

Our Lady of the Sign Catholic Church

A Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Church of the Eparchy of Passaic
7311 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, Florida 33073
www.SouthFloridaByzantine.org

Served by:

- ❖ **Rev. Martin Vavrak, Pastor**
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- ❖ **Mr. Fred Wilson, Parish Manager & Cantor**
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**SLAVA ISUSU CHRISTU! SLAVA NA VIKI!
GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER!**

~ LITURGY SCHEDULE ~

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
EPISTLE 1st Corinthians 4: 9-16
GOSPEL Matthew 17: 14-23

Saturday, August 1, 2026, 5:00 p.m.
For the Faithful of the Parish

Sanctuary Candle:
Health & Blessing of Angie Nemeth

Sunday, August 2, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
+Rose Mary Monito
by Susan Scotts

Transfiguration of our Lord
EPISTLE 2nd Peter 1: 10-19
GOSPEL Matthew 17: 1-9

Wednesday, August 5, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
EPISTLE 1st Corinthians 9: 2-12
GOSPEL Matthew 18: 23-35

Saturday, August 8, 2026, 5:00 p.m.
Health & Blessing of Misty D. Cipyak
by Jon and Suzie Cipyak

Sanctuary Candle:
Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Sunday, August 9, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
+Clara Legezdih
by Susan Scotts

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Fr. Martin is available to hear confession immediately following each Divine Liturgy, or by appointment.
Reserved Holy Communion will be available for those who wish to receive after confession.

ROSARY SCHEDULE

- Wednesday: 6:40 p.m.
- Saturday: 4:40 p.m.
- Sunday: 9:40 a.m.

~ OUR CONTRIBUTORS & TRUSTED SERVICE PROVIDERS ~

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To advertise, contact Fred Wilson:
fwilson@SouthFloridaByzantine.org

~ 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, Fina Gonzalez, and Raul Gonzalez. 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 check our website during your daily prayers for an up-to-date listing of those who are in need of our prayers.***

~ ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS ~

A BLESSED DORMITION FAST On August 1, we enter into a two-week fast leading to the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15. Like our fasts before The Nativity and Pascha, this period invites us to quiet our lives, simplify our meals, and turn our hearts toward prayer so that we might arrive at the feast not only marking a date, but being truly prepared to celebrate the falling asleep of the Theotokos and her glorious assumption into heaven.

For our parish, this fast carries particular meaning. The Theotokos is not simply a figure we honor from a distance; she is our patroness, the one under whose mantle our community has gathered, worshipped, and grown for generations. Time and again, the intercession of the Theotokos has been the quiet strength behind our parish's life together.

As we fast these two weeks, let us ask her to draw us closer to Christ and thank her for continuing to watch over this parish that bears her name.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, save us, O Lord.

PLAN AHEAD: ADVANCE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENT PROGRAM Losing a loved one is never easy, and the last thing families should have to worry about during such a difficult time is navigating funeral logistics and unexpected costs. Funeral home services, burial sites, and related church fees can add up quickly, often creating financial and emotional strain on grieving family members at the worst possible moment. To help ease this burden, we're pleased to introduce a new program that allows you to make advance arrangements for your church plans and associated fees. By planning ahead, you can clarify your wishes, and spare your loved ones the added stress of making difficult decisions while grieving.

Taking this step now is a meaningful gift to your family and one less thing for them to carry later. Please see Fred for more information and to begin making your arrangements.

OLOS HOLYDAY CHOIR – AUDITIONS The parish Holyday Choir is opening auditions for new members. The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 5:45 p.m., and will have the privilege to sing during our St. Nicholas Day celebrations, and on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Whether you're an experienced singer or just love to sing, we invite you to audition on Wednesday August 5, at 6:00 p.m. Contact Fred to schedule your audition.

~ 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.

~ PASTORAL MESSAGE ~

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

On this 10th Sunday after Pentecost, Jesus heals a boy possessed by a demon after the disciples were unable to do so. The father pleads, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers terribly” (Mt 17:15). This cry for mercy echoes the heart of Byzantine spirituality, where the Jesus Prayer, “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner”, is central. Jesus rebukes the demon and heals the boy instantly. Then He tells the disciples, “Because of your little faith... if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move” (Mt 17:20). This is a reminder that faith is not just intellectual assent but a living trust in the power of Christ, cultivated through prayer, fasting, and sacramental life.

Jesus also says, “This kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting” (Mt 17:21). This verse is deeply resonant for Byzantine Catholics, where ascetic disciplines are seen as essential tools for spiritual warfare. Healing and deliverance are not merely acts of divine power. They are synergies between God’s grace and our cooperation.

Finally, Jesus foretells His Passion, “The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men... and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day” (Mt 17:22–23). This moment shifts the focus from miraculous healing to the mystery of the Cross, the ultimate act of love and redemption. In our liturgy, this is never separated from the Resurrection. Christ’s suffering is always viewed through the lens of Paschal victory. Ultimate, prayer, fasting, mercy, and hope all form a rhythm of life that draws us closer to Christ and transforms even the smallest acts into channels of grace.

August 6th

PRAYER TO OUR TRANSFIGURED LORD JESUS ON THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION!

Lord Jesus, you want to take me up the mountain, before I reach the summit, I ask: transform me. Transform my life with your grace, so that your image in me becomes transparent. Transform my eyes with your light, so that I can find you in every brother. Transform my heart with your power, so that I praise you as my only Lord. Yes, Lord; transform me with your presence, so that I never go unnoticed by your company. Transfigure me with your eyes, so that in everything I discover your cozy face. Transform me with your love, so you can understand how valuable I am to you. Transform me with your strength, so I can go down to the plain or climb to the summit of Calvary. Transform me, Lord, for my life, like yours, be a spark with the taste of God, a glimpse of His immense love. Amen!

Rev. Martin Vavrak
Pastor

~ PARISHIONER CORNER ~

*Do you have a note or announcement you would like to share with your fellow parishioners?
If so, the bulletin is great place to do so! If you would like to have something posted,
please email Fred by the preceding Wednesday.*

~ TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~

The following is an outline to use with the Green Hymnal.

Page Number		Page Number	
11-13	Enarxis & Litany of Peace SIT	49-50	For the precious gifts...
14-15	First & Second Antiphons	53 Melody B	Creed
18 Melody A	Hymn of the Incarnation STAND	56 Melody B	Holy, Holy, Holy
22	Third Antiphon		Take, eat... PROFOUND BOW
25	Entrance Hymn		Drink of this... PROFOUND BOW
125	Troparion SIT	61	We praise you...
126	Kontakion	62	It is truly proper...
32 & Slavonic	Thrice-holy hymn STAND	63-65	Preparation of Communion SIT
127	Prokeimenon	74	Our Father STAND
	Epistle SIT	78	Communion Hymn
127	Alleluia STAND	83	We have seen...
35	Preparation for Gospel	84	May our mouth... SIT
	Gospel	87	Arise! Now that we... STAND
	Homily SIT	88 Melody A	Blessed be the name...
35-37	Litany of Fervent Supplication	454 Melody A	Beneath your Compassion
42	Cherubikon STAND		

~ HYMNS ~

OPENING HYMN

Set to melody: *When the angel came*

- To the Master’s side came a man, who cried: “Lord, take pity on my son!” Jesus heard his prayer and, with might so rare, made the demon’s work undone.
- Stumbling in their shame, his disciples came; all their striving had been vain. Jesus said at last, “Only prayer and fast could this victory attain.”
- The apostle’s word, seemingly absurd, shows the path that leads to God: Seen by all as fools, used by Christ as tools to destroy our sin’s façade.

Refrain: Faith the size of mustard seed has the power to conquer need. Mountains large and grand move at faith’s command; nothing stands against faith’s plead. (x2)

~ SLAVONIC ~

THRICE-HOLY HYMN

Svjatyj Bože, svjatyj kripkij, svjatyj bezsmertnyj pomiluj nas.

CLOSING HYMN

O Holy Spirit, mighty defender

- O Holy Spirit, mighty defender, to all who love you, comfort you give. Everywhere present, fountain of virtues, without your kindness, no one could live. Everywhere present, fountain of virtues, without your kindness, no one could live.
- O Holy Spirit, treasury of blessings, come, as was promised, life giving Flame. Come, dwell within us, quicken our cool hearts, strengthen our purpose to praise your name. Come, dwell within us, quicken our cool hearts, strengthen our purpose to praise your name.

~ READINGS ~

EPISTLE

1st Corinthians 4: 9-15

As I see it, God has put us apostles at the end of the line, like men doomed to die in the arena. We have become a spectacle to the universe, to angels and men alike. We are fools on Christ’s account. Ah, but in Christ you are wise! We are the weak ones, you the strong! They honor you, while they sneer at us! Up to this very hour we go hungry and thirsty, poorly clad, roughly treated, wandering about homeless. We work hard at manual labor. When we are insulted we respond with a blessing. Persecution comes out way; we bear it patently. We are slandered, and we try conciliation. We have become the world’s refuse, the scum of all; that is the present state of affairs. I am writing you in this way no to shame you but to admonish you as my beloved children. Granted you have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you have only one father. It was I who begot you in Christ Jesus through my preaching of the gospel. I beg you, then, be imitators of me.

GOSPEL

Matthew 17: 14-22

At that time a man came up to Jesus and knelt before him. “Lord,” he said, “take pity on my son, who is demented and in a serious condition. For example, he often falls into the fire and frequently into the water. I have brought him to your disciples but they could not cure him. In reply Jesus said: “What an unbelieving and perverse lot you are! How long must I remain with you? How long can I endure you! Bring him here to me!” Then Jesus reprimanded the demon and it came out of the boy. That very moment the boy was cured. The disciples approached Jesus at that point and asked him privately, “Why could we not expel it?” “Because you have so little trust,” he told them. “I assure you, if you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you would be able to say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible for you. This kind does not leave but by prayer and fasting.” When they met again in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men who will put him to death, and he will be raised up on the third day.”