

- FRESCO WORK:

The painting of the dome is very nearly complete. Since late July 2013, Fr. Patrick and Fr. Moses have painted the Pantocrator, six angels, six seraphim, twelve Prophets: Moses, David, Jonah, Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Isaiah, Elijah, Solomon, Ezekiel, Joel, Habbakuk and Daniel. They've decorated the twelve windows, and are now completing the painting of the three large rings at the base of the dome. The fresco project was reported on twice in our local *Press Democrat*, has had photos documenting the progress posted on some very influential and widely viewed websites, has been admired and written about by icon painters all over the world, and has drawn visitors to the church almost daily. The quality of the painting and the artistic expression compares very favorably to the medieval frescos in Serbia and Macedonia that are designated as World Heritage sites. Perhaps we don't even realize yet the greatness of what we now have. God willing, everything will be completed in the next two weeks, and the scaffold dismantled and removed on Friday, July 11. We are thankful to Almighty God and find no suitable words to express our gratitude to Him, as well as to the generous benefactors who made the fresco painting possible. We express our deep admiration and love for our iconographers Monk Patrick and Hierodeacon Moses and for those parishioners that assisted them in their work during the last year. Our painters can retreat for the next few months, and then return to complete painting at the "choir wall." Glory to God.

- PARISH FEAST—JULY 18/19:

The annual commemoration of Saint Seraphim is right around the corner. This is the day of our patron Saint, a day of great Paschal joy. Orthodox Christians do indeed ask for the prayers of the righteous ones of God in daily prayer. But on July 18/19 we will gather, not as individuals, but as the **Eucharistic Parish Community** which has been mystically identified with St. Seraphim—through Christ—to specifically ask St. Seraphim to intercede in our behalf, and to glorify God "who is wonderful in His saints." Our beloved Vladyka Benjamin will be with us for the Feast, and so it is only right that our entire Parish community join in this festal celebration with our beloved Archbishop. **Vigil**, Friday, July 18, 6:30 PM; **Liturgy**, Saturday, July 19, 9:30 AM.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## All Saints of Russia & America, June 22, 2014

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- TROPARION OF ALL SAINTS of RUSSIA & AMERICA, Tone Eight:  
As a beautiful fruit of the sowing of Thy salvation, our land doth offer Thee, O Lord, all the saints that have shone in it. By their prayers keep the Church and our land in peace, through the Theotokos, O Most Merciful One.
- KONTAKION OF ALL SAINTS, Tone Three:  
Today the choir of saints who pleased God in the lands of Russia and America stands forth in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us. With them the angels glorify Him, and all the saints of the Church of Christ keep festival, and together they pray to the Eternal God for us.

### ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, June 21: 3:30 PM, Catechism  
5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, June 22: 9 AM, Confessions  
9:30 AM, Akathist "Nurturer of Children"  
10 AM, Divine Liturgy, Agape Meal
- Monday, June 23: 5 PM, *Glendi Baking Meeting*  
6:15 PM, Vespers for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist  
7 PM, *Glendi Executive Committee Mtg*
- Tuesday, June 24: 8:30 AM, Matins and Liturgy for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist
- Wednesday, June 25: 6 PM, Daily Vespers
- Thursday, June 26: 9:30 AM, Liturgy at Kazan Skete. *Anniversary*

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*of the repose of Archimandrite Dimitry, Skete founder*

6 PM, Akathist to St. Seraphim

**7 PM, Parish Council Meeting**

• ALL SAINTS OF RUSSIA AND AMERICA:

Our parish and our diocese are children of the Russian Orthodox Church, so we celebrate both the saints of Russia and those that shone forth in America. Excepting the native Alaskan saints, all of the saints that shone forth in America were of Russian, Greek, Serbian or Arabic, etc. descent. We must realize that we are still infants in the realm of sainthood, here in America. So, for the present, let us recognize that the Church here has not produced any *known* saints (no martyrs at least), or else God has not yet revealed those men, women or children to us. We can reflect on the fact that all Orthodox Christians are called to live saintly lives, to cultivate—with God’s Grace—the holy virtues of faith, love, meekness, humility, and the rest. All of us in the Church are *called out*, and the word for Church in Greek, *ecclesia*, refers to those of the world who have *been called*: called to glorify God in their lives, to radiate His love and forgiveness to everyone, to be holy, which is what the word “saint” means, and to set worship of the Holy Trinity as the first and essential task of our lives. Although we may lack resolve and vision, we in the Orthodox Church do not lack examples of holy men, women and children, not only throughout the world, but here in our parish. Most of the known and revealed saints we remember today, are as follows:

- St. Herman of Alaska (Born: 1758, Russia, Died: 1837, Alaska)
- St. Innocent of Alaska and Metropolitan of Moscow (Born: Aug. 26, 1797, Irkutsk, Died: March 31, 1879, Moscow)
- St. Peter the Aleut (Born: about 1800, Alaska, Martyred in SF: 1815)
- St. Jacob Netsvetov (Born: 1802, Atka Island, Alaska, Died: July 26, 1864, Sitka, Alaska)
- St. John of Shanghai and San Francisco (Born: June 4, 1896, Karkov, Russia, Died: July 2, 1966, Seattle, WA. His holy relics lie in the Russian Orthodox Cathedral in San Francisco, on Geary Street.)
- St. Nikolai of Zhicha (Serbia) and South Canaan, PA. (Born, Dec. 23, 1880, Serbia, Died: March 18, 1956, St. Tikhon’s Seminary, PA.)
- St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Born: 1860, Syria, Died: Feb. 14, 1915, Brooklyn)
- St. John Kuchurov (Born: July 13, 1871, Russia, Martyred: Oct. 31, 1917,

Tsarskoye Selo, Russia)

- St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Born: Feb. 11, 1872, Russia, Martyred: 1937, Russia)
- St. Alexis Toth (Born: March 18, 1854, Austro-Hungary, Died: May 7, 1909, Wilkes-Barre, PA)
- St. Tikhon of Moscow, Enlightener of America (Born: January 19, 1865, Russia, Martyred: April 7, 1925 Moscow)
- St. Juvenal the Martyr (Born: 1761, Russia, Martyred: 1796, Alaska)

• NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN:

The birthday of Saint John the Baptist will be celebrated on June 23, with a Vespers at 6 PM, and on June 24, at 8:30 AM with Matins and then the Divine Liturgy. In the Church we remember that the Lord Jesus Christ praised St. John as the “greatest of those born of woman” and so we are eager to praise him too in the Divine Services.

• MINISTRIES SUNDAY—June 29 following Liturgy:

God grants gifts to each and every person, young and old. We know how much our parish is blessed with gifted members. Many of us are involved in various ministries—choir, altar serving, visiting shut-ins, care for the reposed, candlestick, Church school, cleaning, cooking, charitable work, sacristy work, gardening, maintenance, book club and more. In fact, so much is happening within our parish that many of us are not aware of all the wonderfully diverse activities that take place each and every week. In an effort to promote interest in our parish ministries for the entire parish, we will hold a Ministries Sunday—a church “job fair,” if you will—after **Liturgy on June 29**. Each facet of parish life will have a table at which representatives will explain the work they do and help others to get involved. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• PILGRIMAGE TO FORT ROSS:

Friday, July 4. His Eminence Archbishop Benjamin will serve Liturgy at 10 AM with area clergy, followed by a BYO picnic. Don’t miss it.

• ST. SERAPHIM WEEK:

Many thanks to the hardworking and very creative teachers at this year’s St. Seraphim Week for kids. I want to especially express my thanks and admiration for the involvement of our teens. Well done! — *Fr. Lawrence*