

LIVING WATER

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral ❖ Feb 2022



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

As I look around at what our society is becoming, it is obvious that things are falling apart. The polarization that we see is the result of two things. On the one hand, atheism, agnosticism, nihilism, and counterfeit “spiritualities” continue to grow. With this, there has been a sharp decline in ethical thinking, a loss of a shared understanding about what is right and wrong.

On the other hand, the religious climate of our society remains dominated by a Protestant worldview. Although we Orthodox may find common ground with them on certain issues, their theology is very different from ours. And often, their politics do not directly align with the teachings of the Orthodox Church.

During the 20th century, we Orthodox tried our best to fit into the American mainstream. We feared being different from our Protestant (and Roman Catholic) neighbors. It was typical to emphasize our shared values with them, and to downplay our differences. And mostly, we emphasized a common desire to attain the American Dream: material comfort and stability.

But Orthodox Christianity is not so compatible with the world. Our faith is rooted in a radical denial of self-interest, which should manifest in our actions of love, mercy, and forgiveness for all. We are called to be transformed by the presence of God, which in turn will transform society: “Sanctify

Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to anyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence” (1 Peter 3:15). In short, we are tasked with planting and expanding Paradise, not simply making a place of polite coexistence.

If Orthodox Americans (and particularly, our children) are going to stand firm against the currents that are trying to tear us apart, we must do so in solidarity. Polarization has led to a loss of community; so we must intentionally strengthen our own community through the life of the Church. In other words, our parish must become our village.

One of the few times we have an opportunity to come together as a community in fellowship is at the Agape Hour after Sunday Liturgy. Sadly, only about half of those who attend Liturgy now stay for this weekly time of gathering. But if we are serious about building up our Orthodox community, we need to make the Agape Hour a priority.

And so, I challenge everyone to attend every week, and to get involved. Bring an entree to share; volunteer to set-up and clean-up; sit down with folks you haven’t gotten to know yet. For if we cannot first learn to love one another in Christ, how will we be able to share his love with the world?

In Christ.

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





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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

✦ *Vigil for the Feastday*

The Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple (Candlemas) is on Feb 2, so the services will take place on the eve of the feast (Feb 1). All Night Vigil begins at 6 pm, and the Divine Liturgy afterwards at approximately 8 pm. If planning to commune, please fast at least 6 hours prior.

✦ *Meatfare*

Meatfare (the last Sunday that we eat meat as we transition into Lent) is on Feb 27. Our potluck Agape Hour needs lots of meaty entres that day.

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. Christopher Herbert
Rdr. Anthony Brian Allen
Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk

Retired Attached

Fr. Philip Reese
Fr. Alexander Padlo
Fr. Michael Zaparyniuk
Fr. Leonid Palceski

Parish Council

Rdr Christopher Herbert - Warden / Secretary
Rdr Nilus Wawerczyk - Treasurer
Rdr Anthony Brian Allen - Council Member
Nicole Mary Brown - Council Member
Duane Patrick Clarke - Council Member
Vernon Andrew Lee - Council Member
William Wusylko - Council Member

Choir

Elena Voronkova - Director

Orthodox Book Center

Rdr Nilus Wawerczyk - Director

Financial Secretary

J. Thomas Hornsey

Office Secretary

Hope Petipren

Prayer List for Healing

Carrie Wusylko / Ayesha Doten
Enis Jakolenko / Karen Budowski
Norma Skuby / Jose Fernandez
Edward White / Georgette Hartner
Joshua Herbert / Antonio Nicodemo



“Food is not evil, but gluttony is. Childbearing is not evil, but fornication is. Money is not evil, but avarice is. Glory is not evil, but vainglory is. Indeed, there is no evil in existing things, only in their misuse.”

*- St Maximus the Confessor
“Chapters on Love” 3 and 4*

February Birthdays

- 1 Joy Hardai Lee
- 4 Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk
- 6 Nina Fortune
- 9 Zachariah Doten
- 12 Isaiah Bryant
- 14 Kenneth Lowrey
- 19 Elijah Rand
- 21 Michael Snavely
- 23 Mary Perkins
- 23 Angela Allen
- 25 Jeremy Paulovkin

February Anniversaries

- 3 David & Etsegenet (Tina) Waite
- 17 Ricardo (Athanasius) & Carly Sarmiento
- 20 Kenneth & Violet Lowrey
- 20 Ann & Bruce Zipper
- 23 James & Kathleen Shiskin

Wish List

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

Books or Rolls of Stamps

Costco Columbian Coffee

Donations toward Church Furniture

Large Salad Spinner

Large and Medium Towels

*Stainless Steel Tongues
& Serving Utensils*

Firstaid Kit Items