

them to one of the priests. Call or email me if you are interested in this important parish ministry. —Fr. Lawrence

• INSTEAD OF GLENDI:

We are planning a Family Camp Out for Friday night and Saturday, September 14/15, here on the parish grounds. More info to follow.

• GOD'S LOVE:

...why did God the Word clothe himself in the body, using gentleness and humility in order to bring the world back to his Father? And why was He stretched out on the Cross for the sake of sinners, handing over His sacred body to suffering on behalf of the world? I myself say that God did all this for no other reason than to make known to the world the love that He has, His aim being that we, as a result of our greater love arising from an awareness of this, might be captivated by His love when He provided the occasion of this manifestation of the Kingdom of Heaven's mighty power—which consists in love—by means of the death of His Son...But the sum of all is that God the Lord surrendered His own Son to death on the Cross for the fervent love of creation. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His Only-Begotten Son over to death for its sake." This was not, however, because He could not have redeemed us in another way, but so that His surpassing love, manifested hereby, might be a teacher unto us. And by the death of His Only-Begotten Son, He made us near to Himself. Yea, if He had had anything more precious, He would have given it to us, so that by it our race might be His own. Because of His great love for us it was not His pleasure to do violence to our freedom (although He is able to do so)...

—*St. Isaac the Syrian*

From a 1924 article

THE BABY IN CHURCH

We have all heard the baby crying in church when the priest was speaking. Not all, however, have read Father Conroy's book, "A Mill Town Pastor," nor his delightful telling of a similar experience. "There are two of us preaching in this church at once," said the pastor, "and I don't know which of us is giving the better sermon. When a baby cries in church he is telling two things: First, that there are babies in the family, and second, that the mother has come to Mass with her baby. On the whole, I think the baby is preaching the better sermon and I'll let him go on with it."

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



August 12, 2018

Post-Feast of Transfiguration of Christ



• 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 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 RESURRECTION, Tone Two:

Hades became afraid, O Almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb. The dead arose, creation with Adam beheld this and rejoiced with Thee; and the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever.

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- 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 11: 5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions
- Sunday, August 12: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape Meal
- Tuesday, August 14: 6:15 PM, Vigil for Dormition
- Wednesday, August 15: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy in St. Seraphim
9 AM, Divine Liturgy in Calistoga for the
Monastery feast day

- FEAST OF DORMITION:

Since the beginning of August we have been fasting in preparation for the feast day of the Dormition of the Theotokos. This feast, like the Feast of the Transfiguration this last week, is considered one of the great ones of the year. More than that, as the last of the feasts of the church year (which ends on August 31), it directs our attention to final things: our death, the Lord's promise to raise us from the dead to life eternal and of course, the great example of the fulfillment of that promise in the Virgin Mary. The feast celebrates her death, and her being raised to the life of the age to come. We share in that glory—here and now—in our vigil and especially in our receiving of Holy Communion at the Divine Liturgy. I encourage you to attend services for Dormition. On this day we attend the funeral of our All Holy Lady Theotokos, our common mother in the faith (we would *not* miss the funeral of our mother!?), and enter into the mystery of her bodily resurrection into the Kingdom, and our own participation in that mystery.

- BENEFIT CONCERT HERE:

Mother Melania and the Sisters of Holy Assumption Monastery are organizing a benefit concert—Wednesday August 22 at 7 PM—to help one a homeless artist they have befriended. Renowned area jazz pianist Larry

Vuckovich and his trio will be performing here at that concert. See the flyer below.

- MEMORIALS:

A Panikhida will be served at Shiloh Cemetery, for Paul Byron Burch, on the anniversary of his repose, at 3 PM, Sunday, August 19. On Saturday, August 25, at 11 AM we will serve a Panikhida for the two-year anniversary of the repose of Gabriel Griovksi at Oak Mound Cemetery, Healdsburg.

- CHORAL CONCERT:

Sonoma County's premiere a cappella vocal ensemble, *Cantiamo Sonoma*, will sing a selection of songs—in St. Seraphim Cathedral—by Baltic and Scandinavian composers on Sunday, August 26 at 6 PM. This is their annual fundraiser. The ticket price includes an after-concert reception with food & drink in the courtyard. See Nicolas Custer for tickets, or call (707) 538-4220.

- VESPERS AND TALK:

Following the 6 PM Wednesday Vespers on August 29, Andrew Vernon from San Anselmo will join us for a Potluck dinner and a talk on the Holy Trinity. Previously posted dates for that talk had to be cancelled.

- WORK PARTY:

Saturday, September 1 from 9 AM–1 PM. Tasks: Begin sorting Glendi equipment; cut down dead plum tree; create Innocents' Garden, move “graveyard cross” to garden; “sort” junk behind Storage Building, etc.

- CHURCH CLEANING SIGN-UP SHEET:

Many slots remain until the end of the year. These are opportunities to help out at Church. The request for church cleaners has been made for two months, with very little response. Let's assume that we are simply forgetting to take responsibility for our church. The Sign-Up Sheet is located on the Church bulletin board, next to the stairs. “O Lord, bless those who love the beauty of Thy House.”

- USHERS NEEDED:

Our Usher team is looking for some new members. Please speak with me if you'd like to help out. What do Ushers do? They arrive at 9:30 AM; assist guests in finding a place to stand or sit and ask their names, so that I can welcome them at the conclusion of the Liturgy; introduce the guests to a parish member who will accompany them to the Agape Meal; introduce