

LIVING WATER



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CHRIST THE SAVIOUR ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

-JANUARY 2026-

Many a new year has been ushered in to the singing of “Auld Lang Syne.” Originally a Scottish poem by Robert Burns, it centers on an important question (here in English translation): “Should old acquaintances be forgotten, and never brought to mind?” The answer to this rhetorical question is “no”—these relationships of yesteryear are just as important as those of days to come. What was good should be preserved, even while being open to encountering what is new.

This tension between the old and new also relates to our spiritual lives. Perhaps we only understand this in the negative: we are commanded to drown the “old man” and put on the “new.” While this Pauline image correctly reflects the struggle with our passions and sins, we would be wrong to apply this more broadly. Since at least the 19th century we have been led to believe that progress is a virtue and that everything old must be supplanted. Yet when it comes to our faith, change is not always a good thing.

Take, for example, the doctrines and ascetical practices we have learned: these remain as true now as when we first received them. An Orthodox Christian is heir to Holy Tradition, which does not evolve over time. Human nature remains the same, despite whatever new-fangled temptations we dream up. And of course, the nature of God does

not change, for “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Heb 13:8).

On a personal level, our spiritual life does not entail a complete makeover, but a transfiguration. We do not become someone radically other, but radically better. As our sinful tendencies are scoured away, the Holy Spirit reveals “the hidden person of the heart” (1 Pet 3:4). This is a revelation of our true nature, what we were created to be and

become. What is false and selfish falls away, and what is good, true, and beautiful comes to the surface. “Therefore if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation... all things have become new” (2 Cor 5:17).

As we enter into a new year, let us reinforce the good things already established—whether they be relationships or virtuous habits—and simultaneously remain open to whatever good things we will experience in the future. To be grounded in the faith, we must learn to integrate both in the workshop of our soul. It is in this way we attain the likeness of God and thereby unveil his image implanted within us.





Christ the Saviour

ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL · EST 1962

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

www.OrthodoxMiami.org
Instagram: [christ.thesaviour.miamilakes](https://www.instagram.com/christ.thesaviour.miamilakes)
www.facebook.com/OrthodoxMiami
YouTube: [@orthodoxmiami7309](https://www.youtube.com/@orthodoxmiami7309)

- Announcements -

1/1 St. Basil The Great

1/6 Theophany

1/11 Great Blessing of Water

1/18 Parish Council Meeting

1/30 Youth performances

- Clergy -

V. Rev. Joseph Lucas, PhD., MDiv.
Rector of the Cathedral

Fr. Dn. Carlos Miranda, MDiv.

- Minor Orders -

Sbdn. Michael Richards
Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk
Rdr. Anthony Saborio
Rdr. Stephen Butcher
Rdr. Thomas Hornsey
Rdr. Gabriel Ruiz

- Retired Attached -

V. Rev. Leonid Palceski

- Parish Council -

Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk - Warden, Trsr.
David Bruce - Member
Sophronia Asher Lafond - Secretary
Rdr. Gabriel Ruiz - Member
Rdr. Anthony Saborio - Member
William Wusylko - Member
Luis (Seraphim) Nieves - Member

- Lay Leadership -

Elena Voronkova - Choir
Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk - Book Center
Rdr. Thomas Hornsey - Catechism
Mary Wawerczyk - Sisterhood
Sophronia Asher Lafond - Administration
Sandy Root - Financial Secretary

- Prayer List for Healing -

Fr Anastasios/Bianca Goean /
Ayesha Doten
Elena Voronkova / Karen Budowski
Norma Skuby / Vernon Lee /
Vincent Penaloza / Georgette Hartner
Catherine Morris / Elena Morris
Georgina Nikolic / Mary Perkins
Raquel Ferraguz / Josiah Heredia
William Raynes / Theophan Petipren
Mary Wawerczyk / Valerie Doten
Mercedes Cortes / Leah Duboy

“At the voice one crying in the wilderness, ‘Prepare ye the way of the Lord’, Thou hast come, O Lord, taking the form of a servant, and Thou who knowest not sin dost ask for baptism. The waters saw Thee and were afraid; the forerunner was seized with trembling and cried aloud, saying: ‘How shall the lamp illuminate the Light? How shall the servant set his hand upon the Master? O Saviour who takest away the sin of the world, sanctify both me and the waters.’”

-For the Great Blessing of the Waters, Festal Menaion

- January Birthdays -

(4) Gabriel Trentacarlini
(8) Benedict Garcia
(9) Norma Skuby
(10) Emma Lowrey
(11) Rubin Garrote
(12) Anastasiya Kulikova
(27) Ayesha Doten
(27) Mary Wawerczyk
(31) Sienna Marina Sarmiento
(31) Antoinette Menendez

-January Anniversaries -

(4) Seph & Daniel Bodden

- Wish List -

Manischewitz Concord Grape Wine
for Zapivka (after communion)

Winn Dixie / Publix Gift-Cards
for the Needy

Books or Rolls of Stamps

- Giving -

