

of Christ, the truth of the Church is placed into the tightest union with the mystery of the All-holy Trinity. People who enter the Church and love Her become like the three Persons of the Holy Trinity, whose love unites them into one being. The Church is like a one-essence of many persons, created by the moral beginning of love... Christ did not come to earth to announce some novel theoretical propositions to mankind. No! He came in order to create a completely new life for mankind, that is, the Church. Christ Himself said that He would build the Church (cf. Matt. 16:18). —*St. Hilarion (Troitsky) the New Martyr, from his article "Christianity or the Church" available online*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tone Five ~ January 19, 2014

• 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. MARK OF EPHESUS, Tone Three:  
O all laudable and most divine Mark, in thee the Church found a great zealot by thy confession of the holy and sacred Faith; for thou didst champion the doctrines which the Fathers taught, and thou didst cast down darkness's boastful pride. Wherefore, pray thou to Christ God for them that honor thee, that He may grant us the forgiveness of sins.

• 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.



• AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND POETRY  
On that day of love dedicated to St. Valentine we will hold our yearly MUSIC AND POETRY EVENING. From six o'clock on Eros and Amor will guide our words and actions. Talented Parish members will entertain and enthrall us with their musical and poetic abilities. Spaghetti and parish wine will be abundant, the rest of the evening meal on this Fast-Free Friday will be POTLUCK. Everyone is encouraged to attend, and those who have performing abilities are urged to sign up with Vladimir at [ursusmjr@sonic.net](mailto:ursusmjr@sonic.net) or 707-479-9437.

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Jan. 18: 5 PM, Great Vespers, Confessions
- Sunday, Jan. 19: 9 AM, Confessions  
**9:30 AM, Akathist to the Mother of God, Nurturer of Children**  
10 AM, Divine Liturgy  
11:45 AM, Church School  
Noon, Agape Meal

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- Tuesday, Jan. 21: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for Feast of St. Maximos the Confessor
- Wed., Jan. 22: 6 PM, Daily Vespers
- Thurs., Jan. 23: 6 PM, Vespers for St. Xenia  
7 PM, Parish Council Meeting
- Sat., Jan. 25: Noon, “March for Life” in SF\*  
5 PM, Great Vespers

- HOUSE BLESSINGS:

Please email or call Fr. Lawrence or Fr. John to schedule a house blessing.

- READING THE BIBLE IN ONE YEAR:

A new calendar of readings of the Bible in one year, starting **February 1** is now available for you. Included with the calendar of readings are an number of articles which will help with interpretation. Also provided is a list of excellent audio lectures on scripture. These lectures can be accessed by navigating to the Parish website, [saintseraphim.com](http://saintseraphim.com). Click on the “Scripture Lecture” page, click on the lecture name, and it will begin.

- WEDDING NEXT WEEK:

All are invited to the wedding and reception of Paul Keskitalo and Xenia Pribyl, next Sunday starting at 3 PM. The reception will be held in the Parish Hall.

- CATECHISM:

The new “semester” of classes will start up on Saturday, Feb. 1, at 3:30 PM, and will meet in the Protection Church. Topics: Understanding Confession, the Eucharist, Great Lent, the Creed (three talks), the Holy Mysteries, Holy Week, Baptism. All are welcome.

- \*WALK FOR LIFE in SF:

The 10th annual **2014 Walk for Life West Coast** will be held on January 25 in San Francisco. It is the second largest gathering of its kind after the March for Life in Washington, DC, attracting more than 50,000 participants in 2013. Look for the *Orthodox Christians for Life* banner on the southeast corner of the Civic Center plaza, near the children’s play structure, and join in the witness to the sanctity of unborn life. The gathering begins at Civic Center Plaza in front of City Hall. The rally will

be at the main stage from 12:30 to 1:30 PM. After the rally, the walk proceeds approximately 1.5 miles, from Civic Center Plaza down Market Street, to end at Justin Herman Plaza at the Embarcadero. For more information and a schedule of related pro-life events in the San Francisco Bay Area, visit **[www.walkforlifewc.com](http://www.walkforlifewc.com)**. Please sign-up on the list at the Candle Desk. Fr Lawrence will contact you about transport as soon as he knows who intends and how many plan to go to the March.

- NEEDS AROUND THE PARISH:

An additional Usher is needed for Sunday Liturgy, to serve once a month; Church cleaners for St. Seraphim (to keep the brass polished, once per month); Church cleaners for Protection; Sunday Agape Meal cooks and helpers. Call Fr. Lawrence if you would like to volunteer.

- DINNER IN HONOR OF PETAR GRIVOSKI:

Following Vespers on Saturday, Feb. 1, there will be a dinner in the Parish Hall in honor of Petar Griovski, who is retiring from his post as Parish Treasurer. Petar served as Treasurer for over thirty years, and we want to acknowledge his many accomplishments and work. See Serge Anderson to reserve a spot at the dinner.

- ANNUAL MEETING:

The parish will hold the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 2, 2014, 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. Parish reports (budget, Church School Sisterhood, Glendi, etc.) will be available next Sunday, January 26. Please read the reports before the Meeting.

- THE CHURCH:

No earthly thing has ever been found which could be compared to the new community of saved people. There is no form of unity on earth with which one could compare the unity that is the Church. Such unity was found only in heaven. In heaven, the incomparable love of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit unites three Persons into one Being so that there are not three Beings, but One God living a triune life. Those people about whom Christ prayed to the heavenly Father: "that the love wherewith Thou hast loved Me may be in them, and I in them" (John 17:26) are also called to such a love which could fuse many into a state of oneness. In the aforementioned words