

**SAINT BASIL THE GREAT
ORTHODOX CHURCH**



**205 Highland Avenue
Des Peres, MO 63122**

**A parish of the
Diocese of Chicago and Mid-America
Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia**

**Archpriest Sergii Alekseev, Parish Rector
Archpriest Martin Swanson, Dean
Protopresbyter-Stavrophor Radomir Chkautovich
Deacon Ephraim Galloway
Deacon Thomas Nichols**

Address From Archbishop Peter

I am not traveling now because of the pandemic, so I have sent Archpriest Victor Trotskyy as my representative [to] mark Fr. Martin's retirement as your Rector of many years. Fr. Martin has accomplished a lot as your Rector, but at his request I have granted him retirement and appointed Fr. Sergii as your new Rector. I feel Fr. Sergii will be a worthy successor to Fr. Martin. Every priest has his own style, and should Fr. Sergii do something different than Fr. Martin did I hope that you will show him the same love and obedience that you have shown to Fr. Martin all these years.

I would like to congratulate Fr. Martin on receiving the Synod Order of the Kursk Icon 3rd Degree in Chicago on the feast day of the cathedral earlier this week. And to congratulate Fr. Sergii on being elevated to Archpriest that same day. Fr. Martin will remain Dean of the 5th Deanery; Fr. Sergii has been appointed his assistant.

May the Lord bless your celebration, and may He continue to guide you all to salvation under the guidance of Fr. Sergii as your new Rector.

With Love in our Lord Jesus Christ,
Archbishop Peter of Chicago and Mid-America



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Schedule of Services

- **Righteous John of Kronstadt**
Sun. Nov. 1 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- **Kazan Icon of the Mother of God**
Tues. Nov. 3 6 p.m. Vigil
Wed. Nov. 4 8 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- **Demetrius Memorial Saturday**
Sat. Nov. 7 9 a.m. Panihida
- **Great Martyr Demetrius**
Sat. Nov. 7 5 p.m. Vigil
Sun. Nov. 8 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- **Venerable Job of Pochaev**
Mon. Nov. 9 6 p.m. Vigil
Tues. Nov. 10 8 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- **Martyrs Akindynos, Pegasus and others**
Sat. Nov. 14 5 p.m. Vigil
Sun. Nov. 15 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- **Synaxis of Archangel Michael**
Fri. Nov. 20 6 p.m. Vigil
Sat. Nov. 21 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- **Holy Hierarch Nektarios of Aegina**
Sat. Nov. 21 5 p.m. Vigil
Sun. Nov. 22 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- **St Martin of Tours and St Stephen of Decani**
Mon. Nov. 23 6 p.m. Vespers and Matins
Tues. Nov. 24 8 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- **Holy Hierarch John Chrysostom**
Thurs. Nov. 26 8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (served in the monastery in House Springs, MO)
- **Apostle Matthew**
Sat. Nov. 28 5 p.m. Vigil
Sun. Nov. 29 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Archimandrite Seraphim – Health
Archpriest Andrei Papkov – Recovery
Nadia Danett – Health
Marushka (Mary) Royce – Health
Catechumen Jackie (Xenia) Peck – Health

Keep our parishioners, and those who ask us to pray for them in your prayers this month. Contact Fr. Sergii to have yourself or your loved ones added to the parish prayer list. Let one of the Fathers know if you, a member of your family, or a friend is ill or hospitalized so that appropriate prayers and visits can be arranged. Please note: Hospitals do not notify clergy of patients, even if you list yourself as a parish member.

Choir Practice

All parishioners are welcome to join the choir. All voices are needed. Choir practice takes place weekly on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at the church. However, in order to uphold diocesan policy and in keeping with the St. Louis county ordinances issued to restrict Coronavirus spread, the people attending choir practice should practice social distancing.

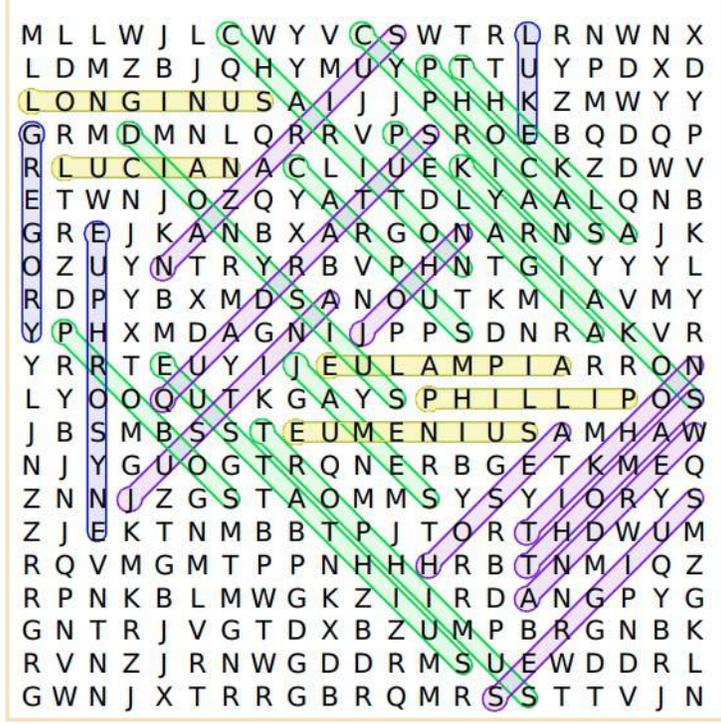
Use eScrip and Amazon Smile Rebates

It costs \$0 and benefits the parish. Get cards at the candle counter. Sign up for the Amazon rebate program to have a portion of your Amazon purchase donated by Amazon to the parish. Please find sign up instructions next to the staircase in the hall.

St. Basil's Parish Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/SaintBasiltheGreatSTLMO>

Check out our Facebook Fanpage for daily edification and interesting updates. Like our page to have us appear in your Facebook Newsfeed.

October Search Answers



Treasury Report

Parish Treasurer Basil VanRonzelen

This month I want to briefly touch on a subject that has come up a few times recently. Several parishioners have asked me if it is possible to make a donation to a specific area or for a specific use. The answer to this question is both yes and no. The “no” simply addresses the fact that our parish has three separate accounts into which donations are deposited and our accounting methodology is cash based. Simply, donations are deposited into one of three of the accounts. These accounts are a checking account, a savings account, and a building fund account. 99% of the time donations are deposited in the checking account and then any needed transfers to the other two can be made internally. When I update the parish books each week, cash flows are made into and out of that account. For instance, because trapeza expenses are paid from our checking account, any donations “earmarked” for trapeza are simply deposited in the checking account and accounted for as a general cash donation.

Now, our parish expense accounts are subdivided into various areas, with varying levels of activity and magnitudes of cash flows. In this respect, we are able to direct donations if given proper notice. I keep a separate ledger for recording directed donations. Each expense account has a running total of what has been directed to it and by whom so that certain expenses that require significant capital accumulation are not accidentally underfunded. If we ever come short for a particular expense account, undirected funds can be used to cover the expense. One expense in particular that has gained attention is the fund for the new parish hall and chapel. This is obviously a major capital expenditure that requires diligent accounting of donations to ensure that funds designated for that project are not spent in error on other things. If you ever wish to make a directed donation, please feel free to approach me and let me know how you wish to direct it. A note included with the cash or check would be greatly appreciated also. As always, I want to end by saying that this is our parish and its financial health depends on each one of us.

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Archpriest Martin Retires as Rector

Since his priestly ordination in 1983, Fr. Martin has worked tirelessly and diligently to care for his flock entrusted to him by God at St. Basil's Orthodox Church and for Orthodox Christians around the world. Fr. Martin is known and loved for being an attentive pastor in the smallest details of parish life, to the grand vision of creating the Pastoral School of Chicago and Mid-America which is now an internationally known and reputable online/distance learning seminary. Fr. Martin nurtured the parish of St. Basil's from its humble origins in a 400 sq. ft. converted garage to a blossoming newly built temple with ample room to grow. Although Fr. Martin is retiring as rector of St. Basil's, he will still be an active part of the services and parish council as well as instructing catechumens. On October 18th, Archpriest Viktor Trotsky traveled from the Dormition Cathedral in Detroit to act as a representative on behalf of Archbishop Peter. St. Basil's also presented Fr. Martin with a gift of a jeweled cross as a thank you for the years of dedication and work for the parish.



Fr. Sergii Elevated to Archpriest

Our ruling hierarch, Archbishop Peter, recently elevated our beloved priest, Fr. Sergii, to the rank of archpriest during the Divine Liturgy of the patronal feast of the diocesan cathedral in Chicago on October 14 (the Feast of the Holy Protection). At the same time, Archbishop Peter also formally declared Fr. Sergii the rector of St. Basil's, in recognition of Fr. Martin's desire to step down from the position. At Fr. Sergii's elevation, the gathered clergy and laity triumphantly declared Axios! Axios! Axios! Let us too, the faithful of St. Basil's, also repeat these words in our own hearts, and let us offer Fr. Sergii our obedience and our prayers to God as he undertakes his new role as rector.





Young Parishioners Star in "Three Heroes"

On Saturday, October 10th, many of the children from St. Basil's participated in a youth production of "три богатыря" or "Three Heroes". Parishioner Tatiana Pateg coordinated the play along with the help of many other parishioners. The children acted out scenes describing the miraculous healing of a paralyzed young man who later brought victory to his homeland and who, along with his two warrior comrades, saved the villagers from a mischievous whistler. The children enjoyed learning their roles and proudly performed the parts they had worked so hard to learn all summer.



Ask Your Priest

Q: What are the significance of the extra services and prayers (molebens, panihidas, akathists, prosphora) that can be requested for Orthodox Christians? I am a convert and I am not sure what is available for me to use to pray for Orthodox friends and family or even saints? Which services/prayers are appropriate for who?

A: Moleben is a service of supplication, i.e. a service at which we ask God, His Most Pure Mother or saints for help, for health and for blessings in different circumstances. The range of needs

when we would ask for God's help is virtually endless. A moleben can be served in the beginning of the New Year, before beginning of instruction of children (before the school year), at the time of civil strife, during a pestilence, during a drought or excessive rain, for a sick person and for the one who is about to travel, and so on and so forth. Molebens are served when we ask God to bless us and the things which we use: homes, icons, cars, airplanes, boats, ponds with fish, livestock, paschal foods, etc. There is a moleben of thanksgiving in which we thank God for being with us and for answering our prayers. Most frequently people ask for the moleben of thanksgiving and for the moleben to the Mother of God in which we pray for ourselves and for whomever we wish.

Panihida is a memorial service and is served for departed Orthodox Christians. To prayerfully remember a saint, we can serve a moleben to him or read an akathist composed in his honor.

Akathist is a genre of hymnography. The original akathist was composed by Venerable Roman in the 6th century to honor the Mother of God. Later, other akathists were composed to sing glory to God, to the Mother of God and to saints. Whereas molebens and panihidas are served by priests, akathists can be read both in church in the context of a moleben or at home by anyone.

Now about prosphoras. A prosphora is sent into the altar along with a list of names of Orthodox Christians (only the baptismal names in their full form are written down, no last names). The list with the prosphora is given to the priest who reads the names on the list and takes a tiny particle for each name from the prosphora (one prosphora can be used to commemorate many names) with the prayer: "Save and have mercy, O Lord, upon Thy servants (names)", if for the living, or "Give rest, O Lord, to the souls of Thy departed servants (names)", if for the departed. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, all those particles (usually there are hundreds of them) are placed into the Holy Chalice with the Precious Blood of Christ and the following prayer is said: "Wash away, O Lord, the sins of all those commemorated here with Thy precious Blood, through the prayers of Thy saints". Only the names of the Orthodox Christians may be submitted for the commemoration. The prosphoras with the particle removed can be reverently eaten after the Divine Liturgy, or with a prayer on any morning before any other food. Of course, if we are preparing to receive the Holy Communion that day, we may neither eat the prosphora nor drink the Holy Water before we commune.

November Name That Saint

Read the paragraphs below and try to name the saint or saints described in the content.

• This saint was born in Antioch in the year 354 A.D. Studying Greek philosophy, this saint became disgusted with Hellenic paganism and adopted the Christian Faith as the one and all-embracing truth. Meletius, Patriarch of Antioch, baptized him, and his parents also subsequently received baptism. Following his parents' repose, this saint was tonsured a monk and lived a strict life of asceticism. He then wrote a book, *On the Priesthood*, after which the Holy Apostles John and Peter appeared to him, and prophesied that he would have a life of great service, great grace and great suffering. When he was to be ordained a priest, an angel of God appeared simultaneously to him and to Patriarch Flavian (Meletius's successor). While the patriarch was ordaining this saint, a shining white dove was seen hovering over his head. Glorified for his wisdom, asceticism and power of words, this saint was chosen as Patriarch of Constantinople at the behest of Emperor Arcadius. As patriarch, he governed the Church for six years with unequalled zeal and wisdom. He sent missionaries to the pagan Celts and Scythians and eradicated simony in the Church, deposing many bishops guilty of this vice. He extended the charitable works of the Church and wrote a special order of the Divine Liturgy. He shamed the heretics, denounced Empress Eudoxia, interpreted Holy Scripture with his golden mind and tongue, and bequeathed the Church many precious books of his homilies. The people glorified him, the envious loathed him, and the Empress, on two occasions, sent him into exile. This saint spent three years in exile, and reposed as an exile on the Feast of the Elevation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross, September 14, 407 A.D., in the town of Comana in Georgia. Before his repose, the Holy Apostles John and Peter appeared to him again, as did the Holy Martyr Basiliscus in whose church he received Communion for the last time. His last words were, "Glory be to God for all things," and with that, the soul of the golden-mouthed patriarch was taken into Paradise. This saint's head reposes in the Church of the Dormition in Moscow, and his body reposes in the Vatican in Rome.