius: "In no manner can you turn me away from my Faith. If you throw me into the fire, I have an example in the Three Youths [Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego]; if you throw me before wild beasts, I have an example in Daniel the Prophet; if you toss me into the sea, I have an example in Jonah the Prophet; if you give me over to the sword, I will remember the honorable Forerunner [John the Baptist]; life for me is to die for Christ." Then Apollonius ordered that Dominica be beheaded. Dominica knelt on her knees, raised her hands to heaven and prayed to God that He would have mercy and save all those who would celebrate her memory and to give rest to her soul together with the souls of her parents. Upon completing her prayer, she rendered her soul to God before the sword was lowered on her head. Dominica suffered honorably and was received into eternal joy in the year 289 A.D. in Nicomedia.



**July 7, 2024**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**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:** Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 4:18-23

## Saints of the Day

Great-martyr Kyriaki of Nicomedia; Hieromartyr Evangelos, bishop of Tomi (Constanta) in Romania; New-martyr Polycarp; Venerable Thomas of Mt. Maleon; Eudokia, princess of Moscow, Akakios of Sinai, Willibald of Wessex, bishop of Eichstatt and enlightener of Bavaria.

## 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, July 6<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

## **Orthodox Thoughts from Theo, the Parish Possum**



After Pentecost, Orthodox believers do not look for great feasts until the Transfiguration. But this season truly begins with the Great Vespers served after the Pentecost Liturgy. Known as the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost, this service is meant to prepare us for the challenges of life in the coming months. It contains three prayers written by St. Basil in the 4th century. They are read aloud quickly by the priest. Since they are long and said while kneeling (in some Orthodox churches on a bare floor), it is sometimes difficult to appreciate these prayers. Yet they are powerful. They seek forgiveness of sins, guidance in keeping the commandments and salvation for those who have departed. The Kneeling Prayers are included in the Liturgikon published by the Antiochian Orthodox Church, but are also available online. During this time after Pentecost, their beautiful language is a gold mine for private devotions. From the First Prayer:

“Thou art our God, but since our days have passed in vanity, we have been stripped of thine help, we have been deprived of every defense. But emboldened by thy compassions, we call out: Remember not the sins our youth and our ignorance and cleanse thou us of our secret sins, cast us not away in time of old age; when our strength faileth, forsake us not...make us worthy to turn again unto thee, and attend to us in favor and grace.”—Theo

\*\*\*

***Spiritual Counsels...***

“He who goes about gossiping reveals secrets; therefore, do not associate with one who speaks foolishly.” Proverbs 20:19

\*\*\*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The **Ladies Guild** are scheduled to hold their July meeting on Sunday, July 14, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited.

The **Antiochian Men (AMEN)** are meeting on Sunday, July 14, after Divine Liturgy. All men of the parish are invited.

God willing, the feast of the great and holy **Prophet Elias** will be celebrated with Orthros and Divine Liturgy at 9:00 and 10:00, respectively, on Saturday morning, July 20.

God willing, Fr. Peter will attend the archdiocesan Clergy Symposium from Monday, July 22 through Friday, July 26. For any pastoral emergencies, please contact Fr. George Wilson at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 504.282.0259.

God willing, **His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS** shall visit our parish on Monday, August 5. The ladies of the parish are invited to meet with His Grace from 9-11 A.M.; the youth are invited to meet with him from 11 A.M. until 1 P.M. and have lunch with him at that time. The men are invited to meet with him from 1-3 P.M. Liturgy will be celebrated that evening for the feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord. More information to follow.

**Today's Coffee Hour:** Team 1. Thank you. **Next Week:** Team 2.