

## 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 ~

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**  
EPISTLE 1st Corinthians 3: 9-17  
GOSPEL Matthew 14: 22-34

**Saturday, July 25, 2026, 5:00 p.m.**  
For the Faithful of the Parish

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

**Sunday, July 26, 2026, 10:00 a.m.**  
+Stephen Gerard Finnegan  
by Susan Scotts

#### Vespers

**Wednesday, July 29, 2026, 7:00 p.m.**

**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

### 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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*Trusted service provider for Our Lady of the Sign*

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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 ~

**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.

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS** When traveling, please remember OLOS as our monthly expenses continue, no matter the season. Consider setting up recurring online contributions via Tithe.ly, a service authorized by the Eparchy to accept online contributions. A link can be found on our website.

### EPARCHIAL EVENTS

•July 31 – August 2  
Young Adult Convocation  
Hillsborough, NJ

•August 2  
Annual Saint Nicholas Pilgrimage  
Carpathian Village

•August 9 – 13  
Camp Theotokos  
Carpathian Village

*If you are interested in attending any of the above events, please speak with Fr. Martin or Fred.*

## ~ 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!

### THE WALKING ON THE WATER

After feeding the multitude physically and spiritually, the Lord sent His disciples to the other side of the lake, dismissed the crowd and went up into a mountain to pray. Again and again we read that the Lord withdraws to pray alone to God the Father. Here he gives us another example how we should act. Being God Himself, the Lord had no need to pray to God the Father. But as man He prays to God, for humanity has a constant need to be in communion with the Source of Life.

While He was praying, a storm arose on the lake. Knowing that the disciples were in trouble, at about the fourth watch of the night (6 a.m.), the Lord came to their help, walking on the water. And He seemed to be passing by, but the disciples cried out in fear, thinking He was a ghost. Then He said: "Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid." The Greek words translated by "it is I" here literally mean: "I am". This is the name of God as given to Moses at the burning bush (Exodus 3.14). Only God is self-existent and uncreated; He is the only Being whose Existence depends on no other being; which is why He can truly say: "I AM".

Then Peter said: "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." Jesus said: "Come." When Peter got out of the boat, he walked on the water towards Christ. But when he became aware of the strong wind, he became afraid and began to sink. "Lord, save me!" he cried, and immediately the Lord caught him by the hand, saying: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat the wind ceased and immediately they were on the other side. As long as Peter was filled with longing to be with Christ and looked only at Him, He was safe. But as soon as he looked at the stormy waves and wind, he began to lose faith, forgetting Who it was towards Whom he was walking - the Lord of creation.

The boat with the disciples was in trouble just before dawn. The Lord came to their rescue, and as soon as He entered the boat they arrived. This is a foreshadowing to the state of the Church in the last times, when the Lord will come and rescue His elect just when they look like going under.

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.*

~ NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~

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

| Page Number   |                                      | Page Number  |                                      |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 11-13         | Enarxis & Litany of Peace <b>SIT</b> | 49-50        | For the precious gifts...            |
| 14-15         | First & Second Antiphons             | 53 Melody B  | Creed                                |
| 18 Melody A   | Hymn of the Incarnation <b>STAND</b> | 56 Melody B  | Holy, Holy, Holy                     |
| 22            | Third Antiphon                       |              | Take, eat... <b>PROFOUND BOW</b>     |
| 25            | Entrance Hymn                        |              | Drink of this... <b>PROFOUND BOW</b> |
| 161           | Troparion <b>SIT</b>                 | 61           | We praise you...                     |
| 162           | Kontakion                            | 62           | It is truly proper...                |
| 32 & Slavonic | Thrice-holy hymn <b>STAND</b>        | 63-65        | Preparation of Communion <b>SIT</b>  |
| 162           | Prokeimenon                          | 74           | Our Father <b>STAND</b>              |
|               | Epistle <b>SIT</b>                   | 78           | Communion Hymn                       |
| 163           | Alleluia <b>STAND</b>                | 83           | We have seen...                      |
| 35            | Preparation for Gospel               | 84           | May our mouth... <b>SIT</b>          |
|               | Gospel                               | 87           | Arise! Now that we... <b>STAND</b>   |
|               | Homily <b>SIT</b>                    | 88 Melody A  | Blessed be the name...               |
| 35-37         | Litany of Fervent Supplication       | 454 Melody A | Beneath your Compassion              |
| 42            | Cherubikon <b>STAND</b>              |              |                                      |

~ HYMNS ~

**OPENING HYMN**

Set to melody: *All the faithful come before you*

- Sending his disciples sailing, Jesus went to pray. Waves began to toss their vessel; skies turned dark and grey.
- Then came Jesus, walking toward them on the stormy wave. Thinking him a ghost, in terror they began to rave.
- Jesus hastened to assure them; “Fear not! It is I!” Peter said, “Then call me to you ‘cross the waters high.”
- Jesus said, “How little faith you’ve come to place in me.” Then he turned, rebuked the water quiet was the sea!
- Each of us is God’s own temple, where the Spirit lives; and God’s temple is most holy – holiness God gives!

Refrain: Peter cried, “Lord, save me!” as he began to fall; Jesus stretched His hand and rescued him from faith so small. As you did for him, O Master, hear and save us all.

~ 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 3: 9-17 *[Apollos and I]* are God’s co-workers, while you are his cultivation, his building. Thanks to the favor God showed me I laid a foundation as a wise master-builder might do, and now someone else is building upon in. Everyone, however, must be careful how he builds. No one can lay a foundation other than the one that has been laid, namely Jesus Christ. If different ones build on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay or straw, the work of each will be made clear. The Day will disclose it. That day will make its appearance with fire, and fire will test the quality of each man’s work. If the building a man has raised on this foundation still stands, he will receive his recompense; if a man’s building burns, he will suffer loss. He himself will be saved, but only as one fleeing through fire. Are you not aware that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? In anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, and you are that temple.

GOSPEL

Matthew 14: 22-34 At that time while dismissing the crowds, Jesus insisted that his disciples get into the boat and precede him to the other side of the lake. When he had sent them away, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray, remaining there alone as evening drew on. Meanwhile the boat, already several hundred yards out from shore, was being tossed about in the waves raised by strong headwinds. At about three in the morning, Jesus came walking toward them on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. “It is a ghost!” they said, and in their fear they began to cry out. Jesus hastened to reassure them: “Get hold of yourselves! It is I. Do not be afraid!” Petere spoke up and said, “Lord, if it is really you, tell me to come to you across the water.” “Come!” Jesus said. So Petere got out of the boat and began to walk on the water, moving toward Jesus. But when he perceived how strong the wind was, becoming frightened, he began to sink and cried out, “Lord, same me!” Jesus at once stretched out his hand and caught him. “How little faith you have!” he exclaimed. “Why did you falter?” Once they had climbed into the boat, the wind dies down. Those who were in the boat showed him reverence, declaring, “Beyond doubt you are the Son of God.” After making the crossing they reached the shore at Gennesaret.