

# St. Basil Catholic Church

A Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Church of the Eparchy of Passaic  
1475 NE 199 Street, Miami, FL 33179  
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## ~ PASTORAL MESSAGE ~

Pentecost Monday  
WHO ARE EVERYWHERE  
By Fr. Basil Stroyen

"Why a Holy Spirit? Why can't I just talk to God directly?" This was the question an inquirer asked, trying to understand the grand Mystery of the Trinity. There is no such thing as a silly question. To understand we must ask.

But how do we explain the most Mysterious in the Mystery of the Trinity, since He hides Himself so well? It is not so hard to imagine the Father because of His very name, even though the image that arises of a good and powerful Old Man does not really describe the One Who is the Source of Divinity. The Son made it easy for us to imagine Him because He became a historic Person well described in the Gospels.

But how do we describe someone Who appears as a Bird, as a Flame or as Wind? It is the nature and the mission of the Holy Spirit to not show Himself, but rather to show, proclaim and represent the Son, just as the Son represents the Father. Perhaps it would be best to simply say that the very act of putting this question is a sign that the Spirit is already present in a mysterious way in the one who questions. Without Him there would be neither questions nor answers regarding the immense mysteries of life and the universe. The Holy Spirit is God who lives in us - in each being who asks, who answers and who tries to understand and live the mysteries of existence as the prayer of Pentecost puts it, He is the One "who is everywhere present and fills all things."

Day of the Holy Spirit

The feast in honor of the Holy Spirit, "one of the Trinity of God, one in honor, one in essence and one in glory with the Father and the Son" is celebrated on the Monday after Pentecost. This feast has been established by the Church "for the majesty of the Most Holy and Life-creating Spirit, for He is one of the Holy and Life-originating Trinity", in reaction to the teaching of the heretics who rejected the divinity of the Holy Spirit and that He is equal-in-honor with God the Father and the God the Son. "The Holy Spirit", as it says in the Synaxarion, "is called the Comforter because He can encourage and calm us; we received Him "in place of Christ" and through Christ we have Him; He intercedes before God for us with unspeakable sighs as the Lover of mankind, interceding for us in exactly the same way as Christ, for He is the Comforter. Therefore the Holy Spirit is called the other Comforter; wherefore the Apostle says: we have the Comforter Jesus before God. He is called according to the unity in essence; wherefore in one sense "one and the other" we understand identical and consubstantial, and the words: "one and the other" is about various natures. This Holy Spirit is one with the Father and the Son in everything; He therefore accomplishes everything with Them, even the future resurrection, and everything that He wants, He creates, sanctifies, divides, renews, sends, makes wise, anoints the prophets, and briefly to say: does everything, being all-powerful, omnipotent, good, correct, and reigning. Through him is granted every wisdom, life, activity, as He is the source of sanctification and all life. In general He has everything that Father and the Son has "except for being unbegotten and begotten", proceeding only from the Father <sup>1)</sup>). When the Holy Spirit was poured out on all flesh, then the world was filled with every kind of gift, and through Him all peoples were guided to the knowledge of God, and both any illness and any infirmity are driven out" <sup>2)</sup>).

Rev. Martin Vavrak  
Administrator

Served by:

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

### ~ LITURGY SCHEDULE ~

**Pentecost Sunday w/Fifth All Souls Panachida**  
EPISTLE Acts 2: 1-11  
GOSPEL John 7: 37-52 & 8: 12

**Saturday, May 23, 2026, 10:30 a.m.**  
Health & Blessing of Lillian Weir  
by F. Wilson Family

*Sanctuary Candle:*  
*Health & Blessing of Lillian Weir*

**Sunday of All Saints**  
EPISTLE Hebrews 11: 32-12: 2a  
GOSPEL Matthew 10: 32-33, 37-38 & 19: 27-30

**Saturday, May 30, 2026, 10:30 a.m.**  
Health & Blessing of Anna Vavrak  
by F. Wilson Family

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

*A brief parish meeting will be held  
Immediately following Liturgy*

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Fr. Martin is available to hear confession immediately following each Divine Liturgy, or by appointment.

### ~ 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 Huk, Lillian Weir and George Stojkovic. 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.