

in his tail so as to destroy it; but God doesn't allow him. He ruins his plans. The evil which the devil attempts to initiate, God uses and produces great good. Don't worry!" (from *Orthodox Christian Parenting*, pg. 77. Elder Paisios reposed in 1994)

• PRECIOUS TIME:

The churchgoer who never misses Sunday liturgy may spend as much as 78 hours per year in corporate prayer to God. Sound like a lot? An average American spends more than 2900 hours per year in front of some kind of screen. So for every hour we spend praying with God's people and getting to know Him better, we spend more than 37 communing with rectangles with moving pictures [TV or computer]. It's no wonder that we know far more about politics, sports, fashion, soap operas and science fiction than we do about God. —Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick

• DORMITION:

Of the Feast Days of the Theotokos, perhaps none is more celebrated than the Dormition on August 15 of each year. This Feast commemorates the repose of the Virgin, and her "translation" (to use the "Church word") to the life of the age to come. It's a Summer Pascha in that it is about the death, resurrection and glorification of the All Holy One. Although she is unique, being the Mother of the Lord, Theotokos, and the Ever-Virgin, she is nevertheless one of us, and the events of her life serve as a model for our own spiritual life as disciples of Christ. The death of the Virgin and her being raised to life and the Kingdom have a great deal to tell us about our own destiny. Come to the Vigil and you will hear more about this. The greatness of this Feast dictates that every Orthodox Christian keep it. It's not exaggeration to say that one would no more miss the celebration of Dormition than one would miss his own mother's funeral service.

• SENIOR LUNCH FELLOWSHIP / CALISTOGA FEAST DAY:

The Monastery in Calistoga will be celebrating its Altar Feast on Dormition. Vigil on Wednesday evening at 5 PM, and the Hierarchical Liturgy (with Archbishop Benjamin) on Thursday, at 9 AM. The Senior Lunch fellowship decided at its recent get-together to join the Sisters for the feast and the meal to follow, rather than having a luncheon here. Barbara Owens is arranging rides.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday ~ August 11, 2013
Post-feast of Transfiguration

• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Six:

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hades, and wast not tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee.

• TROPARION OF TRANSFIGURATION, Tone Seven:

Thou wast transfigured on the mount, O Christ our God, showing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. By the prayers of the Theotokos, let Thine everlasting light shine forth upon us sinners. O Giver of Light, glory to Thee.

• KONTAKION OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, Tone Seven:

On the mountain wast Thou transfigured, O Christ God, and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold Thee crucified, they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, August 10: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for St. Lawrence of Rome, Brunch to follow
3:30 PM, Catechism
5 PM, Great Vespers, Confessions
- Sunday, August 11: 9 AM, Confessions; 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape Meal
12:45 PM, Sisterhood Meeting

- Wed. August 14: **6:15 PM, Vigil for Dormition**
- Thur., August 15: **9 AM, Divine Liturgy for Dormition and end of the Fast**
- Sat., August 17: 9 AM, Grounds/Glendi Work Party
(3:30 *Baptism postponed*)
5 PM, Great Vespers, Confessions

- HOLY COMMUNION:

We welcome our visitors and our guests this morning, and would remind them, as well as all Parish and Church members, that the reception of Holy Communion is reserved for Baptized and Chrismated Orthodox Christians. No Orthodox Christian should approach the Chalice to receive Holy Communion without being prepared by fasting, prayer (especially the “Pre-Communion Prayers”) and a recent participation in the Holy Sacrament of Confession (monthly confession). If you are a visitor to the Church, we most cordially invite you to our Sunday meal.

- TIMELINESS IN ATTENDANCE:

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion should be present for the beginning of the Liturgy. Of course, there are exceptions worthy of a blessing—those who have been working in the Hall, or tending to some serious family need, etc. Those, however, are exceptions.

- WORK PARTY—SATURDAY, AUGUST 17:

You are invited to participate in a ***Glendi and Grounds Work Party***, Saturday, August 17, from 9 AM until Noon. There are both heavy and light tasks to do. Please see Fr. Lawrence if you can help.

- NOURISHING THE SOUL WITH THE WORD OF GOD:

On December 1, 2012, about fifty parishioners started the “Scriptures in a Year” reading program as outlined in a very helpful brochure prepared by Ray Basch. Those who have continued to keep up with the daily readings have gone through Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, the four Kings books, the two Chronicles, two Ezras, Nehemiah, Tobit, Judith, Esther, the three Maccabees, Job, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Wisdom of Solomon, Proverbs and Psalms (both to be read through twice) and are now in Ecclesiasticus. In addition, we’ve read the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 Cor-

inthians and have just started 2 Corinthians. It’s a tremendous amount of pages, but more importantly, the pages tell of that great and mysterious story of God seeking His beloved humans. We learn about suffering, about the depths of degradation that mankind is capable of experiencing and inflicting on others, as well as the wisdom, beauty and truth of which mankind is capable. We especially are steeped in God’s love, providence, chastisement, and great mercy. The Word of God is like a two-edged sword, and cuts right down to the sinews and marrow (Hebrews 4:12). I commend and applaud those that have stayed with the reading program. I understand how some may have dropped out—having had to play “catch up” a few times myself. I encourage those that don’t regularly read the Scriptures to begin now and find nourishment for their mind, heart and soul.

- GLENDI “HEADS” MEETING:

There will be a meeting on Tuesday, August 20, at 6 PM, for all those who are running a booth or area during GLENDI. Please come so we can confirm final booth preparations.

- ATTENTION COOKIE TWISTERS:

We will be making Greek “kouroulakia” cookies on Monday, August 12 starting at 4 PM, under the direction of Catherine Carpenter. These are the cookies that have that special TWIST—always big sellers at Glendi. They are fun to make, but many hands are needed so bring your friends. By the way: the capable crew last Monday whipped out 46 dozen ginger cookies (up from 31 dozen last year) AND then went to the Vigil of Transfiguration that same evening. Great work—thank you! *Love, Catherine Ostling*

- ELDER PAISIOS ON HAVING CHILDREN IN TODAY’S WORLD:

The Elder was asked a question: “...many young people today don’t want to have children because they see the kind of world into which they’ll bring their child. Pollution from chemicals and nuclear energy, life full of anxiety, wild society, wars...If we are already in the time of the Antichrist, as it seems to me, maybe it’s not worthy getting married and having children.” He answered: “No, Thanasi, it’s not like this! Didn’t Christians at the time of the persecutions get married? Didn’t thy have children? They both married and had children! They had their hope in Christ, not in people. This way of thinking is faintheartedness. In one minute God can change everything; straighten all the crooked things. People make plans. God has His own plan as well. If you knew how many times the devil wrapped the earth