



A Beautiful Pascha



This year's Holy Week and Pascha was a wonderful experience for all who attended. It was inspiring to see our Church filled with so many people and the Church decorated so beautifully with flowers. As many of you know, we had a capacity

crowd on Palm Sunday. We had very large crowds for both of the Wed. Holy Unction Sacraments. And if you were there on Holy Friday evening, you saw that we had about 225 people attend the Epitaphios Service. Anastasi on Saturday evening was the pinnacle of Holy Week. Most people stayed for the Divine Liturgy and for the dinner following. The hall upstairs was completely full, with everyone enjoying lamb, magiarista, loukaniko, spanakopita, tsouraki, wine, cheese, etc.

Holy Week and all the programs that take place during this week present us with a tremendous amount of work, of which none would get done without all our dedicated volunteers. The two Holy Friday retreats offered all our kids activities and teachings that make Holy Friday a very special day for them. During the day retreat, the kids were offered lunch, did crafts projects, prepared the candles for that evening, attended the afternoon service and learned about the meaning of Holy Friday. In the evening, our Goya had a Lenten dinner, organized skits where they acted out the Gospel readings from Holy Wednesday, watched movies and raised over \$800 for St. Innocent Orphanage.

During the week, you may have witnessed volunteers preparing the Church for each service, altar boys serving, the narthex being attended to, readers organized and our choir chanting the services. The ladies did a great job with the flowers and icon decorating for each night as well as for the Kouvouklion and Epitaphio. There is so much that goes into each day of Holy Week that it takes a small army of faithful parishioners to tend to everything.

Let all of us thank all those people who prepared the Church each day, decorated icons for the services, served as altar boys, cleaned up each day, served food on Palm Sunday, tied palms on Sat. of Lazarus, led and helped with our Holy Friday retreats, organized the money each day, organized the Myrrh-bearers, volunteered in the narthex, read during the services, chanted the hymns, sold candles, stuffed envelopes, mailed out the Easter card, made food for the dinner on Saturday night, gave extra donations, decorated and cleaned up the Epitaphios, carried the Epitaphios on Friday night,

and all those volunteers that came and offered their services for anything we needed. You all made it a truly Beautiful Pascha Week. All these efforts have brought us once again to the message of Pascha. The message of Christ's crucifixion on the Cross and His Resurrection are the greatest of God's saving acts. Christ's victory on the Cross over the powers of sin and death are what inspires St. Paul's words; "Death is destroyed .. Victory is complete! Death, where is your victory? Where is your power to hurt?" (1 Cor 15:54 - 55) My prayer is that the message of Pascha and the warmth of the community of St. Basil's Church remain in your hearts and minds.

Christos Anesti / Christ is Risen ! *Fr. Bill Tragus*



- May
- Wed 7:** Greek School 3:30 p.m.
 - Thur 8:** Prime Timers' Lunch 1:00 p.m.
 - Sun 11:** Mother's Day special coffee hour
 - Tues 13:** Parish Council 7:15 p.m.
 - Wed 14:** Greek School 3:30 p.m.
 - Sun 18:** General Assembly 12:00 noon
* Goya meeting 12:00 noon
 - Tues 20:** Women's Bible Study 10:20 a.m.
 - Wed 21:** Greek School 3:30 p.m.
 - Sat 24:** Night at the Club 10 Yr. Anniv.
 - Thur 29:** Liturgy 9:30 am Ascension
 - Sun June 1:** Greek School Graduation 11:30



President's Message

Christos Anesti to all from the Parish Council –

Over the past 40 days of Lent our St. Basil Church experienced many wonderful fellowship and spiritual events. **Holy Week and Pascha was a true testament to how much you all love our church.** We should all be proud of our St. Basil Church. I know I am. Many of us have been part of larger parishes with lots of volunteers that take care of everything. In a smaller mission church, it takes all of us to support these events. During Lent it was wonderful to see everyone step up and support all the details to make the services and community events a success. We truly have created a special parish because of our passion for God and each other. **On behalf of the Parish Council, we want to THANK ALL OF YOU that attended and supported these events.**

One of these was the Stewardship Sunday and Luncheon. During the discussion after church services, we talked about the **Church Vision, 2014 Goals and Objectives and Stewardship Program.** Perhaps the most important **Goal is to: Provide greater experiences and opportunities for growth in personal faith and community fellowship.** This includes expanding our ministries, serving the spiritual needs of the parish and offering more opportunities to grow our fellowship. It also means growing our parish by serving as missionaries for our Church and the Greek Orthodox faith.

Another key objective we discussed is Communication. I spoke about how important it is to reach out to all of you more often to let you know how we are doing with our vision, stewardship, finances and progress in reaching the above Goal. Many of you have come to members of the Parish Council and asked questions about all of these topics, which shows that you care about our St. Basil Church.

So, in response **the Parish Council will be hosting a General Assembly meeting after church on May 17** to address all of these topics. It is important that you know how we are doing to maintain the operation and growth of our Church. Please come and join us to hear how we all need to work together to fulfill our dreams for St. Basil Church.

Thank you and God Bless!

Denny Papilion, Parish Council President

Goya Meeting ~ Sun. May 18

7th - 12th grade

Our next Goya Meeting is May 18th after church. We usually meet the 2nd Sunday of the month. To avoid a conflict with Mother's day, we will meet Mat 18th. We will discuss what we raised for St. Innocent Orphanage, Goya Volleyball Tournament & Tour L.A. w/ Fr. Bill.

Contact: Kelly Parissis: kparissis@gmail.com

Prime Timers ~ Thur. May 8th: Tastes of Greece 1:00 p.m.
30012 Crown Valley Pkwy, Laguna Niguel (949) 495 - 2244.
For info, contact Jim Constantine (949) 218 - 7262.

Women's Bible Study ~ Tues. May 20th ~ 10:20 - 11:30 a.m.

Join us for our Women's Bible Study. Enjoy a lively discussion on the faith, fellowship, coffee and pastries. All are welcome. Bring a friend. Non-Orthodox Christians are welcome. If you would like to bring something, please contact Fr. Bill at frbill@stbasiloc.org

MINISTRY CONTACTS

- Parish Council:** Denny Papilion: dennis.papilion@urs.com
Sunday School: Anna-Nicole: annanicole777@gmail.com
Greek School: Irene Basdakis: lawyerirene@hotmail.com
GOYA: Kelly Parissis: kparissis@gmail.com
Greek Dance: Lia Vardakostas: lia1@cox.net
Altar Boys: Fr. Bill: frbill@stbasiloc.org
Stewardship: Katie Van Harten: vanhartenk@msn.com
Ladies' Aux: Fran Karnazes: yiyayiafran@icloud.com
AHEPA: Mike A: mpa@centerpointinsurance.com
Prime Timers: Jim Constantine: (949) 218 - 7262.
Chanting: Fr. Bill: frbill@stbasiloc.org
Vacation Ch. Scl: Pres. Mia: presmia@yahoo.com
Apokries: Steve Dafnis: steved@quizglass.com
4th of July: Sam K.: sam.konugres@sbcglobal.net
Parish Directory: office@stbasiloc.org
Basketball: Sam K.: sam.konugres@sbcglobal.net

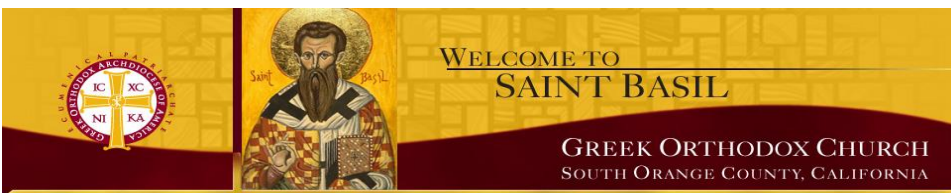




SUN MAY 18TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

St. Basil Parish General Assembly Meeting

The Parish Council will be hosting a General Assembly meeting on May 18th to address and discuss the most vital topics that will let you know how we are doing to maintain the operation and growth of our Church.



- CHURCH VISION
- 2014 GOALS
- 2014 OBJECTIVES
- STEWARDSHIP & MINISTRIES
- COMMUNICATION

A Light Lunch Will Be Served Upstairs During the Meeting

May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Sunday of the Myrrh Bearers	5	6	7 Greek School 3:30 p.m.	8 Prime Timers' Lunch Tastes of Greece 1:00 p.m.	9	10
11 Mother's Day Special Coffee Hour	12	13 Parish Council 7:15 p.m.	14 Greek School 3:30 p.m.	15	16	17
18 General Assembly 12:00 noon Goya Meeting 12:00 noon	19	20 Women's Bible Study 10:20	21 Greek School 3:30 p.m.	22	23	24 10 Year Anniversary Night at the Club 6:30 p.m.
25	26	27	28 Greek School 3:30 p.m.	29 Liturgy Holy Ascension 9:30 a.m.	30	31
June 1 Greek School Graduation						