







# ST. RAPHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the South*

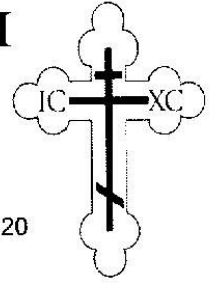
1277 N. Paul Dr., Inverness, FL 34453

Fr. Sergious Gerken, Parish Priest

Warden Barbara Aldunate, Co-Warden Joel Miller, Treasurer Linda Labosky

Please Visit: **www: *straphaelchurch.org*** Church: 352-201-1320

*Check our home page for new content, news and announcements*



**SUNDAY, AUG., 2021 - 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 5.**  
**Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Lifegiving Cross of the Lord.**

## **HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK**

Sat: Great Vespers 4:00 PM  
Sun: Reading of The Hours 9:45 AM  
**Divine Liturgy**  
**Holy Cross** 10:00 AM  
Thu.: Akathist to St. Herman 4:00 PM  
Fri.: **Divine Liturgy** 9:00 AM  
**Transfiguration of Our Lord**

*Please join us  
after Divine  
Liturgy for a  
Coffee  
Fellowship*

*Confessions -  
Ask Fr. Sergious  
for a time*

## **DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Mon: 1 Corinthians 5:9-6:11, Matthew 13:54-58  
Tue: 1 Corinthians 6:20-7:12, Matthew 14:1-13  
Wed: 1 Corinthians 7:12-24, Matthew 14:35-15:11  
Thu: 1 Corinthians 7:24-35, Matthew 15:12-21  
Fri: Exodus 24:12-18; 33:11-23; 34:4-6:8,  
3[1]Kings 19:3-9; 11-13; 15-16, Luke  
9:28-36, 1 Corinthians 7:35-8:7, Matthew  
15:29-31; 17:1-9, 2 Peter 1:10-19  
Sat: Romans 12:1-3, Matthew 10:37-11:1

**+EPISTLE+ (Romans 12:6-14) Brethren: Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.**

*Today is Charity Sunday  
St. Raphael Parishioner Aid*

**+GOSPEL+ (Matthew 9:1-8) So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" - then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.**

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

*1 Corinthians 13:4-8*

Practice Christianity every day with each person you meet and each word you say. Christ spoke saying: But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man.

*St. Mat. 15:18 Readings: St. Mat. 15:16-20. St. Mark 7:18-23, St. James 3:5-12, Prov. 18:2-29:20R*



## THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

**J**esus called Himself "The Light of the World." The main hymn of this feastday calls Christ "The Giver of Light." Ever since the time of our Lord, this mysterious substance of light has been associated with divinity. While man's pollution has profoundly affected the air, sea and soil, light remains that pristine life-giving substance that reflects the glory of Christ.

The Gospels tell the story of the Transfiguration in eloquent detail. Jesus one day took three of His apostles, Peter, James and John, up Mount Tabor and there He was profoundly transfigured before them. The Greek word for this is "METAMORPHOSIS." Matthew says "His face shone as the sun, and His clothing was white as light." Standing beside Him were Moses the great law-giver, and the Prophet Elijah, who was taken up to heaven in a chariot of fire.

As the Apostles fell to the ground in awe, a great cloud encompassed the transfigured Lord, and a Voice was heard proclaiming: "This is My beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased. Hear Him." Peter said "Lord, it is good for us to be here," and suggested the building of tabernacles. Then the Lord touched His Apostles, taking away their fear and bid them return from the mount.

The Transfiguration of our Lord is a great feastday from antiquity in the Eastern Church. May we strive to see the light of our Master's everlasting presence.