

## From the Front Cover

Cyprian was an illustrious pagan of Antioch during the reign of Decius in the middle of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. He acquired a vast worldly knowledge since childhood and then started to learn sorcery. He practiced it so skillfully that the pagans ran to him from near and far, asking him to consort with demons for specific services, either to harm people, or to instigate others towards certain actions. Cyprian went far in this practice: he read all kinds of magic books, visited places that were famous for magic and sorcery, learning all the secrets of witchcraft. All this procured him wealth and fame man. Whether he knew it or not, he certainly caused harm to many; but he did not care.

Justina was the daughter of a pagan priest named Edesius. One day, Justina heard someone speak about the Incarnation of Christ from a Virgin for the salvation of men and the love of God for mankind. So she secretly visited a Christian church to hear some more. She converted to the Lord Jesus and learned the true faith. It seems also that her father, the pagan priest, was a man inclined to wisdom. He was also attracted to the faith with his wife Clebonia. All three were baptized by Optatus Bishop. Justina vowed her chastity to the heavenly Bridegroom, Jesus Christ.

According to church tradition, there are two accounts about the connection of Cyprian and Justina.

The first version says that Cyprian met Justina one day, and was captivated by her beauty. He fell in love with her, and when he tried to court her, she turned him off. The second version mentions that a young pagan man of loose manners set his eyes on Justina, so he fell in love with her and desired her, but she refused. Then, he came to Cyprian for help. In both cases Cyprian sought to entice Justina with his knowledge in magic and consorting with evil spirits. Cyprian went to great lengths to win the girl, but in vain. He tried all his magic spells, but failed miserably because Justina was preserved by the power of the cross. Therefore, his curiosity was aroused; he wished to know the God of the Christians, the mighty God who overpowered all his demons and sorcery. He devoted himself to Christianity and learned it. Thus, he, too, was converted to Christ Jesus.

After being a sorcerer who attracted people by magic powers and demonic acts, a gentle virgin came and charmed him with her beauty and attracted him to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Then the bishop of the city ordained him a priest. Some also say that he became a bishop and made Justina a deaconess.



+ The Holy Hieromartyr Cyprian and the Virgin Martyr Justina

The Weekly Bulletin - October 2, 2022



# 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)*

*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.

## Our Church Website

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



## Schedule of Church Services

### Sunday, October 2nd

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

Fr. Peter's Children's Sermon before Communion

Baptism: Gabriel Cogan at 12:15 PM.

### Wednesday, October 5th

Vespers Service at 6:30 PM

### Sunday, September 9th

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

*Fr. Peter is available for Confession by appointment; or 30 minutes prior to Sunday Matins, Wednesday Vespers and Feast Day Services.*

## Upcoming Meetings and Activities

### October is Youth Month!

- ◇ **Sunday, October 2nd:** SOYO Meeting at 12 Noon.
- ◇ **Tuesday, October 4th:** Bible Study beginning at 6:45 PM, in the Conference Room.
- ◇ **Sunday, October 9th:** Monthly Parish Council Meeting at 12 Noon, in the Conference Room.
- ◇ **Sunday, October 16th:** Special Olympics Awareness Sunday Luncheon, hosted by SOYO.
- ◇ **Sunday, October 23rd:** Family Movie Event at 1:00 PM. The movie 'Man of God,' depicts the trials and tribulations of Saint Nektarios *(More information coming in the following weeks)*.
- ◇ **Sunday, October 30th:** Trunk or Treat beginning from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, in the North Parking Lot of the church. More details forthcoming.

## Making Progress

by Abbot Tryphon

The acquisition of holiness is not simply the result of having cultivated virtues, or controlling oneself through asceticism, but rather having a completely organic relationship with Christ. This organic relationship is the result of going through stages of repentance and purity, leading to a remarkable state of union with Christ, seen by the Church as deification, or theosis.

We can feel discouraged when we struggle to change our bad behaviors, or overcome sins that seem to follow us like bad debt. We feel overwhelmed and wonder if we'll ever have victory. During times like these it is good to remember the words of Saint Peter of Damaskos: "It is through victories in small things that the fathers won their great battles."

Because this victory has as its foundation the gradual transformation of self, one must never think any sin too small to be confessed. The more we are truthful with our confessor, the greater the chance of victory over all our sins, including sins that seem incidental. These sins build up over time, helping submerge the will, so that even the big sins are excusable in our minds. The big battles are never won without the little skirmishes leading to victory.

During each celebration of the Divine Liturgy we sing the words, "We have seen the True Light, we have received the Heavenly Spirit; we have found the true Faith, worshipping the undivided Trinity; Who has saved us." Let us commit ourselves anew to living this holy faith as true witnesses to the truths that our Lord has taught us. We have in our possession a Great Pearl, let it be the inheritance we leave our children.



*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 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost +The Hieromartyr Cyprian

*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..." as on ordinary Sundays. After the Entrance, chant these hymns in the following order:*

### Resurrectional Apolytikion 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 for the Hieromartyr Cyprian in Tone 4

By choosing the Apostles' way of life, thou hast succeeded to their throne. Inspired by God, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the Word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith to the very shedding of thy blood, O Hieromartyr Cyprian. Entreat the Lord our God to save our souls.

### 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 *(For the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost)*

*Prokeimenon Verse: The Lord will give strength to His people. Bring unto the Lord, ye sons of God, bring unto the Lord glory and honor.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:1-10)

Brethren, since we are fellow workers, we entreat you also not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At an acceptable season I hearkened unto thee, and in a day of salvation I helped thee"; behold, now is "the acceptable season"; behold, now is "the day of salvation"; giving no occasion of stumbling in anything, that the ministry is not blamed, but in everything commending ourselves, as ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in vigils, in fasts, in purity, in knowledge, in longsuffering, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in love unfeigned, in the word of truth, in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

الرَّبُّ يُعْطِي قُوَّةً لِشَعْبِهِ.

قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ، قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ مَجْدًا وَكِرَامَةً.

فَضْلٌ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى أَهْلِ كورِنْثُوسِ.

يا إِخْوَةُ، بما أَنَا مُعَاوِنُونَ، نَطْلُبُ إِلَيْكُمْ أَنْ لَا تَقْبَلُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ فِي الْبَاطِلِ. لِأَنَّهُ يَقُولُ "إِنِّي فِي وَقْتِ مَقْبُولِ

اسْتَجَبْتُ لَكَ، وَفِي يَوْمِ خَلَاصٍ أَعْتَقْتُكَ." فَهُوَذَا الْآنَ وَقْتُ مَقْبُولٍ. هُوَذَا الْآنَ يَوْمُ خَلَاصٍ. وَلَسْنَا نَأْتِي بِمَعْنَرَةٍ فِي شَيْءٍ

إِنَّمَا يَلْحَقُ الْخِدْمَةَ عَيْبٌ بَلْ نُظْهِرُ، فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، أَنْفُسَنَا كَخُدَّامِ اللَّهِ، فِي صَبْرٍ كَثِيرٍ، فِي شِدَائِدٍ، فِي ضَرُورَاتٍ، فِي

ضَيْقَاتٍ، فِي جَلَدَاتٍ، فِي سُجُونٍ، فِي اضْطِرَابَاتٍ، فِي أَتْعَابٍ، فِي أَشْهَارٍ، فِي أَصْوَامٍ، فِي طَهَارَةٍ، فِي مَعْرِفَةٍ، فِي

طَوْلِ أَنَاةٍ، فِي رَفْقٍ، فِي الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، فِي مَحَبَّةٍ بِلَا رِيَاءٍ، فِي كَلِمَةِ الْحَقِّ، فِي قُوَّةِ اللَّهِ، بِأَسْلِحَةِ الْبِرِّ عَنِ الْيَمِينِ وَعَنِ

الْيَسَارِ، بِمَجْدٍ وَهَوَانٍ، بِسَوْءِ صَبِيحٍ وَحُسْنِهِ. كَأَنَّا مُضِلُّونَ وَنَحْنُ صَادِقُونَ، كَأَنَّا مَجْهُولُونَ وَنَحْنُ مَعْرُوفُونَ، كَأَنَّا

مَائِثُونَ وَهَذَا نَحْنُ أَحْيَاءٌ، كَأَنَّا مُؤَدَّبُونَ وَلَا نُقْتَلُ، كَأَنَّا حَزَانِي وَنَحْنُ دَائِمًا فَرِحُونَ، كَأَنَّا فَقْرَاءُ وَنَحْنُ نُغْنِي كَثِيرِينَ، كَأَنَّا

لَا شَيْءَ لَنَا وَنَحْنُ نَمْلِكُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ.

## Family Movie Night Rescheduled

Family Movie Night hosted by SOYO, originally scheduled for October 1st, has been rescheduled to Sunday, October 23rd. Please adjust your schedule and make plans to be with us.

## Church Directory Information

We are 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. The forms may be returned to Jane Pasley or Fr. Peter.

## 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.

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone for your warm birthday greetings and for the surprise 60th Birthday Lunch last Sunday. May God bless each of you of you with many years of health and happiness. - Fr. Peter

## Saint Philip Fall Dinner Hafli

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

~ Saturday, October 29th ~

Germack Hall - 4860 Griffin Road, Davie FL 33314

Doors open at 7:30 PM

Catered Dinner - Cash Bar - Great Music

Adults: \$65.00 pp

Students and Children (11-17 years) \$30.00 pp

Children 10 years and under free

To RSVP by email: office@orthodoxfl.com

Or telephone Pam Black (954) 224-9228

## Repair and Improvement Campaign Update

\$25,000      \$50,000      \$75,000      \$100,000

Amount  
Received

As of September 25, 2022: **\$44,230**

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Since the Parish Council initiated the Repair and Improvement Campaign at the end of May, much needed repairs and improvements have been carried out.

- ♦ New Air-Conditioning System for our Banquet Hall, in addition to a new A/C system for our hall restrooms, kitchen and new Sunday School Rooms.
- ♦ Repair and re-surfacing of our parking lots; new curb stones and parking stripes; relocation of handicapped spaces and signage to South Parking Lot and school.
- ♦ Repair of pumps and zone timer for the outdoor sprinklers.

The total cost for the above repairs currently exceeds to amount donated to date.

For those who have donated we THANK YOU!

In order to reach our goal of \$100,000, your donations are still needed, no matter the amount.

*It is also imperative to continue to keep up with your annual giving, especially during the summer months. This will keep the church from falling into a deficit.*

For more information on how you may donate to our campaign, please speak with Mark Samra, Judy Chalhub, or Sam Pasley.

### 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.

## The Gospel (For the Second Sunday of Luke)

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (6:31-36)

The Lord said: "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

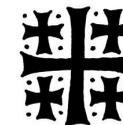
فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.  
قَالَ الرَّبُّ: كَمَا تُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يَفْعَلَ النَّاسُ بِكُمْ، كَذَلِكَ أَفْعَلُوا أَنْتُمْ بِهِمْ. فَإِنَّكُمْ إِنْ أَحْبَبْتُمْ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَكُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةٍ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَاةَ أَيْضاً يُحِبُّونَ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَهُمْ. وَإِذَا أَحْسَنْتُمْ إِلَى الَّذِينَ يُحْسِنُونَ إِلَيْكُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةٍ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَاةَ أَيْضاً هَكَذَا يَصْنَعُونَ. وَإِنْ أَقْرَضْتُمْ الَّذِينَ تَرْجُونَ أَنْ تَسْتَوْفُوا مِنْهُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةٍ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَاةَ أَيْضاً يَقْرَضُونَ الْخَطَاةَ لِكَيْ يَسْتَوْفُوا مِنْهُمْ الْمِثْلَ. وَلَكِنْ، أَحِبُّوا أَعْدَاءَكُمْ، وَأَحْسِنُوا وَأَقْرَضُوا غَيْرَ مُؤَمِّلِينَ شَيْئاً، فَيَكُونَ أَجْرُكُمْ كَثِيراً، وَتَكُونُوا بَنِي الْعَلِيِّ. فَإِنَّهُ مُنْعِمٌ عَلَى غَيْرِ الشَّاكِرِينَ وَالْأَشْرَارِ. فَكُونُوا رُحَمَاءَ كَمَا أَنَّ أَبَاكُمْ هُوَ رَحِيمٌ.

- Fr. Peter will offer his Children's Sermon prior to Communion. All the Sunday School Children and Teens are asked to come to the front for the sermon.

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

### 1 Year Memorial (Trisagion) Service

Offered for the repose of Sonia AbouHadid, by her mother Suad AbouHadid and family. May her memory be eternal!



## Liturgical Offerings

### Weekly Altar Candle offered for the week of October 2nd

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

### Holy Bread offered for Sunday, October 2nd

◇ By Suad AbuHadid and family in loving memory of Sonia AbuHadid on the occasion of the one year memorial.

*If you wish to offer Holy Bread for a Divine Liturgy, or a Weekly Altar Candle for the health of or memory of a love one, 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, Sub-Deacon William Hall, George Frieji, Jodet Rae, Judy Chalhub, Johnny & Joyce Chalhub, Jenna Welch, Shane Brown, Raouf Saballeil, Jennifer Joseph Zicky, Marie-Therese Habib, Sabah, Magda Danese, Jake.

*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 all persecuted Christians and all people suffering from violence, war, 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..."*

Ernest Shwayri *(newly departed 9/29/22)*, Sarah Nabhan *(newly departed 9/5/22)*, Thomas Eissey *(5/4/22)*, Margo Fankhauser *(5/3/22)*, Archpriest Nicholas Neyman *(12/12/21)*, Sonia AbuHadid *(10/3/21)*.

## Seven Day Prayer Candles Offered

*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.*

## Memory Eternal!

The Community of Saint Mary's extends heartfelt sympathies to Joan Shwayri and her children on the falling asleep in the Lord of her husband Dr. Ernest Shwayri on Thursday, September 29th. Funeral arrangements will be announced. May his memory be eternal!

## Sunday School and Teen Classes Underway!

Classes are held each Sunday morning following Communion, and last approximately 30 minutes.

The following is general information regarding Sunday School and teen classes:

- ◇ There will be three classes:
  - Pre-K and K Class (Ages 4 - 6 years)
  - Middler Class (Ages 7 - 10 years)
  - Pre-Teen (Ages 11 & 12) and Teens
- ◇ This year the curriculum will focus on the Boof of Genesis, in addition to the basics in the Orthodox faith.
- ◇ Registration Forms have been emailed to the entire parish, in addition to being available on the table in the Church Narthex. All parents are asked to complete the forms and return them to the church.

**NOTE: The Sunday School is still in need of someone to teach the Middler Class. If you are interested, please speak to Joan Shwayri or Fr. Peter.**

## Weekly Bible Study

Our Bible Study for the Fall continues on Tuesday, October 4th, from 6:45 PM to 7:45 PM, in the Conference Room. We are blessed to have Jim Gavrilos to once again lead our weekly study.

*The topic: 'The Acts of the Apostles'*

Everyone is welcome to attend. The only requirement is that you bring your Bible, and a desire to learn about the Word of God.