

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

~ LITURGY SCHEDULE ~

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE Romans 15: 1-7
GOSPEL Matthew 9: 27-35

Saturday, July 11, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Health & Blessing of Richie Vavrak
by F. Wilson Family

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Sunday, July 12, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

Deceased members of Cuppett Family
by Susan Scotts

Vespers

Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday of the Fathers of the Six Ecumenical Councils

EPISTLE 1st Corinthians 1: 10-18
GOSPEL Matthew 14: 14-22

Saturday, July 18, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

+John Legezdih
by F. Wilson Family

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of Angie Nemeth

Sunday, July 19, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

+John L. 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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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.***

Let us continue to remember in prayer the victims of the Venezuela earthquakes.

~ ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS ~

BLESSING OF CARS The Holy Prophet Elijah is associated with travel and protection during journeys. According to biblical tradition, Elijah was taken up to heaven in a fiery chariot, making him a natural patron for vehicles and safe travel. Immediately following Divine Liturgy next Saturday and Sunday, Fr. Martin will bless cars, RVs, motorcycles, scooters, bicycles, etc.

A CONE-GREGATION CELEBRATION Cool off with your parish family! Immediately following Divine Liturgy next Sunday, we're breaking out the bowls, spoons, and sprinkles for an Ice Cream Social in honor of International Ice Cream Day. We have to thank for this delicious holiday! In 1984, President Ronald Reagan officially declared July as National Ice Cream Month and set aside a Sunday to celebrate, noting that over 90% of Americans enjoy ice cream. Sounds like a mandate worth following, especially in this South Florida heat!

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

~ 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!

Commentary on Matthew 9:27-31

Our readings today are both about seeing. The Gospel speaks about the healing of two blind men. It is a story which we also find in Mark's Gospel, but here with significant differences. For instance, Mark has only one blind man while Matthew has two. It is important that we not read this as just another miracle, another proof of Jesus' divine power.

It begins with two blind men going after Jesus—calling after him in desperation: Have mercy on us, Son of David!

There is already an element of faith in calling Jesus by this messianic name (“Son of David”) and it also points to the healing power of Jesus—He is more than an ordinary rabbi. When they catch up to Jesus, he asks them: Do you have faith that I can do this? Without their trust in him, Jesus cannot do anything for them. We remember what was said about the unbelieving people of Nazareth. These men say they do believe and Jesus responds: According to your faith, let it be done to you.

They get their sight back. They can now see. Jesus tells them not to say anything about it. Jesus is not interested in being a sensation; he does not want people to have a wrong idea of his real mission. But they ignored his appeal and went about telling everyone of what had happened.

There is more here than meets the eye! What we have here is not just the restoration of their physical sight. They have gained ‘in-sight’. They can really see. They can see who Jesus really is, the Word of God, the Action of God—and they simply have to share that experience with everyone else. It is not something that they can keep to themselves.

It is significant that the following story is about the healing of a man who is unable to speak. There are several instances of Jesus healing muteness, deafness and blindness in the Gospel. As disciples of Christ we need to be able to see and understand the message of Jesus and then we need to proclaim it everywhere.

Today is a day for us to be aware of our own blindness and our own deafness. We often have difficulty really hearing and accepting the Word of God, and how many of us can claim that we can see Jesus as he really is? If we are to celebrate Christmas properly, we must learn how to listen to God's Word, with understanding and acceptance, and learn how to see deeply into the meaning of his life as it is presented to us. And it starts right there with the baby in the stable.

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.*

~ SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~

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

Page Number		Page Number	
11-13	Enarxis & Litany of Peace SIT	49-50	For the precious gifts...
14-15	First & Second Antiphons	53 Melody B	Creed
18 Melody A	Hymn of the Incarnation STAND	58 Melody C	Holy, Holy, Holy
22	Third Antiphon		Take, eat... PROFOUND BOW
25	Entrance Hymn		Drink of this... PROFOUND BOW
152	Troparion SIT	61	We praise you...
152	Kontakion	62	It is truly proper...
32 & Slavonic	Thrice-holy hymn STAND	63-65	Preparation of Communion SIT
153	Prokeimenon	71	Our Father STAND
	Epistle SIT	78	Communion Hymn
153	Alleluia STAND	83	We have seen...
35	Preparation for Gospel	84	May our mouth... SIT
	Gospel	87	Arise! Now that we... STAND
	Homily SIT	88 Melody A	Blessed be the name...
35-37	Litany of Fervent Supplication	454 Melody A	Beneath your Compassion
42	Cherubikon STAND		

~ HYMNS ~

OPENING HYMN

Set to melody: *We hasten to your patronage*

- Two blind men, searching Jesus out, made this their heartfelt plea: O Son of David, pity us! Cure us and let us see! Said Jesus, “Are you confident that this work I can do? The answered, “Yes!” and Jesus said, “it shall be done for you.”
- He turned to leave, and suddenly a crowd hemmed him around. They brought a man possessed to him, who could not make a sound. At Jesus’ word, the demon left; the mute man gained his voice. The crowd, amazed, said “Ne’re before were deeds like this! Rejoice!
- The strong in faith should bear with grace the scruples of the weak. Build up your neighbor, do him good let each God’s glory seek. All Scripture, written long ago, is given that we might find in God the source of patient hope. Be of one heart and mind!

~ SLAVONIC ~

THRICE-HOLY HYMN

Svjatyj Bože, svjatyj kripkij, svjatyj bezsmertnyj pomiluj nas.

CLOSING HYMN

We hasten to your patronage

- We hasten to your patronage, O Maiden full of grace. We seek your help in every need, our Queen and Advocate. And keep us free from sinful deeds, O Virgin, most beloved. We ask you to forsake us not; give mercy from above.
- O loving Mother, guard us now, who cry to you for aid. All those who place their hope in you remain so unafraid. And cover with your mantle blue your children who await. Salvation and redemption day, our Queen and Advocate.

~ READINGS ~

EPISTLE

Romans 15: 1-7

We who are strong in faith should be patient with the scruples of those whose faith is weak; we must not be selfish. Each should please his neighbor so as to do him good by building up his spirit. This, in accord with Scripture, Christ did not please himself; “The reproaches they uttered against you fell on me.” Everything written before our time was written for our instruction, that we might derive hope from the lessons of patience and the words of encouragement in the Scripture. May God, the source of all patience and encouragement, enable you to live in perfect harmony with one another according to the spirit of Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and voice you may glorify God, the father of our lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the glory of God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 9: 27-35

At that time as Jesus moved on from there, two blind men came after him crying out, “Son of David, have pity on us!” When he got to the house, the blind men caught up with him. Jesus said to them, “Are you confident I can do this?” “Yes, Lord,” they told him. At that he touched their eyes and said, “Because of your faith it shall be done to you”; and they recovered their sight. Then Jesus warned them sternly, “See to it that no one knows of this.” But they went off and spread word of him through the whole area. As they were leaving, suddenly some people brought him a mute who was possessed by a demon. Once the demon was expelled the mute began to speak, to the great surprise of the crowds. “Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel!” they exclaimed. But the Pharisees were saying, “He casts out demons through the prince of demons.” Jesus continued his tour of all the towns and villages. He taught in their synagogues, he proclaimed the good news of God’s reign, and he cured every sickness and disease.