

LIVING WATER

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral ❖ Jan 2024



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Many Orthodox Christians are unaware of what an important figure St Basil the Great was for the early Church. As an hierarch, he helped shore up the administrative gaps in Asia Minor by recruiting anti-Arian bishops for sees. As a theologian, he left us a large body of writings, the most famous of which being his defense of the divinity of the Holy Spirit. He penned the Anaphora for the Liturgy named after him; and also created a monastic rule for living in community which became the inspiration for St Benedict's famous rule.

One of St Basil's most important endeavors, not often mentioned, is his invention of the public hospital. He expanded on the idea of a soup kitchen that feeds the poor by addressing the need for providing medical assistance to those who cannot afford doctors. Over several years, he established an institution that would offer food, sleeping quarters, and medical treatment—primarily to lepers, but also to others in need of care. Both physicians and clergy volunteered at this facility which became the blueprint for the modern hospital.

St Basil may be exceptional in regard to his charitable work, but such selflessness is indicative of all the saints. Through their words and actions we are taught the importance of almsgiving, of taking care of those in need, and of pursuing good works in the name of Jesus Christ. It could even be said that an Orthodox Christianity without charity

is no Christianity at all.

Today, many of us are jaded when it comes to the thought of charity. We may be quick to retort that the government already takes care of those in need (and thus sound like Scrooge when he quipped, "Are there no prisons...[and] workhouses?"). Or we may be concerned that our resources be used to subsidize vice, such as drunkenness or drug addiction. Yet this can easily become an excuse not to give at all. The question for a Christian is not "should I give" but rather "how should I give."



Our parish has been gifted with so much. We have a beautiful temple; and each Sunday we experience sublime worship and participate in meaningful fellowship. But one aspect we are lacking in, as a community, is charity. Over the years there have been many false starts and short term efforts; but nothing like a permanent ministry has been established.

While some make New Year's resolutions to lose weight or become more successful, let us take a cue from St. Basil and endeavor to establish more prominent and permanent charitable projects that will address the needs of those in our local neighborhoods, as well as those abroad.

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

✠ *Feast of St. Basil the Great*
Monday, January 1 is the feast of St. Basil the Great. Divine Liturgy is at 10 AM, followed by the cutting and distribution of the Vasilopita, a traditional cake made in honor of the saint.

✠ *Parish Patronal Feastday*
The Vigil for Theophany, the official feastday of our parish, will be on Friday, January 5 at 6 PM, followed by the Divine Liturgy at 8 PM. The Great blessing of Water will take place after Liturgy on Sunday, January 7, followed by a procession and blessing of the temple.

Clergy

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

Dn. Carlos Miranda, MDiv.

Minor Orders

Sbdn. Michael Richards
Rdr. Anthony Brian Allen
Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk
Rdr. Anthony Saborio

Retired Attached

Fr. Michael Zaparyniuk
Fr. Leonid Palceski

Parish Council

Rdr Nilus Wawerczyk - Warden, Treasurer
Henry Campos - Social Media Manager
Rdr Anthony Brian Allen - Council Member
Duane Patrick Clarke - Council Member
William Wusylko - Council Member
Leah Duboy - Council Member
Gabriel Ruiz - Council Member

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 Vera Budowski
Norma Skuby / Vernon Andrew Lee
Edward White / Georgette Hartner
Catherine and Elena Morris
Georgina Nikolic / Mary Perkins
Angela Allen / Josiah Heredia
Tatiana Drake / George Frisk



“There is still time for
endurance, time for
patience, time for
healing, time for
change. Have you
slipped? Rise up.
Have you sinned?
Cease. Do not stand
among sinners,
but leap aside.”

- St Basil the Great

January Birthdays

6 Ronald (Paisios) DeLa Vega
9 Norma Skuby
10 Emma Lowrey
11 Jennifer Lemieux
13 Ricardo (Athanasius) Sarmiento
25 Hugo Ortiz
27 Ayesha Doten
27 Stephene (Mary) Wawerczyk

Wish List

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

*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

*Home Depot Gift Cards
for Parish Gardening / Tools*