

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral \* Feb 2021

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Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

With a late Pascha this year on May 2, February becomes a month in suspension. The last festivities of the holiday season finish up in January. And after the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord on February 2, the remainder of the month is a period of waiting for Lent to begin in March.

We modern people do not like to wait for anything. We've grown accustomed to instant everything. We can order

products and have them at our door the next day. We can make a meal in the microwave in a matter of minutes. Via the internet, we can locate and begin enjoying nearly any film or song recording in a matter of seconds. As a result of such convenience, we've forgotten the importance of waiting.

The spiritual art of

waiting is called patience. Saint Paul tells us that patience is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:22); and our Lord teaches us that "by patience you shall possess your souls" (Luke 21:19). Patience is indispensable in the ascetical program of prayer, fasting, and acts of mercy. Without patience, we are unable to grow in faith, hope, and love. But why is this? Why can't we have what we spiritually desire now, just like we can download a new tune?

Our Lord does not acquiesce to our conception of time. He unveils His plan in His own good time, as He understands and knows it to be most beneficial. And so, waiting on God is act of faith, of trusting Him to act at the appointed time, as He sees fit.

But in the process of waiting, something amazing occurs. Our patience enables us to slow down, and to focus on the journey more than the destination. When we're impatient, it is because we can only think of the desired outcome; but when we're patient, every step along the way becomes a moment in which we may encounter God.

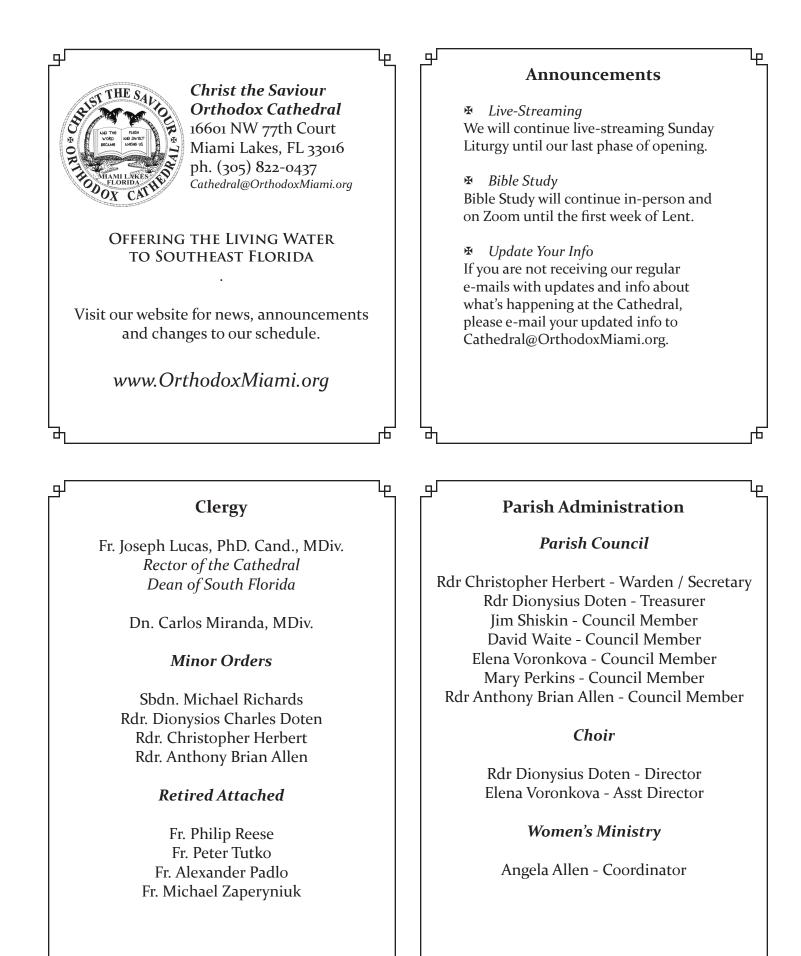
When we wait, we are not in suspended

animation. We continue to live our lives and face various obstacles. But we also must constantly be "redeeming the time" (Eph 5:16) by remembering God. Every minute of waiting can be converted into eternity when we enter into His presence through prayer. In this way, patience becomes the pathway to heaven.

One thing we often

struggle with today is boredom. We try to fill our every waking second with noise and chaos to avoid such boredom. But when we do this, we miss the opportunity to transform our souls in Christ. In the silence of those "boring" moments, in the depths of our hearts, we discover that it wasn't we who were waiting for God, but rather He that has been waiting for us all along.

In Christ,



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### **Prayer List**

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Carrie Wusylko / Stanley Prystacky Enis Jakolenko / Karen Budowski Norma Skuby / Ludmilla Voinescu Rdr Dionysius Doten / Vernon Lee Nina Fortune / Edward White Ann Ross / Bruce Ross Joshua Herbert / Antonio Nicodemo Michael Metts / James Shiskin Jose Fernandez / Jennifer Heredia Danica Simpkins / Georgette Hartner Ronald Delavega / Joel Infante

# **February Birthdays**

Joy Lee
 Eric Neil Wawerczyk
 Nina Fortune
 Zachariah Doten
 Isaiah Bryant
 Isaiah Bryant
 Kenneth Lowrey
 Michael Snavely
 Mary Perkins
 Angie Allen
 Maja Georgakopoulos
 Jeremy Paulovkin

## **February Anniversaries**

3 David & Etsegenet Waite
17 Ricardo & Carly Sarmiento
20 Kenneth & Violet Lowrey
20 Ann & Bruce Zipper
21 Lesley & Deborah Bowser
23 James & Kathleen Shiskin

## Highlights of December Financials

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Items should be at 100% of budget.

Expenses	Month	Year Total	
Total Exp.	\$12,800	\$172,904	93.0%
Income	Month	Year Total	
Collections	\$9,150	\$112,896	83.0%
Candles	\$219	\$2,289	19.1%
Fundraising	\$O	\$2,418	24.2%
Hall	<b>\$</b> 0	\$6,110	244.4%
Cemetery	<b>\$</b> 0	\$14,800	740.0%
Christmas	\$1,511	\$1,651	33.0%
Total Inc.	\$10,894	\$149,070	80.1%*
*At year's end, we were 12.9% under-funded.			
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Wish List

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Winn Dixie / Publix Gift-Cards for the Needy

Rolls of Stamps

Large Containers of Olive Oil for Church Lamps

Costco Columbian Coffee

Custom-made Tables for Altar (Altar Cross Rack / Vestment Table / New Table for Burial Shroud of Christ) \$1,000 - \$2,000

Hand Sanitizers & Paper Towels

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