

LIVING WATER

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



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

One of the most wonderful experiences for a priest to witness is the wonder experienced by new converts when they attend their first Paschal Vigil. All of the biblical and theological themes they've been taught come to life in the hymns and liturgical actions at this service: the death of our Lord, his harrowing of Hades, and his resurrection on the third day. The progression from darkness to light, from slow and solemn to jaunty and joyous, images their own path towards Christ. This is perhaps as close as any of us will get to what those earliest Christians felt when they became members of the Church.

For those of us who have been Orthodox for some years, or perhaps a lifetime, that glitter begins to wear off and our excitement is subdued. We may consider our religious life—with its asceticism and services—a duty rather than a privilege. Some may even be tempted to pursue something new and shiny, leaving behind their “first love” (Rev 2:4) for a cheap replacement. Familiarity breeds contempt, as the saying goes.

The solution to this problem is not found in altering what we do. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever,” St. Paul writes (Heb 13:8). Our faith is timeless, an inheritance “once for all delivered to the saints” (Jud 1:3).

Therefore it is we who must change, not the Church.

The goal is to see everything anew, with fresh eyes. But this is precisely what Christianity is all about: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new” (1 Cor :17). Each day we are challenged to discover our purpose and aim in God; to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Christ with vigor; and to infuse our inner life with the newness of the Spirit. To those who trust the Lord, every moment can become a little slice of Pascha.

When we find that we are overwhelmed by the many pressures of this world, and that our spiritual life is flagging as a result, this is a warning

light telling us to pull over and check under the hood: an opportunity to recharge our batteries. If you want to regain that sense of wonder as you ponder all he has done then read the Gospel narratives, speak to Christ from the depths of your heart, and open the eyes of your soul to his glory. This is how we can truly participate in his life-giving death and resurrection.

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

✠ *Pascha Vigil and Open House*
Join us for the Paschal Vigil: 11 PM on
Saturday night (May 4), concluding
with the Liturgy and blessing of baskets.
Agape Vespers will be Sunday (May 5) at
2 PM followed by Open House, our Egg
Hunt, and other youth activities

✠ *Bright Monday Youth Outing*
Families and children are invited to at-
tend Liturgy on Monday (May 6) at 10
AM. The parish will host an outing after.

✠ *Bright Friday Adult Night Out*
Join us for food and fun on Friday, May
10 at 8 PM. Cost is \$20/person and covers
food and drinks. This is an 18+ event.
Tickets are available from EventBrite.

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

Joy Richards / Raquel Ferraguz
Bianca Goean / Ayesha Doten
Karen Budowski / James Shiskin
Norma Skuby / Edward White
Catherine & Elena Morris
Georgina Nikolic / Mary Perkins
Angela Allen / Josiah Heredia
William Raynes / Theophan Petipren
Leonid Ashby / Tatiana Drake
Mateo Campos / Mary Wawerczyk



“[Jesus Christ is] he who was from the beginning, who appeared as if new, and was found old, and yet who is ever born afresh in the hearts of the saints. This is he who, being from everlasting, is today called the Son; through whom the Church is enriched, and grace, widely spread, increases in the saints, furnishing understanding, revealing mysteries, announcing times, rejoicing over the faithful, giving to those that seek, by whom the limits of faith are not broken through, nor the boundaries set by the fathers passed over”

- *Epistle of Mathetes to Diognetes*

May Birthdays

- 2 Vasilisa Nguyen
- 3 Catherine Ramcharan
- 7 Alexander Wagner
- 8 Victor Rodriguez
- 9 Aella Rand
- 9 Kathleen Gallo
- 9 Yanexis Gallo
- 11 Edgar Arana
- 12 Andrea Nieves
- 13 Duane Clarke
- 16 Karen Budowski
- 17 Luba Baltas

May Anniversaries

- 31 Lazaro & Mercedes Cortes

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*