



ST. RAPHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the South

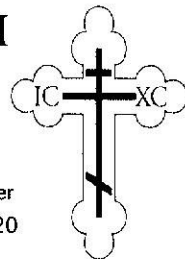
1277 N. Paul Dr., Inverness, FL 34453

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

Warden: Stanley Borowski Treasurer: Aleksandra Riznik Vice Warden: Mark Casper

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

Check our home page for new content, news and announcements



SUNDAY, DEC. 8, 2019 – 25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8.

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

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

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

Sat.: 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: Galatians 4:22-31, Luke 8:16-21,
1 Timothy 1:1-7, Mark 8:11-21

Tue: 1 Timothy 1:8-14, Mark 8:22-26

Wed: 1 Timothy 1:18-20; 2:8-15, Mark
8:30-34

Thu: 1 Timothy 3:1-13, Mark 9:10-16

Fri: Solomon 3:1-9; 4:7-15; 5:15-6:3,
Matthew 11:27-30, Galatians 5:22-
6:2, Luke 6:17-23, 1 Timothy 4:4-8;
16, Mark 9:33-41

Sat: Galatians 3:8-12, Luke 14:1-11

+EPISTLE+ (Ephesians 4:1-6) I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

The 2020 Annual Parish Meeting is being held on Sunday, January 26, 2020, in the Temple after Divine Liturgy. Copies of the agenda, proposed budget & the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting minutes will be made available soon.

Choir Practice Sunday 9:00 AM and every Monday at 2:30 PM

+GOSPEL+ (Luke 17:12-19) Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

The Holy Myrrhbearer No-Bake Bake Sale continues!

Instead of baking, please make a contribution. Instead of purchasing baked goods, please make a contribution. Every week someone who contributes will win a drawing for wine or other prize. Special envelopes are available in the narthex. The Holy Myrrhbearer No-Bake Bake Sale runs until Sunday, December 15.

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 GIFTS - DEC. 1

Attendance 57

Regular Offerings	1261
Candles	69
Brunch	68
Charity -	240
C.C. Family Resource Ctr.	

We sincerely thank the Charles E. Davis Funeral Home for its ongoing quarterly donation

VIGIL CANDLES - DECEMBER 1

Susanna & Martin Bane - Health of Fr. Sergious, Martin, Linda, Paula & Pamela.

Nancy Kinley - Health of Bill, Julianna, Jakob, Zoe, Jim, Mary Ann, Dolores, Fr. Sergious, Bill Z., Peter.

Nick & Pat Borick - Health of Frances, Linda Bluber, Linda Labosky, Nicholas & Patricia Borick.

Darcie Burkholder - In memory of Mike & Jane Gombo.

CHRIST IS OUR ANSWER

There was a popular commercial for an antacid that asked the question: "How do you spell relief?" To ask it from a Christian believer's standpoint, there is only one answer. The relief from worry and anxiety . . . relief from the problems and difficulties of daily life . . . relief from temptation and sin . . . it can only be spelled C-H-R-I-S-T.

Some icons of our Lord depict Him holding an open book, highlighting this famous quotation: "COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST." (Matthew 11:28) Life is often a tremendous struggle. Trials and tribulations must be dealt with constantly. Even the strongest of individuals needs assistance in dealing with the pressures of living in what is often a cold, cruel world.

How comforting it is to know that Christ is ALWAYS there for us! He will never abandon those who faithfully follow Him. As the Psalmist tells us: "THE LORD IS OUR STRENGTH AND OUR SONG, AND HAS BECOME OUR SALVATION." We can ALWAYS rely on His grace and His love, which will see us through the darkest of times.

"COME TO ME!" Christ never forces Himself upon us, but He does invite all of us to take up His offer. Relief will truly be ours if we accept this blessed invitation!

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