

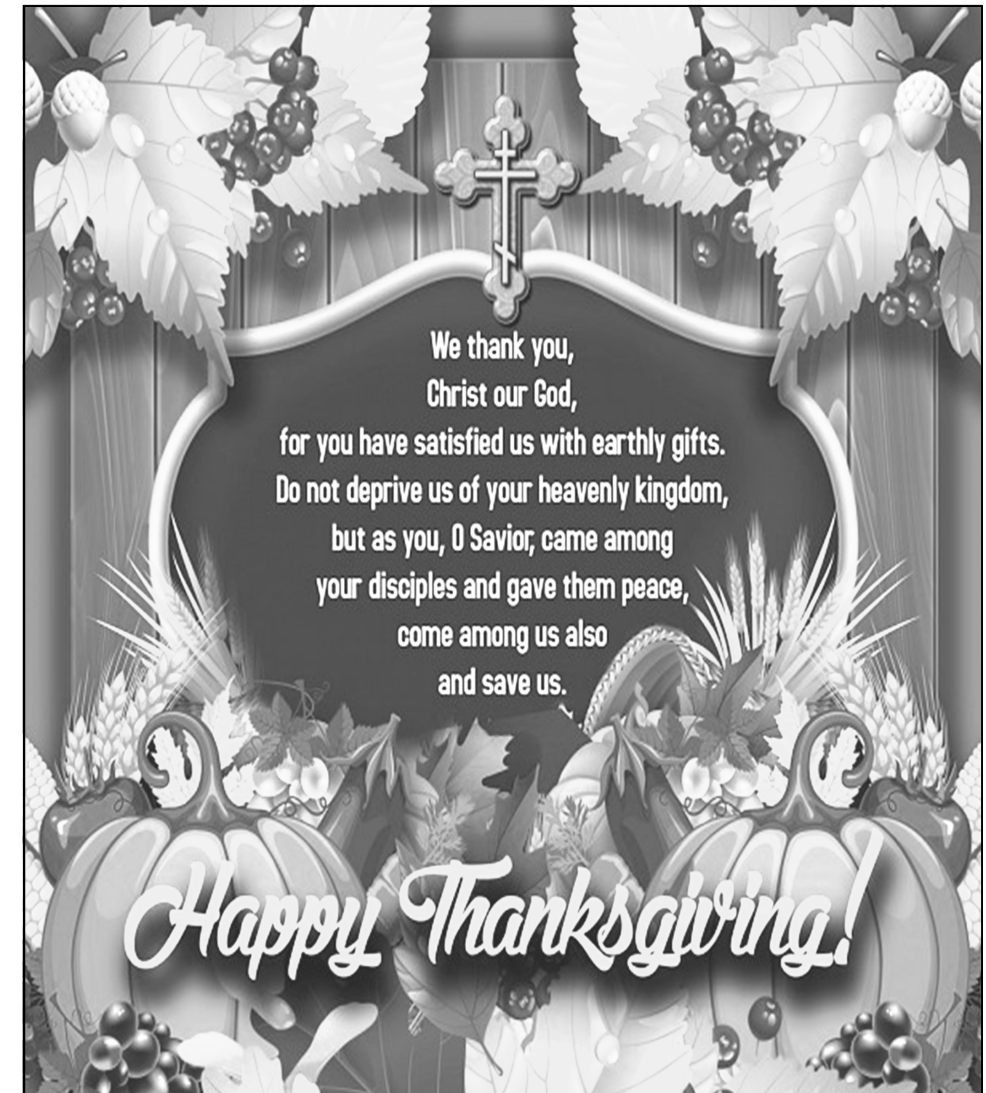
Orthodox Prayer of Thanksgiving

O Lord my Savior and my Master, I, Thine unprofitable servant, with fear and trembling give thanks unto Thy loving goodness for all Thy benefits which Thou hast poured so abundantly upon me, Thy servant. I fall down in adoration before Thee and offer Thee, O God, my praises; with fervor I cry to Thee:

O God, deliver me from all adversities and mercifully fulfill in me such of my desires as may be expedient for me. Hear me, I entreat Thee, and have mercy, for Thou art the Hope of all the ends of the earth, and unto Thee, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, be ascribed glory, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

I praise Thee, O God of our Fathers, I hymn Thee, I bless Thee, I give thanks unto thee for Thy great and tender mercy. To Thee I flee, O merciful and mighty God. Shine into my heart with the True Sun of Thy righteousness.

Enlighten my mind and keep all my senses, that henceforth I may walk uprightly and keep Thy commandments, and may finally attain unto eternal life, even to Thee, Who art the source of life, and be admitted to the glorious fruition of Thine inaccessible Light; for Thou art my God, and unto Thee, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be ascribed glory, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



Saint Mary Orthodox Church of West Palm Beach

*A Parish of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast of the
Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America*

The Very Reverend Father Peter Shportun, Priest /Pastor

Church Address: 1317 Florida Mango Road, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
(561) 965-5007 (Church Office) (561) 632-7066 (Fr. Peter's Cellular)

Email: stmaryschurch@bellsouth.net Website: stmaryschurchwpb.org

Church Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM, by appointment
Banquet Hall Rentals: Maribel Perez - (561) 721-5696

Welcome!

Whether you are a parishioner or a visitor, we are glad you have chosen to pray with us at Saint Mary's. As a friendly reminder, please observe the following upon entering the church for prayer.

- If you arrive after the services begin, try to enter the Church quietly and observe what is happening. Try not to interrupt the service by your entrance.
- Please silence your cellular telephones.
- Please place your offerings in the basket on the table in the Church Narthex (Entrance), or the Offering Tray when passed.
- You are invited join us in the Banquet Hall for coffee and refreshments following the Sunday Divine Liturgy.



"Let them give thanks to the Lord for his
unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for
mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and
fills the hungry with good things."

Psalms 107: 8–9



LITURGICAL SERVICES FOR THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

SUNDAY, November 19th

Confessions from 8:30 to 8:50 AM

Matins at 8:50 AM

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM

MONDAY, November 20th

Celebration of the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos
into the Temple

Confessions from 6:00 to 6:30 PM

Vespersal Divine Liturgy at 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, November 22nd

Confessions from 6:00 to 6:30 PM

Great Vespers Service for Thanksgiving at 6:30 PM

FRIDAY, November 24th

Great Vespers for the Feast of Great Martyr Catherine at 6:30 PM
at Saint Catherine Greek Orthodox Church (110 Southern Blvd., WPB)

SUNDAY, November 26th

Confessions from 8:30 to 8:50 AM

Matins at 8:50 AM

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAY, November 29th

Confessions from 6:00 to 6:30 PM

Great Vespers for the Feast of Saint Andrew the 'First Called' at 6:30 PM

SUNDAY, December 3rd

Confessions from 8:30 to 8:50 AM

Matins at 8:50 AM

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM

*Fr. Peter's monthly Children's Sermon prior to Communion.

**“A Prayer to the People of Gaza”
by His Eminence Metropolitan George (Khodr)**

"O Jesus Christ, O King of Peace, our people in Gaza doth yearn for Thy abundant mercy. Take their children in Thine hands and extend Thy care to all their people. Wipe away every tear from their eyes, replacing sorrow with joy. O Lord, Thou who consolest every heart, place Thy Spirit in the troubled hearts, so they may find comfort in Thee and Thy compassion. Be a source of rest for the wounded and a healing balm. Ease their pains and deliver them from all fear. Take their burdens upon Thy shoulders and have mercy on those who have gone to Thee.

O God, cleanse their land from all defilement, and greed. Feed the people of the city with all they need, and let them not know death, oppression, or injustice, for in Thee, there is only justice and life.

Pour out upon all nations a sense of Gaza's suffering and a spirit of solidarity with them, striving for peace.

These are Thy children, all of them. Do not allow them to be displaced or struck again, so that we may live with them as brothers, building ourselves and the world with the spirit of forgiveness and tolerance.

Protect Thy Church there and shield it from torment. Put an end to this tragic ordeal, and encourage peace-loving nations to rebuild the city anew. Accept the prayers of the ancient Gazan saints who enriched the Church with deep spirituality and golden words. O God, end this war, for Thy people have grown weary. Embrace, O Lord, this martyred city until it glorifies Thee, and we glorify Thee with it as we stand in solidarity.

To Thee be honor, worship, and glory, together with Thy Father and Thy Holy Spirit. Amen."



Schedule of Services for the Feast of the Nativity

Friday, December 22nd

Great and Royal Hours for the Nativity at 9:00 AM

Sunday, December 24th

(Morning)

Matins at 8:50 AM; Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM

(Christmas Eve)

Festal Matins at 6:45PM; Divine Liturgy at 8:00 PM

No Church Services on Christmas Day

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost *and*
Ninth Sunday of Luke
+The Holy Prophet Obadiah;
+Martyr Barlaam of Antioch;
+Martyr Azi the wonderworker of Isauria in Asia Minor,
and 150 soldiers with him

Divine Liturgy Variables for November 19th

The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is celebrated on this day. The service text may be found beginning on page 91 in the Red Service Book in the pews.

- Sung during and immediately following the Entrance of the Gospels

Resurrectional Apolytikon in Tone 7

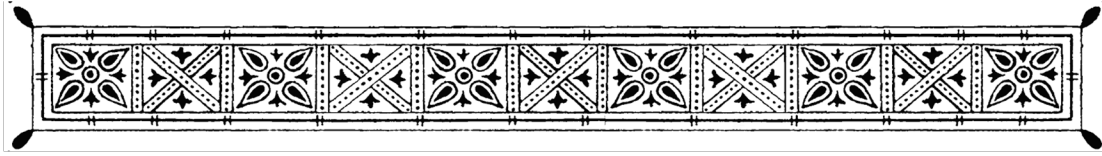
Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

Apolytikion of the Church (Dormition) in Tone 1

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

Kontakion for the Entrance of the Theotokos in Tone 4

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.



THE EPISTLE AND GOSPEL READINGS

The Epistle (For the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (2:14-22)

Brethren, Christ is our peace, Who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And He came and preached peace to you, who were far off, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in Whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

الرسالة

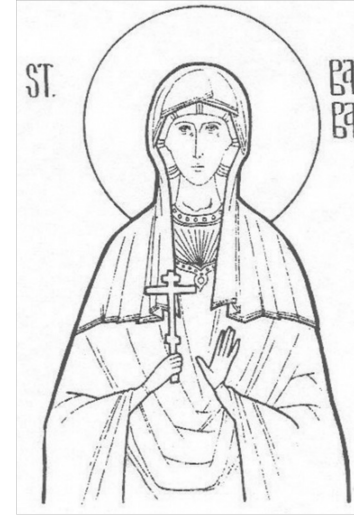
(لِلْأَخْدِ الرَّابِعِ وَالْعِشْرِينَ بَعْدَ الْغَنَصِرَةِ)

الرَّبُّ يُعْطِي قُوَّةً لِسَعْبِهِ.

قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَفَسُسَ. (22-14:2)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، إِنَّ الْمَسِيحَ هُوَ سَلَامُنَا، هُوَ جَعَلَ الْإِثْنَيْنِ وَاحِدًا، وَنَقَضَ فِي جَسَدِهِ حَائِطَ السِّيَاحِ الْحَاجِرَ، أَيِ الْغَدَاوَةِ. وَأَبْطَلَ نَامُوسَ الْوَصَايَا فِي فَرَائِضِهِ، لِيَخْلُقَ الْإِثْنَيْنِ فِي نَفْسِهِ إِنْسَانًا وَاحِدًا جَدِيدًا بِإِجْرَائِهِ السَّلَامِ. وَيُصَالِحُ كُلِّيهِمَا فِي جَسَدِ



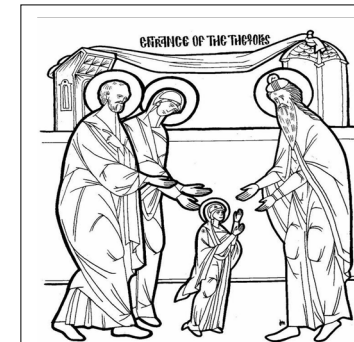
Saint Barbara Celebration

The Feast of Saint Barbara, or Eid il-Burbara or (Arabic: عيد البربارة), is celebrated on December 4th. The Great Martyr Barbara suffered persecution in the early 4th Century. While fleeing from her persecutors, Saint Barbara would disguise herself as many different characters to elude her captors. She ran through freshly planted wheat fields, which grew instantly to cover her path. This miracle is celebrated symbolically by planting wheat seeds in cotton wool on her feast day. The seeds germinate and grow up to around six inches in time for Christmas, when the shoots are used to decorate the Nativity scene usually placed below the Christmas Tree.

On Sunday, December 3rd, Saint Mary's will celebrate the Feast of Saint Barbara in the hall following the Divine Liturgy.

- ♦ Children and Adults may wear costumes (please use good taste: nothing scary, ghoulish, be original – homemade costumes are the best).
- ♦ Traditional foods will be available; 'Burbara,' a bowl of boiled wheat grains, pomegranate seeds, raisins, anise, and sugar; 'Awamat,' sweet fried dough.
- ♦ Treats for the children.
- ♦ An early visit from Santa.

Pass the word and join us for this traditional celebration of the life of the Great Martyr Barbara.



Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Vespertal Divine Liturgy on
Monday, November 20th at 6:30 PM

- ♦ Fr. Peter will be available for Confessions from 6:00 to 6:30 PM.

Tuesday Bible Study

There will be NO Bible Study this Tuesday, November 21st. The Fall Weekly Bible Study Classes will conclude on Tuesday, November 28th, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, in the Conference Room. Led by Jim Gavrilos, the Fall Bible Study is the Gospel of Mark. All are welcome to participate. Please bring your bibles.

Weekly Spiritual Discussion

Thank you to everyone who have participated in the Spiritual Discussions led by Fr. Peter on Wednesday's following the Vespers Service. The participation in the discussion grow in number each week. The topics covered the past several weeks have been: *Realizing Christ within us; Making Room for God through Prayer; Achieving Holiness; Give us this Day our Daily Bread; The Understanding of Sin; Where Does Sin Come From?; and Recovery from Sin. This coming week's topic is 'Overcoming Habitual Sins.'*

Online Donations

Thank you for your continued donations to your Saint Mary's Church. In addition to giving by Sunday Offering Envelopes or by mail, the church offers Zelle as an online means of fulfilling your **'Annual Pledge.'** To use Zelle, please access it through your online bank to: stmarywpbfinance@gmail.com.

In addition to making donations toward your annual pledge to the church, you may also donate towards our ongoing church facilities renovations, 'Thanksgiving Food Baskets' and various ministries.

Paypal continues as an option for those who wish to donate online.

For questions and information, please speak with our Parish Council Treasurer Sam Pasley.

Ladies Christmas Dinner

The Ladies Society Christmas Dinner will be at Grande Bella Cucina (4580 Donald Ross Rd, Palm Beach Gardens., on Friday, December 15th, at 6:30 PM. The dinner will include a choice of: Fish of the Day, Shrimp Scampi, Chicken Marsala, Eggplant Parmesan, Lasagna (Bolognese or Veggie); Salad; Dessert; a glass of Wine or Soda. The cost is \$33.00 (includes taxes and gratuity). The reserve a spot, please see Carol Sara.

وَقَدْ بُنِيتُمْ عَلَى . فَلَسْتُمْ غُرَبَاءَ بَعْدُ وَنَزَلَاءَ، بَلْ مُوَاطِنُو الْقِدِّيسِينَ وَأَهْلٍ بَنَيْتَ اللَّهُ.التَّوَصَّلْ إِلَى الْآبِ فِي رُوحٍ وَاحِدٍ
أَسَاسِ الرُّسُلِ، وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ، وَحَجَرُ الزَّائِرَةِ هُوَ يَسُوعُ الْمَسِيحُ نَفْسُهُ الَّذِي بِهِ يَنْسَقُ الْبُنْيَانُ كُلُّهُ، فَيَنْمُو هَيْكَلًا مُقَدَّسًا فِي
الرَّبِّ، وَفِيهِ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا تُبْنَوْنَ مَعًا مَسْكَنًا لِلَّهِ فِي الرُّوحِ.

The Gospel (For the Ninth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (12:16-21)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As He said this, Jesus called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

الإنجيل (لِلأَحَدِ التَّاسِعِ مِنْ لُوقَا)

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقِدِّيسِ لُوقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (12:16-21)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: إِنْسَانٌ غَنِيٌّ أَحْصَبَتْ أَرْضُهُ. فَفَكَّرَ فِي نَفْسِهِ قَائِلًا "مَاذَا أَصْنَعُ؟ فَإِنَّهُ لَيْسَ لِي مَوْضِعٌ آخَرُ فِيهِ أَتْمَارِي." ثُمَّ قَالَ، "أَصْنَعُ هَذَا: أَهْدِمُ أَهْرَائِي وَأَبْنِي أَكْبَرَ مِنْهَا، وَأَجْمَعُ هُنَاكَ كُلَّ غَلَاتِي وَخَيْرَاتِي. وَأَقُولُ لِنَفْسِي، يَا نَفْسُ إِنَّ لَكَ خَيْرَاتٍ كَثِيرَةً فَاسْتَرِيحِي وَكُلِّي واشْرَبِي وَأَفْرَحِي." فَقَالَ لَهُ اللَّهُ: "يَا جَاهِلٌ! فِي هَذِهِ اللَّيْلَةِ تُطْلَبُ نَفْسُكَ مِنْكَ. فَهَذِهِ الَّتِي أَعَدَدْتَهَا لِمَنْ تَكُونُ؟" فَهَكَذَا مَنْ يَدَّخِرُ لِنَفْسِهِ وَلَا يَسْتَعْنِي بِاللَّهِ. وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا نَادَى: مَنْ لَهُ أُذُنَانِ لِلسَّمْعِ، فَلْيَسْمَعْ.

The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom continues as usual.

After receiving Communion, please read the 'Prayers of Thanksgiving After Holy Communion' on pages 128-131 in the Red Service Book in the pews.

The Nativity Fast

From November 15th until December 24th, the Orthodox Church observes the Nativity Fast in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. During this period, we are called to do our best to fast, increase our daily prayers, and remember those in need in our almsgiving.

This Sunday (November 19th)

Weekly Altar Candle

◊ In glory of the Most Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

If you would like to offer a Weekly Altar Candle, or Holy Bread for a Divine Liturgy, please speak with Fr. Peter.

Sunday School Classes

Sunday School Classes are held each Sunday morning. Classes will begin following Communion, and will last approximately 30 minutes. This year we will have three classes: Ages 4-6; 7-10; Pre Teen and Teen Class.

Please Note: There will be no Sunday School Classes on Sunday, November 26th.

Christmas/Nativity Play Practice

The first practice for this year's Christmas Nativity Play will be today following Sunday School Classes. This, and all practices will be held in the church. This year's pageant will be held on Sunday, December 17th.



Our church community continues to receive donations for our annual Thanksgiving Basket Drive. Please consider bringing the following non-perishable food items: Canned Corn, Green Beans, Yams and Soups; Boxes of Stuffing Mix, Macaroni and Cheese, Instant Potatoes; Jars or Packets of Gravy. Please bring the items to the donation box in the Church Narthex. The drive will continue through November 19th. Our hope is to be able to feed 30 families this Thanksgiving.

On Sunday, November 19th, the baskets will be assembled during coffee hour. Everyone is welcome to help in this project.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

For the Living

"Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord." James 5: 14

For the Good Health of the Servants of God: Archpriest Michael & Matushka Annette Zaparyniuk, Michael, Archpriest Maximos Saikaley, Priest Andrew Short, Sub-Deacon William Hall, Jodet Rae, Leon & Judy Chalhub, Johnny & Joyce Chalhub, Raouf Saballeil, Sabah, Craig Miller, Emma, Mark Georges, Lauren Moreland, George, Lama Chalhoub, George.

For the Shut-ins of our Church Community: Gloria Yedlinsky, Lidia Pawlcuk, Zakia Salloum.

For peace in the Middle East and the Ukraine.

For all Christians and people suffering from violence, war, persecution, captivity, hunger, and homelessness throughout this world.

For those serving in our armed forces here and abroad: Christopher Smith, Jonathan Shportun, Alexios Gavrilos.

For the Departed

"With the spirits of the righteous made perfect, give rest O Lord to the souls of Thy servants..."

Gail Camileri (6/26/23), Angie Smith (6/23/23), Archdeacon Joseph Harb (3/8/23).

Seven Day Prayer Candles

◊ Offered in memory of George Samra and Roy Samra.

***When offering a Seven Day Prayer Candle, please list only the names that you are praying for, and are asking the church community to pray for. Please do not include greetings, birthday and anniversary wishes, etc.*

