

part in the life of the body. By means of all sorts of mutually binding bonds which are formed and strengthened through the action of every member according to his capacity, the great Church body receives an increase unto the edifying of itself (Eph. 4:16). In the first centuries, it was not only the pastors who were tortured, but lay persons as well—men, women, and even children. And it was lay people likewise who enlightened the heathen and fought heresies. And now in the same way, the spreading of the Faith should be a matter that is personal, heartfelt, and dear to each one of us. Every member of the Church must take an active part in it—some by personal *podvig* spreading the Good News, some by material donations and service to “the needs of the holy persons,” and some by profuse prayer to the Lord that He “keep His Church firm and multiply it” — and concerning those unaware of Christ, that He would “proclaim the word of truth to them, open to them the Gospel of Truth, and join them to the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.” I have told this numerous times to my flock. And today, upon my departing from this land, I once more command all of you to preserve and act upon this, and especially you brethren of this holy temple. —*farewell sermon of Archbishop Tikhon, given in New York at St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral founded and built by St. Tikhon, 1907*

• PRAYER FOR THOSE IN HAITI AND ELSEWHERE:

O Lord our God, provide shelter to those whose homes are destroyed in the hurricane, and cover them with the shadow of Thy wings. Refresh the hopes of the downtrodden, and guard from despair those who have lost loved ones, and whose earthly possessions have vanished in an untimely manner before the Judgment Day. Heal those who are injured, give rest in Thy Kingdom to those who have perished; steady the hearts of the grieving; encourage the fainthearted; and illumine with the light of Thy Gospel those who are mourning in darkness and without our hope in Christ. Bring good out of tragedy. We have sinned against the earth Thou didst fashion, O Lord, and we have not been the good stewards Thou didst create us to be. Yet have mercy on us, for Thou art a merciful God, and we beg Thee, still the destructive forces of nature, lest they carry out a sentence upon us. Hear us, O God our Savior, the Hope of all the ends of the earth and those who are far off upon the sea; and be gracious, be gracious, O Master, upon our sins, and have mercy on us. For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, October 9, 2016

• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Seven:

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death; to the thief, Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy Disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

• TROPARION OF ST TIKHON OF MOSCOW, Tone One:

Chosen by God in a turbulent time, thou hast glorified God in complete holiness, and attained greatness through humility, showing forth the power of God through simplicity and piety. Thou didst lay down thy life for the Church and her people, O holy Confessor and Patriarch, Father Tikhon. Pray to Christ God with Whom thou wast also crucified, that He may save our souls!

• KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Seven:

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hades is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: the Savior has come to them that have faith. Enter, ye faithful, into the Resurrection.

KONTAKION OF ST TIKHON, Tone Two:

A gentle manner adorned thee: thou didst show kindness and compassion to those who repented; thou wast firm and unbending in confessing the Orthodox Faith, and zealous in loving the Lord. O holy Hierarch of Christ and Confessor Tikhon, pray for us that we may not be separated from the love of God, which is of Christ Jesus, our Lord!

• KONTAKION OF THE PROTECTION, Tone Three:

Today the Virgin stands forth in the Church and invisibly with the choirs of Saints prays to God for us; the Hierarchs bow down with the angels, the Apostles and the Prophets rejoice, for the Theotokos prays to the Eternal God for us.

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ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Oct. 8: 4 PM, Children's Choir Rehearsal
5 PM, Great Vespers & Confessions
6 PM, Young Adult Group
- Sunday, Oct. 9: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:45 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape
- Wednesday, Oct. 12: 5 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank
- Thursday, Oct. 13: Noon, Senior Lunch Fellowship
- Saturday, Oct. 15: 10 AM, Men's Group Work Party, Calistoga
5 PM, Great Vespers & Confessions

- SENIOR LUNCH FELLOWSHIP:

The Parish Seniors and Retired are invited to the Luncheon on Thursday, October 13, at Noon.

- TRIP TO THE MONASTERY OF ST. JOHN:

Fr. Theodor, Garret Hamner and others are planning a pilgrimage to St. John's Monastery in Manton, CA, October 16th–18th. Contact Fr. Theodor or Garret if you would like to join the pilgrimage.

- PARISH MEN'S GROUP WORK PARTY AT CALISTOGA MONASTERY:

The women's Monastery of the Assumption, in Calistoga, has asked our parish Men's Group to help out with some work around the monastery grounds. A work party has been scheduled for Saturday, October 15, starting at 10 AM. Lunch will be provided. Please see Fr Theodor if you are interested in going, or need a ride over.

- CATECHISM-INQUIRERS CLASS:

Starts up on Saturday, October 29, at 3:30 PM. The class will meet in the Library. The first lecture will be on "The True God."

- PILGRIMAGE:

Fr. Lawrence and Matushka Ann will be on a pilgrimage to the country of Georgia from October 15–29.

- DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY:

The annual gathering of the Diocesan clergy and lay delegates, known as the Diocesan Assembly, will take place at Holy Virgin Cathedral in Los

Angeles, from October 11–13. Your delegates, joining Frs. Theodor and Lawrence, are George Barsi and Ambrose Inlow.

- HONORING THE SAINTS:

On Sunday, November 5, the Church School of St. Seraphim Parish will host an evening of "Honoring the Saints" for our church community in the Parish Hall. The youth (of all ages!) are encouraged to read about the life of a saint of their choice—could be their patron saint, could be another—and come dressed as that saint (common sense, piety and good taste are assumed). More info to come.

- WAYS TO HELP AT THE PARISH:

- Take home your pots, trays, Tupperware, shirts, hats, water-bottles and assorted other items in the Lost & Found
- Return the heavy yellow security-posts in front parking lot to their place (two guys needed for this) and re-hang the chains
- Collect and empty all yellow-jacket traps and store in storage-building
- Scrape wax off church floor
- Clean and polish brass candle stands in St. Seraphim
- Vineyard help: **Saturday, Oct. 1**, after lunch (six people needed for bottling wine)
- Move picnic tables from rose-garden lawn back to storage-building porch (four men needed for this)
- ~~move new convertible picnic tables to the rose garden~~

- FROM ST. TIKHON OF MOSCOW:

...while faithfully preserving the Orthodox Faith, everyone must also take care to spread it among the non-Orthodox. Christ the Savior said that having lit the candle, men do not put it under a bushel but on a candlestick so that it gives light to all (Matt. 5:15). The light of the Orthodox Faith has not been lit to shine only for a small circle of people. No, the Orthodox Church is catholic; she remembers the commandment of her Founder, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature and teach all nations" (Mark 16:15, Matt. 28:19). We must share our spiritual richness, truth, light, and joy with others who do not have these blessings. And this duty does not only lay upon the pastors and the missionaries but on the lay persons as well, since the Church of Christ, according to the wise comparison of the Holy Apostle Paul, is the body, and every member takes