

• YEARNING FOR GOD:

“Draw nigh unto God,” Scripture says, “and He will draw nigh unto you” (James 4:8). It is, indeed, a good thing to unite oneself to God with a pure and undefiled heart. But if this is not possible, owing to some torpor or infirmity of soul, at least be in earnest, through signs, lamentations, and good hope, to embrace the invisible and cherished feet of Jesus Christ, our Master and Lord, Who loves mankind. For God, the King of all, in His compassion does not turn away from those who yearn for Him and sigh from the depths of their hearts, even though they be burdened with many sins, but accepts and cleanses them, bestows upon them the charism of sonship, and, with the passage of time, shows them to be works of the virtues. —*St. Neilos the Wise, Ascetic of Ankyra and Sina (d. ca. 430)*

• SCAFFOLD AND SAFETY:

Parents, for the sake of avoiding injuries, please keep your children away from the scaffold, and do not allow them to climb upon it. While the monks are painting during the week days, please do not stand under the scaffold—something could accidentally fall and cause injury.

Many have inquired how long we might expect the scaffolding to be in the church. Most of you will remember what was written in the Annual Report booklet: “...we should be prepared for the unsightliness and the inconvenience [of the scaffold]. The project is not going to take a couple of months. It will no doubt take the better part of a year. This is simply the way it is for fresco. We are not having the iconographers paint on canvas in their own studio, and then glue the piece to the ceiling. Some places do that, and God bless them. We have a different path here, and it will require our patience. Let us keep our eyes on the goal.” And so, with God’s help, we continue our ambitious, yet essential, project to fresco our entire church. How to participate? Please keep Fr. Patrick and Hierodeacon Moses in your prayers; make yourself available to help clean the Church at the end of each week, and set aside some of your tithe for fresco painting.

• FROM THE BOOKSTORE:

We of the Saint Seraphim Bookstore are very pleased to welcome Lahana Singer and David and Shannon Winterton to our staff. Please encourage our new workers and enhance their familiarity with the stock by asking them to show you what’s new.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils ~ July 14, 2013

• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Two:

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life-Immortal, Thou didst slay Hades with the splendor of Thy Godhead; and when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of Heaven cried out: O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to Thee.

• TROPARION OF THE HOLY FATHERS, Tone Eight:

Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established the Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

• KONTAKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS, Tone Eight:

The preaching of the Apostles and the doctrines of the Fathers confirmed the one Faith in the Church. And wearing the garment of truth woven from theology on high, she rightly divideth and glorifieth the great mystery of piety.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, July 13: 9 AM, Memorial Divine Liturgy in Pokrov
3:30 PM, Catechism in Protection Church
5 PM, **Great Vespers only** / Confessions
- Sunday, July 14: 9–10 AM, Confessions
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape Meal
3 PM, Baby Shower for Juliana Meghan Inlow

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- Monday, July 15: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for St. Vladimir Day, in Protection Church
9 AM, **St. Seraphim Week for Kids**, meet in Parish Hall
- Thurs., July 18: 6:30 PM, Festal Vigil for St. Seraphim
- Fri., July 19: **9:30 AM, Greeting of Archbishop Benjamin, Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St. Seraphim of Sarov**

- SAINT SERAPHIM WEEK FOR KIDS:

This event is a four day, summer program, **July 15–19**, for kids (ages 5–10) being organized by Gloria Collins and the Church School Teachers. Daily schedule here at the church will consist of a morning prayer at 9 AM sharp, followed by a brief spiritual lesson with one of the priests, then crafts, games, snacks, folk dancing, music, and a wrap-up prayer at Noon. Registration forms are available at the Candeldesk.

- PARISH FEAST—JULY 18/19:

Saint Seraphim day is this week. Being our church patron saint, the day should be kept by each and every one of us as a special occasion, a day of great Paschal joy. The celebration will begin at 6:30 PM, July 18, with the serving of the festal Vigil. The next morning, Friday, July 19 we will gather at 9:30 AM to celebrate the Divine Liturgy with His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin. 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 for us, and to glorify God “who is wonderful in His saints.” A luncheon will be served following the Divine Liturgy.

- FROM SAINT SERAPHIM:

When despondency seizes us, let us not give in to it. Rather, fortified and protected by the light of faith, let us with great courage say to the spirit of evil: "What are you to us, you who are cut off from God, a fugitive for Heaven, and a slave of evil? You dare not do anything to us: Christ, the Son of God, has dominion over us and over all. Leave us, you thing of bane. We are made steadfast by the uprightness of His Cross. Serpent, we trample on your head."

- GLENDI PIROSHKI

Assembly and frying for Glendi piroshki are scheduled for Saturday, July 27th (all day). See Ray or Vicky Basch to sign up to help.

- FESTAL MEAL

Our Feast Day of St. Seraphim is next week (Friday, July 19) and there is still time for you to get involved in the preparations for the luncheon. I am looking for volunteers to help set up and decorate the hall on Thursday. Please let me know if you would like to spend a few hours helping arrange flowers, setting up the tables and chairs, covering tables, filling condiments, etc. Call Lisa Moroz, at 360-5119

- GOD'S LOVE:

...our purpose on earth is to restore what we lost in our fall from Paradise, to make the human being divine by Grace and, in so doing, not only to participate in changing the people around us, but also in changing and deifying nature and the universe itself. We become, through the Archetype of the Perfect Man, the Lord Jesus Christ, “small Jesus Christs” within Jesus Christ... thus salvation is for us Orthodox...enlightenment, illumination, and transfiguration. Sin is not simply something for which God punishes mankind and for which we must render compensation. There is no “god” who punishes us out of revenge. There is a God of perfect love, however, Who chastises with the goal of leading His children in the right direction. Sin... is understood as an illness that we cure by the actions of the Church, through the *Medicine of Immortality*—the Eucharist—and all of the other Mysteries of the Church. The transformation of man is, in effect, a cure of his *spiritual illness*, that is, sin, or our deviation from the “natural” path set out for us by God. ...Our Orthodox tradition...does not preach that people who fail at this wondrous goal of transformation by Grace are relegated to Hell as an eternal punishment by God’s will. “*God willeth not the death of any sinner.*” It tells us that those who separate themselves from the path of restoration, from becoming what they should and were meant to be, live in the endless agony of exposure to the fullness of the love of God—Who pities their state—but are unable to respond to it, having lived life according to *their free will*, indulging the passions and following the ways of sin. Their inability to respond to what is holy in *this life* renders them unresponsive to God’s abundant love in the eternity of the *next life*. —*Archbishop Chrysostomos, in “Orthodox Tradition Vol. XXX #2” pg 5*

The GLENDI GOOD NEWS

Parish of the Protection of the Holy Virgin, Santa Rosa, California, July 2013

Has anyone besides me noticed the hairline fissures in the front parking area? They are still very faint but seem to become more intense each day. Intrigued and mystified, I got down on my hands and knees and looked closely. Down that close I could feel gentle tremors, and from inches away I could see a faint glow beyond the cracks. Only one thing could I imagine would be causing such an effect: the transformation... of GLENDI. The land on which that mirthful village will arise from the depths of time was preparing itself for its burden of joy.

Dancing feet, dripping gyros, strumming bizoukis will soon be seen, tasted and heard. Soon Édessa's strains will be pulling on our Occidental inertia, luring us to step more briskly and smile more warmly. Love is in the air, as always, but soon it will be scented by roasting lamb and sweetened almost beyond belief by golden flakes of baklava.

GLENDI brings with it a mystical aura that envelopes all who take part. Cares are dispersed. Love and kindness reign with reckless abandon. Wonder suffuses. Overindulgence is relieved of its overtones of sin. Dancers tattoo the tempo of the feast. Bridegroom awaits as the bridal party sheds anxiety for joy.

Before the arrival of that third weekend in September, preparations loom. There is much work to be done by many hands. Each and every one of us must subdue our leisurely longings and tithe a fair portion of our personal time for the success of GLENDI, the well being of our Church and the Glory of our Lord.

With those comments we move from the heavenly to the earthly... from the metaphysical to the very physical. GLENDI No. 24 is on its way. Take a deep breath everyone; there's work to be done!

—Vladimir

News of GLENDI

The Glendi Heads met over a month ago to make plans and begin preparations for GLENDI on September 21-22—the third weekend of the month, as it has been for the past 24 years. Joe Anderson has been chosen as GLENDI Chairperson—or Supreme Commander, if you will. Esther Schau will be working with him as Co-Chair again, and Geoffrey John Lake will complete the trinity as Chief of Set-Up and Take-Down.

Last year's GLENDI organizational chart has been updated by Kathie Franotovich. It shows the various (and many!) areas of responsibility—such as publicity, financial, individual food booths, parking, etc.—and names those who are the heads of each. It is a battle plan for success, not hostilities.

At the GLENDI Financial Committee meeting on July 11, it was revealed that changes are being made to accommodate credit card use. GLENDI has accepted credit cards for several years, but the process has been cumbersome and time consuming. This

year, Square will be used. This system and its gadget allow credit sales to be processed instantly and easily with a smart phone or tablet. To ease card use even further, there will be a cadre of well trained roving Square team members that will go where and when as needed. This will take the responsibility for

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE IMPORTANT GLENDI DATES

- July 24-27 Piroshki Making, contact Vicki Basch, vbasch@sonic.net
- July 30 GLENDI Heads Meeting, Everyone is invited—6 pm, Parish Hall
- Aug 7-9 Greek Specialty Baking, contact Shenina, 575-3422, shenina@sbcglobal.net
- Aug 20 Glendi Booth Heads meeting, 6 pm, Parish Hall

Additional dates will be listed in the weekly Parish Announcement sheet. Please watch and respond with your offers to help.

adapting to the use of a new system off the shoulders of the booth workers.

It was also decided at the meeting to increase our token holdings by 10,000. With this additional supply, tokens will have to be bagged and rebagged far less frequently during the event. We all know how hectic GLENDI can become when hungers grow and the crowd is energized. Few of us, however, are aware of the time pressures within the GLENDI office. Any repetitive chore that can be eliminated will make the office run more effectively.

The Square system can work only if all the smart phones and tablets can connect to the Internet, so the entire Parish campus will be looped for Wi-Fi. Not only will financial transactions be instantly possible, with wi-fi GLENDIgoers will be able to post and email photos or videos of the fun they are having online in real time. Very 21st century!

Booth News

The debut of the Italian booth in 2012 was a real success story. The food was good, and folks went for it with gusto. Italian fare is ethnic, but not unusually so, and it may be people's familiarity with the cuisine that made it appeal to those with conservative palates. Whatever the reason, we're happy it was well liked, and we are glad that it will be back this year.

This year... Always striving to have something new and different at GLENDI, there are plans afoot to try a totally new tack: a winegarden as is found in Germany and Central Europe—so let's call it a *Weingarten*. It will be a separate area with shade and greenery, tables and wait staff where those who enter can sit down and enjoy the music away from the hubbub of the dance floor. Servers will be encouraged to keep glasses filled, and guests will be invited to select savory tidbits or delectable bakery items as they are brought around. The *Weingarten* is in the conceptual stage at this point, but the enthusiasm of the winsome parish lasses who are privy to the idea and who see themselves as charming servers indicates reality is not far off. It should be an Olde World success.

Promotion

As before, GLENDI will be advertised on the radio, in the press and on as many online bulletin boards as can be accessed. Handbills have already been printed and a good number have been taken by parish-

ioners for distribution. It is important that everyone hear about GLENDI and that the name and event is reinforced visually and repetitively. Pass out the flyers and ask to mount them in the windows of every business that you patronize.

With promotion, too, another new idea will be introduced. A large supply of colorful postcards with an artistic view of GLENDI and details about the event have been printed. The design, by Nona, evokes the carefree and loving aura that truly is the spirit of GLENDI. A few of these were given as table favors at the parish dinner for Metropolitan Tikhon and Archbishop Benjamin. The rest will be distributed beginning in August. Everyone will be asked to take some and leave small stacks in appropriate places so that they may be taken home by the public. Theaters, restaurants, upscale grocery stores, festivals, salons and museums that have an area for brochures are a few suggestions of where to place them. As the piles dwindle, they must be replenished. The cards are postcards, so they are ideal for sending to family, friends and acquaintances to let them know about GLENDI. The design is appealing and undoubtedly will be seen posted on countless refrigerator doors in kitchens throughout the North Bay.

Signage

We will be mounting our large GLENDI signs again next month. Visible on busy roadways, they attract and inform a great many people. These signs are an important part of our advertising efforts. **A chairperson is needed to coordinate posting the signs in August and gathering them up very soon after GLENDI.** Will you volunteer? If so, please let Joe, Esther or Fr. Lawrence know.

Booth Heads

Not all Booth Heads have confirmed their appointment and submitted the names of who will be working in the booths. If you have not done so, please call or email Lydia Nicholson today at 838-0149 or lydiaddg@comcast.net.

Contact

When you need to reach one of the GLENDI Leaders to volunteer for a particular task, ask a question or share an idea:

Joe Anderson, 888-2860, fandwicksvhs@gmail.com
Esther Schau, 799-6077, eschau@comcast.net
Geoff John Lake, 415-342-3852, lakegt@gmail.com