

LIVING WATER

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral ❖ Mar 2023



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

One of the most difficult things for a modern Orthodox Christian to do is hold two opposing ideas together in tension. Our minds want to hone in on either one reality or the other. We mistake facticity for truth, often overlooking the fact that our religion is entirely based on paradox: a God who is both one and three; a Lord who is both fully God and fully Man; our Lady, bound by time and space, who becomes the dwelling place of the boundless Creator.

The period of the Great Fast cannot be understood or rightly participated in unless it's approached as a tension between light and darkness. On the one hand, beginning with the Sunday of the Expulsion from Paradise, we are reminded of the darkness of sin, of the brokenness of human beings, and of the constant need for repentance. There is a heaviness to the liturgical cycle, a certain gloom to the hymns.

Yet at the same time, the entire movement of Lent is shaped by a light at the end of the road. We are frequently reminded of the resurrection of Christ, and therefore also of our own future and glorious resurrection. Throughout this season there is a brightness juxtaposed against the darkness. We mourn our sins, our selfishness, the bleakness and dreariness of this life, while simultaneously tasting of joy and peace in our souls, knowing that our God is willing and able to forgive us. These two oppositions must be held in perfect tension.

The balance of darkness and light is not

something reserved solely for Lent: it should shape our daily lives as Christians. There is a great danger in moving too close to either pole. When we focus on the darkness, we become weighed down with shame and despair. Life seems hopeless and futile, and our labors seem all in vain. But if we fixate only on the positive, we delude ourselves. We run from the seriousness of life, and fail to prepare ourselves properly for the dread judgment seat of Christ.

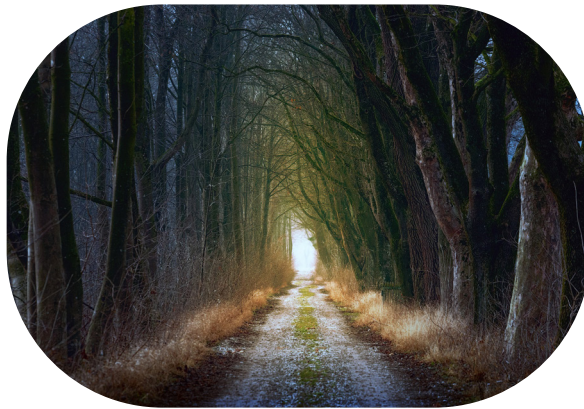
There are ways in which we can actively hold light and darkness in tension. Each day, we should examine our sins, even those deep and hidden desires that we feel uncomfortable to admit to ourselves. We must allow the Holy Spirit to convict our hearts and tear down our facades. When we do this, and then turn to God in repentance, we embrace the darkness with a purpose.

But we must not only make account of our sins, but of our blessings as well. By spending time daily considering the many gifts we have received from God—food, shelter, health, our family and friends, even the air we breathe—our gratitude invites grace and inspires us to joy. Such is necessary to balance the weight of our sinfulness.

Let this Great Fast be a teacher to us, training us how to live throughout the year.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name of the author, written in a cursive style.





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**Offering the Living Water
to Southeast Florida.**

Visit our website for news, announcements
and changes to our schedule.

www.OrthodoxMiami.org

Announcements

✦ *Clean Week*

Lent officially starts Feb 27 with services every night at 7 PM through March 3. Check the calendar for more info.

✦ *Sunday Evening Lenten Vespers*

Two special Lenten Vespers will be served for our region: March 12 at St Herman Church (Lake Worth) and March 26 at St Demetrius Church (Naples).

✦ *Adult Education*

There will be three inquirer classes during Lent: Mar 9, 16, and 23 at 7 PM. Topics include Bible interpretation and Orthodox theology. Both inquirers and regular parish members are encouraged to attend. Catechism begins April 27.

Clergy

Fr. Joseph Lucas, PhD., MDiv.
*Rector of the Cathedral
Dean of South Florida*

Dn. Carlos Miranda, MDiv.

Minor Orders

Sbdn. Michael Richards
Rdr. Christopher Herbert
Rdr. Anthony Brian Allen
Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk
Rdr. Artem Timofeev

Retired Attached

Fr. Philip Reese
Fr. Michael Zaparyniuk
Fr. Leonid Palceski

Parish Council

Rdr Nilus Wawerczyk - Warden, Treasurer
Nicole Mary Richards - Secretary
Rdr Anthony Brian Allen - Council Member
Duane Patrick Clarke - Council Member
Vernon Andrew Lee - Council Member
William Wusylko - Council Member
Henry Campos - Social Media Manager

Choir

Elena Voronkova - Director

Orthodox Book Center

Rdr Nilus Wawerczyk - Director

Financial Secretary

J. Thomas Hornsey

Office Secretary

Hope Petipren

Prayer List for Healing

Bianca Iulia Goean / Ayesha Doten
Elena Voronkova / Karen Budowski
Norma Skuby / Vernon Lee
Edward White / Georgette Hartner
Antonio & Nicole Nicodemo
Catherine and Elena Morris
Georgina Nikolic / Mary Perkins
Angela Allen / Joshua Herbert



“Be ashamed when you sin,
do not be ashamed when you
repent. Sin is the wound,
repentance is the medicine.
Sin is followed by shame;
repentance is followed by
boldness. However, Satan
has overturned this order
and given boldness to sin
and shame to repentance.”

- St John Chrysostom

March Birthdays

- 2 Rdr. Christopher Herbert
- 9 Zoe Lissette Doten
- 11 Rafael Lucas
- 12 Josiah Heredia
- 13 Jean Griffin
- 15 Gianna Gallo
- 18 Andrea Jammes
- 19 Richard Fernandez
- 25 James Lowrey
- 25 Hope Petipren
- 26 Anastasia Pineros
- 28 Olga Balutina

March Anniversaries

- 14 Luis & Yanexis Gallo

Wish List

*Manischewitz Concord Grape Wine
for Zapivka (after communion)*

Olive Oil for Lamps

*Winn Dixie / Publix Gift-Cards
for the Needy*

Books or Rolls of Stamps

Costco Colombian Coffee

Creamers and 1/2 & 1/2 for Agape Hour

*Home Depot Gift Cards
for Parish Gardening / Tools*