## LIVING

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral \* Apr 2025

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Since the dawn of human history, people have made sense of the world by telling stories. Whether gathered around the campfire or the family hearth, our ancestors would hear of champions and villains, of triumphs and tragedies. Men and women found their place in the world by situating themselves within these

tales, as characters within a grand drama, connected to the past yet looking to the future.

If there is indeed a "crisis of meaning" in our modern world (as many commentators have rightly pointed out) then it is because of the types of stories we tell ourselves. On the one hand, there are those who adopt the story of materialism: of a "scientific" universe devoid of meaning, governed by chance. This story results either in relativism (the only story that

matters is my personal perception of the world) or nihilism (all stories are ultimately meaningless). A worldview shaped by such ideas is incoherent, leading either to despair or self-interest (the "will to power").

On the other hand, there are those who inherit or adopt a religious story that offers a sense of meaning and belonging, yet falls short of offering explanatory power to life in this big, wide world we inhabit. Their story may not satisfactorily reveal the origin of the cosmos and where we have come from, nor point to the future horizon towards which each of us is moving. Such truncated tales may shed light on a local culture or history but fail to place a people within the broader story of mankind. And most importantly, they fail to provide a deep sense of meaning and purpose.

Within the Holy Scriptures we discover a story that includes everything. It is a complete

metanarrative, an arc that moves from the foundation of the world to the very consummation of time itself. The climax of this account comes in the middle with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God becomes man—eternity enters time—thus answering the most important and existential questions we face: why do we suffer and die, and why do we long for something so much greater?

This is a story that offers true explanatory power for one's life. Within this chronicle we meet our Creator and witness his plan for us in action. We are given direction about how to respond to him, establish a relationship with him, and wisely serve him. We can derive meaning by placing ourselves within this story as it continues to play out within the Church through our liturgical rituals and spiritual practices. And we can touch the world around us through this

story as we become Christ's ambassadors of his beauty, truth, and goodness. Gradually, our personal narrative becomes part of *his* metanarrative; and his death and resurrection becomes our own as we die and rise anew each day.

Socrates once remarked, "The unexamined life is not worth living." Had he lived a few centuries later, he may have encountered the One who gives ultimate meaning to our lives. As we examine what is most important, let us return to that great tale which mystically shapes and colors everything it touches: the story of God's salvation.

In Christ,



# WATER



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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 Instagram: christ.thesaviour.miamilakes Facebook: www.facebook.com/OrthodoxMiami YouTube: @orthodoxmiami7309

#### 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

#### Announcements

✤ Orthodoxy 201 In lieu of Sunday Catechism on April 6, Fr. Joseph will offer an open Q&A on Orthodox teachings and practices.

✤ Holy Unction Service

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The Deanery Holy Unction service for healing this year will take place at St Herman Church in Lake Worth on Thursday, April 10 at 6:30 PM, led by Bishop Gerasim.

✤ Palm Sunday Banquet Bishop Gerasim will be serving Liturgy at the Cathedral on Sunday, April 13. Afterwards we will have a fish banquet. Tickets are \$20 for adults 18 and over.

✤ Pascha Open House and Egg Hunt
 Begins at 2 pm on Sunday with Vespers.

#### **Parish Council**

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Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk - Warden, Treasurer Leah Sophia Duboy - Secretary David Bruce - Council Member Sophronia Asher Lafond - Council Member Gabriel Ruiz - Council Member Rdr. Anthony Saborio - Council Member William Wusylko - Council Member

#### Lay Leadership

Elena Voronkova - Choir Director Rdr. Nilus Wawerczyk - Book Center Director J. Thomas Hornsey - Catechism Director Mary Wawerczyk - Sisterhood Director Sophronia Lafond - Administrative Assistant Sandy Root - Financial Secretary

#### **Prayer List for Healing**

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Bianca Goean / Karen Budowski Norma Skuby / Vernon Lee Valerie Doten / Georgette Hartner Catherine Morris / Elena Morris Georgina Nikolic / Mary Perkins Raquel Ferraguz / Josiah Heredia William Raynes / Theophan Petipren Mercedes Cortes / Leah Duboy Jennifer Butcher / Matteo Campos

#### **April Birthdays**

3 George Frisk
3 Jared Ross
4 Anet Hershey Forbes
5 Valerie Doten
6 Leah Sophia Duboy
11 Zoe Diaz Madrid
12 Violet Lowrey
16 Michael Richards
19 Ludmila Voronkova
22 Mia (Angelina) Campos
23 David Waite
25 Diego Alejandro

#### **April Anniversaries**

3 Dn. Carlos & Dalia Miranda25 Duane & Christine Clarke

"Become aware of God, in whose presence you are while you pray . . . Then take a formula of prayer and recite it with perfect attention both to the words you are saying and to the Person to whom you are saying them."

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- St. John Climacus

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#### Wish List

Manischewitz Concord Grape Wine for Zapivka (after communion)

Winn Dixie / Publix Gift-Cards for the Needy

Books or Rolls of Stamps

Costco Colombian Coffee