

# LIVING WATER

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



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Since I was a little boy, September has been connected with going back to school. Before the malaise of high school sets in, young students are often eager to head to class, hoping their curiosity will be satisfied by the wisdom of their teachers. The world presents itself as mystery full of wonder and secrets whenever education has not yet become utilitarian (merely a means to an end).

To a child, books are synonymous with learning. Libraries (where they still stand) house doorways into the world beyond our local neighborhood, to places of adventure ready to be explored, and to the inner world of the imagination.

But the imagination can also be a place of foreboding, of nightmares and phantoms. Dragons lurk there.

The saints warn us to be cautious when we enter the realm of the mind. There we confront spiritual waters that are often difficult to navigate. We need a compass (Holy Tradition), and a good south wind (the Holy Spirit), to guide us to safe harbors. The imagination is not evil in and of itself, but it can lend itself to either delusions of grandeur or deceptions of darkness. What we need is a conversion of our imagination.

The Orthodox Church has always affirmed the importance of education. Jews and Pagans were brought to faith through the teaching of the

Gospel; and prior to their baptism they underwent a period of learning called catechism. Every week at the Divine Liturgy, they listened to the clergy explain the meaning of the Scriptures. And some even went on to attend special schools, such as the famous Catechetical School of Alexandria, to learn the deeper theological concepts of Christianity.

Exposure to the Holy Scriptures, lives of the saints, and patristic texts helped to shape and purify the imagination of Christians. Through exposure to good, true, and beautiful things, their inner world began to reflect the eternal kingdom of God. This was not merely education, it was transformation.

Every September, our parish also invites its “students” to go “back to school.” We begin Church School for the youth, and offer Catechism and Bible Study for adults. We host the annual Autumn Lecture to highlight specific topics. And we continue our Orthodoxy 201 talks with Deacon Carlos. These are all opportunities, not only to learn, but to convert our imagination. Just like those halcyon days of youth, we can once again run to school, eager to encounter the wonder of God’s creation and imbibe the timeless wisdom of our teacher, the Church.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deacon Carlos'.





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

**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**

✦ *Adult Catechism*

Classes for those interested in learning  
about Orthodoxy begin Sept 5, and will  
be every Thursday (7 - 9 PM) for 8 weeks.

✦ *Church School*

Church school for youth ages 3 - 18 starts  
on Sunday, Sept 8. Kids up to age 12 will  
leave with their teachers after receiving  
Holy Communion. Teens will meet later  
during Agape Hour.

✦ *2024 Autumn Lecture*

Our annual Autumn Lecture will be  
on Saturday, Oct 5 from 11 AM - 3 PM.  
Our guest speaker is YouTube apologist  
Seraphim Hamilton. Food trucks will be  
on-site for lunch.

**Clergy**

V. Rev. Joseph Lucas, PhD., MDiv.  
*Rector of the Cathedral*

Fr. Dn. Carlos Miranda, MDiv.

**Minor Orders**

Sbdn. Michael Richards  
Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk  
Rdr. Anthony Saborio

**Retired Attached**

V. Rev. Michael Zaparyniuk  
V. Rev. Leonid Palceski

**Parish Council**

Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk - Warden, Treasurer  
Leah Duboy - Secretary  
Henry Campos - Social Media Manager  
Rdr. Anthony Saborio - 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  
Raquel Ferraguz / Josiah Heredia  
William Raynes / Theophan Petipren  
Mary Wawerczyk / Valerie Doten



“God eternally offers the good things to the devil, but he refuses to receive them. And in the age to come, God offers good things to all, for he is the source from which good things flow. But everyone participates in the good inasmuch as he has made himself capable.”

- St. John Damascene

### September Birthdays

- 1 Bruce Zipper
- 2 Jennifer Heredia
- 4 Eduardo Diaz
- 6 Ivan Chernyshov
- 7 Dn. Carlos Miranda
- 18 Melissa Alvarez
- 20 Sai Paulovkin
- 23 Spiro Baltas
- 27 Andrei Lucas
- 28 Gabriel Arturo Ruiz
- 29 John Prystacky Jr.

### September Anniversaries

- 12 William & Lillian Raynes
- 25 Charles & Jean Griffin

### 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*