



ST. RAPHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the South

1277 N. Paul Dr., Inverness, FL 34453

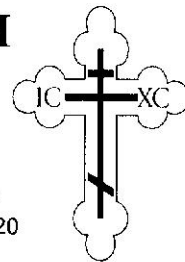
Archpriest Fr. Theodore Pisarchuk, Priest-in-charge

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

Please Visit: **www.straphaelchurch.org**

Church: 352-201-1320

Check our home page for new content, news and announcements



SUNDAY, SEPT. 20, 2020 – 15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6.
Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross. Sunday after Elevation.

SERVICES HAVE RESUMED!
PLEASE REGISTER BEFOREHAND
IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND.

SAT. Vespers 4PM or SUN. Liturgy 10AM

Fr John Chudik can be reached by email
at: **frjohnatstraphaels@gmail.com**

or you can call or text his
cell phone: **941-920-2708.**

Please identify yourself as a Saint
Raphael parishioner.

*We are asking
parishioners to please
respect the fact that
Fr. Sergius 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: Galatians 4:28-5:10, Luke 3:19-22
Tue: Galatians 5:11-21, Luke 3:23-4:1
Wed: Galatians 4:22-31; 6:2-10, Luke
1:5-25; 4:1-15
Thu: Isaiah 43:9-14, Solomon 3:1-9;
5:5-6:3, Luke 4:16-22; 12:2-12; 21:12-
19, Romans 8:28-39, Ephesians 1:1-9
Fri: Proverbs 3; 8; 10-11:12, Solomon
3:1-9, Matthew 11:27-30, Galatians
5:22-6:2, Luke 4:22-30; 6:17-23,
Ephesians 1:7-17
Sat: 1 John 3:21-4:6; 4:11-5:5, John
19:25-27; 21:15-25, 1 Corinthians
10:23-28, Luke 4:31-36

+EPISTLE (Sunday After)+ (Galatians 2:16-20) Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

+EPISTLE+ (2 Corinthians 4:6-15) Brethren, for it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

+GOSPEL (Sunday After)+ (Mark 8:34-9:1) When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

+GOSPEL+ (Matthew 22:35-46) Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'? If David then call Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

***This coming Tuesday at 6:30 PM – Vespers in The Villages
St. George Episcopal Church, 1250 Paige Place***

THE GIFTS-SEPT.13

Attendance 21

**CHOIR PRACTICE
AT 9:00 AM ON
SUNDAY MORNING**

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

VIGIL CANDLES - SEPT 13

Olga De May - Memory of Helen Pirniak.

Olga De May - Health of me and church families.

Nancy Kinley - Health of Bill, Julianna & family, Andrew & family, Mary Ann, Patricia & Olga

Please consider using the dosoca.org website to make on-line donations with a credit card send your weekly offering to: St. Raphael , 1277 N. Paul Dr., Inverness, FL 34453

ACHIEVING THE ULTIMATE "VICTORY"

During the reign of the Emperor Constantine the Great, Christianity began to spread to regions where the Gospel of Christ had not yet taken root. Missionaries in the early 4th century encountered great difficulties in taking the Lord's message to the barbaric tribes living in the Northern sections of the Empire, with the Goths being particularly hostile towards their preaching.

Still, some "seed" managed to fall on "good soil" among the uncivilized Goths. Through the efforts of the saintly Bishop Theophilus, who had been a participant in the First Ecumenical Council in 325 A.D., converts began to embrace the Christian faith. Foremost among them was the MARTYR NICETAS, whose name itself means "one who conquers." After being baptized by Bishop Theophilus, Nicetas became instrumental in turning many of his countrymen from their pagan ways. He assisted in translating the New Testament and other sacred writings into the language of the Goths, which greatly aided the establishment of Christian communities in the Danube River area.

The success of Christianity among the Goths incurred the wrath of their pagan ruler, Prince Athanaric, who ruthlessly began to persecute those who now professed their belief in Jesus. Although subjected to terrible torture, Nicetas refused to pay homage to the pagan gods. He ultimately suffered martyrdom in 372 A.D. when he was put to death by fire. He died knowing that by giving up his life for Christ, he had won the greatest of "victories": achieving eternal life in God's heavenly kingdom.

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