

Our Lady of the Sign
Byzantine Catholic Church

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

Rev. Martin Vavrak

Pastor

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Mr. Fred Wilson

Parish Manager & Cantor

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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

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

LITURGY & ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

Sunday of the Paralytic Man

EPISTLE Acts 9: 32-42

GOSPEL John 5: 1-15

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of Pope Leo XIV

Saturday, May 10, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

For the Faithful of the Parish

Sunday, May 11, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

+ Helen M. Monito

by Susan Scotts

Divine Liturgy

Mid-Pentecost

Wednesday, May 14, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

EPISTLE Acts 11: 19-26 & 29-30

GOSPEL John 4: 5-42

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Saturday, May 17, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

For the Faithful of the Parish

Sunday, May 18, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

+ Douglas Carrothers

by Susan Scotts

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.

NOTE The lampadas in front of the icons are delicate. Please be careful when sitting next to them.

MOTHER’S DAY This weekend, as we celebrate Mother’s Day, we pray for all the mothers in our parish families, both living and deceased.

THANK YOU Thank you to all who made our first annual parish picnic last week such a great success! It was a truly beautiful day for our parish.

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

Supreme Landscape Services

Call Bryan for free estimate

954-371-8600

Trusted service provider for Our Lady of the Sign

YOUR COMPANY HERE!

Option 3: 3.08 x 1.25

\$2,000.00 per year

Option 2: 2.5 x 1.25

\$1,400.00 per year

Option 1: 2.5 x .5

\$850.00 per year

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 37 registered families were to sell one medium sized ad, we would meet our projected budget shortfall for 2025. Ad forms are included in this week’s bulletin. 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!

Pastoral Message

Christ is Risen!

Dear brothers and sisters, beloved parishioners!

What a joyous Paschal time, Our Lord called back home Holy Father Francis and gave us new one. The most watched chimney around the world for more than 48 hours gave us finally a sign which was a white smoke as a sign that God is with Us and providing us with the guidance of The Holy Spirit. Cardinal Robert Prevost has been elected as the first US-born pontiff and will be known as Pope Leo XIV. Leo made his first remarks as pope from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica in front of tens of thousands of onlookers, calling for peace, unity and paying tribute to the late Pope Francis. The pope's election prompted an outpouring of congratulations from world leaders, and prayers from all Catholics around the whole world. It is a great honor for the country, as said US President Donald Trump who also called this the historic selection. Leo XIV will continue to encourage all of us to be aware of and to do what we can make this a better world for everybody, which means caring for the things that we have and have been given to us to share.

Let us support him spiritually with our daily prayers! God grant Him Many Blessed Years!!! Na mnohaja I blahaja Lita!

*In Christ,
Fr. Martin Vavrak - Pastor*

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, Georgia Gallo, Margaret Moore, Nadiia Mykytiak, and Jon Cipyak III. 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.

Announcements and Reminders

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

AUXILIARY BISHOP ORDINATION Yesterday, May 9, 2025, Rev. Gregg M. Caggianelli, Ch, Col, USAF, was ordained as an Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, FL. As many of you know, in addition to Fr. Martin's duties as Pastor of Our Lady of the Sign and Administrator of St. Basil, he serves as Chaplain for the U.S. Military. Fr. Martin represented both parishes at the ordination, along with Jorge Machado, altar server and lay trustee of St. Basil.

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.

CHURCH PLUMBING When the OLOS property was purchased back in the 80's, the city of Coconut Creek was vastly different from what you see today (think farmland). When Lyons Road was paved and expanded, and city utilities were installed, the connection cost was too great for our small parish, and as time passed, the cost only increased. To that end, both buildings still utilize well water and septic tanks. Unfortunately, this past weekend during the first annual parish picnic, the septic tank for the church became clogged. Repairs were performed this week, at a cost of \$9,882.50. During the repairs, wipes, diapers, and feminine hygiene products were found in the line. We kindly ask, please do not flush anything other than toilet tissue.

2025 BISHOP'S APPEAL Each year, the Bishop of our Eparchy holds a pledge drive to raise money for various projects throughout the eparchy, to help struggling parishes, and to build new missions. Monies from prior pledge drives funded the founding, building, and daily operations of Our Lady of the Sign until we were able to become self-sufficient. To reach our goal, a donation of \$200.00 is requested from each parish family. **The final deadline to contribute in Sunday, May 25.** If you have yet to make a contribution, please consider doing so and speak with Fred.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Did you celebrate your 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, etc., wedding anniversary in 2024? How about in 2025? If you did / will celebrate your anniversary during 2024 or 2025, a jubilee Divine Liturgy will be held at our sister church in Orlando, St. Nicholas of Myra, on January 17, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. The liturgy will be followed by a luncheon. There is no fee associated with the luncheon, other than travel expenditures. If you would like to attend, please register with Fr. Martin or Fred by November 1.

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