

*Our Lady of the Sign
Byzantine Catholic Church*

7311 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, Florida 33073
www.SouthFloridaByzantine.org

Rev. Martin Vavrak

Pastor

fr.martin@SouthFloridaByzantine.org
(732) 501-2810

Mr. Fred Wilson

Parish Manager & Cantor

fwilson@SouthFloridaByzantine.org
(631) 974-1011



Website



Contribute

Fr. Deacon Michael Opalka

Mr. Jon Cipyak, III & Ms. Lynn McFadden
Assistant Cantors

Ms. Susan Scotts & Mr. Mike Donegan
Parish Guild Co-Chairs

Mr. Jon Cipyak, IV & Mr. Mike Donegan
Lay Trustees

**CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINU VOSKRESE!
CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday of the Paralytic Man

EPISTLE Acts 9: 32-42
GOSPEL John 5: 1-15

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of Fina Gonzalez & Raul Gonzalez

Saturday, April 25, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Health & Blessing of Jason R. Cipyak
by Jon & Suzie Cipyak

Sunday, April 26, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

+Michael Dibisceglie
by Susan Scotts

no weekday services or activities

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

EPISTLE Acts 11: 19-26 & 29-30
GOSPEL John 4: 5-32

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of Fina Gonzalez & Raul Gonzalez

Saturday, May 2 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Sunday, May 3, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

Health & Blessing of Frank Wilson
by F. Wilson Family

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Fr. Martin is available to hear confession immediately following each Divine Liturgy or by scheduling an appointment in advance by contacting Fr. Martin.

ROSARY SCHEDULE

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

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, Helena Huk, Angie Nemeth, Lesia, Fina Gonzalez, Raul Gonzalez, and Natasha Lemeshova. 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

Funeral services for +Clara Legedzh have been arranged and are noted below. Please join us as we gather to honor her memory, and support her family in this time of loss.

Star of David Memorial Chapel – Main Chapel
7701 Bailey Road
North Lauderdale, FL 33068

Saturday, May 2

Visitation: 11 am

Parastas Service: 12 noon

Pastoral Message

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

In today's Gospel, we witness Christ's profound healing at the Pool of Bethesda. The paralytic, lying helpless for 38 years, longs for healing but has no one to place him in the waters. Then Christ, the true Physician of souls and bodies, approaches him—not with water, but with divine authority. "Do you want to be made well?" (John 5:6) This question is essential. Healing is not merely physical; it is deeply personal and spiritual. Christ does not force healing upon us—He invites us to participate in it. In response, the man acknowledges his struggle, and Jesus commands him: "Rise, take up your bed, and walk." (John 5:8) Instantly, he is restored. This passage reflects the essence of Theosis—our journey toward union with God. Christ's healing is not just a momentary relief but a transformation, calling us to rise above sin, despair, and spiritual paralysis. Like the paralytic, we must not wait passively but embrace the healing Christ offers through repentance, prayer, and sacramental life—especially the Mystery of Holy Anointing, which continues His healing ministry in the Church.

Our daily lives are the canvas on which the resurrection paints its most vivid picture. Whether we are called to feed the hungry, care for the sick, or share a kind word with a weary neighbor, we participate in the great work of transformation that began at Bethesda. In our gatherings—on what we now call Sunday—we remember that our faith is not confined to worship rituals but extends to every aspect of our existence. Our work, our relationships, and even our moments of quiet reflection are all opportunities to live out the reality of resurrection. In the words of the Apostle Paul, we are reminded that the resurrection is not only the cornerstone of our faith but also the source of our strength. It is a truth that transforms our very identity and empowers us to overcome the limitations of our flesh. For just as Christ's command brought immediate healing to a man who had been paralyzed for decades, so too does His living word bring renewal to every heart that is willing to listen. As we face the world each day, we are invited to experience a resurrection in our lives—a rising from the dead habits of fear, complacency, and sin.

Today, let us examine our own hearts. Where are we spiritually paralyzed? Where is Christ calling us to rise? Through the intercession of the Theotokos and all the saints, may we receive the grace to stand, walk, and follow Christ ever more deeply. May the blessing of the Father who calls us and His Only Begotten Son Jesus Christ who saves us, and the Holy Spirit who sanctifies and transforms us be with us all, that we may hear His word and bear fruit—thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold. Amen.

*In Christ,
Fr. Martin Vavrak - Pastor*