

LIVING WATER

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral ❖ Dec 2024



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

As the Nativity of our Lord approaches, we are reminded how great a miracle was his advent. The eternal Word of God became man in the womb of the Theotokos, and was born as a little child. In the Matins on Christmas Eve we sing, “Magnify, O my soul, the King born in a cave!” What a great mystery this is. As St. Paul wrote: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich” (2 Cor 8:9).

Although he is the King of the universe, he entered into our lowly earthly condition (the Incarnation) in order to lift up our humble nature to the very heights of heaven (the Ascension). There he forever reigns, seated at the right hand of his Father.

And yet, when we look at the world around us, it often seems that no one is in charge. As in the time of Herod the Great, we see wars and violence around the world. We see innocent children slaughtered daily (except not at the command of a king). We see selfish men and women wielding power for their own benefit, at the expense of those most vulnerable. Where is our Lord Jesus Christ in the midst of all this suffering?

St. Paul address this concern, saying that, although the Father has put all things in subjection to his Son, “now we do not yet see all things put under

him” (Heb 2:8). Instead we only see the one who through “the suffering of death [was] crowned with glory and honor” (v. 9). The cross is the throne of Jesus. As he was exalted on the wood, he issued his most important royal decree: the offer of citizenship in his eternal kingdom. Those who accept this invitation also recognize his authority. He reigns in their hearts, inspiring them to do great and noble things in his name. They are the humble, the righteous, the peacemakers. Through selfless deeds they become his holy ambassadors in a chaotic world desperately in need of divine order.

Our King has promised that history will eventually come to a close. He will be revealed in glory for all to see, and “every knee will bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth” (Phil 2:10). Until then, he patiently awaits our repentance, making us free to either serve or oppose him. The only

question that matters is: what will we do with this freedom?

As we celebrate the birth of our King, let us rededicate ourselves to his service. Let us say with the sons of Korah: “I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness” (Ps 84:10).

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

✦ *St. Nicholas Celebration*
Our Church School program will be hosting a St. Nicholas event for the children on Friday, Dec 6 at 7 - 9 pm. Movie, storytime, snacks and a very special visit.

✦ *Readers Class*
For any men in the parish interested in learning how to read during liturgical services, Fr. Joseph will be leading a class Dec 14, 11 am - 3 pm. Must receive a blessing to attend in advance from Fr. Joseph.

✦ *Christmas Eve Schedule*
Vigil will begin on Dec 24 at 4 PM, followed immediately by Divine Liturgy. Afterwards will be a pot luck followed by caroling and presentations in the hall.

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
Rdr. Stephen Butcher

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
Matteo Campos / Georgette Hartner
Catherine Morris / Elena Morris
Georgina Nikolic / Mary Perkins
Raquel Ferraguz / Josiah Heredia
William Raynes / Theophan Petipren
Mary Wawerczyk / Valerie Doten
Edward White & Clarice White



“Obedience is necessary not only for monks, but for all people. Even the Lord was obedient. The proud and self-regarding do not allow grace to live in them, and therefore they never have spiritual peace; while in the obedient soul the grace of the Holy Spirit enters easily and gives joy and peace. Whoever bears even a little grace in himself joyfully submits to all direction. He knows that God directs even the heavens and the netherworld—and himself, and his business, and everything in the world—and therefore he is always at peace.”

- *St. Silouan the Athonite*

December Birthdays

6 Victoria Hornsey
6 Skye Martinez
7 Ann Zipper
7 Camila Sarmiento
8 Henry Campos
9 Sandy Root
9 Alexander Forbes
10 Mercedes Cortes
10 Daniel Martinez
11 Andrei Voronkova
12 James Shiskin
12 Alexandra Nieves
14 Natasha Campos
14 William Wasylko
15 Cristian Lucas
16 Ava Campos
16 Ioann Pineros
16 Natalia Bondina
20 William Raynes
25 Luis Rodriguez
27 Edward White
28 Chuyi Huang
31 Nghia Nguyen
31 Tamara Wagner
31 Carrie Wasylko

December Anniversaries

12 Alexis & Melissa Alvarez
12 Nghia & Irina Nguyen
18 Rdr. Brian & Angie Allen
20 Jeremy & Sai Paulovkin
26 Edgar & Leidy Arana
27 Eduardo & Mariana Diaz

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*