



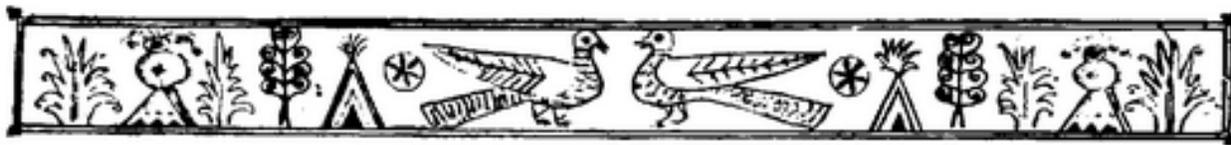
**Christ the Savior Orthodox Cathedral**  
 16601 NW 77th Court | Miami Lakes, FL 33016  
 305-822-0437 | 305-822-0842 (f) | 305-825-9541 (h)



NOVEMBER 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct 30  10:00 Divine Liturgy Sunday School	Oct 31  AAC	1  AAC	2  AAC  Fast	3  AAC	4  AAC  Fast	5  Sisterhood cooking  5:00 Adult Study 6:00 Vespers & Confessions
6  8:30 Matins 10:00 Divine Liturgy Sunday School 12:00 Orthodox Movie	7  7:00 Vespers	8  Synaxis of the Archangel Michael  10:00 Divine Liturgy	9  Fast	10  10:00 Pannikhida for Veterans 10:30 Bible Study	11  Fast	12  5:00 Adult Study 6:00 Vespers & Confessions 7:30 Konevets Quartet
13  8:30 Matins 10:00 Divine Liturgy Sunday School 12:00 Parish Thanksgiving Dinner	14	15  Fast	16  7:00 Evening Akathist for the Archangels Fast	17  10:30 Bible Study  Fast	18  Fast	19  5:00 Adult Study 6:00 Vespers & Confessions Fast: wine & oil
20  8:30 Matins 10:00 Divine Liturgy Sunday School Teen Group Board Meeting 2:00 Vespers  Fast: wine & oil	21  <b>ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS</b>  10:00 Divine Liturgy  Fast: fish, wine, & oil	22  Fast	23  7:00 Evening prayer service for Thanksgiving Fast	24  Thanksgiving  10:00 Liturgy at Ss Peter & Paul OCA Church  Fast	25  Sisterhood cooking  Fast	26  5:00 Adult Study 6:00 Vespers & Confessions Fast: wine & oil
27  8:30 Matins 10:00 Divine Liturgy Sunday School Sisterhood Meeting  Fast: wine & oil	28  Fast	29  7:00 Vespers at St Andrew Church, Kendall Fast	30  St Andrew the First-called  8:15 Matins / 10:00 Liturgy at St Andrew Church, Kendall  Fast	Dec 1  10:30 Bible Study  Fast	Dec 2  Fast	Dec 3  5:00 Adult Study 6:00 Vespers & Confessions Fast: wine & oil

# VOICE OF ORTHODOXY

Orthodox Cathedral of Christ the Saviour ✨ November 2011



## A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

### *Thanksgiving: One Day; However, a Way of Life*

For the Orthodox Christian, thanksgiving is a way of life. Examine the morning and evening prayers in any Orthodox prayer book and you will find numerous expressions of thankfulness being offered to God. The divine services of our Church also continuously points the worshipper toward giving God thanks.

The most obvious, and most powerful expression of thanksgiving and gratitude toward God is the Divine Liturgy itself! At this, the central event of worship within our faith, the Holy Eucharist is offered--the consecrated bread and wine--and becomes the very body and blood of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. This "Eucharist" which we commonly understand as Holy Communion, is a Greek word: "Eucharistia," which literally means "thanksgiving." So the offering which is given to God at the Holy Liturgy, is an offering given in gratitude to God, yes for all His blessings, but most especially at that moment, for the gift of His Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of love, sacrificed Himself on the Cross for us and for our salvation!

Having these things in mind, our nation celebrates Thanksgiving Day (this year November 24). It is a day set aside as a reminder to us of the necessity to be thankful to God for all that He has done for us. If we have at all taken for granted, and dropped our own spiritual awareness in what the Church has been directing us to do on a regular basis, namely in giving God thanks, then this Day--

Thanksgiving Day--should be an event which will help us to get back on track. Yes, it is only one day, but it is a day that can help us toward being thankful, grateful people all year long. Let us not lose this opportunity to accept this spiritual lesson and responsibility.

At our parish, as usual, we will have the Thanksgiving Prayer Service on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 23, at 7 PM. Also, on Thanksgiving Day, the 24th, the Divine

Liturgy will be celebrated at St. Peter & Paul Church in Miami at 10 AM. I so look forward to seeing you there to offer up thanks to God, and to accept the challenge of being truly a thankful person for the coming year.

In Christ,  
Archpriest Philip Reese



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

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Ancient worship. Ancient teachings.  
Ancient Christianity . . . Today.

*Clergy*

Archpriest Philip Reese  
*Senior Pastor*

Priest Joseph Lucas  
*Assistant to Pastor*

Hierodeacon Gregory (Burke)  
*Attached*

*Subdeacons*  
Christopher (Randolph) LaCroix  
Alexander Dimich

*Readers*  
Dionysi (Charles) Doten  
Christopher Herbert  
Stephen Butcher

*Council*

Gary Popovich  
*Senior Steward*

Christopher Herbert  
*Secretary*

Jim Shiskin  
*Treasurer*

Alex Pouschine  
*Assistant Treasurer*

Les Bowser  
Stephen Butcher  
Charles Doten  
Jennifer Lemieux  
Mary Perkins  
Honoriu Filimon (alt)

## SPECIAL FEATURE

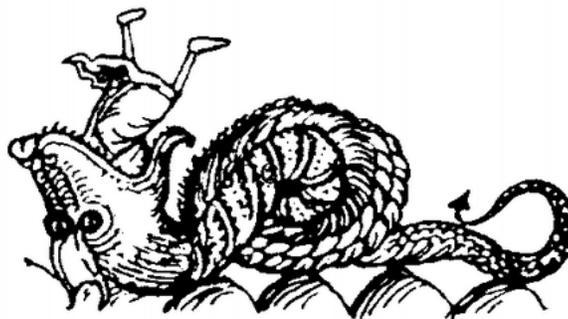
***The Devil's Business***

A recent communique between Satan and his legions of demons was recently intercepted. In the communication, the Evil One lays out his attack strategy for the 21st century. As the document reveals, the Devil has discovered that the most effective way to tempt and enslave modern humanity is to keep people so busy that they do not have time for spiritual matters. Here is a copy of the document:

“My dear demons,

As you know, we have made great progress in our ongoing war over the past century. We have pitted science and faith against one another, so that people feel they must choose one or the other. We have caused people to doubt the truth of the Bible, so that they no longer believe the Gospel message. We have continued to keep Christians separated from the Orthodox Church by sowing disunity, heresy and individualism. And we deceived many into believing that we evil spirits do not exist, so that they are not aware of the ones who war against them. But we must continue to build on this foundation. The battle is far from over. Hence, I advance the following tactics as our new campaign.

- 1) Keep humans busy daily with non-essentials so that they have no time to pray.
- 2) Tempt them to spend too much money, so that they are enslaved to material things and debt.
- 3) Make them work long hours to maintain their empty, temporary lifestyles so that they do not have time to consider eternal things.



- 4) Discourage them from spending quality family time together so that the family begins to disintegrate.
- 5) Fill their ears with the sound of television, radio and computers so that they cannot hear the voice of God.
- 6) Fill their coffee tables with newspapers, magazines and racy novels so that they do not have time for the Scriptures and writings of the Saints.
- 7) Flood their mailboxes with advertisements so that they constantly pursue material things.
- 8) Place glamorous models on television and magazines to keep them focused on external beauty rather than spiritual beauty.
- 9) Make sure husbands and wives are too exhausted to spend time with each other so that they begin to look outside of marriage for fulfillment.
- 10) Emphasize Santa and the Easter Bunny to divert them from the real meaning of the Holy Days.

- 11) Involve them in “good causes” so that they do not get involved in eternal causes.
- 12) Make them believe that they are self-sufficient so that they rely on their own strength rather than the power of God.”

*(Adapted from a talk given by Dr. David Jeremiah)*

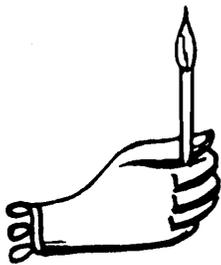
ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MOVIE-TIME AT OCCS**

**Join us one Sunday each month for an Orthodox movie or documentary, with superb sound and wall projection!**

**Sunday, November 6 after coffee hour.**

**In need of our prayers**



Kathryn LaCroix / Anna McGregor  
 Lidia Brookes / Susan Simpkins  
 Esperanza Sarenac / Fr. Theodore Soroka  
 Fr. George Gerov / James Perkins  
 Ludmilla & Peter Voinescu  
 Svetlana Roadway / Betty Calvert  
 Andrey Idriceanu (USMC) / Neil Hamilton  
 Fr. Thaddeus & Matushka Valerie Werner



**SISTERHOOD OF  
 THE HOLY CROSS**

Come join the women of the Sisterhood, dedicated to the spiritual life of the parish, to works of charity and to the beautification of the temple. All ladies are welcome!

*From St Petersburg, Russia*

**Konevets Quartet**

*Singing acapella hymns and folk songs  
 from the Russian tradition*

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 AT 7:30 PM**

at Christ the Saviour Cathedral

*Donations benefit the  
 Konevets Monastery in Russia*

**November Birthdays**

- Lisa Herbert 1
- Mihai Mavrodin 1
- Lillian Raynes 3
- Tatiana Geeze 9
- Kathleen Shiskin 15
- Presbytera Irina Lucas 15
- Joseph Waite 18
- Costica Idriceanu 18
- Joshua Herbert 20
- William Herbert 20
- Brian McDonald 28

**November Anniversaries**

- Costica & Maria Idriceanu 8
- Stanley & Carol Klein 15
- Christopher & Lisa Herbert 24

## APOSTOLIC TRADITION

### *Self, Society and Singleness*

*by Priest Joseph Lucas*

In the psychological structure devised by Sigmund Freud, the mind of a human being is divided into three competing faculties: id, ego and super-ego. Freud's construct describes the person as the sum of these functions of conscious and subconscious thought. But in the theology of the Orthodox Church, personhood is not located in the faculties of the mind. Rather, our understanding of personhood reflects our understanding of God.

When God began to reveal Himself to mankind in the Old Testament, He always dealt with His creatures in a personal way. Our Lord is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and He speaks with His servants face-to-face. With the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh, we discover that this same God is not just one person, but three persons in perfect communion with one another. Human beings are created in the image of second person of the Trinity, the Son and Word of God, who assumed human flesh for our sake. Thus, our understanding of personhood is not based on modern psychology, but on the belief that human personhood reflects something of divine personhood.

Often, when we consider personhood, we deal with the "what" rather than the "who." In other words, we think of a person as a union of body and soul. We consider how a person looks, or maybe some of their psychological traits. But this is the substance from which humanity is made. Our personhood--the "who"--fills, unifies and transcends our physical and spiritual makeup. It is not located in our body or our thoughts, but in the image of God, and His likeness which we are called to become.

Our true personhood--our "self"--is obscured by our fallen state, and our attachment to corruption and sin. As we grow from infancy to adulthood, we spend much of our lives construct-

ing a false self: a persona or mask through which we relate to society. This happens, in part, because we continually reject the path God has set before us. We ignore His guidance and inspiration, and instead allow our selfish desires and pride to govern our lives. We begin to live as hypocrites. We sense that there is a better way, a true way which leads to life; yet we continue to live life through our alter-ego. The Bible describes this way as "double-mindedness" (e.g., James 4:8). We are living a lie, presenting our false self to society and hiding our single, true self--our purified, God-given personhood--deep within.

If we continue to live in such a way, we will distance ourselves from God. The Lord desires to speak to us as friends, face-to-face, person-to-person; but He addresses Himself to our true self, not our false identity. So what can we do to overcome this dilemma? How can we become the person God has created us to be?

The Orthodox Christian spiritual path offers us a way to destroy the false self we have created, and to uncover our true personhood. Through asceticism (prayer, fasting and acts of mercy), we begin to break down our ego, and to redirect ourselves towards Christ. The act of repentance and confession purifies our heart of double-mindedness. And the Divine Liturgy and reception of the Holy Eucharist brings us into the very presence of the personal God. By following this path, we gradually strip away the layers of falsehood, and our inner person, the "hidden man of the heart" (1 Peter 3:4), emerges. Our being is reintegrated and becomes whole and single again, no longer conflicted by inner turmoil and hypocrisy.

Society as we know may be comprised of individuals who continue to interact with one another through their false, constructed selves. But if we begin with changing ourselves, being molded into the image of Christ, we will also change the world in which we live.



## READERS CORNER

***The Spiritual Counsels of Elder Paisios of Mount Athos (Volumes 1, 2 & 3)***

Holy Monastery "Evangelist John the Theologian"

Souroti, Thessaloniki, Greece

The name of Elder Paisios is known throughout the Orthodox world. A simple, uneducated peasant from Cappadocia, he left the world for the monasteries of Mount Athos in 1954. There he spent his days in asceticism and worship, and received spiritual gifts of clairvoyance and healing. By the time of his death in 1993, Elder Paisios was already being declared a saint by many.

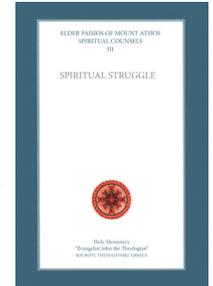
The "Counsels" of Elder Paisios are contained in five volumes in Greek, the first three of which have been published in English gradually

over the past ten years.

In these pages, the love and care of Elder Paisios spills forth. His advice to Christians in various situations provides the reader with guidance in their day-to-day walk with Christ.

What is remarkable about his counsel is its simplicity and moderation. Elder Paisios, while himself a great ascetic, always condescended to the level of his audience, approaching his listener with the humility of Christ.

You can find "The Spiritual Counsels of Elder Paisios" and many more edifying books in our Orthodox Book Center.



## FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

***Excerpt from "On Avarice: Homily 7"  
by St Basil the Great***

They say: whom do I wrong by keeping my property? What, tell me, is your property? Where did you find it and brought it to your life? Just like someone in the theatre, who had a seat and then stopped those who entered, judging that what lies common in front of everyone to use, was his own: rich men are of the same kind. They first took possession of the common property, and then they keep it as their own because they were the first to take it. If one had taken what is necessary to cover one's needs and had left the rest to those who are in need, no one would be rich, no one would be poor, no one would be in need.

Isn't it true, that you fell off the womb naked? Isn't it true, that naked you shall return to the earth? Where is your present property from? If you think that it came to you by itself, you don't believe in God, you don't acknowledge the creator and you are not thankful to Him who gave it to you. But if you agree and confess that you have it from God, tell us the reason why He gave it to you.

Is God unjust, dividing unequally the goods

of our life? Why are you rich, while the other is poor? Isn't it, if not for any other reason, in order for you to gain a reward for your kindness and faithful providence, and for him to be honored with the great awards of patience? But you, having gathered everything inside the bosom of avarice which is always empty, do you think that you wrong no one, while you strip so many people?

Who is the greedy person? It's him, who doesn't content himself with what he has. And who strips? He who steals what belongs to the others. And you think that you are not greedy, and that you do not strip the others? What was granted to you, in order for you to take care of the others, you took it and you made it your own. What do you think?

He who strips the clothed is to be called a thief. How should we name him, who is able to dress the naked and doesn't do it, does he deserve some other name? The bread that you possess belongs to the hungry. The clothes that you store in boxes, belong to the naked. The shoes rotting by you, belong to the bare-foot. The money that you hide belongs to anyone in need. You wrong as many people as you could help.



## News

### *Singing Miamians*

On Saturday, October 15, Christ the Saviour Cathedral hosted the Singing Miamians of Pinecrest--the regional chapter of the national Barbershop Harmony Society. The several quartets of the organization combined their talents for a stellar performance.

This year's theme was "Hollywood Harmonies," and included songs from both films and cartoons. Perhaps the most spectacular performance was a stirring rendition of the "The Circle of Life" from *The Lion King*. Other favorites included "Hooray for Hollywood," "The Mickey Mouse Club Themesong," and a beautifully-performed "Somewhere Over the Rainbow."

In addition to singing as a single group, individuals also divided into quartets for several songs. These performances was highlighted with a series

of songs by the quartet Good Blend. Their lively antics and showmanship was a crowd favorite. Their performance of "Singing in the Rain" was complemented by a dance routine with umbrellas that lit up to appear as if it were raining.

The Singing Miamians was founded in 1948, taking the barbershop circuit by storm and winning their first national competition in 1951. Over the years, their line-up of performers has changed and expanded. Today, the award-winning Miamians is comprised of five quartets who perform both separately and together as one group at civic and charitable events throughout the region.

Bruce Ross, husband of parishioner Ann Ross, is a member of the Miamians. He was scheduled to sing a lead part at this year's performance, but was unable to because of a broken arm. Please keep Bruce in your prayers.

### *Advertising to Begin in "Voice of Orthodoxy"*

Did you know that each month "Voice of Orthodoxy" is mailed directly to nearly 150 households, emailed to 140 users, and viewed by close to 1,000 users through our parish website?

Beginning with the December edition of "Voice of Orthodoxy," OCCS will be featuring advertising for local businesses, and for personal announcements. For a nominal fee, you can feature your business in our newsletter. Or, post an announcement, such as a congratulations for a graduate.

The income from advertising will defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. Advertisement prices are based on size (1/8 page or 1/4 page). Artwork may be submitted (in black-and-white format), or the ad or announcement can be designed for you.

Please contact Fr. Joseph Lucas to discuss pricing and placement. Ads must be received prior to the end of the third week of the month.

### *Calling All Writers!*

Do you have a way with words? "Voice of Orthodoxy" is looking for parishioners to write short articles on events in life of the parish. Each month, we feature these short articles in this "News" section.

If you would like to write an article for the newsletter, please contact Fr. Joseph Lucas. Articles should be submitted by end of the third week of the month.

### *All American Council*

Fr. Philip and Fr. Joseph, along with parish delegates Gary Popovich and Steve Butcher, will be away at the Orthodox Church in America's All American Council during the first week of November. They return November 5. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel, and for the assembly, that God's will may be done.