



SAINT PAUL



ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



REV. FR. PAUL GIRGIS
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WWW.STPAULNAPLES.ORG



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 (EUCHARIST)+

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 mid-night the night before. Please speak with Fr. Paul if medical conditions preclude it.



2019 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE UPDATE

“STEWARDSHIP IS FAITH IN ACTION.”

45 Pledges received; Goal: 80 Pledges

\$100,030 Pledged; Goal: \$130,000

Average Pledge To-date: \$2,222.88

Thank you to those who have submitted their 2019 Stewardship Pledges.

Please submit your pledge card as soon as possible -- our goal is 100% participation.

If you have misplaced the information, cards are located on banister in back of Nave (worship space).

Please return your card:

Through mail to St. Paul Church, in offering plate, or drop it in candle box.

[All pledges are confidential]

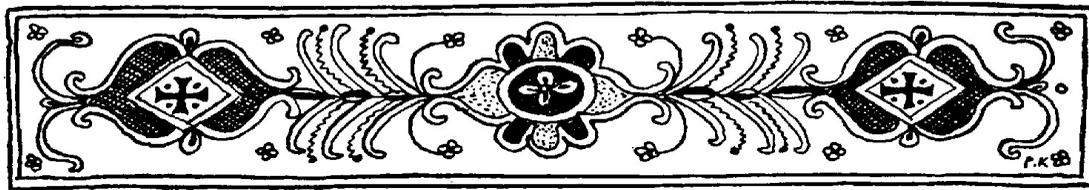
Thank you,

The Stewardship Team

*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.

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.



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

Thursday 6PM-7PM

HIGHLIGHTS

- Founders' Weekend Mar. 2 & 3 - Get your tickets - See the Invitation & "Angel Letter"!
- Stewardship Cards are located on banister in back of Nave (worship space).
- Blessing Homes - contact Fr. Paul to get on the schedule!
- "Specialty Bread Sale": Visit the bread sale table in Narthex.
- AW Meeting—Saturday, February 23, 2019, 11:30 am at Pelican Marsh.

Fellowship Coffee Hour is hosted by Shirley Nicholas and Jo Krevinko - please join us in the Pavilion! We also thank Fr. George and Kh. Nouhad Shalhoub for sending the wonderful sweets for our enjoyment, the continued health of the St. Paul community and Mr. and Mrs. Nicola and Virginia Antakli.

For more info, calendar of special services/events, visit: stpaulnaples.org or "[facebook.com/stpaulnaples](https://www.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?

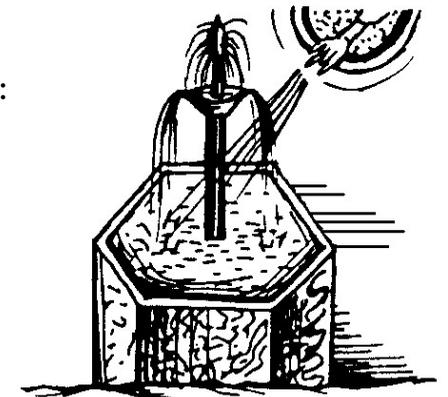
Fr. Paul will come with the angels, with the water of the Jordan and the blessing of Christ, to distribute holiness, encouragement, strength, joy, and grace, for the peace and purification of your life. This is why every Orthodox Christian should bless their home.

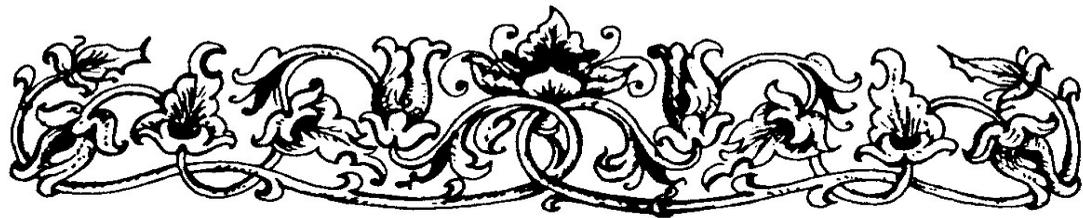
To schedule a house blessing and establish a "bond of holiness" between The Church and your home, contact:

Fr. Paul Girgis

frpaulgirgis@gmail.com

239-348-0828 (office)





**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED
AND APPOINTED PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Elias Hebeka
Chairman

Nick Ferris
Vice Chairman

Bill Yurkovac
Treasurer

Joe Ablan
Secretary

Steve Jackson
Appointed Member



A brief formal installation will take place at the end of the Divine Liturgy Sunday.

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 17, 2019

SUNDAY OF THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN

**THE HOLY GREAT-MARTYR THEODORE THE SOLDIER ('TYRO');
EMPEROR MARCIAN & EMPRESS PULCHERIA OF CONSTANTINOPLE**

+DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

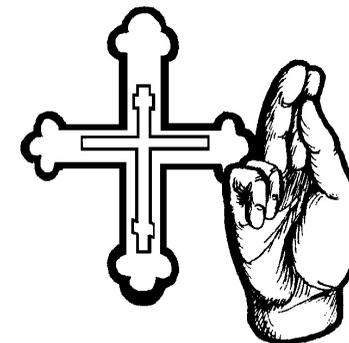
RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

+Now sing the apolytikion of the holy Apostle Paul+

KONTAKION FOR THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN IN TONE FOUR

Let us flee the Pharisee's conceited vaunting; let us learn the Publican's humility, and cry with groans unto the Savior: Thou Who alone art swiftly reconciled, be gracious unto us.



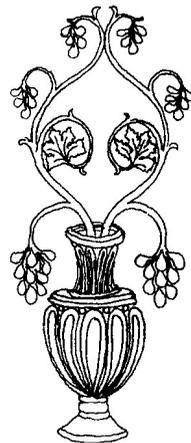
THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

*Make vows to the Lord thy God, and perform them.
In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

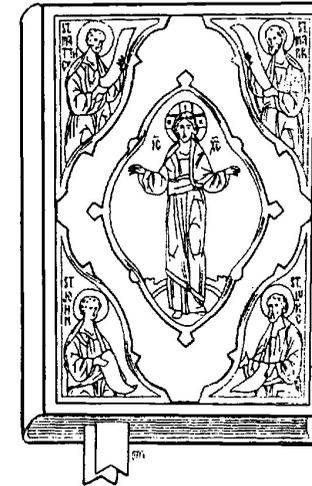


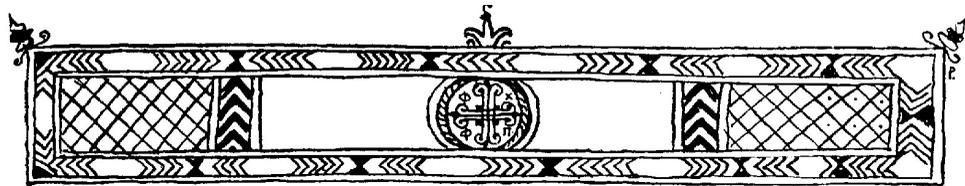
THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:10-14)

The Lord spoke this parable: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”





THE SYNAXARION

(AN ABRIDGED COLLECTION OF THE "LIVES OF THE SAINTS")

On February 17 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Great-Martyr Theodore the Soldier ("Tyro"); and Emperor Marcian and Empress Pulcheria of Constantinople.

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist.

Verses

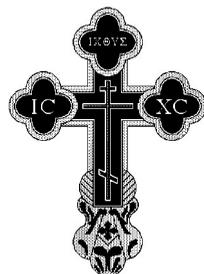
*If you resemble the Pharisee, run far away from the Temple;
For inside is Christ before Whom only the humble are acceptable.*

Verses for the Triodion

O Creator of everything heavenly and earthly, receive Thou from the Angels a Trinitarian song, And from us men a noble and reverent Triodion.

In our Savior's parable, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert and prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights.

Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.



AC 2019 IS FOR ALL PEOPLE OF ALL AGES

No matter who you are, how old you are, or how long you've been Antiochian Orthodox... this convention is for you. You **"can do all things through Christ who strengthens"** you.

KIDS' CLUB for children ages 4-12 has day after day of fun activities that explore our faith and explore downtown Grand Rapids. You'll all wish you were a kid again.

TEENS will be going non-stop with SOYO and VILLAGE celebrations and reunions. There will be a Leadership Conference, Retreat, Teen Bible Bowl and Oratorical Festival, Teen Dance, Humanitarian Project, Trip to Lake Michigan and Scavenger Hunt.

YAMS, our Young Adults will do what they love to do: go-out-and-about experiencing the Downtown Market, Breweries, Lake Michigan, attending Workshops and holding a Seminar on Relationships.

THE ORDER OF ST. IGNATIUS will hold a Dinner Recognizing the importance of Philanthropy in the Archdiocese and Celebrating SOYO and the Antiochian Village.

NAB WOMEN will hold a Brunch recognizing Past and Current Presidents and the formal role women have played in the Life of the Church the past 45 years.

**Something for Everyone:
THINGS TO DO, PEOPLE TO MEET**



BOOK YOUR HOTEL, PURCHASE YOUR
EVENT PACKAGE & EXCURSION TICKETS,
AND EXPERIENCE GRAND RAPIDS!
GO TO AC2019GR.ORG



ANGEL LETTER - FOUNDERS' DAY

Each year our lovely community jubilantly commemorates the founding of St. Paul Church here in Naples, FL. This year the event will take place on **Sunday, March 3, 2019** and we will be joined by our local hierarch His Grace Bishop +NICHOLAS of Miami and the Southeast as well as various clergy and faithful from all over.

Tickets to attend are available through Joe or Julie Ablan – their contact info can be found on the event invitation.

In the past we have depended on our “angels”, who have given with great enthusiasm and joy, to support this God-given parish by extending their help to cover basic expenses related to this social event. God bless your generosity and care for St. Paul Church. It is this spirit of giving, supporting, encouraging, and participating, that continues to make our parish the wonderful, friendly, and loving community that it is.

"Angelic" Donation Levels:



Other
Angels

\$250
Archangels

\$500
Cherubim

\$1000
Seraphim



All donors will be listed in the event program

By God's grace, with the understanding that “**Stewardship is faith in action**”, may our willingness to support the 2019 St. Paul Church Founders' Day be another avenue in which we grow deeper in the virtue of almsgiving during this life.

While I thank all of you who have so faithfully donated in the past, and continue to do so, the true fulfillment of your reward is found in the life to come.

May the Lord bless you.

With love in Christ,
Rev. Fr. Paul Girgis

WE WILL BE JOINED BY HIS GRACE BISHOP +NICHOLAS OF MIAMI AND THE SOUTHEAST



Founders' Weekend

Honoring
Our founders, those who opened the door

Sunday, March 3, 2019

Join us for brunch
immediately following Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

Quail Creek Country Club
13300 Valewood Drive, Naples, FL

Adults \$40
Kids 12 and under \$15



For reservations and tickets,
contact Joe or Julie Ablan
ablan.joseph@gmail.com
913-484-8047

St. Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church
Naples, FL

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.



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

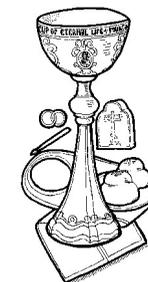
Please continue to pray for Fr. Joe and Kh. Diane Shaheen, Joe and the Hessney family, Christopher and the Sapp family, Al and Anna Castley, Victor and the Bard family, Ed and Marilyn Edge, Robert and Michaelene Aber, Mary Alvanette Kennan, the newly departed Jean Sam, Mary Ann Thomas, and Doris Hessney. Please keep Margaret Mourad and Carol Simone in your prayers asking that the Lord may grant them continued patience, strength, and consolation in this life.

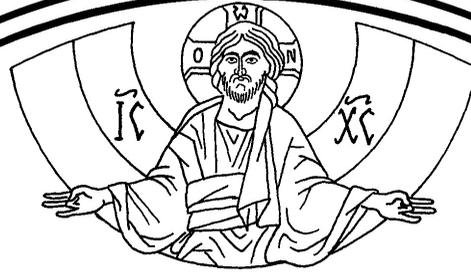
Pray for Vincent and Irene Benfatti. "Vince will be moved to Landmark, an acute care hospital on Goodlette and Immokalee. He will be getting antibiotic infusion there and receiving care for his other issues. He will be allowed to have visitors." - Irene Benfatti

Christopher and the Castley Family request prayers of oblation for Albert Castley on the occasion of his 81st Birthday. May God grant him many years!

Christopher and the Castley Family request prayers of oblation for Albert and Anna Castley on the occasion of their 35th wedding anniversary.

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





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

[Jesus] told them a parable: “No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise the new will be torn, and the piece from the new will not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine desires new wine, but says, “The old is good.”

Luke 5:36-39

Abba Poemen said Abba Pior made a fresh start every morning.

New wine must be put into fresh wineskins.

Source: “A Little Daily Wisdom from the Early Church” compiled by Bernard Bangely