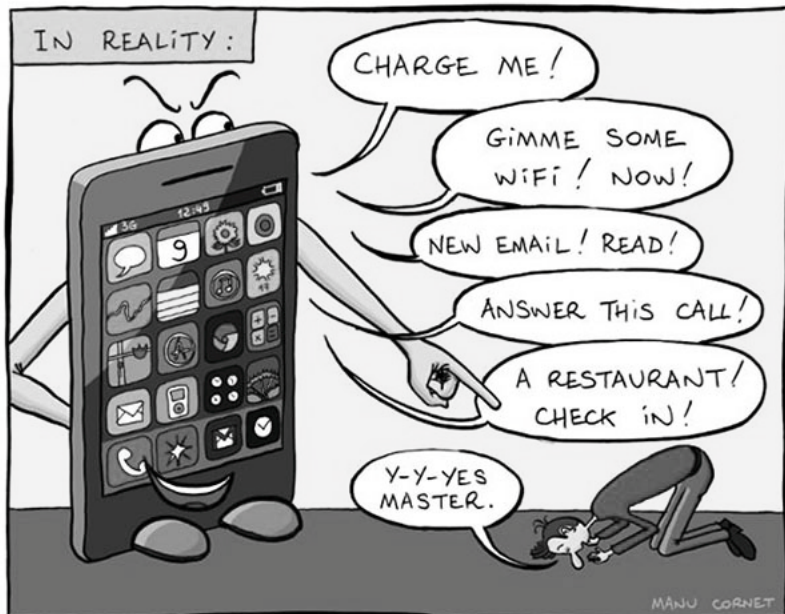
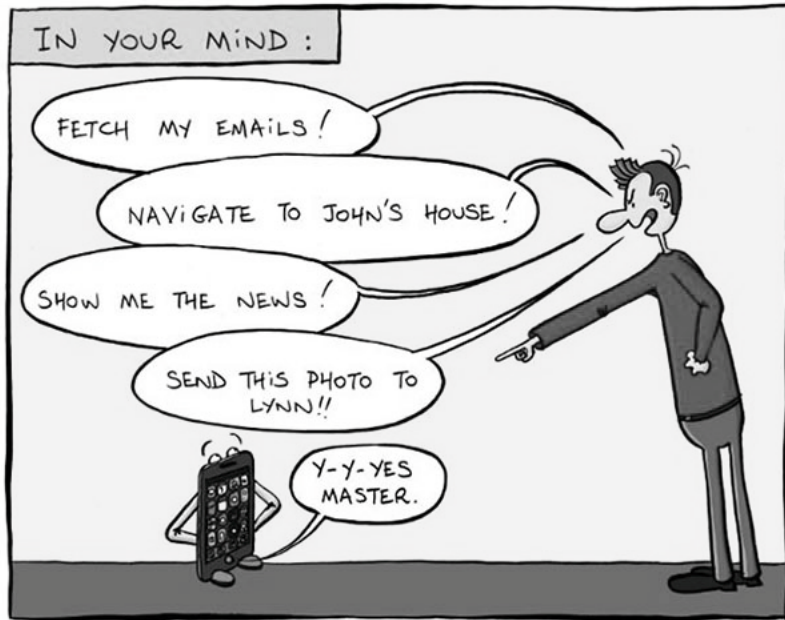


outside Russia. The performance will be at 3 PM at the Glaser Center (547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa). Tickets may be purchased at [www.slavyanka.org](http://www.slavyanka.org) or at the door.

- EVERYONE WORSHIPS SOMEONE or SOMETHING:



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 3, 2015 ~ Sunday of the Paralytic

- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Three:

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; for the Lord has shown strength with His arm; He has trampled down death by death; He has become the first-born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hades, and hath granted the world great mercy.

- KONTAKION OF THE PARALYTIC, Melody *On This Day*:

As of old Thou didst raise up the paralytic, O Lord God, by Thy God-like care and might, raise up my soul which is palsied by diverse sins and transgressions and by unseemly deeds and acts, that, being saved, I may also cry out: O Compassionate Redeemer, O Christ God, glory to Thy dominion and might.

- KONTAKION OF PASCHA, Tone Eight:

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades. And didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the Myrrh-bearing women: Rejoice; and giving peace unto Thine apostles, O Thou who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, May 2: 7:30 AM, Men's Group Breakfast at *Happy Hen Restaurant, 3020 Santa Rosa Ave.*  
4:30 PM, Trisagion, repose of William McPherson  
5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, May 3: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy  
11:45 AM, Church School  
Noon, Agape Meal  
12:45 PM, Glendi Heads Meeting

• Wed., May 6: 11 AM, Catechism Revisited  
6 PM, Water Blessing for Mid-Feast and Feast of St. Alexis of Wilkes Barre

• Thurs., May 7: 6 PM, Vespers for St. John the Theologian

• MIDFEAST:

On Wednesday evening we will celebrate a Blessing of Water for Mid-feast, also known as Mid-Pentecost. This day marks the half way point from Pascha to Pentecost (a 50 day period). Just as the Lenten Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross reminded us that we were halfway to Pascha, so this feast alerts us to the fact that we are halfway to another goal, the notable day of Pentecost. Here is the Troparion of the day: “At Mid-feast give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of piety; for Thou, O Savior didst cry out to all: Whosoever is thirsty let him come to me and drink. Wherefore, O Well-spring of Life, Christ our God, glory be to Thee” (Troparion of the Feast). On the Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross—the mid-point of Great Lent—we are reminded of the words of Christ that “if any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me” (Luke 9:23). This daily carrying of the cross is an great act of trust in God, bringing an experience of the Resurrection of our souls. Now, at the mid-point between Pascha and Pentecost, we are encouraged to daily seek the full acquisition of the Holy Spirit, Who is poured out as a gift of Living Water upon us. The central theme woven throughout the period of the 50 days from Pascha until Pentecost therefore, is water, or rather, water as an image of the Holy Spirit. During this festive period we hear if one partakes of the Spirit’s “living water” he “will never thirst.”

• LUNCH FELLOWSHIP:

Our retired and senior parishioners are invited to the monthly **Senior Lunch Fellowship** on Thursday, May 14 at Noon, in the Parish Hall.

• PARENTS:

If your son or daughter is graduating from High School or College, please let me know so that we can all pray for them and honor them. —Fr.

*Lawrence*

• FROM THE SAINTS:

Until we uproot our defects, we should mirror ourselves in the defects of others and examine where we stand. For other people are a mirror in which we see ourselves. For example, if we see a certain failing in another person, we should immediately say, “Let me see, could I possibly have this same defect also?” And when we see that we have it, then we can struggle to cast it out. — *Elder Paisius of Mount Athos, Spiritual Struggle, III*

When you throw a nail into a fire, it gets hot and starts to glow like fire. In the same way you, when you listen to divine teachings and live accordingly, will become like God. —*St. Symeon of Daibabe*

• ST SERAPHIM WEEK IS AROUND THE CORNER:

If you have children, grandchildren or godchildren ages ten and under, you’ll want to enroll them in our *St. Seraphim Week for Kids* program. This annual “Church School” will take place June 8–12, from 9 AM to noon. Volunteers will be needed to help out each morning for a couple of hours. We especially love our teenage volunteers. We have opportunities to help with crafts, story telling, playing games, snack prep and, of course, clean up. Please contact Gloria Collins at (707) 849-6135.

• BAPTISM:

Miriam Brodeur, newborn baby of Anastasia and Aaron Brodeur, will be baptized on Sunday, May 24 at 9 AM. All are invited to come and rejoice with the family.

• MUSIC & POETRY, JUNE 5:

Share your performing talents on this Fast Free Friday evening at the *St. Seraphim Salon*. Sing – Play – Read – Celebrate! Potluck meal with spaghetti and salad provided begins at 6:00 PM. Sign up to perform and to dine: Vladimir, 707 479-9437, [ursusmjr@sonic.net](mailto:ursusmjr@sonic.net).

• SLAVYANKA CHORUS:

On Sunday, May 3rd, San Francisco’s Slavyanka Chorus will present “Russian Spirit, Russian Land,” a concert of sacred hymns and secular songs from Russia’s timeless musical traditions: Ancient monastic chants, rousing Cossack songs, liturgical hymns from some of Russia’s greatest composers, known and unknown, and much of it almost never heard