

need. You can always get through to me at the Church office at 707-584-9491, or on my **cell at 707-217-4556**. We are truly blessed to have Fr. James able to take on some of the duties in the Cathedral. And we are eagerly looking forward to Fr. Kirill being with us for a few weeks during September. As for confessions, please come during the week if possible. With love for you, in Christ. —*Father Lawrence*

• SAVING THE STORKS:

You are invited to hear a presentation by Trista Eazell, about her work with *Saving the Storks*, Saturday, August 12 at 6 PM, Parish Hall. *Saving the Storks* is an organization which helps pregnant women find resources other than abortion. Since our parish does social work best when it partners with groups like Catholic Charities, Redwood Gospel Mission, Redwood Empire Food Bank, and others, it seemed reasonable for us to accept Trista's offer to come speak to us about the work of Save the Storks. Our best avenue for doing such work is to continue to partner with other mostly young Christians. I invite all of you to listen to what this young woman has to say, and determine if this is a fit for us. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• INFINITE JOY:

It would seem that our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.

—*C.S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory, and Other Addresses*

**SOME PARISH NEEDS**

- Pilgrimage Ministry Leader, meaning, someone who will help (does not have to do it alone) organize trips to monasteries and other holy places.
- Chairman for the Parish Men's Group. Such a person would organize (with others) activities of the Men's Group. See Fr. Lawrence if you're interested.
- Assistant Sacristan, who will monthly wash and clean all the oil lamps. See Fr. Lawrence
- Our thanks for the generous donor of a gift of generator to use when power goes down on the property.

# ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

## PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



**August 13, 2017**

**Leave-taking of Transfiguration**



• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone One:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy kingdom; glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

• 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 12: 5 PM, Great Vespers  
6 PM, Presentation on “Saving the Storks”
- Sunday, August 13: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy  
Noon, Agape Meal
- Monday, August 14: 6:15 PM, Vigil for Dormition of the Virgin
- Tuesday, August 15: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy at the Monastery in Calistoga, Bishop Daniel presiding
- Wednesday, August 16: 6 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, August, 17: 6 PM, Potluck and Talk by Sister Margarete  
Small Compline to follow

- CONFESSIONS—A reminder from Fr. Lawrence:

Please be mindful that there is limited ***time for Confessions on Sunday mornings***. I encourage you to make your confession on any other day, and I am 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

- FEAST OF DORMITION, AUGUST 15:

We are currently keeping a fast in preparation for Dormition. The fast ends on the feast day, which is Tuesday, August 15. I encourage all of you to attend the Vigil and the Liturgy of this remarkable and incredibly important feast—essential to the Christian life and understanding of salvation, death, and the age to come. **The Vigil will be celebrated here at 6:15 PM, Monday, August 14.** The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated in Calistoga at 9 AM with His Grace, Bishop Daniel and the Nuns of the Holy Dormition (Assumption) Monastery, it being the monastery feast. 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, its importance in the life of the whole Church, dictates that every Orthodox Christian keep it.

- THURSDAY EVENING POTLUCK AND TALK:

Sister Margarete from Holy Assumption Monastery will give a talk, Thursday, August 17 at 6 PM, on the history, theology and activity of the female diaconate. Her talk will help us understand that women deacons had their own unique ministry, unlike that of men. The talk will be preceded by a potluck. Small Compline will follow the talk.

- GENERAL SCHEDULE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, with Fr. John recovering from his health crisis and Fr. Theodor no longer here, it might be helpful if you were made aware of my weekly schedule:

- *Tuesday–Saturday from Noon until 5 PM:* available for appointments, confessions, etc. If there is an evening service, it’s usually at 6 or 6:15 PM, and I am available again at 7 PM for appointments, house blessings, visits and parish meetings.
- *Monday:* Day off.

On days when there is a morning service, or a pastoral emergency, then there is no set schedule. You might ask, what am I doing each day until noon? Praying, reading, preparing a sermon, working on the bulletin. I do not answer email or calls until after 12 PM. Many of you already know that the more activities one has, the more time is necessary to be silent, pray and read. As a parish priest, I must find time to be nourished by the Scriptures, for prayer and spiritual reading if I am to be a competent pastor and have spiritual nourishment to give you from God. Having laid out the general schedule (which works about 50% of the time), I assure you, that if there is a pastoral emergency, I will respond immediately, no matter what time of the night or day. So, please do not hesitate to phone or text me if there is a