

• THE HOLY UNMERCENARY HEALERS:

“He who believes in me shall do the works that I do.” (John 14:12) This is why we address the saints not simply as intercessors and intermediaries but also as having within themselves the power to heal. They can do so because they have been deified through grace and have become participants in divine Life and Power. We pray especially to the Mother of God, the first human being to have been fully deified and glorified, “the comfort of the afflicted, the healing of the sick,” “the hope of the hopeless,” “the strength of those who are struggling,” “unquenchable and inexhaustible treasure of healing.” (*Prayers of the Supplicatory Canon*) from “whom marvels spring forth and healing flows out.” (from *Holy Unction*). As they bear divine energies within their entire being, the saints often convey them to those who in faith touch their body (cf. Acts 20:9–10), or their clothes (Acts 19:12), or even their shadow (cf. Acts 5:15). After leaving this world, they continue to convey those energies to those who call upon them. They may do so directly or indirectly by means of their relics, which are suffused with and radiate these energies, or through their icons which are the visible manifestations, representations of their deified humanity that bring into contact with them those who venerate them. —J.C. Larchet, *The Theology of Illness*, pg. 89.

• THE LITURGY:

In the Church of God is the Holy Spirit, Who comes and enlightens us during the Divine Liturgy. If we stay on after the congregation has left, and remain seated in a corner with our eyes closed, we shall see God with the eyes of our soul. We shall understand what Angels are... We cannot see the ineffable Glory of God with these earthly eyes, but we can behold It when the Holy Spirit fills our mind and soul, our entire being. Then we can understand what is said in the Holy Bible, “Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy mind...” That is: Totally. Our entire being loves Him. And then what happens? Automatically you “love thy neighbor as thyself.” You cannot distinguish yourself from the others.

—*Mother Gavriila*

• TALKS ON ORTHODOXY:

Beginning Saturday, November 3 in the Parish Library, I will present talks on basic Christian teachings—catechism—at 3:30 PM. All are welcome to participate. —*Fr. Lawrence*

# ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

## PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



**November 4, 2018**

Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenary Healers



• 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, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: Glory to Thee.

• TROPARION OF THE HOLY UNMERCENARIES, Tone Eight:

O Holy Unmercenary Physicians and wonderworkers, visit our infirmities. Freely have ye received; freely give unto us.

• KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Six:

When Christ God the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed Resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life and the God of all.

• KONTAKION OF THE HOLY UNMERCENARIES, Tone Two:

Having received the grace of healing, ye extend health to those in need, O

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glorious and wonderworking physicians. Hence, by your visitation, cast down the audacity of our enemies, and by your miracles, heal the world.

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Nov. 3: 3:30 PM, Catechism *On the True God*  
5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, Nov. 4: 8:40 AM, Matins of the Resurrection  
10 AM, Divine Liturgy  
11:45 AM, Church School  
Noon, Agape Meal
- Wednesday, Nov. 7: 6 PM, Great Vespers, *Feast of St. Michael and the Archangels*
- Thursday, Nov. 8: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for the Feast

### • THE SENIOR AND RETIRED LUNCH:

Our fellowship will meet this month on Tuesday, November 13, just before the beginning of the Nativity Fast.

### • THE NATIVITY FAST BEGINS:

Plan ahead. November 15 marks the beginning of the Nativity Fast, the Advent Season. The Fast extends until the Feast of Nativity on December 25. We abstain from all meat, eggs, dairy and also forgo wine, olive oil and fish (excepting weekends and holy days). A good fast can lead to a good feast.

### • FAMILIES TO FAMILIES:

For the sixth year our parish will provide Thanksgiving Dinners for Sonoma County families living in poverty. Your offering of \$50.00 will cover the cost for a full Thanksgiving Dinner Food Box. We will prepare 100 dinner boxes again this year. If you or your family are not able to sponsor a full box, please consider sharing a box with other church members! In an effort to make this charity effort efficient we will be accepting monetary donations only (checks can be made out to St. Seraphim Church/charity). Help will be needed in putting together individual boxes (times to be announced). This effort is extremely appreciated and impactful. If you have any questions you can contact Amy Ramirez Margitich at [fosasquatch@gmail.com](mailto:fosasquatch@gmail.com), and at (707) 478-6767 or Serge Anderson at [s.anderson4990@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.anderson4990@sbcglobal.net), and at (707) 291-7452.

### • GIVING BY TEXT OR IPAD:

Not everyone carries cash, and fewer and fewer folks use checks. So, to respond to the needs of our Parish Members, the Parish Council approved three digital ways to make your financial offerings.

- 1) *iPad*. Transactions can be made very simply on the Candle Desk iPad (an attendant can assist you if needed). Click the screen, then click the giving category you are interested in, swipe your credit card, make the approval, and you're done. It is as easy as paying for gas for your car.
- 2) *Text Giving*. Enter 707-701-5052 in to your text message App on your cell phone, indicate an amount you want to give (for example, \$25). A prompt will open your browser and you indicate which giving category (tithes, icons, charity, etc.) you would like, enter your card info, and you're done.
- 3) *Phone App*. Download the "ConnectNow Giving App" on your cell phone. <https://itunes.apple.com/us/developer/parishsoft/id1244158208> or just Google the words *ConnectNow Giving App*.

### • CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AT STS. PETER AND PAUL:

Saints Peter and Paul Russian Orthodox Church will host its 24th Annual Christmas Bazaar and Food Fest on Saturday (10 AM–3 PM) and Sunday (11 AM–3 PM), November 10 and 11. There will be a selection of handi-crafts, jewelry and Russian imports, as well as the wonderful Russian culinary favorites (piroshki, stroganoff, cabbage rolls, etc.).

### • HOLIDAY CRAFTS FAIRE AT ST. SERAPHIM:

Our Parish will host a Christmas Bazaar on November 24, from 10 AM–4 PM. There will be unique handmade gift items and stocking stuffers and delicious holiday treats, including our famous baklava. Pick up some event flyers at the candle-desk to share with your friends.

### • ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY:

On Sunday, November 11 at 3 PM there will be a Panikhida at Oak Mound Cemetery in Healdsburg at the grave of Archpriest Michael, on the one year anniversary of his repose.