





## ST. RAPHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the South*

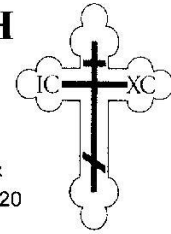
1277 N. Paul Dr., Inverness, FL 34453

Archpriest Fr. Theodore Pisarchuk, Priest-in-charge

Warden: Francis Duncan Treasurer: Georgeanne Vukmir Secretary: Lydia Wilcox

Please Visit: [www.straphaelchurch.org](http://www.straphaelchurch.org) Church: 352-201-1320

Check our home page for new content, news and announcements



**SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 1.**  
**St. Mary of Egypt.**

A Warm Welcome to Our Guests ~ Welcome to St. Raphael Orthodox Church.  
We are thankful for your visit and for praying with us. Please sign our Guest Book!

### HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK

**No Scheduled Services  
until further notice**

*We are asking  
parishioners to please  
respect the fact that  
Fr. Sergious is on  
medical leave and not  
try to contact him.  
He is to be fully away  
from the church at  
this time. He is not  
answering his phone or  
reading texts or  
emails sent from  
parishioners, as is  
required.*

### DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon: Isaiah 48:17-49:4, Genesis 27:1-41,  
Proverbs 19:16-25  
Tue: Isaiah 49:6-10, Genesis 31:3-16,  
Proverbs 21:3-21, Solomon 3:1-9; 4:7-15;  
5:15-6:3, John 10:1-16, Hebrews 7:26-8:2  
Wed: Isaiah 58:1-11, Genesis 43:26-31;  
45:1-16, Proverbs 21:23-22:4  
Thu: Isaiah 65:8-16, Genesis 46:1-7,  
Proverbs 23:15-24:5  
Fri: Isaiah 66:10-24, Genesis 49:33-50:26,  
Proverbs 31:8-31  
Sat: Hebrews 12:28-13:8, John 11:1-45

**+EPISTLE+ (Hebrews 9:11-14)** But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

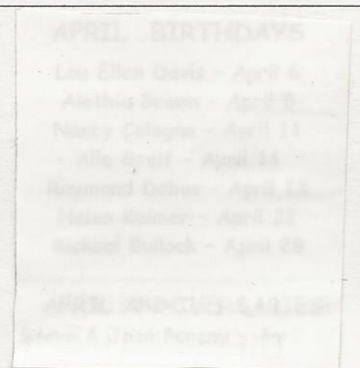


**+GOSPEL+ (Mark 10:32-45)** Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again." Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?: They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom is it prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

#### THE GIFTS-MAR. 29

Regular Offerings	245
Candles	23
Memory of Michael	
Wasilko	50

*We sincerely thank and bless  
Charles and Lou Ellen Davis  
for their ongoing generous  
donations.*



Many of our parishioners cannot attend at this time, but our expenses must continue to be met. Please consider sending in your weekly donation to:

**St. Raphael Orthodox**  
1277 N. Paul Dr.,  
Inverness, FL 34453

✠ ✠ ✠ **THE RAISING OF LAZARUS** ✠ ✠ ✠

**T**he resurrection of Lazarus has an important place in the Church's calendar with the approach of Passion Week. But this story, with its elements of love, devotion, sickness, death and final glory, touches a tender spot in the human heart. It is no wonder that in many churches this event is recalled during funerals.

Our vivid icon portrays what is written in the 11th chapter of John's Gospel. The majestic Figure of Christ is shown at the cave, depicted beyond the wall of Bethany. Several groups of figures are identifiable in the scene. With Christ are the Apostles who had accompanied the Lord to the grave. At the feet of Christ are the sorrowful sisters of Lazarus, Mary and Martha, who had appealed to Jesus to come. They poured out their sorrow saying: "Lord, if You had been here, our brother would not have died." Near the cave are other people who are about to witness this miracle of restoration.

The figure of Lazarus, bound with burial clothes, is depicted in the icon. The burial garments are clutched by one of the figures, in obedience to the command of the Lord: "Loose him and let him go." Another figure is involved with the removal of the stone at the door of the cave.

Death obeys the command of the Lord of Life and releases Lazarus. The words of our Saviour ring out: "Lazarus, come forth!" And so we have a preview of the Lord's victory over death in His own resurrection. It is also a preview of the "resurrection on the last day," when all who have believed and loved the Lord will be restored.

Word spread quickly of this glorious miracle. However, as it is with human nature, there still were unbelievers. As the coming week will prove, from that day on they plotted our Saviour's death.

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