

From the Front Cover

Christians naturally wonder what heaven will be like. Many ascribe secular characteristics to heaven (i.e. we'll be playing golf, food won't have any calories, etc). We also wonder what hell will be like. Does it even exist? Some wonder if this life on earth is hell for everyone and then we all get into heaven. The Bible has many references to heaven and hell and judgment (what happens after we die), but perhaps the best teaching on heaven and hell comes from this Gospel lesson of the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus.

First, we meet two men in the Gospel lesson, a rich man, and a poor man named Lazarus. The rich man is well dressed and feasts sumptuously every day. Lazarus is both poor and sick. He sits at the gate of the rich man's house, hoping to eat the crumbs that the rich man is not going to eat anyway. The rich man, on the other hand, has ample opportunities to help Lazarus. He lives a life of indifference towards Lazarus.

In time both men die. The rich man ends up in hell, not because of his riches, but because of his indifference, and his failure to love his neighbor Lazarus. Lazarus ends up in the bosom of Abraham, not because he was poor but because he was humble and patient with the life he had. And here is where our pictures of heaven and hell begin to take shape.

We are told in the Gospel that the Lazarus was carried by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. That image portrays glory (the angels) and comfort (the bosom of Abraham). The rich man is in hell. He is described as being in torment. He begs Abraham to send Lazarus to dip his finger in water and put it to the tongue of the rich man. So we know that hell is a place of torment.

Abraham said that this is impossible because there is a chasm between heaven and hell. Those in heaven cannot fall out of heaven and go to hell. Those who are in hell cannot come out of hell and rise to heaven. Being in heaven or hell is permanent. Those in hell will be aware of those who are in heaven. They will see heaven, and know that they cannot be there. You have the knowledge not only of your suffering but of the joy that others are experiencing that you can never share in. This is hell. An awareness of God, with the inability to be with God.

Where heaven is, and what exactly the “bosom of Abraham” will look and feel like are unknown. What is known is that heaven will be a place of joy, hell will be a place of torment, and our assignment to one or the other will be based on love, or indifference.



The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus

The Weekly Bulletin - November 5, 2023

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 Most Reverend Metropolitan Saba, *Primate*

The Right Reverend Nicholas, *Auxiliary Bishop for Diocese of Miami and the Southeast*

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.



"Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends." 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8

and entreaties, seeking mercy and peace in the Holy Land, especially in Gaza at this time.

We hope, and as we have witnessed in every crisis, that each and every one of you will wholeheartedly contribute to this humanitarian and fraternal duty. In closing, I am sharing two prayers for you to use during these times.

May you always be guarded by God's care.

Yours in the Service of Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "T. Saba". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and a stylized "S" for "Saba".

+SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"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."

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan SABA



Archbishop of New York
and Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Prot. no.: 397/2023

November 1, 2023

My sons and daughters in our protected parishes, in the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America,

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the blessing of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit may be with you all." (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Beloved Faithful,

Following the call of the Holy Synod of Antioch, which beckons all its children to dedicate a Sunday following the Synod's conclusion to collect aid for our brethren at the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, and to partake in the relief of their suffering while demonstrating the Christian communion of humanity in times of affliction, we hereby announce that the upcoming Sunday, falling on November 12, shall be designated as the day for collecting aid throughout our Archdiocese. We kindly request all parishes to send their collections to the Archdiocesan headquarters. The Archdiocese will continue to collect aid for one month starting from November 12th.

In response to some of your questions regarding the inclusion of petitions in the Divine Liturgy for the sake of peace and mercy in the Holy Land, I would like to clarify:

The practice of introducing new petitions into the Divine Liturgy does not depend on a personal decision by a bishop or priest. Following the Holy Tradition of our Orthodox Church, at the end of the Great Entrance while processing with the Holy Gifts, the priest offers the people's supplications and mentions names and regions that are going through turbulent events. This is what we hope for from all of you in these days when humanity is in dire need of divine mercy.

Furthermore, we recommend that the service of the *Paraklesis* (Supplicatory Canon) be held in the churches to the extent possible for the faithful to offer supplications

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238
(201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost And the Fifth Sunday of Luke

Saint Commemorated Today: +Martyrs Galaktion and Episteme of Homs;
+Apostles Hermas, Linus, Gaius, Patrobas and Philologos of the Seventy

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.

- Divine Liturgy Variables -

Resurrectional Apolytikon in Tone 5

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.

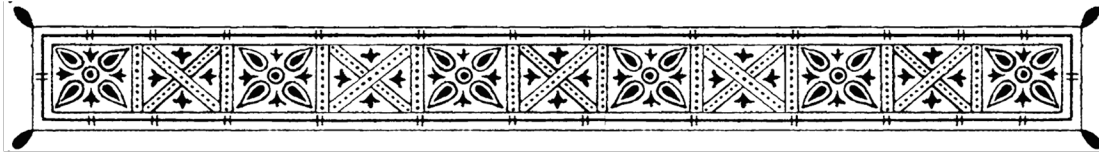
Apolytikion of the Church (Dormition) in Tone 1

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 Ordinary Sundays in Tone 2

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.





THE EPISTLE AND GOSPEL READINGS

THE EPISTLE [For the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost]

Thou, O Lord, shalt preserve us and keep us from this generation. Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. [6:11-18]

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

الرسالة

(لِلْأَخِ الْثَانِي وَالْعِشْرِينَ بَعْدَ الْعَصْرَةِ)

أَنْتَ يَا رَبِّ تَحْفَظُنَا وَتَسْتُرُنَا مِنْ هَذَا الْجِيلِ،

خَلِّصْنِي، يَا رَبِّ، فَإِنَّ الْبَارَّ قَدْ فَتِيَ

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ غَلَاطِيَّةِ.

يَا إِخْوَةُ، انْظُرُوا مَا أَعْظَمَ الْكِتَابَاتِ الَّتِي كَتَبْتُهَا إِلَيْكُمْ بِيَدِي. إِنَّ كُلَّ الَّذِينَ يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يُرْضُوا بِحَسَبِ الْجَسَدِ يُلْزِمُونَكُمْ أَنْ تَخْتَنُوا، وَإِنَّمَا ذَلِكَ لِئَلَّا يُضْطَهَدُوا مِنْ أَجْلِ صَلَيبِ الْمَسِيحِ. لِأَنَّ الَّذِينَ يَخْتَنُونَ هُمْ أَنْفُسُهُمْ لَا يَحْفَظُونَ النَّامُوسَ بَلْ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ تَخْتَنُوا لِيُفْتَخَرُوا بِأَجْسَادِكُمْ. أَمَّا أَنَا، فَحَاشَى لِي أَنْ أَفْتَخَرَ إِلَّا بِصَلِيبِ رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي بِهِ صُلِبَ الْعَالَمُ لِي وَأَنَا صُلِبْتُ لِلْعَالَمِ. لِأَنَّهُ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ لَيْسَ خِتَانُ شَيْءٍ وَلَا الْقَلْفُ بَلْ الْخَلِيقَةُ الْجَدِيدَةُ. وَكُلُّ الَّذِينَ يَسْلُكُونَ بِحَسَبِ هَذَا الْقَانُونِ، فَعَلَيْهِمْ سَلَامٌ وَرَحْمَةٌ وَعَلَى إِسْرَائِيلَ اللَّهِ. فَلَا يَجْلِبْ عَلَيَّ أَحَدٌ أَتْعَاباً فِيمَا بَعْدُ، فَإِنِّي حَامِلٌ فِي جَسَدِي سِمَاتِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ. نِعْمَةٌ رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ مَعَ رُوحِكُمْ أَتُهَا الْإِخْوَةُ. آمِينَ.



LITURGICAL SERVICES AT SAINT MARY'S FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

SUNDAY, November 5th

Confessions from 8:30 to 8:50 AM

Matins at 8:50 AM

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM

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

WEDNESDAY, November 8th

Confessions from 6:00 to 6:30 PM

Vespers Service at 6:30 PM

SUNDAY, November 12th

Confessions from 8:30 to 8:50 AM

Matins at 8:50 AM

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAY, November 15th

Confessions from 6:00 to 6:30 PM

Vespers Service at 6:30 PM

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

Commemoration of the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Confessions from 6:00 to 6:30 PM

Vespertal Divine liturgy at 6:30 PM

♦ *Fr. Peter is also available for Confessions by appointment.*



Our church community has begun receiving 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 12th. Our hope is to be able to feed 30 families this Thanksgiving.



Sunday, November 12th - 11:30 AM

Make plans to join with your Saint Mary's Family for fellowship and in thanksgiving for God's blessings.

Online Donations

Thank you for your continued donations to your Saint Mary's Church. In addition to tradition means of giving (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.

Saint Philip Orthodox Church Annual Fall Dinner and Hafli

Germack Hall ~ 4860 Griffin Road, Davie, FL 33314

Featuring Richard Corey, Fadi Hardan, Elias Kilzi & Walid Abusad

Saturday, November 11th - Doors Open at 7:30 PM

Adults \$70.00; Students & Children 11-17 \$30.00

Children under 10 are Free

RSVP by email: office@orthodoxfl.com

THE GOSPEL (For the Fifth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. [16:19-31]

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"

الإنجيل (للاحد الخامس من لوقا)

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا الإنجيلي البشير.

قال الرب: كان إنسان غني يلبس الأرجوان والبر، ويتنعم كل يوم تنعماً فاجراً. وكان مسكيناً لعازر اسمه لعازر مطروحاً عند بابيه مصاباً بالقروح. وكان يشتهي أن يشبع من الفتات الذي يسقط من مائدة الغني. بل كانت الكلاب تأتي وتلحس فروجه. ثم مات المسكين، فنقلته الملائكة إلى حضن إبراهيم. ومات الغني أيضاً، فدُفِنَ فُرعَ عينيّه في الجحيم وهو في العذاب، فرأى إبراهيم من بعيدٍ ولعازر في حضنه. فنادى قائلاً: "يا أبت إبراهيم ارحمني وأرسل لعازر ليغمس طرفه إصبعه في الماء ويبرد لساني، لأني مُعذَّب في هذا اللهب." فقال إبراهيم: "تذكر يا ابني أنك نلت خيراتك في حياتك، ولعازر كذلك بلاياه. والآن فهو يتعزى وأنت تتعذب. وعلاوة على هذا كله، فبيننا وبينكم هوة عظيمة قد أثبتت، حتى إن الذين يريدون أن يجتازوا من هنا إليكم لا يستطيعون، ولا الذين هناك أن يعبروا إلينا." فقال: "أسألك إذن يا أبت أن ترسله إلى بيت أبي. فإن لي خمسة إخوة، حتى يشهد لهم لكي لا يأتوا هم أيضاً إلى موضع العذاب هذا." فقال له إبراهيم: "إن عندهم موسى والأنبياء، فليسمعوا منهم." قال: "لا يا أبت إبراهيم، بل إذا مضى إليهم واحد من الأموات يتوبون." فقال له: "إن لم يسمعوا من موسى والأنبياء، فإنهم، ولا إن قام واحد من الأموات، يُصدقونه."

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

This Sunday (November 5th)

Fr. Peter's Children's Sermon

All children are invited to the front of the church prior to Communion to participate in the monthly Children's Sermon.

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.

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.

Appreciation Sunday Lunch

Following the Divine Liturgy, the Parish Council would like to express their appreciation for everyone who have contributed and volunteered their time over the past year towards the ongoing projects and ministries at Saint Mary's.

To say thank you, a lunch prepared by Sandy James Catering will be offered on Sunday, November 5th, following the Divine Liturgy. The luncheon will be complimentary for everyone.

*****Sunday Coffee Hour hosts are needed for the fall months. If you would like to host a Sunday Coffee Hour, please speak to Jane Pasley or Khourya Myriam.***

Our Sympathies

To Andrea and Stephanie Torbey on the falling asleep in the Lord of their father Bassam Torbey in Lebanon this past week. May God comfort them in their time of sorrow, and grant his soul rest. Memory Eternal!

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.

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 Chalhoub, Johnny & Joyce Chalhoub, Raouf Saballeil, Sabah, Craig Miller, Emma, Mark Georges, Lauren Moreland, George, Lama Chalhoub.

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..."

Kenneth Bashour *[newly departed 10/1/23]*, Roy Samra *[newly departed 9/13/23]*, Gail Camileri *[6/26/23]*, Angie Smith *[6/23/23]*, Archdeacon Joseph Harb *[3/8/23]*, George Freije *[10/26/22]*.

Tuesday Bible Study

Weekly Bible Study is held each Tuesday, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, in the Conference Room. Led by Jim Gavrilos, the Fall Bible Study will focus on 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 four weeks have been: *Realizing Christ within us; Making Room for God through Prayer; Achieving Holiness; and Give us this day our Daily Bread.*