LIVING WATER

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral * May 2022

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Modern philosophers who subscribe to a theory called "post-structuralism" believe that there is no such thing as a meta-narrative. In other words, they deny there is any sort of larger story that humans can connect to. The only stories that exist, they say, are our personal viewpoints. However, this contradicts the way that humans have existed since the beginning of time. We only make sense of the world when we know we're

part of a grand narrative. Our personal stories find meaning when they relate to something bigger than ourselves.

For example, every nation takes part in mythmaking: crafting an historical narrative that helps each citizen understand where he or she has come from. In the United States, we have stories

of the American Revolution, the

Civil War, the taming of the Wild West, and other such tales. We have American heroes like Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King, Jr. By knowing these stories and characters, we make sense of being an American, whether we were born here or are just now undergoing naturalization.

As Orthodox Christians in America, this national narrative is a part of us. But we are also part of a much grander, much more important narrative that spans the entirety of time. Our story begins with the words, "In the beginning..." in Genesis and ends with "Amen" in Revelation. Our meta-narrative finds its meaning in the birth, death, and resurrection of the one who is more than a mere hero—he is the God of all. And our lives are shaped by the history of the Orthodox Church as it has progressed through time, even through the mission of St Herman and the establishment of Orthodoxy as a minority faith on this continent.

In Romans, St Paul explains to the Gentiles that, by becoming Christians, they were miraculously grafted into the "olive tree" that is



Israel (while those who rejected Christ were cut-off from the tree). The story of the Bible became their story. The people of the Bible became their people. The same is true for us today. As members of the Body of Christ, the whole of the Scriptures and history of the Orthodox Church becomes ours, and we are made a part of a people that spans times, places, and many different cultures.

If we want to make sense of our lives, we must begin by accepting the riches of the inheritance that Christ offers us in the Church. None of us stands alone. We must situate our personal stories within the grand narrative of salvation: as Israelites, as Christians, as Orthodox in America. In this way, we can discover meaning for our lives as we help to write the next chapter in the book of salvation.

In Christ,



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Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral 16601 NW 77th Court Miami Lakes, FL 33016 ph. (305) 822-0437 Cathedral@OrthodoxMiami.org

OFFERING THE LIVING WATER TO SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

Visit our website for news, announcements and changes to our schedule.

www.OrthodoxMiami.org

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

Announcements

✤ Catechism for New Members Classes will begin May 7 and will be every Saturday at 7 PM until June 25.

✤ Church School Year-End Celebration We'll celebrate the end of the 2021-21 Church School year with a BBQ and waterslide on Sunday, May 29.

▶ Parish Directory Photo Shoots
All members should sign-up for one of the photo shoots on June 11, 18, or 25.

Caribbean Night

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We're bringing back our popular parish festival soon, and need to start planning. Please let Fr. Joseph know if you're interested in helping plan this event.

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

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