

and also to pray with them in an audible voice themselves. Let this not be an act of routine. This reasonable discipline, when you kneel by the side of tender childhood and see the little ones pray, will lighten in your own heart—at the same time that it does in theirs—the fire of heavenly love.

—*Saint Sebastian*

• PARENTAL DUTY, PART 2:

The ditch has always been a favorite place for children to play—splashing around, floating objects in it, building bridges and forts. My kids, way back, had hours of fun in it. NOW the ditch needs maintenance. I am asking our parents to spend a few moments at the east ditch, behind the Storage Building, gathering up the tree stakes (which we use for Glendi), the various pieces of wood, barrels and the traffic cones, and neatly pile them behind the storage building. I thank you for your help. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• PARISH LIFE:

Let us daily ask the Lord to bless all our decisions, discussions, interactions, income, and yes, even expenses! Let us stay united in prayer together, forgiving one another, eager to maintain the “unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” as St. Paul puts it in Ephesians, which is found in the Church, which is the Body of Christ. Let us avoid the “taking of offenses” since it is often a greater sin than the *giving* of offense, as Father Andrew Morbey, a former rector here, is wont to say. Let us love one another, that with one heart and mouth we can honor the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The unity we have in Christ is from above, says one writer, not something man-made. That unity helps us in our struggles. Never forget that for those who love Him, God allows struggles, obstacles and suffering to come our way, not because He is eager to watch us suffer, but so that through our fidelity and trust in Him—which is a powerful witness of faith—He may confer upon us unity, mercy, love, power and holiness. Each time there is a problem before us, the Lord is also sending the strength we need to be victorious in Him. Each time we are insulted, or disappointed, or feel disrespected or humbled by someone, we must realize that our Merciful Savior is also sending us the power to forgive and be restored to one another. —*Father Lawrence*

• KONEVETS CHOIR VISIT CANCELLED:

Due to visa problems, the choir’s planned visit on Jan. 29, will be postponed. New date TBD.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tone Five ~ January 15, 2017

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• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Five:

Let us the faithful praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead, by His glorious Resurrection.

• TROPARION OF ST. PAUL OF THEBES, Tone Eight:

With the streams of thy tears thou didst cultivate the barrenness of the desert; and by thy sighings from the depths, thou didst bear a hundredfold in labors; and thou becamest a luminary, shining with miracles upon the world, O Paul, our righteous Father. Intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

• KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Five:

Thou didst descend into hades, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, and we cry to Thee: O Lord, save us.

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, January 14: 4 PM, Panikhida for Elisabeta Botu  
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confessions
- Sunday, January 15: 9–10 AM, Confessions  
10 AM, Divine Liturgy  
11:45 AM, Church School  
Noon, Agape Meal  
12:45 PM, Presentation (in Hall) on the Church  
in Guatemala, by Kendra Meshnik

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- Wednesday, January 18: 6 PM, Vespers  
6:30 PM, Lecture on St. Mark of Ephesus, by Fr John, in the Church
- Thursday, January 19: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy (St. Mark of Ephesus)  
12 Noon, Senior Lunch Fellowship
- Friday, January 20: 9 AM, Vineyard trimming—volunteers needed
- Saturday, January 21: *Walk for Life in San Francisco*  
5 PM, Great Vespers

• TODAY! ORTHODOXY IN GUATEMALA:

You are invited to a presentation by Kendra Sophia Meshnik today at 12:45 PM, on her recent OCMC work in Guatemala. Kendra spent about four months in that country working at a medical clinic, run by the Orthodox Church. There are now 338 churches and more than 350,000 Orthodox faithful there. Come hear about this exciting evangelization.

• PRIOSHKI:

Prep begins this week on Thursday. Final production on Saturday, Jan. 21. Orders must be today! Order forms are at the candle-desk and in the Hall.

• ST. MARK OF EPHEBUS:

Please join us for a short talk by Fr John, after the Wednesday Vespers about 6:30 PM, on the great “Pillar of Orthodoxy” St. Mark of Ephesus. St. Mark was a 15th century bishop, most known for his defense of the Orthodox faith at the false Council of Florence (ended 1445) at which many Eastern hierarchs signed a union with the Roman Catholic Church. It is of interest to note that only a short time later (1517 AD) the Protestant Reformation would begin to gain its momentum in rejecting the abuses of Rome.

• SENIOR/RETIRED LUNCH:

The monthly lunch get-together is on Thursday, January 18, at Noon.

• VINEYARD WORK:

Our vineyard manager, Norm Vachon, has arranged for Bowland Vineyard Management, a professional vineyard management firm, to help us, free of charge, to properly trim the vines. It so happens that Gabe Griovski worked for Bowland! Please bring your pruning shears, gloves, and a hat for a wonderful day in the vineyard starting at 9 AM on January 20.

• WALK FOR LIFE IN SF:

The **2017 Walk for Life** will take place on January 21 in San Francisco (12:30 PM). Father Theodor is arranging transportation to and from the event. Please sign up for the trip with him.

• GREEK DINNER DANCE:

Reserve your table today. Flyers are in the Narthex and the Hall.

• ANNUAL MEETING:

The parish will hold the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 5, 2017, in accordance with the Parish By-laws. The meeting will begin after the Divine Liturgy at 12:30 PM or so—no Agape Meal will be served, so bring a lunch.

• TWELVE STEP RECOVERY RETREAT:

The Monastery of St. John in Manton, will host a Twelve-Step retreat on March 31–April 2, led by Monk Cosmas. Check with [www.monasteryofstjohn.org](http://www.monasteryofstjohn.org) for more information.

• FRESCO OF THE FORTY MARTYRS:

Thanks to our very generous benefactors, \$20,000 has been collected for the fresco of the Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebaste, whom we commemorate on March 9. God willing, painting for this fresco will begin at the end of the month.

• HOUSE BLESSINGS:

A sign up sheet appears in the Narthex. I look forward to bringing you the Holy Water of Theophany to refresh and sanctify your homes. —Fr. L

• PILLAR AND FOUNDATION OF TRUTH:

The Orthodox Church will continue on earth until the second coming of Christ, imperishable and not conquered by any powers of hell. In regard to holy doctrine, she is blameless and will ever remain unchangeable, as she has abiding in her the Holy Ghost, the spirit of truth, therefore she is, according to the apostle, a pillar and the foundation of truth (I Tim. 3:15). The existence of the lawful hierarchy and the administration of the holy mysteries will never cease in the church. The Lord Jesus Christ himself had said: “I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against her.” —*Saint Sebastian, Archimandrite of Jackson, CA.*

• PARENTAL DUTY:

It is the duty especially of parents to see that their children pray correctly,