

listen, look, and are transformed. Our icons are on the walls for the illiterate to contemplate; our Scriptures are read aloud in the vernacular language for all to understand; from the earliest days the sermon was given even to those who were not baptized, that they might eventually come to illumination. Christ's gift is gloriously for the free, not those who are enslaved, for everyone, regardless of age, ability, race, or education. Though there are mysteries, these are hedged only for our protection, and we are meant to grow into them, all of us! Holy Things are for the Holy! We have a sure foundation, Jesus Christ himself, and will not be left in shallowness, so long as we apply ourselves to what we have been given. —*Edith M. Humphrey, from her blog: A Lamp for Today*

• THE BODY AS A SERVANT:

Self-love—that is, friendship for the body—is the source of evil in the soul... For the *deiform* (Godlike) soul to abandon the Creator and worship the body is an act of depravity. You were commanded to keep the body as a servant, not to be unnaturally enslaved to its pleasures. Break the bonds of your friendship for the body and give it only what is absolutely necessary. Enclose your senses in the citadel of stillness so that they do not involve the *nous* in their desires. The greatest weapons of someone striving to lead a life of inward stillness are self-control, love, prayer and spiritual reading. —*St. Thalassios the Libyan*

**FEAST OF THE GLORIFICATION OF
SAINT SERAPHIM OF SAROV**

JULY 18, 6:15 PM: Vigil with Lity
JULY 19, 9:30 AM: Greeting of Vladyka Benjamin and the Divine Liturgy
Festal luncheon to follow

St. Seraphim was glorified (canonized) by the Russian Orthodox Church on July 19/August 1, 1903. Records indicate that over 200,000 pilgrims came to Sarov, the "Russian Jerusalem," to venerate the relics of the beloved Saint and to participate in the glorification services. Many miracles were recorded. Twenty years after the event the Soviets occupied and desecrated the Sarov Monastery, carted off the relics of St. Seraphim to an anti-religion museum, where they lay hidden for seventy years. In 1990, the relics were "found" (their whereabouts kept secret) and were taken on a 450-mile-long church procession to Diveyevo near Sarov.

O kind-hearted father: be thou indeed our guide to salvation, and bring us to the unwaning light of eternal life, by thy good intercession before the throne of the Most Holy Trinity...

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



July 16, 2017

Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council
St. Vladimir of Kiev



- 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 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.

Protection of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church • 90 Mountain View Ave • Santa Rosa
707-584-9491 • LMargitich@sbcglobal.net • saintseraphim.com

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, July 15: 4 PM, Children's Choir Rehearsal
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confessions
- Sunday, July 16: 9–9:50 AM, Confessions
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape Meal
4:30 PM, Travel Blessings for Inlow Family
5 PM, Potluck BBQ in honor of Inlows
- Monday, July 17: 6 PM, Panikhida for Christopher Stewart
- Tuesday, July 18: 10 AM, Funeral for Christopher Stewart
6:15 PM, Vigil for Feast of St. Seraphim
- Wednesday, July 19: 9:30 AM, Greeting of Archbishop Benjamin
and Divine Liturgy for the Feast
- Thursday, July 20: 10 AM, Akathist for Prophet Elijah
- Friday, July 21: 9:30 AM, at Kazan Skete, *Divine Liturgy for the Feast
of the Kazan Icon of the Mother of God*
- Saturday, July 22: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for St. Mary Magdalene,
Protection Church
5 PM, Great Vespers

• MEMORY ETERNAL:

It is with great sadness, yet with hope in the resurrection of Christ and the life of the Kingdom, that we learn of the repose of Christopher Stewart, son of Carol Stewart. Chris had been quite ill for some time, and was confessed and communed before his repose. His funeral will be here at St. Seraphim, Panikhida at 6 PM Monday; Funeral at 10 AM Tuesday morning, followed by a Memorial Meal.

• SEMINARY BOUND:

Today, Sunday July 16, our parish will host a potluck BBQ in honor of Ambrose and Meghan and family who will be traveling to Pennsylvania to study at St. Tikhon's Seminary. Travel blessing at 4:30 PM, followed by the BBQ. This is a potluck BBQ, accordingly, please bring something to BBQ, a side dish to share and beverages. Any questions please email Shannon Winterton at wintertonsh@yahoo.com.

• CONFESSIONS—A REMINDER:

Since Father John will not be available to hear Confessions (for a while), that means ***time for Confessions on Sunday mornings is limited***. I encourage you to make your confession on any other day, and I will be available as follows:

- Tuesday–Friday, from Noon until whenever by appointment
- Wednesday and Saturday, 4 PM until Vespers, and after Vespers
- Sunday, 9–9:50 AM

• THIS IS A WEEK OF FEASTS:

Our parish feast will be celebrated on Tuesday and Wednesday, the Akathist for the great Prophet Elijah will be sung on Thursday, July 20 at 10 AM, and Kazan Skete will celebrate the monastery feast day on Friday, July 21, with the Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM.

• VACATION:

I will be taking a short vacation next week, July 22–28. Father James will be serving the various Liturgical services during that time. If there are any pastoral emergencies, please call Father Alexander Krassovsky at 707-292-5101. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• PILLAR AND FOUNDATION OF THE 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 Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, therefore she is, according to the apostle, a “pillar and the foundation of the 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.*

• THE FAITH, IN HONOR OF THE HOLY FATHERS:

The faith is not something imparted only to the wise and those in authority, but to all of us, who are called to search out the truth, to drink deeply of the waters of the Scriptures and the fathers, to be transformed in our minds, hearts, and lives. To each of us is given the promise that we will “yield a hundredfold of fruit...hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart” (Luke 8:15). Christianity is not a faith for the elite, but for all who