

LIVING WATER

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral ❖ May 2020



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

As Orthodox Christians living in North America, our lived reality of the Church is not the same as those who reside in Orthodox nations like Russia, Romania, or Greece. There, you can find parishes on every block, with a cadre of full-time priests paid by the government via taxation. Here, we are fortunate to find a parish within driving distance, and must fervently support that community (both financially and otherwise) in order to sustain it. There, the culture and calendar conform to the traditions of the Church. But here, we are a small minority surrounded by religious ideas and traditions that are often incompatible with our faith.

For this reason, it could be said that a greater blessing exists for those Orthodox Christians willing to live their faith out in such a context. However, for us to accomplish this, we must be careful not to import certain negative practices into the Church. For example, we may have a tendency to exalt materialism and rugged individualism, seeing these as an expression of Americanism. But both of these ideas stand in opposition to the generosity and humility commended to us by Christ in the Gospel, and exemplified in the lives of the Saints.

One issue we American Orthodox struggle with greatly is the practice of obedience. We often err to one of two extremes. On one side,

we may assume that every believer must establish a monastic-like relationship with a priest or elder, deferring every decision to this person. But in Orthodox nations, it is uncommon for the laity to form such a bond with their confessor. Rather, their priest is consulted for spiritual decisions, and to teach us how to struggle against sin, not to tell us what sort of car to buy. When non-monastics try to make their confessor into a guru, they run the risk of turning their faith into a cultic obsession.

On the other side is the temptation to make up one's own rules about how to practice the faith. Our American sense of independence and self-reliance can be a temptation to ignore the teachings and guidelines of the Church, and to think we know better than those entrusted with our spiritual care—our bishop and priest. They are called shepherds (pastors) because they are responsible for leading the flock. And as the prayer at baptism states, we are called to be “rational sheep” in the Kingdom of God, and not self-willed wolves hiding in the pasture.

The Orthodox Church provides us with the perfect middle way of obedience, neither erring to one extreme or the other, so that we may learn the love and humility of our Jesus Christ.

In the Risen Lord

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name of the author, written in a cursive style.





**Christ the Saviour
Orthodox Cathedral**

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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

✦ *Live-Streaming*

We will recommence our weekend service live-streams on May 9 for Vespers.

✦ *Online Bible Study*

Join Fr Joseph every Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM for an online Bible Study via Zoom. Log-in instructions are emailed out weekly, and posted to our private members Facebook page.

✦ *Update Your Info*

If you are not receiving our regular emails with updates and info about what's happening at the Cathedral, please email your updated info to Cathedral@OrthodoxMiami.org

Clergy

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

Attached

Dn. Carlos Miranda

Minor Orders

Sbdn. Michael Richards
Rdr. Dionysios Charles Doten
Rdr. Christopher Herbert
Rdr. Anthony Brian Allen

Retired Attached

Fr. Peter Tutko
Fr. Alexander Padlo
Fr. Michael Zaperyniuk
Fr. Ernesto Rios

Parish Administration

Parish Council

Reader Christopher Herbert - Warden / Secretary
Rdr Dionysios Doten - Treasurer
Leonard Giacone - Asst Treasurer
Jim Shiskin - Council Member
David Waite - Council Member
Elena Voronkova - Council Member
Mary Perkins - Council Member

Choir Director

Rdr Dionysios Doten

Orthodox Book Center

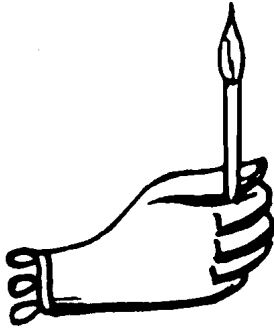
Gary George Popovich - Coordinator

Women's Ministry

Angela Allen - Coordinator

Prayer List

Carrie Wusylko / Stanley Prystacky
Enis Jakolenko / Karen Budowski
Ludmilla Voinescu / Rdr Dionysius Doten
Vernon Lee / Nina Fortune
Ann Ross / Bruce Ross
Norma Skuby / Antonio Nicodemo



Highlights of March Financials

Items should be at 25% of budget.

Expenses	Month	Year Total	
Total Exp.	\$17,363	\$48,994	26.3%
Income	Month	Year Total	
Collections	\$11,746	\$30,568	22.5%
Candles	\$358	\$1,464	12.2%
Coffee Hour	\$0	\$248	8.3%
Fundraising	\$308	\$2,418	24.2%
Pascha	\$70	\$70	0.7%
Cemetery	\$300	\$3,300	165.0%

Total Inc.	\$12,782	\$38,208	20.5%*

**At month's close, we were 5.8% under-funded.*

May Birthdays

- 3 Sophia Christakis
- 6 Mary Elizabeth Herbert
- 11 Edgar Arana
- 13 Duane Clarke
- 15 Leonard Giacone
- 16 Karen Budowski
- 19 Marta Diaz
- 25 Sebastian Cofino

May Anniversaries

- 9 Panagioti & Maja Georgakopoulos
- 14 Bruce & Ann Ross
- 22 Rdr. Innocent & Sierra Correa
- 31 Lazaro & Mercedes Cortes

Wish List

*Winn Dixie / Publix Gift-Cards
for the Needy*

Rolls of Stamps

*Large Containers of Olive Oil
for Church Lamps*

Costco Columbian Coffee

*Icon Set (in English)
for Whole Year - \$1,000*

*Custom-made Tables for Church
(Altar Cross Rack / Vestment Table /
Table for Reliquary of St Nicholas /
New Table for Burial Shroud of Christ)*

\$2,000 - \$4,000