

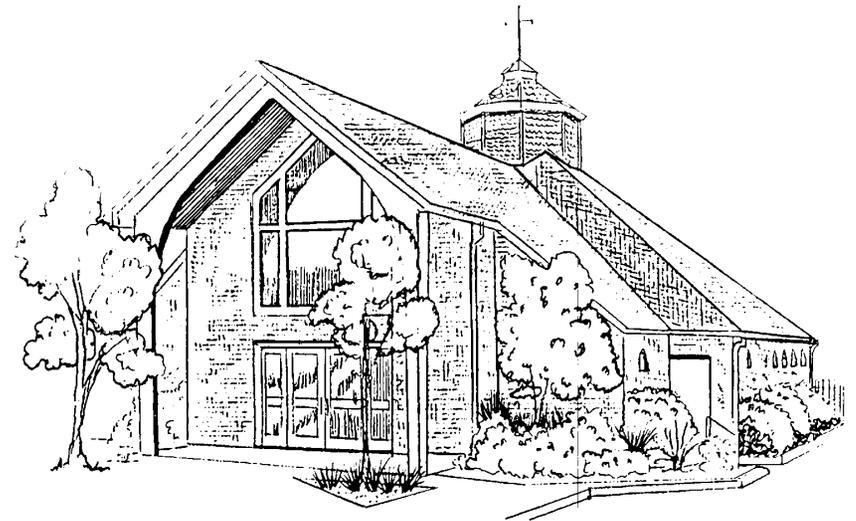
**St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church**  
**His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York**  
**And Metropolitan of all North America**  
**His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop**  
**Of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast**  
**The Very Reverend Father Peter Nugent, Pastor**  
**3916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

# St. Basil Antiochian Orthodox Church

## **The Seven Maccabees, their Mother Solomonias and Eleazar the Priest**

They all suffered for the purity of the faith of Israel under King Antiochus, called by some "Epiphanos," the "enlightened one" and by others "Epimanis" the "insane one." Because of the great sins in Jerusalem and especially the vying over priestly authority and crimes committed during the occasion of this struggle, God permitted a great calamity on the Holy City. After that, Antiochus wanted by any means to impose upon the Jews the idolatry of the Hellenes in place of their faith in the one living God and he did everything toward this goal. Assisting Antiochus in his intention were some treacherous high priests and other elders of Jerusalem. On one occasion, King Antiochus himself came to Jerusalem and ordered that all Jews eat the meat of swine, contrary to the Law of Moses, for eating pork was an apparent sign that one has disowned the faith of Israel. The elder Eleazar, a priest and one of the seventy translators of the Old Testament into the Greek language [the Septuagint] would not partake of pork. Because of that, Eleazar was tortured and burned. Returning to Antioch, the king took with him the seven sons called the Maccabees and their mother Solomonias. The seven Maccabean brothers were called: Avim, Antonius, Eleazar, Gurius, Eusebon, Achim and Marcellus. Before the eyes of their mother, the wicked king tortured the sons, one by one, ripping the skin from their faces and, afterward, casting them into the fire. They all bravely endured torture and death but they did not disown their faith. Finally, when the mother saw her last son, the three-year old in the fire, she leaped into the flames and was consumed in the fire rendering her soul to God. They all suffered honorably for the faith in the one living God about 180 years before Christ.

*from: The Prologue from Ochrid*



**August 1, 2021**  
**The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**The 6<sup>th</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... 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:** Romans 12:6-14

**Gospel Reading:** St. Matthew 9:1-8

## Saints of the Day

The procession of the Cross; The seven Maccabean youths, their mother Solomonia and Eleazar their teacher, martyrs; Venerable martyr Elessa of Kythera.

## July Financial Status Report

Dear Parishioners,

As we enter the summer months, weekly giving generally slows down and expenses sometimes exceed income. Right after we paid nearly \$15,000 for the last phase of the air conditioning repairs, we learned that our property insurance premium of \$12,500 would be more than doubled. Our insurance carrier is now charging an additional \$16,000 for a year of wind and hail coverage. We are having to pay that in monthly instalments. If you are behind in your financial commitment to the Parish, we would really appreciate it if you could catch up and maintain your weekly support.

Thank you for your cooperation.

—Rob Booms, Chairman of the Parish Council

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Monday, Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Wednesday, Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> – Paraclesis Service, 6:30 P.M.  
Thursday, Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Friday, Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Monday, Aug. 9<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Wednesday, Aug. 11<sup>th</sup> – Paraclesis Service, 6:30 P.M.  
Friday, Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 9:00 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.  
Saturday, Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> – Great Vespers & Confessions, 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 A.M.; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 A.M.

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



In the tradition of the Orthodox Church, my possum parents baptized me with the name “Theodore” (the Martyr, September 5) or Theo for short. Orthodox people are blessed in that they may celebrate both a birthday and a “Name Day.” Every saint has a designated day on the Liturgical calendar. On our Name Day, we honor the Saint for whom we were named at Baptism or Chrismation. We venerate the saint’s icon and pray the saint’s troparion and kontakion if there is one. After the Liturgy, Fr. Peter asks persons with a Name Day to come forward and receive a blessing. We then greet the person with “May your name be healthy and well.” The relationship with our Name Saint is especially important for our spiritual health and should be fostered by faithful observance of the Name Day. If the church does not have your saint’s icon on the walls, please consider purchasing a small one so that we can add it to the “great cloud of witnesses” who surround us every Sunday. God bless all — Theo

\*\*\*

## ***Spiritual Counsels...***

“Better have little and with it virtue, than great revenues and no right to them.” – Proverbs 16:8

\*\*\*

**Today's Ushers:** Mihai Leustean. **Next Week:** Dwight Gillis.

**Today's coffee hour:** Team 1. **Next Sunday:** Team 2.



### *The Bookstore Bee*

This month in St. Basil's bookstore, we hope you notice the wide variety of books we have in our bookcases, from learning more about the Orthodox faith and books for our new catechumens to learning more on the Divine Liturgy or lives of the saints. The bookstore has also donated quite a few books to our parish library. **Charles and Yazmin Incaprera** have graciously taken the time to revamp the library and put it back in order. If you have any questions on ordering books from the bookstore or checking out books from the library, please see **April Pituch**.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

We starve this week (except for Friday).

The **Dormition Fast** begins Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 Friday, Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>, for the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, and an allowance for alcohol and oil on Saturdays and Sundays. The fast ends with the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos on Sunday, August 15.

Fr. Peter would like to meet with all **inquirers and catechumens** during coffee hour today. Please get your food and drinks and meet with him in the large classroom. Thank you.

The altar candle is sponsored today by **Chris Chedid** for the repose of the souls of **Jamal Chedid, Milad Chedid, Ramzi Chedid, Cristobal Rugama** and **Cristobal-Jose Rugama**. May their memory be eternal.

God willing, on Monday, Aug. 2, we shall celebrate the **feast of the transfer of the relics of Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Wednesday, Aug. 4, a **Paraclesis Service to the Mother of God** will be served. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Thursday, Aug. 5, we shall celebrate the **forefeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Friday, Aug. 6, we shall celebrate the **feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, we shall have the **blessing of the grapes** on Friday, Aug. 6. Those persons who wish to bring grapes (or other fruits) to be blessed are invited to do so.

The **Ladies Guild** is scheduled to hold their August meeting next Sunday, Aug. 8, after Divine Liturgy. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

God willing, on Monday, Aug. 9, we shall celebrate the **feast of St. Herman of Alaska** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Wednesday, Aug. 11, a **Paraclesis Service to the Mother of God** will be served. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

God willing, on Friday, Aug. 13, we shall celebrate the **leave-taking of the feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord** with Orthros and Divine Liturgy. Please see the "Worship Schedule" for times.

As of July 30, 2021, 35 pledges were received for 2021 totaling \$78,874. The donations for June 2021 totaled \$17,090.50. The expenses were \$18,990.47 for an end-of-month balance of \$20,058.56. Thank you.

Beloved in Christ,

Please accept my gratitude regarding your kind remembrance of our 22 years together in the 44<sup>th</sup> year of our dear-to-Christ parish. As I mentioned last Sunday, thank you for your prayers and patience over these many years. There is no way I could have served you without our Lord's grace and the kindness and love you've shown. Please know that you are very dear to me and have a place in my heart.

May God grant us many more years together.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Fr. Peter