



## ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN JOSEPH, ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK  
AND METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

HIS GRACE BISHOP NICHOLAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP  
OF THE DIOCESE OF MIAMI AND THE SOUTHEAST

## WELCOME VISITORS AND FAITHFUL

We are honored by your presence as our doors are open to anyone seeking the fullness of the Truth. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church. We are a parish community within the Body of Christ striving to “seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness” (Mt. 6:33) above all else. The Church is a spiritual hospital and our Lord Jesus Christ is the Great Physician who offers us healing, hope, and refuge – true life with real freedom. We answer Christ's call to repent and be transformed, healed of our brokenness, through a real spiritual life - our priority is to be in “perfect communion” with the living God.

Please make sure to sign our guest book at the visitors table in the Narthex/lobby area and join us after service for our fellowship hour in the pavilion. Fr. Paul is available to answer questions you may have about any facet of the Christian faith.

## ENCOURAGEMENT TO FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Your children are welcome here. Don't worry if they wiggle or squirm a bit. Unless your child is making more noise than our priest and choir, stay put. When they need a little more room, or a short break, it is OK to walk them to the back (or out) until they are ready to return. Please enjoy the “Children's Word” (bulletin) found on the banister upon entering the Nave (worship space).

If you want to raise your children in the Church, then they have to be in the church. The entire spiritual culture of the Orthodox faith is necessary formation for everyone, whether 40 days old, 40 years old, or 40 years a senior citizen.

It can be a sacrifice to raise children in the Church, and we know it, but if your child doesn't learn to incline his/her heart in worship, and turn aside from distraction from a young age, how in the world will they survive as an older Christian in a world which is designed to distract them?

## +HOLY COMMUNION (EUCARIST)+

The Orthodox Church understands the Eucharist, or Lord's Supper, to be the paramount expression of Christian unity. While it is our deepest hope that Christendom will one day fulfill Christ's desire for true unity among all those who claim His name (John 17:21), the reality of our day is that various segments of Christendom are not unified with the historic Orthodox Christian faith. Since participation in the Eucharist expresses a unity with all the dogma, teachings, and practice of the Orthodox Church, it is natural that non-Eastern Orthodox Christians (Roman Catholic, Protestant, Non-Chalcedonian/Oriental, etc.) do not approach the chalice for Holy Communion but respect the official policy of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America and canonical boundaries of the One, Holy, Catholic (Universal), and Apostolic Church - the Orthodox Christian Church. Teaching the people of Corinth about the seriousness of the Holy Eucharist, St. Paul warns:

*“Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord...For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep (i.e. die).” (1 Cor. 11:27;29).*

We lovingly desire the salvation of all - not judgment and condemnation.

All Eastern Orthodox Christians are expected to prepare for the receiving of the Body and Blood of Christ through recent confession, prayer, and fasting from all food/drink approximately midnight the night before. Please speak with Fr. Paul if medical conditions preclude it.



“...PRAY ONE FOR ANOTHER, THAT YOU MAY BE HEALED.  
THE EFFECTIVE, FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILS MUCH.”  
(JAMES 5:16)

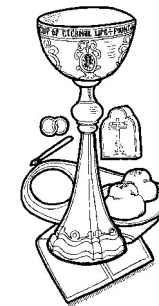
Please continue to pray for Fr. Joe and Kh. Diane Shaheen, Joe and the Hessney family, Christopher and the Sapp family, Al and Anna Castley, Victor and the Bard family, Ed and Marilyn Edge, Robert and Michaelene Aber, Mary Alvanette Kennan, the newly departed Jean Sam, Mary Ann Thomas, and Doris Hessney.

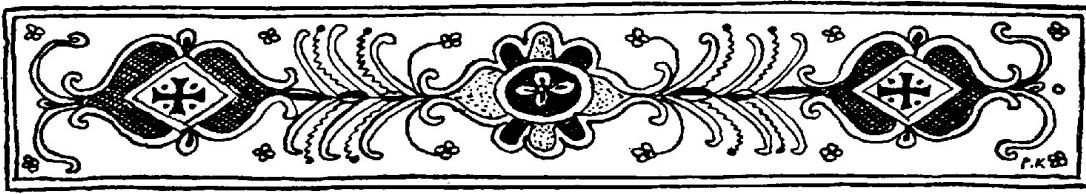
Prayers for the health of Dorothy Darany, Al and Anna Castley, Phil and Bette Ayoub, Fr. Joe and Kh. Diane Shaheen as well as the peaceful repose and memory of Jean Sam and Mary Ann Thomas are requested by Elias and Barbara Hebekka.

Prayers for the health of Phil Ayoub, on occasion of his recent birthday, and for the newly departed handmaiden of God Mary Ann Thomas have been requested by Bob and Barbara Nader.

Prayers in memory of Ed and Mary Ann Thomas are requested by Philip and Bette Ayoub as well as Nancy Penta and family.

MAY THE LORD OUR GOD HEAR OUR PRAYERS AND SEND DOWN UPON US HIS DIVINE GRACE FOR STRENGTH AND CONSOLATION.





### PARISH CLERGY

REV. FR. PAUL GIRGIS, PRESIDING PRIEST  
V. REV. FR. JOSEPH SHAAHEEN, RETIRED ARCHPRIEST  
REV. DN. NICHOLAS REID, ATTACHED DEACON

### WEEKLY SERVICES

*"A sure sign of the deadening of the soul is the avoidance of church services."  
+St. John Climacus ("The Ladder of Divine Ascent")*

#### Saturday\*

Great Vespers 6:00PM

#### Sunday

Orthros 8:30AM

Divine Liturgy 9:30AM

*\*Fr. Paul hears confessions after Great Vespers Saturday and by appointment.*

### WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Every Thursday 6PM-7PM - Join us!

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Stewardship Sunday w/Pancake Breakfast immediately following Divine Liturgy TODAY.
  - Stewardship Cards are located on banister in back of Nave (worship space).
  - Pancake breakfast tickets available on the way out to the Pavilion: Adults \$10; Children free.
- Blessing Homes - contact Fr. Paul to get on the schedule!
- "Specialty Bread Sale": Visit the bread sale table in Narthex or speak directly with Anna Castley.
- Order of St. Ignatius (OSI) Brunch - For members and those who are interested in becoming members - Sunday, Jan. 20 @ Pelican Marsh Clubhouse following Liturgy. Please see Barbara Hebeka.  
RSVP Deadline: Today - Jan. 13.

*For more info, calendar of special services/ events, visit: [stpaulnaples.org](http://stpaulnaples.org) or "facebook.com/stpaulnaples"*



## BLESSING HOMES

*"... keep safe from harm all those who dwell herein. Vouchsafe them sanctification, purification and health of body, and grant their petitions which are unto salvation and life everlasting..."*

**Blessing homes** of Orthodox Christians is done each year on or after the feast of Theophany. This act is the central sign of God's sanctification of all things through Christ's baptism in the river Jordan and His epiphany to the world... The sanctification of the home takes place with prayer and the sprinkling of holy water. The priest, at this annual visit, asks God to have mercy on the house, to rid it of every evil and to fill it with every blessing. Everyone of the house prays together for the living and the dead of the family... and process from room to room while the priest blesses the house.

*(source: orthodoxwiki.org)*

### WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN THE PRIEST BRINGS THE WATERS OF THEOPHANY INTO YOUR HOME?

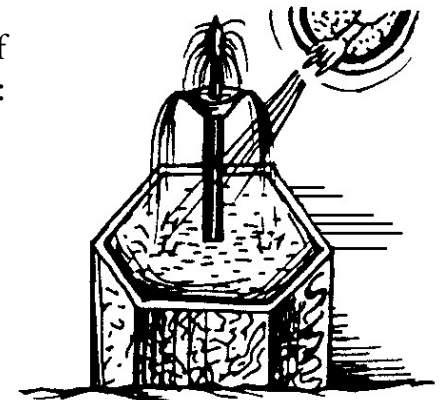
Fr. Paul will come with the angels, with the water of the Jordan and the blessing of Christ, to distribute holiness, encouragement, strength, joy, and grace, for the peace and purification of your life. This is why every Orthodox Christian should bless their home.

To schedule a house blessing and establish a "bond of holiness" between The Church and your home, contact:

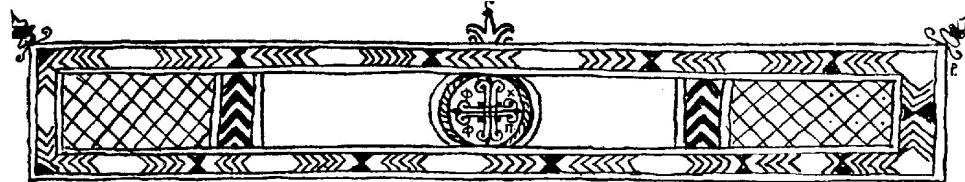
**Fr. Paul Girgis**

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**239-348-0828 (office)**







## THE SYNAXARION

(AN ABRIDGED COLLECTION OF THE “LIVES OF THE SAINTS”)

On January 13 in the Holy Orthodox Church we continue to celebrate the Theophany of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we commemorate the holy Martyrs Hermynos and Stratonikos of Belgrade.

### Verses

*Hermynos and Stratonikos’ ship was a basket, wherein they sailed a joint voyage to the bottom. On the thirteenth the Danube drowned Hermynos and companion.*

The Emperor Licinius started a persecution against Christians, and so Hermynos was captured and led to court. When Hermynos was informed that he was being led away to be tortured, he greatly rejoiced. The emperor threatened him in vain. Hermynos responded, “The Lord is with me; I fear not. What can man do against me?” (Psalm 118:6). Following excruciating tortures, Hermynos was thrown into the dungeon. The guard Stratonikos, secretly a Christian, sympathized with the suffering of Hermynos. When it was reported to the emperor that Stratonikos was also a Christian, the emperor ordered that both of them be drowned in the Danube River. Three days later, their bodies washed ashore. Christians discovered their bodies and buried them about eighteen miles from Belgrade. These martyrs suffered for Christ and were glorified in 315.

On this day we also commemorate the Martyrs Pachomios and Papyrinos of Greece; Venerable Maximos Kafsokalyvitis of Athos; Venerable Eleazar of Anzersk Island; and Hilarion, bishop of Poitiers.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.



SUNDAY - JANUARY 13, 2019

SUNDAY AFTER THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

MARTYRS HERMYLOS AND STRATONIKOS OF BELGRADE; MARTYRS PACHOMIOS AND PAPYRINOS OF GREECE; VENERABLE MAXIMOS KAFSOKALYVITIS OF ATHOS; VENERABLE ELEAZAR OF ANZERSK ISLAND; HILARION, BISHOP OF POITIERS

+DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the threeday burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

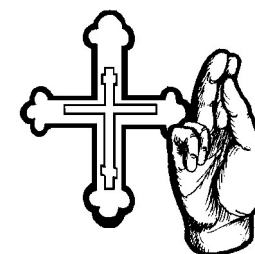
### APOLYTIKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity wast made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the likeness of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

+Now sing the apolytikion of the holy Apostle Paul+

### KONTAKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST IN TONE FOUR

On this day Thou hast appeared unto the whole world, and Thy light, O Sovereign Lord, is signed on us who sing Thy praise and chant with knowledge: Thou hast now come, Thou hast appeared, O Thou Light unapproachable.



## THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday after Theophany of Christ)

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (4:7-13)**

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it is said, "When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is He who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

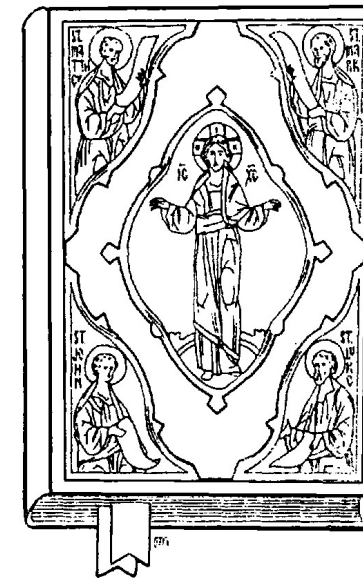


## THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday after Theophany of Christ)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (4:12-17)**

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulon and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulon and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand."



## BELOVED FAMILY OF SAINT PAUL:



THE ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN of our Parish are offering each of us an opportunity to offer aid to the suffering people throughout our world by preparing:

### EMERGENCY KITS\*

During February, March and April, we are preparing **Hygiene Kits**: Buy a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure and please assemble the following items:

- ❖ One hand towel
- ❖ One washcloth
- ❖ One comb
- ❖ One nail clipper
- ❖ One bar of soap (bath size)
- ❖ One toothbrush (NO TOOTHPASTE)
- ❖ Six Band-Aids

We recommend that you then place them inside the zippered bag & drop them into the clearly marked box in the Conference Room.



Any cash donations to offset mailing costs will be gratefully accepted.

## STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 2019

**“STEWARDSHIP IS FAITH IN ACTION.”**

JANUARY 13, 2019

Brothers and sisters, being Orthodox Christian is a tremendously joyful and humbling reality - beyond description. We find ourselves experiencing the life of the Church, a life that brings us spiritual growth, comfort, faith, hope and a deepening communion with the Creator of the universe.

**Each one of us desires to see this life grow and flourish in our community - do we not?** Since we are but tenants in the world, entrusted with the care of God's gifts, our answer is “lived-out” by how we protect and grow those very gifts.

**Stewardship** is the offering of our God-given *time, talent, and treasure* not simply to the parish for any specific purpose, but through the parish and back to God. This is how we shape the world as Christians - starting with our own heart.

It is not about a “clever” program or appeal but rather a way of life. The Christian life is not a “mindless commitment” but rather a constant confession of faith in the Living God.

***“Stewardship is faith in action.”***

Christian Stewardship, our giving, is a visible symbol of the inner disposition of the soul towards the Creator of the Universe – how we respond matters.

+Stewardship Cards are located on banister in back of Nave (worship space)+



**A LITTLE DAILY WISDOM  
FROM THE EARLY CHURCH**

*God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the degrading of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever!*

Romans 1:24-25

**A**bbba Isaiah explained that when God takes pity on a rebellious soul, he allows it to experience self-induced suffering, prompting the soul to turn to him again.

**God prompts the rebellious soul to turn to him again.**

*Source: "A Little Daily Wisdom from the Early Church" compiled by Bernard Bangely*