

*St. Basil the Great  
Byzantine Catholic Church*

1475 NE 199 Street – Miami  
[www.MiamiByzantine.org](http://www.MiamiByzantine.org)

**Rev. Martin Vavrak**  
***Administrator***

[fr.martin@SouthFloridaByzantine.org](mailto:fr.martin@SouthFloridaByzantine.org)  
(732) 501-2810

**Fr. Deacon Michael Opalka**

**Mr. Fred Wilson**  
***Parish Manager & Cantor***

[fwilson@SouthFloridaByzantine.org](mailto:fwilson@SouthFloridaByzantine.org)  
(631) 974-1011



*Website*



*Contribute*

**SLAVA ISUSU CHRISTU! SLAVA NA VIKI!  
GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER!**

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**Sunday after Theophany**  
EPISTLE Ephesians 4: 7-13  
GOSPEL Mark 4: 12-17

**Saturday, January 10, 2026, 10:30 a.m.**  
Typika Psalm Service

*Sanctuary Candle:  
Health & Blessing of the Parish Family*

**Thirty-Second Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday of Zacchaeus**  
EPISTLE 1st Timothy 4: 9-15  
GOSPEL Luke 19: 1-10

**Saturday, January 17, 2026, 10:30 a.m.**  
Typika Psalm Service

*Sanctuary Candle:  
Health & Blessing of the Parish Family*

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE**

Fr. Martin is available to hear confession immediately following each Divine Liturgy.  
You may also schedule an appointment in advance by contacting Fr. Martin.

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** Please continue to remember in our prayers all the needs of the parish family, the sick and suffering, those who have asked for our prayers, especially Frantisek Vavrak, Helena Hukova, George Stojkovic, Mateo Stojkovic, Danny Leckliter, Luz Mirella Vargas, Miguel Angel Alarcon, Viviana Rosa Munoz, Natasha Lemeshova, and Heather Thomas. Let us remember the priests and bishops of the Catholic Church, those people who have been denied their basic human rights and dignity, the oppressed, the lonely, the homeless and those who suffer, and those who have no peace of mind or heart. Please contact Fred to have a name added or removed.

**WELCOME!**

We welcome our guests and visitors, and are happy to have them join us in prayer. If you have not officially registered in the parish, and would like to, please speak with Fred.

***Announcements & Reminders***

**RAFFLE** We have a lovely basket that will be raffled on Valentines Day, and tickets are only \$1.00. You do not need to be present on 02/14 to win. For a ticket, please see Vivian or Suzanne. Proceeds from the raffle will be placed towards our 2026 St. Nicholas Luncheon.

**2025 / 2026 BISHOP’S APPEAL** This year’s appeal has officially kicked off, and you should have received a mailer from the Chancery. If you did not, please see Fred for a copy. Our goal, \$6,800.00, equates to \$360.00 per family. If we are successful again in reaching our goal, Bishop Kurt will generously refund our parish 40%. This year, we ask you to submit your contribution directly to the Chancery via the mailer, or via the link on our website.

***Pastoral Message***

Dear faithful parishioners, and you who have come to our church for the first time – welcome!

**Sunday After Theophany**  
*Commentary:* St. Augustine

The gospel tells us that some people were rebuked by the Lord because, clever as they were at reading the face of the sky, they could not recognize the time for faith when the kingdom of heaven was at hand. It was the Jews who received this reprimand, but it has also come down to us. The Lord Jesus began his preaching of the gospel with the admonition: *Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand*. His forerunner, John the Baptist, began his in the same way: *Repent*, he said, *for the kingdom of heaven is at hand*. Today, for those who will not repent at the approach of the kingdom of heaven, the reproof of the Lord Jesus is the same. As he points out himself. *You cannot expect to see the kingdom of heaven coming. The kingdom of heaven*, he says elsewhere, *is within you*.

Each of us would be wise therefore to take to heart the advice of his teacher, and not waste this present time. It is now that our Savior offers us his mercy; now, while he still spares the human race. Understand that it is in hope of our conversion that he spares us, for he desires no one's damnation. As for when the end of the world will be, that is God's concern.

Now is the time for faith. Whether any of us here present will see the end of the world I know not; very likely none of us will. Even so, the time is very near for each of us, for we are mortal. There are hazards all around us. We should be in less danger from them were we made of glass. What is more fragile than a vessel of glass? And yet it can be kept safe and last indefinitely. Of course it is exposed to accidents, but it is not liable to old age and the suffering it brings. We therefore are the more frail and infirm. In our weakness we are haunted by fears of all the calamities that regularly befall the human race, and if no such calamity overtakes us, still, time marches on. We may evade the blows of fortune, but shall we evade death? We may escape perils from without but shall we escape what comes from within us? Now, suddenly, we may be attacked by any malady. And if we are spared? Even so, old age comes at last, and nothing will delay it.  
(Sermon 709. 7: PL 38. 636)

*In Christ,*

*Fr. Martin Vavrak - Administrator*