

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 ~

Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross

EPISTLE Galatians 2: 16-20
GOSPEL Mark 8: 34-9: 1

Saturday, September 19, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Typika "Psalm" Service

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Sunday, September 20, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

Typika "Psalm" Service

- NO WEEKDAY SERVICES -

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE 2nd Corinthians 9: 6-22
GOSPEL Luke 5: 1-11

Saturday, September 26, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

For the Faithful of the Parish

Sunday, September 27, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

+Avram Hora

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

by Michelle and Michael Bentivegna

SCHEDULE CHANGE

Once a year, the priests of our Eparchy are called by our Bishop for a weeklong retreat. That retreat is taking place this week. Please keep Fr. Martin and the priests of our Eparchy in your prayers as they travel. Our normal schedule of services and confession will resume next weekend.

ROSARY SCHEDULE

- 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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Chiropractic

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Trusted service provider for Our Lady of the Sign

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, Fr. Dcn. Michael Opalka, Claudia Alarcon, Angie Nemeth, 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 ~

TAG SALE On Saturday, November 7, we will be hosting a community tag sale from 7 am until 3:30 p.m. Take this opportunity to do a little fall cleaning and see what you'd like to donate for the church to sell. Items should be in good shape and sellable. We will start to accept donations the week prior to the sale. Volunteers are needed to help setup the booth, sell items, and cleanup. We also need volunteers at our food booth and to help direct parking. A signup sheet has been posted by the coffee station. Please consider lending a hand. If you would like to assist Fred in organizing the event, please let him know.

ST. NICHOLAS LUNCHEON Our annual St. Nicholas Luncheon has been scheduled for Sunday, December 6, from 12-3 at Eddy and Vinny's in Coral Springs. The Luncheon will be buffet style, and include: Ceaser Salad, Chicken Parm, their famous meatballs, Eggplant Parm, Rigatoni Vodka, Asparagus, Tiramisu, Butter Cake, soda, iced tea, and coffee. The cost is \$70.00 per person, and \$30.00 for children under 12. Tickets will go on sale October 3. If you'd like to attend, please see Event Co-Chairs Katie, Frank or Tammi. The restaurant will run a cash bar, which is not included in the ticket cost.

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION Are you seeking to grow closer to Christ through the beautiful liturgical and spiritual heritage of the Byzantine Catholic Church? Our Eastern Catholic Formation classes offer a transformative journey into the depths of our ancient faith. Classes will be held once a week, and will start in OCTOBER. Everyone is welcome, whether you're a lifelong Byzantine Catholic or newly discovering our traditions. Contact David Wilson for more information at: 407.985.8834

GIFT SHOP Three display cases have been placed in the back of the church, containing various items including rosaries and crosses. If you would like to purchase an item, please speak with usher Mike Bourdin or Frank Wilson.

~ 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.*

~ 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!

Sunday After The Exaltation of the Holy Cross:

Reading from St. John Chrysostom (c.347-407)

He that loves father or mother more than me, is not worthy of me. See a teacher's dignity? See how He signifies himself a true Son of Him that begat Him, commanding us to let go all things beneath, and to take in preference the love of Him? "And why speak I," said He, "of friends and kinsmen? Even if it be thine own life which thou preferrest to my love, thy place is far from my disciples." What then? Are not these things contrary to the Old Testament? Far from it, rather they are very much in harmony therewith. For there too He commands not only to hate the worshippers of idols, but even to stone them; and in Deuteronomy again, admiring these, He said. Who said unto his father, and to his mother, I have not seen thee; neither did he acknowledge his brethren, and his own sons he disowned: he kept Thy oracles. And if Paul gives many directions touching parents, commanding us to obey them in all things, marvel not; for in those things only does he mean us to obey, as many as do not hinder godliness. For indeed it is a sacred duty to render them all other honors: but when they demand more than is due, one ought not to obey. Then lest they should be indignant, or count it hard, see which way He makes His argument tend: in that having said. Who hateth not father and mother. He adds, and his own life. For why dost thou speak to me of parents, said He, and brothers, and sisters, and wife? Nothing is nearer than the life to any man: yet if thou hate not this also, thou must bear in all things the opposite of his lot who loveth me. And not even simply to hate it was His command, but so as to expose it to war, and to battles, and to slaughters, and blood. For he that does not take up his cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple. Thus, He said not merely that we must stand against death, but also against a violent death; and not violent only, but ignominious too.

Rev. Martin Vavrak – Pastor

~ SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS ~

Today, our service comes from the Blue Paperback entitled:
Typika – The Service of Holy Communion without a Priest

If you did not receive a copy when entering the church, please see our usher.

Our Pastor, Fr. Martin, is on retreat this week and will return next weekend. Before he left, he consecrated Holy Communion, which will be distributed during today’s service. This service fulfills your Sunday obligation.

~ HYMNS ~

OPENING HYMN

Hymn *melody: Pod tvoj pokrov / We Hasten to Your Patronage*



1. Christ called the crowd to Him and said, “If you would fol - low Me,
2. What prof - it, then, to gain the world And then to lose one’s soul?
3. For I am dead to my old self; With Christ I’m cru - ci - fied;



De - ny your - self, take up your cross, And my dis - ci - ple be!
What can be giv - en in ex - change That still would keep us whole?
The life I live is not my own - Yes, to my “self” I’ve died!



For those who seek to save their life Will lose it at the end;
If we be - have a - shamed of Christ, With wit - ness far from grand,
Christ lives in us; a life of faith—From sin and death set free,



But life lost for the Gos - pel’s sake Will live on as My friend.”
Christ will dis - own us each when we’re Be - fore the judg - ment - stand.
That I may know that lov - ing Lord, Who gave Him - self for me.

CLOSING HYMN

O Mary, Mother of our God

- Mary, Mother of our God, Most Pure One. Intercede for us before our Lord and God, your Son.
- Most Pure One, you were enthroned as heaven’s Queen. Even angels bow to you and hold you in esteem.

Refrain: Robed in radiance, more than all the stars above, Holy virgin Queen, made so by God’s love.

~ READINGS ~

EPISTLE

Galatians 2: 16-20

Knowing that a man is not justified by legal observance but by faith in Jeus Christ, we too have believed in him in order to be justified by faith in Christ, not by observance of the law, for by works of the law no one will be justified. But if, in seeking to be justified in Christ, we are shown to be sinners, does that mean that Christ is encouraging sin? Unthinkable! If, however, I were to build up the very things I had demolished, I should then indeed be a transgressor. It was through the law that I died to the law, to live for God. I have been crucified with Christ, and the life I live now is not my own; Christ is living in me. I still live my human life, but it is a life of faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

GOSPEL

Mark 8: 34b-38, 9: 1

The Lord said: “If a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross, and follow in my steps. Whoever would preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will preserve it. What profit does a man show who gains the whole world and destroys himself in the process? What can a man offer in exchange for his life? If anyone in this faithless and corrupt age is ashamed of me and my doctrine, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes with the holy angels in his Father’s glory.”

He also said to them: “I assure you, among those standing here there are some who will not taste death until they see the reign of God established in power.”