

LIVING WATER

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



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

This month of April is split evenly between the final weeks of Lent, and the jubilant days of Pascha. It is a month of half fast, half feast. Thus it is a perfect sample of what the Orthodox Christian life is always about.

There are two extreme tendencies among modern Christians regarding the spiritual life that are both a distortion of our faith. The first sees the world as entirely doomed. In this paradigm, life is seen as tedious or dismal. Everyday is like a strict fast, where self-denial becomes a disdain for the world God has created. Of course, there have been hermits who have left the world to face their passions and be healed. But they did so precisely so that they could become vessels of sorrowful joy as they prayed for all mankind.

The other extreme is to think that Christians are supposed to be happy and exuberant all the time. For them, the solemn days of fasting and the important work of self-denial are thought to contradict the Gospel and the proclamation of the heavenly kingdom. Yet they fail to see that we Christians still struggle with temptation and demonic deception. We still wrestle with our “old man,” and therefore

must take seriously what the Church teaches us about moderation and sobriety.

The middle way between these two poles is perfectly expressed in our Orthodox calendar. We are given periods of fasting, solemn days to focus on repentance in order to recognize our own sins and the captivity of the world. By limiting ourselves and increasing the rigor of our prayer we strive for forgiveness and seek to acquire divine humility. But we are also given periods of feasting: a time to rejoice in God’s blessings, a time to celebrate the gift of salvation he offers us. Through the feast we are able to experience what life is like when God conquers sin and proclaims his creation to be “good” once more.

Fasting and feasting, sorrow and joy—this is the way of a Christian. Our calendar prepares us to engage the present world as it actually is, not as we want it to be. And now that we are concluding the somber days of Lent, let us prepare for the glorious appearing of the risen Bridegroom who invites us to his recline at his eternal banquet.

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

✠ *Holy Unction*

A general service of Holy Unction for healing will be served on April 7 at 7 PM.

✠ *Paschal Open House*

Agape Vespers for Pascha will be on Sunday, April 16 at 2 PM; followed by our Open House Potluck and an egg-hunt for the children. The "One Blood" truck will also be present for those willing to donate to help with the blood shortage.

✠ *St Thomas Sunday / Grave Blessing*

A memorial (panichida) will be served at our Orthodox section of Vista Memorial Cemetery Gardens (Red Road in Miami Lakes) on Sunday, April 23 at 2 PM.

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



“Visit the sick,
console the distressed,
and do not make your
longing for prayer a
pretext for turning
away from anyone
who asks for your help;
for love is greater
than prayer.”

- St Symeon the New Theologian

April Birthdays

- 3 George Frisk
- 3 Jared Ross
- 5 Valerie Doten
- 12 Violet Lowrey
- 14 Charles Griffin
- 16 SDn. Michael Richards
- 22 Mia Angelina Campos
- 23 David Waite

April Anniversaries

- 3 Dn. Carlos & Dalia Miranda
- 25 Duane & Christine Clarke

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*