

# LIVING WATER

*The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral ❖ June 2024*



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Every so often, I am asked about the difference in ecclesiastical calendars, between the Julian and Revised Julian versions. The differences become obvious when certain major feasts are celebrated weeks apart in different national churches. Or when the Ss. Peter & Paul fast falls away (in the Revised Julian calendar) due to a late Pentecost, as it does this year. What is the reason for these differences?

In the time of Julius Caesar, a solar calendar was adopted (meaning, based on the time it takes to orbit the sun, or 365.25 days). The extra quarter-day was made up for by adding an extra day every four years. However, what the ancient astronomers did not perceive is that it actually only takes 365.2422 days to orbit the sun, a difference that gradually adds up and causes the calendar to shift forward. At present, the observable solstices and equinoxes have shifted 13 days from where Caesar's astronomers first fixed them.

Beginning in the 16th century, Western Europe began the process of shifting back their calendar to align again with the solstices and equinoxes. The Orthodox Church began to investigate this possibility in the late 19th century, beginning in Serbia; but it was only in the 1920's that several patriarchates moved forward with the change. The Orthodox Church in America did not adopt the change until the early 1980's.

Although, over the course of the 20th century, there were pockets of Orthodox that went into schism over the calendar issue, none of the national churches broke communion with any other national church. Russia, Serbia, and Jerusalem who preserved the old Julian Calendar maintained full communion with Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Antioch, Alexandria, and Constantinople who shifted to the revised calendar. This shows that the calendar issue was never about a change in dogma; it was simply a liturgical decision.

There are those who would once again make an issue of this difference, claiming that one national church is greater or more holy than another due to their calendar. And yet great saints continue to arise from the entire Church, regardless of calendar. And in some places, local miracles have even shifted with the calendar—such as the coming of the snakes on August 15 each year in the village of Markopoulo on the Greek island of Kefalonia—reminding us that the Church has the power to bind and loose on earth.

What is the lesson we are to learn from all of this? We live in an age of interconnectedness due to the internet and mass communication. With all the good things this brings, it also presents us with certain dangers: one of which is the assumption that Orthodoxy should be entirely monolithic. In other words, we might want Orthodox practice worldwide to be as consistent as our dogmas. But this has never been the case throughout our history. There has always been local or regional custom and practice, flavors if you will. In the centuries before the printing press and mass transit, we should expect this.

The most important thing to consider is the fact that we do not live in those other places. The Orthodox Church in America is something constantly in the making. Although we have Slavic roots, as well strong influences from other ethnic populations, we are also composed of multiple generations of Americans who have lived out their Orthodox faith in this land. And now we are quickly becoming home to large numbers of converts from numerous backgrounds. What Orthodoxy in the United States will look like in a century is anyone's guess; but what we are responsible for is ensuring that our generation has watered this vineyard with our asceticism, worship, and constant striving towards holiness. This mission is what is universal in all the Church.



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

**Announcements**

✠ *Ascension*

Join us for the Feast of the Ascension of  
Our Lord. All-Night Vigil on June 12 at 6  
PM, followed by Divine Liturgy at 8 PM.

✠ *Feast of Ss Peter & Paul*

With a late Pascha and Pentecost, the  
Fast of Ss Peter & Paul Fast is removed.  
But we still celebrate the Feast itself on  
June 29. Divine Liturgy at 10 AM.

✠ *Orthodoxy 201 Coming*

In July, Deacon Carlos will be offering an  
Orthodoxy 201 series during Agape Hour.  
More info to come in the July newsletter.

**Clergy**

Archpriest Joseph Lucas, PhD., MDiv.  
*Rector of the Cathedral*

Deacon Carlos Miranda, MDiv.

**Minor Orders**

Subdeacon Michael Richards  
Reader Anthony Brian Allen  
Reader Nilus Wawerczyk  
Reader Anthony Saborio

**Retired Attached**

Archpriest Michael Zaparyniuk  
Archpriest Leonid Palceski

**Parish Council**

Rdr Nilus Wawerczyk - Warden, Treasurer  
Leah Duboy - Secretary  
Henry Campos - Social Media Manager  
Rdr Anthony Brian Allen - Council Member  
Duane Patrick Clarke - Council Member  
Gabriel Ruiz - 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

Bianca Goean / Ayesha Doten  
Elena Voronkova / Karen Budowski  
Norma Skuby / Vernon Lee / Lee Ashby  
Edward White / Georgette Hartner  
Catherine Morris / Elena Morris  
Georgina Nikolic / Mary Perkins  
Angela Allen / Josiah Heredia  
William Raynes / Theophan Petipren  
Joy Richards / Tatiana Drake  
Valerie Doten / Raquel Ferraguz



“Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the nations, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.”

- 1 Peter 1: 11-12

### June Birthdays

- 3 Gabriela Heredia
- 3 Spiro Baltas
- 5 Elena Dichko
- 5 Luis Gallo Jr.
- 5 Vladimir Voronkova
- 12 Pedro Lebroc
- 15 Gabriel Gonzalez
- 16 Vladimir Voronkova Jr.
- 16 Raquel Ferraguz
- 21 Vernon Lee
- 21 Pablo Piñeros
- 23 Nathaniel Keeley
- 29 Margaret Frisk
- 29 Dna. Dalia Miranda
- 30 Rachel Clarke

### June Anniversaries

- 4 Alexander & Isabella Wagner
- 6 William & Carrie Wasylko
- 9 Nathaniel & Bianca Keely
- 13 Sbdn. Michael & Nicole Richards
- 18 Vladimir & Natalia Voronkova
- 21 Vernon & Joy Lee
- 30 Vladimir & Ludmila Voronkova

### Wish List

*Manischewitz Concord Grape Wine  
for Zapivka (after communion)*

*Olive Oil for Lamps*

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

*Books or Rolls of Stamps*

*Home Depot Gift Cards  
for Parish Gardening / Tools*