

*St. Basil the Great
Byzantine Catholic Church*

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Contribute

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

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

EPISTLE 1st Corinthians 15: 1-11
GOSPEL Mathew 19: 16-26

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Saturday, August 30, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

EPISTLE Galatians 6: 11-18
GOSPEL John 3: 13-17

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Saturday, September 6, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Fr. Martin is available to hear confession immediately before and after each Divine Liturgy.

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.

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, George Stojkovic, Helena Hukova, Mateo Stojkovic, Serena Bravo, Stella Bravo, Gabriela Machado, and Laura McKenzie. 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.

Announcements and Reminders

TIME CHANGE On Saturday, September 13, Divine Liturgy will begin at 10:00 a.m. This change is only for September 13. Please mark your calendar and plan accordingly. Thank you.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Are you celebrating your 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, etc., wedding anniversary in 2025 or 2026? If so, a jubilee Divine Liturgy will be held at our sister church in Orlando, St. Nicholas of Myra, on January 17, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. The liturgy will be followed by a luncheon. There is no fee associated with the luncheon, other than travel expenditures. If you would like to attend, please register with Fr. Martin or Fred by November 1.

Pastoral Message

Dear Friends what a beautiful celebration,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

In today’s Gospel, a young man runs up to Jesus with an honest question: “Teacher, what good must I do to gain eternal life?” This is not a bad man. He has kept the commandments, he lives a moral life, and he sincerely desires to please God. But something is missing, and he knows it.

Jesus looks at him with love and goes deeper: “If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have, give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” Notice, Jesus does not just invite him to do more, but to become more. Eternal life isn’t simply about avoiding sin or following rules. It is about total discipleship — about following Jesus with a free and undivided heart.

The tragedy is that the young man walks away sad. Not because Jesus turned him away, but because he could not let go of what he loved more than God. His wealth became his prison.

This challenges us today. What are the things we cling to that keep us from freedom? For some it may be possessions, for others pride, ambition, or resentment. We may not be rich in money, but we can be “rich” in attachments that hold us back from giving ourselves fully to Christ.

Peter, always bold, asks: “Lord, we have left everything and followed you. What will there be for us?” And Jesus promises: “Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for my sake will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life.” God is never outdone in generosity. What we surrender for Him, He multiplies. What we let go of, He transforms.

The message of this Gospel is both challenging and consoling. Challenging—because Jesus asks for nothing less than our whole heart. Consoling—because when we do give Him everything, He gives us more than we could ever imagine: joy, peace, and eternal life.

So today, let us ask: what is the “one thing” keeping me from following Christ more freely? And may we trust that in letting it go, we will never walk away sad—but instead discover the treasure of life with Him.

*In Christ,
Fr. Martin Vavrak - Administrator*