

LIVING WATER

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



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

The lenten journey to Pascha can seem arduous, like climbing a steep mountain to reach the summit. Six weeks of asceticism and increased liturgical attendance is then capped by Holy Week—yet another cycle of prayer and fasting. We gradually descend into the depths of humility, into darkness, as we weep outside the tomb of our Lord during the service of Lamentations. We witness the death of God, and for a moment all seems bleak. But then, a glimmer of hope: we read the prophecy of Ezekiel, and receive a vision of dry bones coming back to life. Our expectation waxes into joy on Saturday morning as we celebrate our Lord's harrowing of Hades.

Our life is not meant to be a vale of tears, a stark reality we pray to be released from. Unlike some modern, distorted forms of Christianity, we do not place our hope on "dying and going to heaven." Rather, we pray (as our Lord instructed us), "Your kingdom come." While it is true that we mourn the brokenness of the world around us, and even our own plight when we fall into sin, we must constantly remember that Jesus Christ has already conquered evil: "In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

For this reason, it has often been said that the Great Fast is a time of "bright sadness," a juxtaposition between repentance and redemption, between Golgotha and Olivet. It is an annual reminder that the life we seek is found only through a voluntary death here and now. We must be willing to descend into the darkness with our Lord to be raised up with him on the third day. Thus, every Lent recapitulates our baptism. As St Paul writes, "Therefore we were buried with him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Rom 6:4).



If we desire to fully participate in this season, and to ensure that our asceticism is transformative, it

is vital we hold two realities in tension. Yes, we are sinners in need of salvation; but salvation begins in this life through continual repentance, through cooperation with the will of God as we obey his commandments, and through participation in his life-giving mysteries. The journey ahead may seem daunting, but in Christ we have already ascended to the heights.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name or initials.



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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

✦ *Orthodoxy 201*

There will be short talks during coffee hour on April 7, 14, and 21 based on the "Sayings of the Desert Fathers." Copies of the readings will be posted the week prior for everyone to read in advance.

✦ *Holy Unction*

Holy Unction for the sick will take place on Friday, April 12 at 7 pm.

✦ *Lazarus Saturday*

Holy Week starts on Saturday, April 27 with Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday. Afterwards there will be pancake breakfast prepared by the youth.

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
Leah Duboy - Secretary
Henry Campos - Social Media Manager
Rdr Anthony Brian Allen - Council Member
Duane Patrick Clarke - Council Member
Gabriel Ruiz - Council Member
William Wusylko - 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 & Elena Morris
Georgina Nikolic / Mary Perkins
Angela Allen / Josiah Heredia
William Raynes / Theophan Petipren
Joy (Helen) Richards / Tatiana Drake
Lee Ashby / Mateo Campos



“A sure sign of
repentance is the
forgetting of injuries.
However, the one who
holds on to them and
thinks that he is
repenting is like a man
who, when asleep,
thinks he is running.”

- *St John Climacus*
“*The Ladder of Divine Ascent*”

April Birthdays

- 3 George Frisk
- 3 Jared Ross
- 5 Valerie Doten
- 6 Leah Duboy
- 11 Zoe Diaz Madrid
- 12 Violet Lowrey
- 14 Charles Griffin
- 16 Sbdn. Michael Richards
- 19 Ludmila Voronkova
- 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

*Home Depot Gift Cards
for Parish Gardening / Tools*