

Dmitri, the Skete's founder, and the 40th Day for Nina Arrabit. Abbess Susanna invites all of us to join them for this Divine Liturgy.

- GLENDI—September 15 and 16:

Join us for a meeting on Wednesday, June 27, at 6:30 PM. The Glendi flyers are now available, and you are welcome to take a handful.

- FROM ST. SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN (The Discourses): *Strive for peace with all men, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord* (Heb. 12:14). Why did he say *strive*? Because it is not possible for us to become holy and to be saints in an hour! We must therefore progress from modest beginnings toward holiness and purity. Even were we to spend a thousand years in this life we should never perfectly attain it. Rather we must always struggle for it every day, as if mere beginners.

- SAINT SERAPHIM WEEK FOR KIDS:

This event is a four day, summer program, July 16–19, for kids (ages 5–10) being organized by Gloria Collins and the Church School Teachers. Daily schedule here at the church will consist of a morning prayer at 9 AM sharp, followed by a brief spiritual lesson with one of the priests, then crafts, games, snacks, folk dancing, music, and a wrap-up prayer at Noon. Registration forms will be available at the Candle-desk in the next few weeks.

- PARISH FEAST—JULY 18/19:

The annual commemoration of Saint Seraphim is right around the corner. This is the day of our patron Saint, a day of great Paschal joy. Orthodox Christians do indeed ask for the prayers of the righteous ones of God in daily prayer. But on July 18/19 we will gather, not as individuals, but as the ***Eucharistic Parish Community*** which has been mystically identified with St. Seraphim—through Christ—to specifically ask for St. Seraphim to intercede for us, and to glorify God “who is wonderful in His saints.” His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin will be with us for the Feast, and so it is only right that our entire Parish community join in this festal celebration with our beloved Vladyka. **Vigil**, Wednesday, July 18, 6:15 PM; **Liturgy**, Thursday, July 19, 9:30 AM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Saints of Russia & America, June 17, 2012

- TROPARION OF ALL SAINTS OF RUSSIA & AMERICA, Tone Eight:
As a beautiful fruit of the sowing of Thy salvation, the land of Russia and America offers Thee, O Lord, all the saints that have shone in them. By their prayers keep the Church and our lands in peace, through the Theotokos, O Most Merciful One.
- KONTAKION OF ALL SAINTS, Tone Three:
Today the choir of saints who pleased God in the lands of Russia and America stands forth in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us. With them the angels glorify Him, and all the saints of the Church of Christ keep festival, and together they pray to the Eternal God for us.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, June 16: 5 PM, Vespers, Confessions
 - Sunday, June 17: 9 AM, Confessions
10 AM, Divine Liturgy, Agape Meal
 - Tuesday, June 19: 7 PM, Rohnert Park Study Group (see below for more info)
 - Wednesday, June 20: 6 PM, Vespers
 - Thurs., June 21: 6 PM, Akathist to St. Seraphim
 - Sat., June 23: 5 PM, Great Vespers, Confessions
6:30 PM, 40th Day for Nina Arrabit
- TUESDAY EVENING ROHNERT PARK STUDY GROUP:
You are cordially invited to theological and spiritual discussions on Tuesday

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

evenings, 7 PM, at 1352 Oak View Circle, Rohnert Park, 3rd floor. Call Debi Shrimplin at (707) 536-9112 for more info. The topic for this week will be on *Same Sex Attraction and the Orthodox Approach*. Deacons Jeremiah and Nicholas will lead the discussion.

• VACATION:

Fr. Lawrence will be away from June 15 until June 29. Pastoral emergencies should be directed to either Father John Schettig at 318-1559 or Father Michael Margitich at 473-0314.

• ALL SAINTS OF RUSSIA AND AMERICA:

Our parish and our diocese are children of the Russian Orthodox Church, so we celebrate both the saints of Russia and those that shone forth in America. Excepting the native Alaskan saints, all of the saints that shone forth in America were of Russian, Greek, Serbian or Arabic, etc. descent. We must realize that we are still infants in the realm of sainthood, here in America. So, for the present, let us recognize that either the OCA—as a jurisdiction—has not produced any *known* saints (no martyrs at least), or else God has not yet revealed those men, women or children to us. We can reflect on the fact that all Orthodox Christians are called to live saintly lives, to cultivate—with God's Grace—the holy virtues of faith, love, meekness, humility, and the rest. All of us in the Church are *called out*, and the word for Church in Greek, *ecclesia*, refers to those of the world who have *been called*: called to glorify God in their lives, to radiate His love and forgiveness to everyone, to set worship of the Holy Trinity as the first and essential task, to follow the commandments, to become holy. Although we may lack resolve and vision, we in the Orthodox Church do not lack examples of holy men, women and children, not only throughout the world, but here in our parish. Most of the known and revealed saints we remember today, are as follows:

- St. Herman of Alaska (Born: 1758, Russia, Died: 1837, Alaska)
- St. Innocent of Alaska and Metropolitan of Moscow (Born: Aug. 26, 1797, Irkutsk, Died: March 31, 1879, Moscow)
- St. Peter the Aleut (Born: about 1800, Alaska, Martyred in SF: 1815)
- St. Jacob Netsvetov (Born: 1802, Atka Island, Alaska, Died: July 26, 1864, Sitka, Alaska)

- St. John of Shanghai and San Francisco (Born: June 4, 1896, Karkov, Russia, Died: July 2, 1966, Seattle, WA. His holy relics lie in the Russian Orthodox Cathedral in San Francisco, on Geary Street.)
- St. Nikolai of Zhicha (Serbia) and South Canaan, PA. (Born, Dec. 23, 1880, Serbia, Died: March 18, 1956, St. Tikhon's Seminary, PA.)
- St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Born: 1860, Syria, Died: Feb. 14, 1915, Brooklyn)
- St. John Kuchurov (Born: July 13, 1871, Russia, Martyred: Oct. 31, 1917, Tsarskoye Selo, Russia)
- St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Born: Feb. 11, 1872, Russia, Martyred: 1937, Russia)
- St. Alexis Toth (Born: March 18, 1854, Austro-Hungary, Died: May 7, 1909, Wilkes-Barre, PA)
- St. Tikhon of Moscow, Enlightener of America (Born: January 19, 1865, Russia, Martyred: April 7, 1925 Moscow)
- St. Juvenal of Iliamna (Born: 1761, Russia, Martyred: 1796, Alaska)

• CONGRATULATIONS:

Many years to Kate and Keith Feigin, Ukiah parishioners. Kate gave birth to a beautiful and healthy boy. The baptism is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 7, at 4 PM.

• NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN:

The birthday of Saint John the Baptist will be celebrated starting with Vespers at 5 PM, on June 23 and Liturgy on Sunday, June 24, at 10 AM. In the Church we remember that the Lord praised St. John as the “greatest of those born of woman” and so we are eager to praise him too. As we peruse the many beautiful icons that the Parish treasures, and sets out for veneration on feasts, it may seem strange, yet we do not have one of the Baptizer of our Lord (other than a fresco, and an icon of his beheading). We pray that the lack is not due to an absence of love and veneration toward St. John. Perhaps there is a family or families that would like to sponsor this icon. The cost would be about \$750.

• UPCOMING AT THE KAZAN SKETE:

A Memorial Divine Liturgy will be served at the Kazan Skete on Wednesday, June 27, at 9:30 AM, for the anniversary of the repose of Archimandrite