

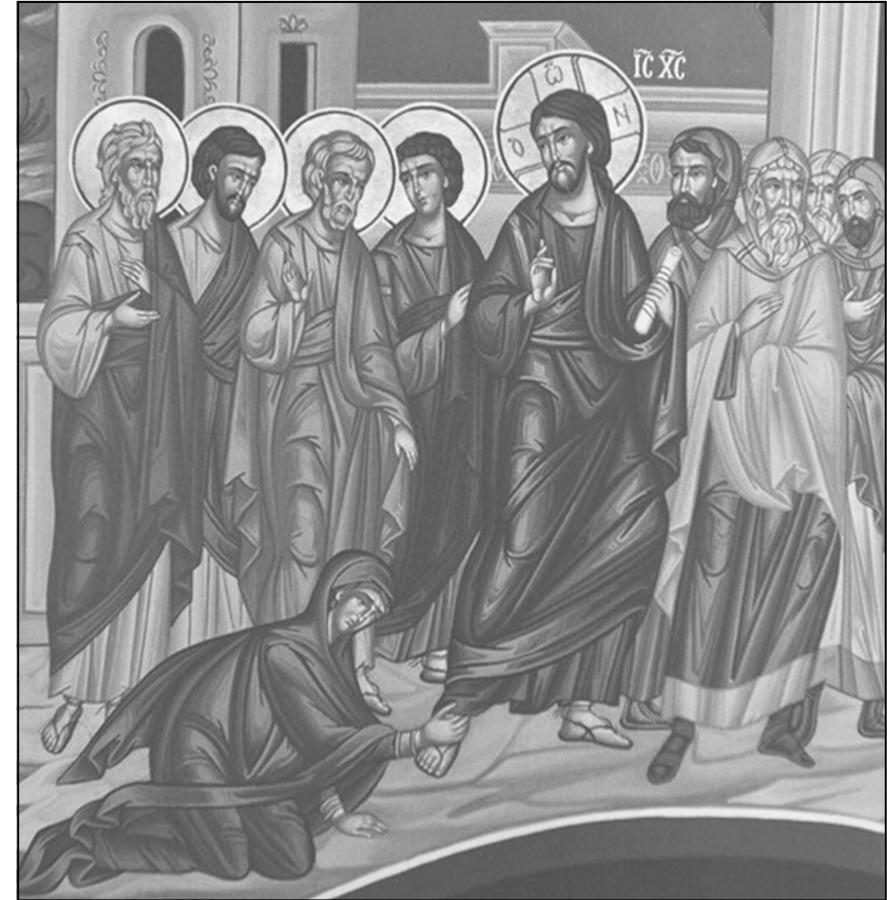
From the Front Cover

W have all had the experience of being ignored, left out, and made to feel that we weren't included or recognized by others. Whether at school, among friends, at work or wherever, that can be painful, no matter what our age or life circumstances. No one likes to be rejected or overlooked. But sometimes, what seems to be rejection really isn't; sometimes it is testing and preparation for a deeper relationship in which we learn more about ourselves, our neighbors, and God.

Such was our Lord's conversation with the Canaanite woman. She is a Gentile with a demon-possessed daughter, and probably at the end of her rope. So she calls out to Christ, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David!" But He doesn't answer her and says to the disciples that He was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, to the Jews. When the woman persists with her cries for help, He tells her that it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs. In other words, God's blessings are for the chosen people of the Old Testament, the Jews, not for the Gentiles. The woman doesn't disagree with that answer, but says that "even the dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Christ praises the woman's faith and her daughter is healed.

Many of us admire teachers, coaches, parents, or other mentors and instructors who tested us, who did not make it easy because we grew through their tough guidance and high expectations. We became stronger, more mature, more capable and confident people by overcoming challenges that at first may have seemed insurmountable. The same is true of this woman's relationship with Jesus Christ. He challenged her to see clearly where she stood before Him. Had she been full of pride, she would have walked away. Had she been impatient or insincere, she would have left. But she knew that in this man she encountered the salvation of God for her daughter, and she let nothing deter her. She refused to be denied.

This Canaanite woman is a tremendous model for us as Christians, for we so easily give up on the Lord and on ourselves. We are tempted to think that we are who we are, that there is no point in trying to change, and that even God can't heal and transform us. Now it certainly would have been less stressful for this Gentile woman to have stayed home that day and not made a scene about Christ healing her daughter. She could have said "I'm a Gentile and this Messiah is a Jew. Why should I even ask Him to help?" But then her life and that of her daughter would have remained miserable and without the Lord's blessing.



Healing of the Daughter of the Canaanite Woman

The Weekly Bulletin - January 29, 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*

His Beatitude John X, Patriarch of Antioch

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.

Home Blessings for 2023

Fr. Peter continues with the traditional 'Blessing of Homes.' He will be blessing homes until the end of February. To schedule an appointment to have your home blessed, you may do one of the following:

1. Complete the form sent to your home, or that have been placed on the table in the Narthex, and either mail or hand it to Fr. Peter.
2. You may also telephone/text Fr. Peter at 561. 632-7066, or email him at frpshport@gmail.com.



Grace

by Abbot Tryphon

The True Christian Life is One of Grace



Many people sail through their life thinking happiness is something they have created for themselves. Good fortune, and success in work and play, is something they've brought about, either through struggle, or by pure luck. Yet when they experience difficult times, or loss of the things that brought them comfort, they despair.

Sometimes it takes the loss of this established order, to enlighten our darkened hearts to the reality that only happiness that is of an eternal nature will never be lost. For such a man, there is nothing that can take away from the comfort and security he experiences that are of a faith based nature. This is because God's grace fills his very essence with such peace, nothing, even loss of worldly comforts, can bring about despair.

How can we possibly despair when we know that the God we worship in Trinity, and Who has created us and our world, loves us? How can we despair when Christ has become our Co-suffering Saviour? And how can despair when we have been showered with such an abundance of grace that no hardship that comes our way can detract from the peace and joy that we have experienced in our life in Christ?

Compared to this grace filled life, all else is but folly. Grace has liberated us from all the temporal nature of earthly happiness, and has taken up residence in our heart, from which springs forth the healing that transforms us. This grace makes us whole, and our sickness disappears as though it never was.

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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



Schedule of Church Services

Sunday, January 29th

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

Wednesday, February 1st

Feast of the Presentation of Christ into the Temple

Vesperal Divine Liturgy at 6:30 PM

Sunday, February 5th

Beginning of the Lenten Triodion / Sunday of the Pharisee & Publican

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

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

Upcoming Services in February

Saturday, February 18th

Soul Saturday

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 AM, followed by Trisagion (Memorial) Service

Sunday, February 26th

Forgiveness Sunday Vespers at 6:30 PM

- ◆ Great Lent begins Monday, February 27th
- ◆ Pascha (Easter) is Sunday, April 16th

Fr. Peter is available for Confession:

- *By appointment;*
- *Prior to Sunday Matins (8:30 to 8:50 AM);*
- *Prior to Wednesday Vespers and Feast Day Services (6:00 to 6:30PM).*

Divine Liturgy Variables for the Sunday of the Canaanite Woman + Translation of relics of Ignatius the God-bearer of Antioch

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

- *During the Little Entrance, 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, the hymns are chanted in the following order:*

Resurrectional Apolytikion in Tone 8

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of the Hieromartyr Ignatius of Antioch 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 Holy Martyr among bishops Ignatius. 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 of the Presentation of Christ in Tone 1

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

The Epistle

Prokeimenon Verse: Make your vows to the Lord your 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 the Corinthians. (6:16-7:1)

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore, come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters," says the Lord Almighty. Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

الرسالة

صَلُّوا وَأَوْقُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا .

اللَّهُ مَعْرُوفٌ فِي أَرْضِ يَهُودَا . إِشْمُهُ عَظِيمٌ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ .

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى أَهْلِ كُورِنْثُوسَ .

يَا إِخْوَتِي، أَنْتُمْ هَيْكَلُ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ، كَمَا قَالَ اللَّهُ، "إِنِّي سَأَسْكُنُ فِيهِمْ، وَأَسِيرُ فِيهِمْ، وَأَكُونُ لَهُمْ إِلَهًا وَهُمْ

يَكُونُونَ لِي شَعْبًا فَلِذَلِكَ أَخْرَجُوا مِنْ بَيْتِهِمْ وَاعْتَرَلُوا"، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، "وَلَا تَمَسُّوا نَجَسًا، فَأَقْبَلْكُمْ، وَأَكُونُ لَكُمْ أَبًا، وَأَنْتُمْ

تَكُونُونَ لِي بَنِينَ وَبَنَاتٍ"، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ الْقَدِيرُ . وَإِذْ لَنَا هَذِهِ الْمَوَاعِدُ، أَيُّهَا الْأَحِبَّاءُ، فَلْنُطَهِّرْ أَنْفُسَنَا مِنْ كُلِّ أَذْنَانِ الْجَسَدِ

وَالرُّوحِ، وَنُكْمِلِ الْقِدَاسَةَ بِمَخَافَةِ اللَّهِ .

The Gospel

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (15:21-28)

At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord, help me." And He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.



2023
Winter Haftli

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

FEATURING
"STAR" BASSEL EID
MUSICIAN FADI HARDAN
BELLYDANCE
BY CHEEKY BELLY



ST. MARY'S BANQUET HALL
1317 FLORIDA MANGO ROAD
WEST PALM BEACH

DOORS OPEN AT 7:30PM
CASH BAR COCKTAIL HOUR
DINNER AT 9:00PM

\$90 IN ADVANCE, \$100 AT THE DOOR

FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION CONTACT
NABIL ABOUKHALED: 561-502-8588
JANE PASLEY: 561-389-0346



345 S. Congress Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33445
Phone: (561) 355-HOME(4663)
e-mail: ppayne@homelesscoalitionpbc.org
www.HomelessCoalitionPBC.Org

November 7, 2022

Father Peter
St. Mary's Church
1317 Florida Mango Road
West Palm Beach, FL Florida 33406

Dear 0 Peter,

On behalf of the Homeless Coalition, Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and homeless men, women and children we serve, we would like to express our sincere **THANKS** and **APPRECIATION** for your contribution in kind.

The Homeless Coalition is dedicated to filling the gaps in funding for programs and services that help end homelessness in our community.

We accomplish our mission by collaborating with community partners and donors like yourself to provide food, housing and other critical services for homeless families and individuals struggling to recover from homelessness.

This past fiscal year

- 225 - households were placed into permanent housing through our Creating Housing Opportunities program, which pays first, last, and security deposits.
- 50,000 - nutritious meals were provided to the 70 homeless men and women living at the Senator Philip D. Lewis Center, Palm Beach County's first homeless resource center.
- 550 - individuals were served through Project Homeless Connect, our largest community outreach event providing food, clothes, haircuts, health screening, bikes, comfort kits, identification cards and referrals for housing & employment.
- 39 - homeless men were employed through the Parks to Work program which allows them the opportunity to provide for themselves and become self-sufficient.

Again, thank you for helping us fulfill our mission of "Building Coalitions and Inspiring Pathways to Help End Homelessness" through your generous donation.

Best Regards,


Pamela Payne
Chief Executive Officer
Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc.

The Thanksgiving baskets were a huge aid and, gratefully received. Thank you.

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفَ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، خَرَجَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى نَوَاجِي صُورَ وَصَيْدَا. وَإِذَا بِامْرَأَةٍ كَنْعَانِيَّةٍ قَدْ خَرَجَتْ مِنْ تِلْكَ النُّحُومِ وَصَرَخَتْ إِلَيْهِ قَائِلَةً: "إِرْحَمْنِي يَا رَبُّ! يَا ابْنَ دَاوُدَ، فَإِنَّ ابْنَتِي بِهَا شَيْطَانٌ يُعَذِّبُهَا جَدًّا." فَلَمْ يُجِبْهَا بِكَلِمَةٍ. فَدَنَا تَلَامِيذُهُ وَسَأَلُوهُ قَائِلِينَ: "إِصْرِفْهَا فَإِنَّهَا تَصِيحُ فِي إِثْرِنَا." فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "لَمْ أُرْسَلْ إِلَّا إِلَى الْخِرَافِ الضَّالَّةِ مِنْ بَيْتِ إِسْرَائِيلِ." فَأَتَتْ وَسَجَدَتْ لَهُ قَائِلَةً: "أَعِثِّي يَا رَبُّ." فَأَجَابَ قَائِلًا: "لَيْسَ حَسَنًا أَنْ يُؤَخَّذَ خُبْرُ الْبَنِينِ وَيَلْقَى لِلْكَلابِ." فَقَالَتْ: "تَعَمْ يَا رَبُّ، فَإِنَّ الْكِلَابَ أَيْضًا تَأْكُلُ مِنَ الْفَقَاتِ الَّذِي يَسْقُطُ مِنْ مَوَائِدِ أَرْبَابِهَا." حِينَئِذٍ أَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهَا: "يَا امْرَأَةَ، عَظِيمٌ إِيمَانُكَ، فَلْيَكُنْ لِكَ كَمَا أَرَدْتَ." فَسُفِيَتْ أَبْنَتْهَا مِنْ تِلْكَ السَّاعَةِ.

- *The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom continues as usual.*

Liturgical Offerings

Weekly Altar Candle offered for the week of January 29th

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

Holy Bread offered for Sunday, January 29th

- ◇ By Tony Dagher in memory of his mother, Sarah Naffah Dagher (10 years); his brother, Shawki Dagher; and father Elia Dagher
- ◇ On the occasion of the 2nd Birthday of Bennett Shportun. Offered by his grand-parents, Fr. Peter & Myriam Shportun and family.

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.



The Feast of the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ into the Temple

Considered one of the Major Feast Days of the Orthodox Church, the Feast of the Presentation of Christ celebrates Jesus Christ being brought to the Temple and presented into the arms of the Righteous Simeon 40 days after His birth.

Join with us as a Vesperal Divine Liturgy for this feast will be prayed on Wednesday, February 1st, beginning at 6:30 PM.

Saturday of Souls - February—February 18th

It is the tradition of the Orthodox Church that on the Saturday of Souls we remember our departed loved in Christ in prayer during the Divine Liturgy and Trisagion Prayers.

If you wish to have the names of your departed loved commemorated, please email Fr. Peter their names before February 16th, or list their names on the Soul Saturday List that has been placed on the table in the Church Narthex.

Soul Saturday Divine Liturgy and Trisagion Prayers will be prayed on Saturday, February 18th at 9:00 AM.



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, Jodet Rae, Leon & Judy Chalhub, Johnny & Joyce Chalhub, Jenna Welch, Shane Brown, Raouf Saballeil, Jennifer Joseph Zicky, Marie-Therese Habib, Sabah, Luizette Aramouni, Craig Miller.

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

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..."

George Freije [10/26/22], Ernest Shwayri [9/29/22], Basil Dalack [9/1/22], Sarah Nabhan [9/5/22], Thomas Eissey [5/4/22], Margo Fankhauser [5/3/22].

Seven Day Prayer Candles Offered

- *If you would like to have names offered in prayer during the Sunday Divine Liturgy, or Feast Day Divine Liturgy, please text or email their names to Fr. Peter in advance of the service.*
- *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.*



Weekly Bible Study Moves to Monday Nights

Beginning this coming Monday (January 30th), Bible Study will be moved to Monday evenings from 6:45 to 8:00 PM in the Conference Room.

Led by Jim Gavrilos, the topic will be the New Testament Book of Romans. All are welcome to participate.

Coffee Hour This Sunday

Is hosted by Tony Dagher, in memory of his mother Sarah Naffah Dagher, brother Shawki Dagher and father Elia Dagher.

Coffee Hour Hosts are needed for the month of February. If you would like to host a Sunday Coffee Hour, please speak to Jane Pasley or Khouryia Myriam.

Sunday School and Teen Classes

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

Learning CPR

Are you interested in learning CPR? Currently, about 9 in 10 people who have cardiac arrest outside the hospital die. But CPR can help improve those odds. If it is performed in the first few minutes of cardiac arrest, CPR can double or triple a person's chance of survival. Sponsored by the Parish Council, classes are being planned in the near future for our parishioners. More information is forthcoming.

- **If you did not receive a 2023 Church Calendar, extra calendars have been placed on the table in the Church Narthex. Please feel free to take one.**