





ST. RAPHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the South

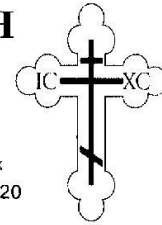
1277 N. Paul Dr., Inverness, FL 34453

Fr. Sergious Gerken, Parish Priest Home Phone: 352 503-9327

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

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

Check our home page for new content, news and announcements



SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 5. Sunday of Orthodoxy.

A Warm Welcome to Our Guests ~ Welcome to St. Raphael Orthodox Church.

We are thankful for your visit and for praying with us. Please join us for Brunch at Myrrhbearers Hall following Divine Liturgy. We would like to get to know you. Please sign our Guest Book!

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Sun.: Reading of The Hours 9:45 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Sunday of Orthodoxy

Tue.: **Vespers in The Villages** 6:30 PM
1250 Paige Place, St. George Episcopal

Wed.: **Presanctified Liturgy** 4:00 PM

Thu.: Akathist to St. Herman 4:00 PM

Fri.: Akathist to the Theotokos 4:00 PM

Sat.: **Divine Liturgy** 9:00 AM
Great Vespers 4:00 PM

*Please bring a
Donation of food
each Sunday for the
Citrus County Family
Resource Center*

*Please invite our
visitors to join you
at Brunch in
Myrrhbearers Hall*

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon: Isaiah 4:2-5:7, 43:9-14, Genesis
3:21-4:7, Proverbs 3:34-4:22, Solomon
3:1-9; 5:15-6:3, Luke 21:12-19,
Hebrews 12:1-10, Matthew 20:1-16

Tue: Isaiah 5:7-16, Genesis 4:8-15,
Proverbs 5:1-15

Wed: Isaiah 5:16-25, Genesis 4:16-26,
Proverbs 5:15-6:3

Thu: Isaiah 6:1-12, Genesis 5:1-24,
Proverbs 6:3-20

Fri: Isaiah 7:1-15, Genesis 5:32-6:8,
Proverbs 6:20-7:1

Sat: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, John 5:24-30,
Hebrews 3:12-16, Mark 1:35-44

+EPISTLE+ (Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2) By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented -- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

+GOSPEL+ (John 1:43-51) The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said to him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathaneal answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

LENTEN SOUP SALE CONTINUES!

The Holy Myrrhbearers are selling frozen quart containers of home-made soup for the Lenten season. For \$5 you can take home a Lenten soup meal to serve your family. Check with Margaret Wagner to see what varieties are available each week. Frozen quarts of Lenten soup will be available for sale through Palm Sunday.

EASTER QUILT RAFFLE CONTINUES! Helen Kaimer has handcrafted a beautiful full/queen bed quilt in shades of lavender and purple which could also be used as a wall hanging. The Myrrhbearer quilt raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. The drawing will be conducted on Palm Sunday after church. The quilt is on display in the Narthex. See Helen Kaimer for Easter Quilt raffle tickets.

Choir Practice - Sunday 9:00 AM (No Choir Practice Monday, March 9)

THE GIFTS-MAR. 1

Attendance 71

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| Regular Offerings | 1974 |
| Candies | 103 |
| Brunch | 48 |
| Charity - C.C. Family | |
| Resource Center | 223 |
| 50/50 Raffle | 296 |

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

New St. Raphael Church
Directories are in the Narthex

VIGIL CANDLES - MARCH 1

Nancy Kinley - Health of Bill, Julianna, Jakob, Zoe, Peter, Margaret, Jim, Dolores, Macey on her 7th birthday, Judy, Paul, Fr. Sergious.

Nicholas Borick - Health of Olga, Dolores, Ben, Nancy, Dorothy, Mary Ann, Alessandra, Stanley, Isidora, Nicholas & Patricia.

Ken & Margaret Wagner - Memory of our son Michael, Gerard, Mary. Health of Roberta, George, Barbara, Sue, Jennie.

✠ ✠ A LESSON ABOUT HOLY IMAGES ✠ ✠

On this SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY, let us ponder the wise words of the Church Father, ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS:

"In former times God, who is without form or body, could never be depicted. But now when God is seen in the flesh conversing with men, I make an image of the God whom I see. I do not worship matter; I worship the Creator of matter who became matter for my sake. Never will I cease honoring the matter which wrought my salvation! I honor it, but not as God. How could God be born out of things which have no existence in themselves? God's body is joined to His person by a union which shall never pass away. The divine nature remains the same; the flesh created in time is quickened by a reason endowed soul. Because of this I salute all remaining matter with reverence, because God has filled it with His grace and power. Through it, my salvation has come to me. Was not the blessed wood for the Cross considered matter? What of the life bearing rock, the holy and life-giving tomb, the fountain of our resurrection, was it not matter? Is not the ink in the most holy Gospel-book matter? Is not the life-giving altar made of matter? From it we receive the bread of life! Are not gold and silver matter? From them we make crosses, patens, chalices! And over and above all these things, is not the Body and Blood of our Lord matter? Either do away with the honor and veneration these things deserve, or accept the tradition of the Church and the veneration of images."

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