

## From the Front Cover

On the July 10th, the Church commemorates the Holy Hieromartyr Yousef ibn Jirjis Mousa ibn Mouhana al-Haddad and his Companions.

A married man, St Joseph of Damascus, as he is popularly known, was at first a weaver and then was ordained to the holy priesthood at the age of twenty-four in 1817, and assigned Great Economos of the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos (al-Mariamiyeh) in the heart of the Old City of Damascus.

On Monday, July 9th, 1860 the brutal massacre of Christians, which began in the mountains of the Lebanon, spread to Damascus. Some Damascenes (including Michael Hawaweeny and his young wife Mariam who was bearing in her womb a son, the future St Raphael of Brooklyn) fled the Damascus for the port city of Beirut. The majority, however, took refuge in al-Mariamiyeh. Many had previously fled to Damascus from their mountain villages, while others came to the Cathedral from the Christian Quarter of Damascus and the villages that surrounded the city.

St Joseph took up his communion kit containing the Reserved Sacrament, left his home and began to make his way to the Cathedral by jumping from rooftop to rooftop across the narrow streets of the Old City. As he went, he stopped to confess and commune the aged and infirm who could not flee their homes, encouraging them with stories from the Lives of the Great Martyrs. On Tuesday morning, July 10th, the Cathedral was surrounded, pillaged and burned by a fanatical crowd. Those inside the holy temple perished in the flames; of those who escaped and fled into the streets, most were shot or caught and forced back into the burning building, while only a few, including St Joseph, survived. As he roamed the narrow streets searching for survivors who needed confessed and communed, St Joseph was surrounded by the enemies of Christ. Seeing that his end was near, St Joseph took out his communion kit and consumed what remained of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Recognizing him as the “leader of the Christians,” the persecutors savagely attacked him with axes. Then, binding his legs with ropes, they dragged his mutilated body through the streets to be mocked and spat upon by jeering onlookers. St Joseph’s sacred relics were then unceremoniously pitched into the city dump along with those of the other New Martyrs (numbering two thousand five hundred men plus women and children).

St Joseph and his Companions were glorified by the Holy Synod of the Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East in the year of our salvation 1993.



✠ Hieromartyr Joseph of Damascus and Saint Raphael of Brooklyn



# 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 Joseph, Primate*

The Right Reverend Nicholas, *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)  
stmaryschurch@bellsouth.net (Email)  
Website: stmaryschurchwpb.org*

*Church Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM  
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.

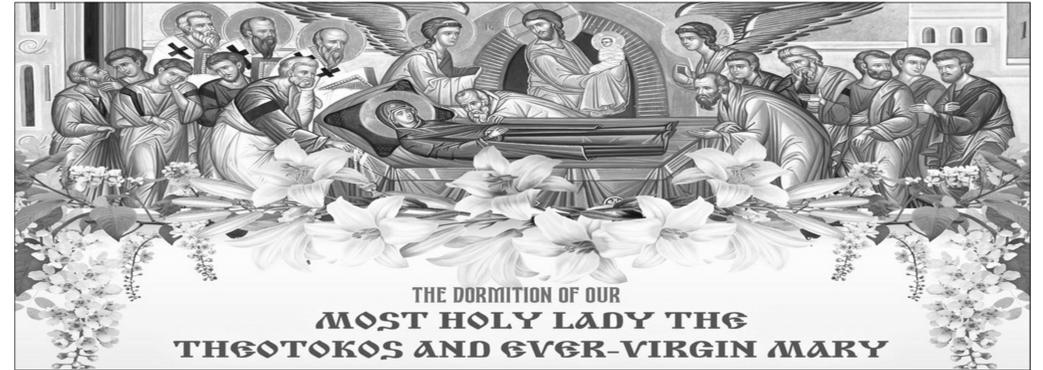
- If you arrive after the services begin, try to enter the Church quietly and observe what is happening. Try not to interrupt the service by your entrance.
- Please silence your cellular telephones.
- Please place your offerings in the basket on the table in the Church Narthex (Entrance), or the Offering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

## Schedule of Services for the Month of July

### Sunday

Confessions from 8:30 to 8:50 AM  
Matins at 8:50 AM; Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM

\*\*\* During the month of July, Wednesday Evening Vespers will not be held.



THE DORMITION OF OUR  
MOST HOLY LADY THE  
THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

## Preparing for the Dormition

Beginning August 1st, the Church will enter into the Dormition Fast in preparation for our Church Feast Day - The Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15th.

This year, His Grace, Bishop Nicholas will be present with us the weekend of August 13 - 14. Bishop Nicholas will meet with the Parish Council and Organizations of the church, as well as bless the two new Sunday School Rooms.

In addition to the fast, the following liturgical services will be prayed beginning August 1st, to help us in our preparation for the feast of the Dormition.

- ◇ **Monday, August 1st**, we will pray The Paraklesis Service and Lesser Blessing of Water. The Paraklesis Service will also be prayed on **Wednesday, August 3rd, Monday, August 8th, Wednesday, August 10th and Friday August 12th**. Each service will begin at 6:30 PM.
- ◇ **Friday, August 5th**, Vespers Divine Liturgy and Blessing of the Grapes for the Feast of the Transfiguration will be begin at 6:30 PM.
- ◇ **Sunday, August 14th**, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy begins at 10:00 AM. In the evening, Great Vespers for the Feast begins at 5:00 PM, presided over by Bishop Nicholas, together with the Orthodox Clergy of South Florida.

Our A-Men will host a Lenten Luncheon (approx. 11:30 AM) on Sunday, August 14th. The Ladies Society will host a Reception following Vespers on August 14th (approx. 6:30 PM).

Donations are being accepted to help defray the cost of the Luncheon and Reception, as well as the flowers in the church for the feast day. Please see Fr. Peter or Sam Pasley to make a donation.

## Misplaced Priorities

by Abbot Tryphon

Our laziness and misplaced priorities regarding the Sunday and holy day services, keep us from our obligations to God, and endanger the soul, for in keeping ourselves away from God's temple, we remain afar from the cure that comes from participating in the Divine Mysteries. +Saint Gregory Palamas tells us that we *"may remain uncured, suffering from unbelief in your soul because of deeds or words, and failing to approach Christ's surgery to receive... holy healing"*.

Orthodox Christianity is not a religion by which we can attain salvation in the privacy of our own home, for our faith is a communal faith, whereby we participate in the Body of Christ in a corporate way. It is in this life that we must participate in the communal life of the Church, for after death there is no treatment for that which separates us from God. There is no repentance after this life, because all people share the same end. Each of us is destined to see the Glory of God at the Second Coming of Christ.

Protopresbyter John Romanides tells us, *"All people will see the Glory [Uncreated Light] of God, and from this viewpoint they have the same end. Everyone, of course, will see the Glory of God, but with one difference: The saved will see the Glory of God as a most sweet and never-setting Light, whereas the damned will see the same Glory of God as a consuming fire that will burn them."*

Our laziness, and our misplaced priorities, keep us from the Divine Mysteries, and deprive our soul of the healing grace that comes with an encounter with the Living God. As the Hospital of the Soul, the Church has been established by Christ Himself as that place wherein we receive the cure, so that we may bask in the Eternal Banquet that awaits us in the after life. By depriving ourselves of the grace filled Mysteries in this life, that are only found within the life of the Church, we separate ourselves from the very treatment that ensures eternal bliss in the next life.



*The Very. Rev. Abbot Tryphon is Igumen of All-Merciful Saviour Monastery on Vashon Island, Washington. This and other articles may be found on his website [abbottryphon.com](http://abbottryphon.com)*

## Divine Liturgy Variables for the ✠Hieromartyr Joseph of Damascus and The Fourth Sunday of Matthew

*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.*

- *During the Little Entrance, the Resurrectional Apolytikion is sung. The Eisodikon [Entrance Hymn] is "O come, let us worship... save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead..." After the Little Entrance, chant these hymns in the following order:*

### Resurrectional Apolytikion in Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

### Apolytikion of the Hieromartyr Joseph of Damascus in Tone 5

Come, ye faithful, let us honor the martyr of Christ, a priest of the Church of Antioch; who by the word of the Word, and by his blood and the blood of his companions, baptized the land of Syria, its Church and its people. Being immersed in the light of the Gospel from his youth, he worked and taught and defended the Church of Christ and her flock. O Father Joseph of Damascus, be for us an example, defending us and interceding for us fervently before the Savior.

### 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.

### Ordinary Kontakion for Sunday 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 (For St. Joseph of Damascus)

*Prokeimenon: The saints shall boast in glory, and they shall rejoice upon their beds. Sing unto the Lord a new song; His praise is in the church of the saints.*

### **The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (2:1-10)**

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

لِنَبِيْتِهِجِ الْأَتْقِيَاءِ بِمَجْدٍ. لِيُرْتَمُوا عَلَى مَضَاجِعِهِمْ.  
عُنُوا لِلرَّبِّ تَرْزِيمَةً حَبِيْبَةً، تُسَبِّحُهُ فِي جَمَاعَةِ الْأَتْقِيَاءِ .  
فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيْسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُوْلِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى تِيْمُوْثَاوَسِ .

يا وُلْدِي تِيْمُوْثَاوَسَ، تَقَوِّ فِي النِّعْمَةِ الَّتِي فِي الْمَسِيْحِ يَسُوْعَ. وَمَا سَمِعْتَهُ مِنِّي لَدَى شُهُوْدٍ كَثِيْرِيْنَ، اسْتُوْدِعْهُ أَنْسَاً أَمْنَاءَ كُفُوّاً لِأَنْ يُعَلِّمُوا آخَرِيْنَ أَيْضاً. احْتَمِلِ الْمَشَقَّاتِ كَجُنْدِيٍّ صَالِحٍ لِيَسُوْعَ الْمَسِيْحِ. لَيْسَ أَحَدٌ يَتَجَنَّدُ فَيُرْتَبِكُ بِهُمُوْمِ الْحَيَاةِ، وَذَلِكَ لِيُرْضِيَ الَّذِي جَنَّدَهُ. وَأَيْضاً، إِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يُجَاهِدُ، فَلَا يِنَالُ الْإِكْلِيْلَ مَا لَمْ يُجَاهِدْ جِهَاداً شَرْعِيّاً. وَيَجِبُ أَنْ الْحَارِثِ الَّذِي يَتَعَبُ أَنْ يَشْتَرِكَ فِي الْأَثْمَارِ أَوْلاً. إِنْهُمْ مَا أَقُولُ. فَلْيُوْتِكِ الرَّبُّ فَهْمًا فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ. أَذْكَرُ أَنَّ يَسُوْعَ الْمَسِيْحِ، الَّذِي مِنْ نَسْلِ دَاوُدَ، قَدْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ عَلَى حَسَبِ إِنْجِيْلِي. الَّذِي احْتَمَلُ فِيهِ الْمَشَقَّاتِ حَتَّى الْقُبُوْدِ كَمُجْرِمٍ، إِلَّا أَنْ كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ لَا تُعَيِّدُ. فَلِذَلِكَ أَنَا أَضْبِرُّ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ مِنْ أَجْلِ الْمُخْتَارِيْنَ، لِكَيْ يَحْصُلُوا هُمْ أَيْضاً عَلَى الْخَلَاصِ الَّذِي فِي الْمَسِيْحِ يَسُوْعَ، مَعَ الْمَجْدِ الْأَبَدِيِّ.

## The Gospel (For the Fourth Sunday of Matthew)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (8:5-13)**

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching Him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered Him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say

Please contact either me or Father Peter to discuss this matter and what assistance you can be to Saint Mary's.

*"For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have." 2 Corinthians 8: 22*

In Christ,

Mark Samra, Parish Council Chairman  
561-719-7530

Fr. Peter Shportun, Pastor  
561-632-7066

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America /  
Diocese of Miami and the Southeast

### Repair and Improvement Campaign Update

\$25,000	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$100,000
Amount Received	As of July 3, 2022: <b>\$38,030</b>		

### Online Donations

The church offers Zelle as an online means of fulfilling your **Annual Pledge** as well as make a donation to the **'Repair and Improvement Campaign.'**

To use Zelle, please access it through your online bank to:  
[stmarywpbfinance@gmail.com](mailto:stmarywpbfinance@gmail.com).

In addition, you may use the online services of Paypal, and the Envelopes on the table in the Church Narthex in fulfilling your pledge, or to make an offering.

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



## Saint Mary Orthodox Church of West Palm Beach, Florida

May 31, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

While some may step away from the church during the summer months for various reasons, the church continues open its doors and offer ministry to the community. Your continued support to our beloved Saint Mary's Church is greatly appreciated.

Operating the church does not come without any unexpected problems or expenses. Our church community is currently facing a major expense that needs your help. This past week, our air conditioning system in the hall ceased to work and is past the point of repair. The lack of air conditioning in the hall puts the church in a difficult position of having to cancel daily and weekly hall rentals, thus losing rental income. In addition, our Sunday Coffee Hours and fellowship activities are put on hold. The Parish Council is working diligently to replace the air conditioning units as soon as we locate the equipment.

In addition, our parking lot has become an eyesore, fallen into disrepair and presents a hazard in some places. This too needs our immediate attention.

The current estimate to replace the air conditioning units and resurface the parking lot is close to \$100,000, a substantial amount of funds that Saint Mary's does not have. To meet this expense your help is needed. We understand that the urgency of this request is never at a good time - especially during the summer months.

We encourage you not to take away from your current contributions to Saint Mary's that assist with our daily expenses. We ask that you contribute in any way you feel you are able. Keeping our church from a serious financial deficit depends on each one of us and of our ability and willingness to support these expenditures.

the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, He marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ .

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ كَفَرْنَاهُومَ، فَدَنَا إِلَيْهِ قَائِدُ مِئَةٍ، وَطَلَبَ إِلَيْهِ قَائِلًا: يَا رَبُّ إِنَّ فَتَايَ مُلْقَى فِي الْبَيْتِ مُخْلَعًا يُعَذِّبُ بِعَذَابٍ شَدِيدٍ. فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: أَنَا آتِي وَأَشْفِيهِ. فَأَجَابَ قَائِدُ الْمِئَةِ قَائِلًا: يَا رَبُّ، لَسْتُ مُسْتَحِقًّا أَنْ تَدْخُلَ تَحْتَ سَقْفِي، وَلَكِنْ قُلْ كَلِمَةً لَا غَيْرَ، فَيَبْرَأَ فَتَايَ. فَإِنِّي أَنَا إِنْسَانٌ تَحْتَ سُلْطَانٍ، وَلِي جُنْدٌ تَحْتَ يَدِي، أَقُولُ لِهَذَا "اذهب"، فَيَذْهَبُ، وَلِلْآخِرِ "أنت"، فَيَأْتِي، وَلِعَبْدِي "اعْمَلْ هَذَا"، فَيَعْمَلُ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ يَسُوعُ، تَعَجَّبَ وَقَالَ لِلَّذِينَ يَتَّبِعُونَهُ: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنِّي لَمْ أَجِدْ إِيمَانًا بِمِقْدَارِ هَذَا وَلَا فِي إِسْرَائِيلِ. أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنَّ كَثِيرِينَ سَيَأْتُونَ مِنَ الْمَشَارِقِ وَالْمَغَارِبِ وَيَتَّكُونَ مَعَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَاسْحَقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ فِي مَلَكُوتِ السَّمَاوَاتِ. وَأَمَّا بَنُو الْمَلَكُوتِ فَيُلْقَوْنَ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ الْبَرَانِيَّةِ. هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ الْبُكَاءُ وَصْرِيْفُ الْأَسْنَانِ. ثُمَّ قَالَ يَسُوعُ لِقَائِدِ الْمِئَةِ: اذهب، وَلْيَكُنْ لَكَ كَمَا آمَنْتَ. فَشَفِيَ فَتَاهُ فِي تِلْكَ السَّاعَةِ.

- *The Divine Liturgy of St. 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.

### Liturgical Offerings

- Holy Altar Vigil Candle for the week of July 10th is offered for Johnny and Joyce Chalhub on the occasion of their 56th Wedding Anniversary.
- Holy Altar Vigil Candle for the week of July 10th is offered in glory of the Most Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Holy Bread for the Divine Liturgy of July 10th is being offered by Magda Danesei for the good health of her family.

*If you wish to offer Holy Bread or an Altar Vigil Candle, 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, The Priest John, Michael, Sub-Deacon William Hall, George Frieji, Jodet Rae, Judy Chalhub, Johnny & Joyce Chalhub, Nayla Tacla, Jenna Welch, Shane Brown, Raouf Saballeil, Jennifer Joseph Zicky, Marie-Therese Habib.

- *Please update Fr. Peter on how the following are doing and whether they should remain on our prayer list!*

*For the Shut-ins of our Church Community:* Gloria Yedlinsky, Lidia Pawlcuk, Basil Dalack, Angie Smith, Zakia Salloum.

Metropolitan Boulos & Archbishop Youhanna, for their release from captivity and safe return.

For the end of hostilities and sufferings, and for peace in the Ukraine.

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

### For the Departed

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

Thomas Eissey [5/4/22], Margo Fankhauser [5/3/22], Fr. Nicholas Neyman [12/12/21], Sonia AbuHadid [10/3/21].

## Seven Day Prayer Candles

- ◇ *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.*



## Church Parking Lots

Preparation work has begun on the Church Parking Lots. Weather permitting, the parking lots will be resurfaced and re-stripped beginning Monday, July 11th.

This is being accomplished thanks in part to your donations to the 'Repair and Improvement Campaign.' However, the church is still well short of our goal of collecting \$100,000, to keep the church out of deficit. Please consider a donation to the campaign.

## New Church Website

Have you checked-out our new Church Website? Go to [stmaryschurchwpb.org](http://stmaryschurchwpb.org) and let us know what you think.

## Summertime Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!

Following the Sunday Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour is a time for fellowship and to welcome visitors to our church community. Each Sunday, Coffee Hours hosts are needed. To volunteer, Please sign-up at the entrance of the hall, or speak to Jane Pasley or Khouryia Myriam.

## Church Directory Information

The Parish Council is in the process of updating our Church Directory to better minister to our Saint Mary's Community. If you have not done so already, please take a minute or two to complete a Church Directory Information Form. Forms are on the table in the Church Narthex.

## Giving of Your Blessings

Thank you to those who continue to fill our Feed the Hungry Box located in the Church Narthex. Your food donations will be distributed to those in need in our local community. In addition to non perishable food items, items such as baby formula, diapers, wipes; toothpaste, soap and shampoo are greatly needed.

## Join Our Youth Ministry Team

A 'Youth Ministry Team' comprised of 3 to 4 volunteers is needed to assist the priest in engaging our teens (13 to 19 years), pre-teens (11 & 12 years) and young adults (19 to 25 years).

To join our Youth Ministry Team, please speak with Fr. Peter.