

been prepared by our Lord Jesus Christ to receive this divine indwelling. But the outpouring of the Holy Spirit does not stop there, for the crowned man (Cosmos) at the bottom and in the center of the Apostles represents all the kingdoms and nations of the earth. Having received the Holy Spirit, the Apostles began to speak and preach the Gospel in a multitude of tongues which were the languages of the nations of the earth. Shortly after this the Apostles divided up the whole of the known world between themselves and began to preach the Gospel to all nations. The scrolls represent the various nations, each of which would be taken up by one or the other of the Apostles. There he would go to proclaim the Resurrection and the defeat of sin, death and the devil and the freedom of all men from their captivity.” (Father David Moser).

• NEXT FRESCO:

The monks will be painting the fresco of the meeting of St. Zosimas and St. Mary of Egypt next week and part of the following. After this they will take a break so we can clean the church and celebrate our parish feast day without the scaffold. May God bless the donors of this icon.

• UPCOMING LITURGY AT THE SKETE:

Thursday, September 22, at 9:30 AM, for the feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Abbess Susanna invites our faithful to attend.

• FEAST OF THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, our salvation was accomplished upon the Cross, and it is our joy and bounden duty to offer the Lord our deepest gratitude for saving us from death. The importance of our worship, in regards to the Cross, can be seen in the fact that the second major feast day of the Liturgical year is that of the Elevation of the Holy and Precious Cross. We will serve the Vigil for this feast day at 6:15 PM, on Tuesday, September 13. Liturgy will be served on Wednesday, at 9 AM. Let this day be kept as holy—the Church gives us the wonderful opportunity to experience a strict fast day (no food or drink until 3 PM) in remembrance of the sufferings of the Lord, and our gratitude to Him. One does that by praying at the Vigil, and communing at the Divine Liturgy. If you simply cannot come to any or even part of those services, then come on Wednesday evening to Vespers to venerate the Cross.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday ~ September 11, 2011

• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Four:

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse, and elatedly told the Apostles: death is over-thrown, Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

• TROPARION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS, Tone Four:

Thy nativity, O Virgin Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to all the world, for from thee hath dawned the Son of Righteousness, Christ our God, annulling the curse, and bestowing the blessing; abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sat., Sept. 10: 5 PM, Great Vespers, receiving of George Barsi as Catechumen following Vespers
- Sun., Sept. 11: 9 AM, Baptism of Charles Fleshman
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:30 AM, CHURCH SCHOOL
12:45 PM, Choir Rehearsal
1:30 PM, 40th day Panikhida/Fred Labankoff
- Tuesday, Sept. 13: 9 AM, Memorial Divine Liturgy (Sakovich)
6:15 PM, Vigil for the Elevation of the Cross
- Wed., Sept. 14: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for the Elevation of the Precious Cross
6 PM, Vespers

- Thursday, Sept. 15: 6 PM, Akathist to St. Seraphim
- Friday, Sept. 16: 6 PM, *Sisterhood Meeting at Veenis home*
- Sat., Sept. 17: 9 AM, “Non-Glendi Work Party”

- CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS:

Our Church school classes are starting up again. Teachers are Gloria Collins, Dylan Crawford, Tatiana Castillo, Sam Coon, Parmenas Davis (coordinator), Vincent Rossi and Fred Krueger. Parents are invited to join the students and the teachers for this first class. Students receive a blessing to go to class at the end of the Liturgy, during the singing of the Psalm “I will bless the Lord at all times...”

- PARISH FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE VIRGIN:

Our Parish will celebrate its 75th Anniversary with Vigil on Friday, September 30, at 6:30 PM, and the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy (meaning, Liturgy with the Bishop) at 9:30 AM on Saturday, October 1. By now, most of our parishioners are well aware that Bishop Benjamin will be presiding at the Divine Liturgy, and the well-known preacher and theologian, Father Thomas Hopko will give the homily. Following the Divine Liturgy a festal (and catered!) banquet will be held here, under a large tent. Fr. Thomas will offer us some words on the occasion. Reservations for the banquet are being taken now (\$30 for adults, \$10 for children. See Bonnie Alexander or Esther Carr for more information). Near the end of the banquet there will be a musical offering by a Renaissance singing group, put together by Nicolas Custer. Vespers will follow, at a time to be announced.

- MANY YEARS:

The baptism of Charles Fleshman will take place at 9 AM, Sunday morning. Please come, pray, and support your new brother in Christ. We also welcome into the ranks of the catechumens Mr. George Barsi, brother of Deanna Panages. May the Lord grant great mercy and blessings to both.

- MEMORY ETERNAL:

With the rest of our country we also remember those who perished ten years ago in the 9/11 attacks, and ask the Lord that He make their memory eternal. We also ask for ourselves and our land:

Do Thou cause Thy love to dwell within us, through the grace of Thine all-holy Spirit, O most compassionate Lord, that, in accordance with Thy commandment, we may truly love not only our brethren and friends,

but also our enemies, may do good to those who hate us, and may earnestly strive for their salvation. We pray Thee, O Source of goodness and Abyss of love for mankind: hearken swiftly and, as Thou art compassionate, have mercy.

O our God, move us, through the grace of Thy Spirit, to have unfeigned love for our neighbor, that we may be made perfect in Thy Love, O Master. For he who thinketh that he hath love for Thee, yet hateth his brother, is a liar, and walketh in darkness. Wherefore, O Merciful One, enkindle our souls and hearts with love for Thee and our brethren. We pray Thee, in that Thou art merciful: hearken swiftly and, as Thou art compassionate, have mercy.

- “NON-GLENDI PARISH WORK PARTY—From Fr. Lawrence:

With no Glendi next weekend, most of you will be seriously looking for things to do around the church... There is no irony in that statement, as I know how hard all of you work, how many hours are put in before, during and after the Glendi. We can get “our fix” by offering a few hours of our time on Saturday, September 17, starting at 9 AM. What’s on the to-do list? With the Parish Feast day of the *Protection of the Virgin* quickly approaching (October 1) we need to start by cleaning up the property. **Garden work:** trimming trees (including the olive trees) and garden in front of St. Seraphim; cleaning weeds and debris from around the churches; weed-whacking behind St. Seraphim. **Trash:** remove garbage from around compost pile into dumpster, remove the old hall appliances and other garbage which are piled behind the red shed. **Small gardening projects:** move parking blocks to proper spaces; install new irrigation lines at southwest corner of Protection Church. If enough people are present, we will clean the windows of St. Seraphim, polish some of the brass items, and clean the cobwebs. These are just a few items needing to be done.

- PENTECOST FRESCO:

Several people have commented on the beautiful fresco of Pentecost, painted on the northeast side of the Church. We all know that the Apostles are gathered there together, as it explains in Acts 2. We see St. Paul is depicted in the fresco, yet we know that he was not actually there, being a persecutor, not a believer, at the time. He’s there because the icon represents the fulness of the Apostolic preaching. Also in the icon is a seemingly mysterious figure, with the name “the Cosmos.” Here’s a brief explanation of what he represents: “...the Holy Spirit descended first upon the Apostles for they had