

• GLORIFICATION OF AMERICAN SAINTS:

On Friday and Saturday Sept. 4/5, the Serbian Church in Alhambra, CA. glorified (proclaimed) two priests who labored in America, Father Sebastian Dabovich of Jackson, CA. (1863–1940), and Father Mardarije, Bishop of Libertyville (1889–1935). Saint Mardarije worked in the Eastern states and established Saint Sava Monastery in Libertyville, Illinois, his center of activity. Saint Sebastian was born in San Francisco and built the first Serbian Orthodox church in Jackson, California and founded many other parishes. Saint Sebastian was the first American-born to be ordained a priest and to be tonsured a monk in the Orthodox Church of North America. He served as deacon at the San Francisco Cathedral until Bishop Nicholas ordained him a priest on August 16, 1892. As a newly ordained hieromonk, Fr. Sebastian tirelessly preached the Gospel, served Divine Liturgies, counseled, and established many parishes throughout the country. During his life he conveyed the light of liturgical certainty and calm to a world that was spiritually hungry and suffering; Archbishop Tikhon asked Fr. Sebastian to lead a Serbian mission in the North American diocese, elevated him to archimandrite on August 15, 1905, and sent him to Chicago, Illinois, where this holy man served as parish priest. In 1910, he asked for release from the parish so that he could return to missionary work. Having spent three years at the newly opened St. Platon Seminary in Tenafly, New Jersey, he went back to Serbia to serve as a chaplain in the Serbian army in the Balkan Wars and WWI. After his brief visit to the United States in 1915 and 1917, the rest of his life he spent in Serbia, where he peacefully reposed in Zicha Monastery on November 30, 1940. His earthly remains were laid to rest there until they were exhumed and translated to Jackson, California, on September 1, 2007, at St. Sava Church, the oldest and one of many Serbian Orthodox Churches in America, which he founded in 1894. Fr. Sebastian built up souls, organized the Church, erected houses of prayer, and was devoted to charitable work. In addition to establishing many churches, St. Sebastian also wrote many articles and sermons. His last spoken words and wish were: “The Heavenly Kingdom without end! Meaning: the kingdom of the virtues whence the miracle of eternal surprises bursts forth.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tone Five ~ September 6, 2015

• 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 ST. MAXIM SANDOVICH, TONE FOUR:

Moved by the providence of God to go to Mount Pochaev, there to learn the rightness of the Orthodox Faith, thou didst attain unto true teaching in the city of Zhitomir, and didst return to thine own country as a brave warrior of Christ. For Orthodoxy and thy people thou didst receive the crown of martyrdom, and thereby hast made thy native land steadfast in the Holy Faith. O Hieromartyr Maximus, entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.

• KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Five:

Thou didst descend into hades, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, and we cry to Thee: O Lord, save us.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Sept. 5: 9 AM, Glendi Work Party (w/lunch)
5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, Sept. 6: 9 AM, Baptism of Todorka Todorova
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape Meal
- Monday, Sept. 7: **6:15 PM, Great Vespers with Lity for the Nativity of the Theotokos**

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

- Tuesday, Sept. 8: **8:30 AM, Matins and Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos**
6 PM, Glendi Meeting: *Booth Heads must attend*
- Wednesday, Sept. 9: 5 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank Distribution
6 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, Sept. 10: 7 PM, Church School Teacher Meeting (Parish Library)
- Saturday, Sept. 12: 9 AM, Glendi Work Party
5 PM, Great Vespers
6 PM, Young Adult Group dinner in Hall

- LITURGY CONCLUSION TODAY:

A short Service of Thanksgiving will be sung before the dismissal, as directed by Vladyka Benjamin, in order to give thanks to God for the creation He made, and to remind us to care for it.

- CONFESSION TIME:

Father John is on vacation until September 18, which means that there is limited opportunity for making a Confession on Sunday morning. You are encouraged to come for Confession on Saturday before, during or after Vespers, or by appointment during the week. In general, Sunday morning is not a good time for confession (especially this Sunday, due to the baptism) except for those who drive some distance who cannot come during the week.

- GLENDI ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

All those who head up any Glendi booths or areas of responsibility are expected to attend a meeting at 6 PM, Tuesday, September 8. A light dinner will be provided.

- BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION THIS WEEK:

We all attend birthday celebrations for those who are important to us. Taking part is a sign of our love and honor. Our children's birthdays are important. Even more important is the birthday of our mother as we may not all have children, but we all do have mothers. And for us Orthodox Christians—born from above by “water and the Spirit,” united to the Body of Christ, co-inheritors of the Kingdom with the saints—the birthday of the Theotokos should hold a place of honor and joy second only to the day of our Lord's birth. “All generations will call me blessed...” prophesied our All

Holy Lady. Let us make the time to show our love on September 7 and 8 and worthily celebrate her nativity, bringing the gift of your love and honor to her. I encourage all of you to regard the birthday celebration of the Virgin as you would that of your own mother.

- PILLAR AND FOUNDATION OF 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 Ghost, the spirit of truth, therefore she is, according to the apostle, a pillar and the foundation of 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.

—*newly glorified Saint Sebastian, Archimandrite of Jackson*

- PARENTAL DUTY:

It is the duty especially of parents to see that their children pray correctly, and also to pray with them in an audible voice themselves. Let this not be an act of routine. This reasonable discipline, when you kneel by the side of tender childhood and see the little ones pray, will lighten in your own heart—at the same time that it does in theirs—the fire of heavenly love.

—*Saint Sebastian*

- YOUNG ADULT GROUP FORMING:

A distressing trend among youth today is a failure to remain in the Church after high school and college. In response, St. Seraphim's is launching a new young adult group (so far we don't have a name for it). The purpose of this group is to provide a stronger foundation for our parish youth as they navigate through life after high school, and provide some help to counter the wayward trend. Activities will focus around communal meals, discussion of challenges in Orthodox Christian life, retreats, and service work for the parish and outside it. The first gathering is on **Saturday, September 12th** in the Parish Hall after Great Vespers. Dinner will be served: “Build your own pizza” and drinks will be provided. Content will be an introduction to the group and planning of future events. All between ages 18-22 are welcome! If you have any questions, please speak to or call: Alicia Krueger at (707) 360-8535, Tyler-Rose Counts at (510) 414-2122 or Joe Anderson at (707) 888-2860.