

# LIVING WATER

*The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral ❖ Aug 2021*



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

The month of August brings our annual liturgical cycle to a close (with September 1 being the Church New Year). And our year concludes in the way it began: by honoring the Theotokos. The very first of the twelve great feasts each year is the Nativity of the Theotokos on September 8. We then reach our last great feast with the Dormition (repose) of the Theotokos on August 15.

To those encountering the Orthodox Church for the first time, our veneration of the Virgin Mary might seem extreme. We mention her in nearly every litany we pray; we sing to her at every Liturgy; and we seek her intercessions in our morning and evening prayers. Every iconostasis has her image to the left of the holy doors, and many temples are dedicated to her feast days. So why is she so revered?

There are, of course, theological reasons to honor her. By assenting to the word of the Archangel Gabriel (Luke 1:38), she became the means by which the eternal Son of God became human. He received his flesh from hers (or in modern terms, his DNA from hers). She carried the infinite God in her womb for nine months, and gave birth to the Creator of all. For this reason, the Third Ecumenical Council gave her the title “Theotokos,” meaning “the one who bore God.”

But this is not the only reason we venerate her. There is a common misconception among the heterodox that God could have chosen any woman

for this task, and that Mary was just the fortunate soul to be selected. But we know from both the Scriptures and Holy Tradition that this is not the case.

Speaking on behalf of God, Gabriel tells Mary that she had “found favor with God” (Luke 1:30). In other words, God is responding to her faith. As we continue reading through the Gospel of Luke, we see the strength of her faith revealed repeatedly. Likewise, she is shown to be a disciple of her Son in the Gospel of John. And at the very end, when all the other disciples had fled in fear, John tells us that our Lord’s Mother is the only other one standing at the foot of the cross.

In the oral tradition later recorded in the second century, we discover that Mary’s faith began at a young age. She trusted in God, and spent her childhood praising him in the Temple. Thus she represents the sum of devotion and piety of Israel throughout the ages, and becomes the final link between the old covenant and the new.

The Theotokos is so much more than a necessary vessel to bear our Lord. Her life is an example to us of absolute faith in God. Her words and actions teach us how to love God. And her constant prayers before the throne of God are a support for the whole Church.

In Christ.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name.





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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](http://www.OrthodoxMiami.org)

## Announcements

✦ *Inquirers Class*

Rdr Anthony Brian Allen will be leading a class on the fundamentals of Orthodoxy, every Saturday in August after Vespers (about 7 PM)

✦ *Bible Study*

Bible Study is every Wednesday, 7:30 PM.

✦ *Cathedral Hosting Assembly*

All parishioners, please email Fr Joseph your availability October 5 - 7 to volunteer for the Diocese of the South Assembly. We'll be hosting 200 clergy and laity for this event. We need all hands on deck in order to make this event a success.

## Clergy

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

Dn. Carlos Miranda, MDiv.

### *Minor Orders*

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

### *Retired Attached*

Fr. Philip Reese  
Fr. Peter Tutko  
Fr. Alexander Padlo  
Fr. Michael Zaperyniuk

## Parish Administration

### *Parish Council*

Rdr Christopher Herbert - Warden / Secretary  
Rdr Dionysius Doten - Treasurer  
Jim Shiskin - Council Member  
David Waite - Council Member  
Elena Voronkova - Council Member  
Mary Perkins - Council Member  
Rdr Anthony Brian Allen - Council Member

### *Choir*

Elena Voronkova - Director

### *Women's Ministry*

Angela Allen - Coordinator

## Prayer List

Carrie Wusylko / Stanley Prystacky  
Enis Jakolenko / Karen Budowski  
Norma Skuby / Ludmilla Voinescu  
Rdr Dionysius Doten / Vernon Lee  
Edward White / Georgette Hartner  
Joshua Herbert / Antonio Nicodemo  
Ronald Delavega / Jose Fernandez  
Jennifer Heredia / Danica Simpkins



## 2022 Pledge Drive

September is Pledge Drive month at the Cathedral. This is the time of year that each household or individual who is a member of our parish makes a commitment to continue supporting our ministries financially by pledging a regular donation. The Biblical and Patristic ideal is to offer a tithe (10%) of our income to the Temple so that the clergy and staff are provided for, and to pay for all the bills and expenses required to keep our Cathedral solvent. When you receive your Pledge Card in the mail, please remember to return it promptly; and please remember to put God's work first as you make your pledge.

## August Birthdays

- 1 Anetera Bryant
- 2 Panagioti Georgakopoulos
- 2 Olympia Vidaurre
- 4 Declan Lemieux
- 5 Samantha Jammes
- 8 Ian Allen
- 9 Irina Giacone
- 10 Susan Simpkins
- 13 Lazaro Cortes
- 14 Joel Clarke
- 16 Donna Jammes
- 16 Etsegenet ( Tina )Waite
- 17 Christine Clarke
- 19 Catherine Morris
- 22 Carly Sarmiento
- 25 Jan Lemieux
- 25 Danica Simpkins
- 27 Jose Cofino
- 30 Diana Rodriguez
- 30 Alejandro Altamiranda

## August Anniversaries

- 8 Jan & Jennifer Lemieux
- 15 Fr. Joseph & Pres. Irina Lucas

## Wish List

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

*Books or Rolls of Stamps*

*Large Containers of Olive Oil  
for Church Lamps*

*Costco Columbian Coffee*

*Hand Sanitizers & Paper Towels*