

LIVING WATER

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral ❖ Oct 2021



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

The month of October is a time of transition each year. It's the liminal time between summer and winter, when the days are growing shorter and nature begins to rest. And liturgically, it's a relatively calm month before the Nativity cycle begins in November, giving us time to reflect on life and focus on our most basic Christian works.

As was the case in American history, this period of autumn was a harvest season for the ancient Israelites. And with the harvest came the offering of "first-fruits": a tithe of the farmer's crop to God by giving it to his Temple. In connection with this, it's also the time our parish conducts its annual Pledge Drive so that we can likewise offer our first-fruits to God. Our duty today remains the same as that of God's people millennia ago.

As we consider what it means to give to God, it is important to remember what he was given to us: **everything**. St Paul asks, "What do you have that you did not receive?" (1 Cor 4:7). The money we earn, the clothes we wear, the bounty we eat, the roof over our heads, even the air we breathe—all these things are a gift from the Lord. Our very lives are sustained each day by him.

And yet, we often forget this, and act as though we possess the gifts we've received. We often go through life blind of the many blessings we have; and as a result we constantly clamor for more. Contentment is a virtue generally lacking in our

society.

Fr. Alexander Schmemmann oft referred to secularism as the most prevalent modern heresy. It is not that people aren't "religious," he would say, but that their religion is somehow cut-off from the rest of their lives: tamed and allocated to one day a week (unless there is something better to do on a Sunday). This modern outlook stands in stark contradiction to the total fidelity we are called to in the Scriptures.

Drawing on Deut 6:4-5, Jesus Christ tells us that we must love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mk 12:29-30). He doesn't want part of us, or part of our time and commitment, he wants all of us.

So what does this look like in practical terms? It means putting God first in all we do. We put him first in terms of time when we schedule our day around prayer and our week around liturgical services; and when we make time to pray, fast, and be charitable to others. And we put him first in terms of finances when we budget out our tithe before indulging ourselves.

To be called by the name "Christian" is an honor because it means we bear our Lord's name. But it's also a grave responsibility to dedicate ourselves to him in all things, always putting him first.

In Christ,





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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

✦ *Diocese of the South Assembly*
Volunteers are needed Oct 5 - 8 to help
as the Cathedral hosts the 2021 Assembly
for our entire Diocese. Please email Fr
Joseph if you're able to help out.

✦ *Bible Study*
Bible Study will resume on Oct 13 after
the Assembly.

✦ *Autumn Festival*
The Church School will be hosting the
coffee hour on Oct 31 with a special
theme for autumn.

✦ *Brotherhood Meeting*
Brotherhood will meet on Oct 24 and
will be going out for the evening.

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 Zaparyniuk

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 / Jennifer Heredia
Rdr Dionysius Doten / Vernon Lee
Edward White / Georgette Hartner
Joshua Herbert / Antonio Nicodemo
Ronald Delavega / Jose Fernandez



**The Pledge Drive
for 2022
draws to a close
at the end of
October.**

**Please submit your
Pledge Card ASAP.**

October Birthdays

- 3 Mikhail Ramcharan
- 12 Rdr. Anthony Brian Allen
- 15 Argentina (Xenia) Arana Garcia
- 18 Taylor Rodriguez
- 23 Elena Voronkova
- 24 Zubin (Cuthbert) Mehta-Rao
- 29 Fr. Joseph Lucas
- 30 Jimmy Rodriguez

October Anniversaries

- 23 Marcus & Donna Jammes

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