

*Our Lady of the Sign
Byzantine Catholic Church*

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Rev. Martin Vavrak

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Website



Contribute

Fr. Deacon Michael Opalka

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

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

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

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

LITURGY & ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

**Sunday of the Fathers of the
First Ecumenical Council**
EPISTLE Acts 20: 16-18 & 28-36
GOSPEL John 17: 1-13

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

Saturday, May 31, 2025, 5:00 p.m.
For the Health & Blessing of Helena Huk

Sunday, June 1, 2025, 10:00 a.m.
+Teresa McDermott
by Susan Scotts

Theotokos, Star of the Sea – Guild Meeting

Wednesday, June 4, 2025, 5:45 p.m.

Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, June 4, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Pentecost Sunday
EPISTLE Acts 2: 1-11
GOSPEL John 7: 37-52 & 8: 12

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

Saturday, June 7, 2025, 5:00 p.m.
Health & Blessing of the Parish Family
Fifth All Souls Panachida

Sunday, June 8, 2025, 10:00 a.m.
Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Fr. Martin is available to hear confession during the following timeslots, and after each Divine Liturgy.
• Wednesday: 6:30 until 6:50 p.m. • Saturday: 4:30 until 4:50 p.m. • Sunday: 9:30 until 9:50 a.m.

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 are visiting our parish for the first time, be sure to pick-up a welcome card, which shares some key information about the Byzantine Liturgy. 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, and Nadiia Mykytiak. 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.

Please support these local businesses, who contribute to the financial wellbeing of our parish.

Supreme Landscape Services

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

BULLETIN ADVERTISING While we are doing our best to trim the 2025 operating budget, we need your help. One revenue source we are looking at to fill the back pages of our weekly bulletin with advertisements from local businesses. This requires little cost to OLOS (design time, paper and printer ink) with maximum profit. If each of our 40 registered families were to sell one medium sized ad, we would meet our projected budget shortfall for 2025. Ad forms are available in the back of the church. Consider asking your dentist, lawyer, landscaper, drycleaner, hairstylist, jeweler, realtor, auto-repair shop, delicatessen or restaurant you frequent if they'd advertise. We even offer website advertising for large donors!

Announcements and Reminders continued...

FAMILY IN NEED We have a beloved family in our parish quietly facing a serious health challenge. While the details are private, their needs are very real – and we have an opportunity to surround them with Christ’s love in action. We are seeking volunteers who are willing to help with meals, transportation, and financial support. If you feel called to contribute in any way, please call or text Susan Scotts at 561.895.9110, or speak with her in person. Susan will coordinate all with care and discretion. Please be mindful: the children in the family are not aware of the situation, so we kindly ask that this not be discussed publicly. Let us come together as a community of faith and compassion. Your kindness will make more of a difference that you can imagine.

WILLS AND TRUSTS Our Lady of the Sign welcomes charitable donations made by bequest through your Will or through Trust. A Bequest is a unique gift of money or assets left through your will and is an investment in the future of your Parish. By leaving a bequest, you are making a lasting difference in the life of the Parish community. Please contact parish manager Fred Wilson or lay trustee Michael Donegan if you have any questions.

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS A few updates have been made / or are in the process of being made around the church, and sponsorship is available. Each person or family sponsor will receive a plaque noting their contribution in the vestibule. If interested, please speak with Fred.

Altar Candelabra and Candles
Processional Cross and Liturgical Fans
Gospel Book Gilding
Vestments
Altar Cloths
Security Cameras
Sound System

Summer Eparchy Events

If you are interested in attending any of the following, please speak with Fr. Marti or Fred

- June 22-29: 2nd Annual Pilgrimage to the miraculous Albazinskaya icon (Theotokos, the Helper of Mothers) at Saint Nicholas Church, Dunnellen, NJ
- July 6-10: Camp Theodore Tyros—Teen Co-ed Camp, Ages 13-17
- July 13-17: Camp Theotokos—Girls Camp, Ages 6-17
- July 16-20: Metropolia Assembly 2025 at Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church - Whiting, Indiana
- July 20-24: Altar Server Congress—Ages 6-17
- August 3: Annual Saint Nicholas Pilgrimage at Carpathian Village/Saint Nicholas Shrine
- Aug 10-14: Camp St Nicholas—Preteen Co-ed Camp, Ages 6-12

Pastoral Message

Dear and beloved friends, visitors and parishioners,

We are celebrating the feast of The Ascension of Christ Our Lord God and Savior!

For forty days after His resurrection from the dead, the Risen Lord appeared to His chosen apostles and to many believers. On the fortieth day, on the Mount of Olives, the Lord ascended into the heavens. In the icon depicting this event, we sense the joy of those present - the Mother of God and the Apostles. Christ is seen ascending in glory surrounded by a circular multi-colored nimbus, supported by angels. The presence of the angels is but another indication of the divinity of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Cod in the Old Testament was depicted as enthroned upon the Cherubim. The Mother of God is in the center and directly below Her Son. The Apostles are on both sides of the Mother of God. The scene of the Mother of God with the Apostles will also be for another important event - Pentecost, the Descent of the Holy Spirit. Jesus ascended amidst the peals of the trumpets. Joy for the victory of the Lord God. Joy for His Resurrection and return to heaven. He is in heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father and will one day return to the earth - come again to judge both the living and the dead. The good and faithful disciple will be then rewarded with eternal life with the Lord God.

May God bless you and protect you!

*In Christ,
Fr. Martin Vavrak - Pastor*

Announcements and Reminders

THANK YOU! Our final reporting has been mailed to the chancery, which means the annual Bishop’s Appeal has official ended for OLOS. Our goal was to have 100% parishioner participation to help achieve the Bishop’s goal for our parish, \$6,200.00. Twenty-three of our forty registered families contributed a total of \$5,447.00. Thank you to those who contributed and brought us ever so close to our financial goal.

THEOTOKOS, STAR OF THE SEA The OLOS Parish Guild meets each month to discuss outreach, fundraising, renovations, and parish growth. Meetings are open to all parishioners, no invitation or sign-up needed. If you’d like to find out more about what is going on around the parish, or offer an idea or two, please feel free to join us. The next meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday, June 4, at 5:45 p.m. Stop in to say hello and share your ideas. Remember, this is YOUR parish. Your ideas and support are vital for it’s ability to only remain open, but to grow.

SOCIAL MEDIA OLOS is now on X (formally Twitter)! Follow us at **ByzantineSFL**. If you have yet to follow us on FaceBook or Instagram, please take a moment to do so. When you follow our social media accounts and like or share our posts, you help us with outreach and parish growth. Links to all our social media accounts can be found on the homepage of our website: SouthFloridaByzantine.org

Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Page Number		Page Number	
11-13	Enarxis & Litany of Peace SIT	49-50	For the precious gifts...
196	First & Second Antiphons	53 Melody B	Creed
18 Melody A	Hymn of the Incarnation STAND	55	Anaphora
197	Third Antiphon	56 Melody A	Holy, Holy, Holy
197	Entrance Hymn		Take, eat... PROFOUND BOW
197-198	Troparion SIT		Drink of this... PROFOUND BOW
199	Kontakion	61 Melody H	We praise you...
Slavonic	Thrice-Holy Hymn STAND	200-201	Instead of "It is truly proper..."
200	Prokeimenon	63-65	Preparation of Communion SIT
	Epistle SIT	74	Our Father STAND
200	Alleluia STAND	79 Melody D	Communion Hymns
35	Preparation for Gospel	202	Instead of "We have seen..."
	Gospel	202	Instead of "May our mouth..." SIT
	Homily SIT	87	Arise! Now that we... STAND
35-37	Litany of Fervent Supplication	88 Melody A	Blessed be the name...
Slavonic	Cherubikon STAND	454 Melody A	Beneath your Compassion

EPISTLE

Acts 20: 16-18 & 28-36 In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus so as not to lose time in Asia, for he was eager to get to Jerusalem by the feast of Pentecost if at all possible. Paul sent word from Miletus to Ephesus, summoning the presbyters of that church. When they came to him he delivered this address: "Keep watch over yourselves, and over the whole flock the Holy Spirit has given you to guard. Shepherd the church of God, which he has acquired at the price of his own blood. I know that when I am gone, savage wolves will come among you who will not spare the flock. From your own number, men will present themselves distorting the truth and leading astray any who follow them. Be on guard, therefore. Do not forget that for three years, night and day, I never ceased warning you individually even to the point of tears. I commend you now to the Lord, and to that gracious work of his which can enlarge you, and give you a share among all who are consecrated to him. Never did I set my heart on anyone's silver or gold or envy the way he dressed. You yourselves know that these hands of mine have served both my needs and those of my companions. I have always pointed out to you that it is by such hard work that you must help the weak. You need to recall the words of the Lord Jesus himself, who said, 'There is more happiness in giving than receiving.'" After this discourse, Paul knelt down with them all and prayed. They began to weep without restraint, throwing their arms around him and kissing him, for they were deeply distressed to hear that they would never see his face again. Then they escorted him to the ship.

GOSPEL

John 17: 1-13 At that time Jesus looked up to heaven and said: "Father, the hour has come! Give glory to your Son that your Son may give glory to you, inasmuch as you have given him authority over all mankind, that he may bestow eternal life on those you gave him. Eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and him whom you have sent, Jesus Christ. I have given you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. Do you now, Father, give me glory at your side, a glory I had with you before the world began. I have made your

name know to those you gave me out of the world. These men you gave me were yours; they have kept your word. Now they realize that all you have me comes from you. I entrusted to them the message you entrusted to me and they received it. They have known that in truth I came from you, they have believed it was you who sent me. For these I pray – not for the world but for these you have given me, for they are really yours. Just as all that belongs to me us yours, so all that belongs to you in mine. It is in them that I have been glorified. I am in the world no more, but these are in the world as I come to you. O father most holy, protect them with your name which you have given me that they may be one, even as we are one. As long as I was with them, I guarded them with your name which you gave me. I kept careful watch, and not one of them was lost – in fulfillment of Scripture. Now, however, I come to you: I say all this while I am still in the world that they may share my joy completely."

SLAVONIC

THRICE-HOLY HYMN

Svjatyj Bože, svjatyj kripkij, svjatyj bezsmertnyj pomiluj nas. (3x) Slava Otcu, i Synu, i svja tomu Duchu. I nyňi, i prisno, i vo viki vikov amiň. Svjatyj bezsmertnyj pomiluj nas. Svjatyj Bože, svjatyj kripkij, svjatyj bezsmertnyj pomiluj nas.

CHERUBIKON

1. Iže Cheruvimi * Cheruvimi tajno. * Cheruvimi tajno, tajno, * Cheruvimi tajno tajno, * obrazujušče * obrazujušče.
2. I životvorjaščej * Trojcitrisvjatuju. * Trojci, Trojci, trisvjatuju, * Trojci, Trojci, trisvjatuju, * pišň prinosjaščje * pišň prinosjaščje.
3. Vsja kiju nyňi * nyňi žitejskiju. * nyňi, nyňi žitejskiju * nyňi, nyňi žitejskiju * otveržim pečal' * otveržim pečal'.

HYMNS

1. Then lifting up his eyes to you, the Lord said to his Father true: "The time has come! Now glorify your Son with joy that cannot die."
2. "Eternal life means knowing you and me as Christ, Messiah true. All you have given, I have done; now glorify me as your Son."
3. "Now keep all those you gave to me, that they, with you and me, may be united in our bonds of love, both here on earth and in heav'n above!"
4. All praise, O ris'n, ascended Lord, from all Your Church with one accord; thus to the Father, glory by, and to the Spirit: One in Three!

Refrain: Your Spirit send, O Father, Lord! Your Spirit send, O Father, Lord!