

Throne, but that never stopped any of our Protestant brethren from asked fellow believers from praying for them. We ask the friends of God to pray for us all the time, when we ask for the prayers of our friends and fellow believers. Asking those who've gone on before us is possible because they are alive in Christ, and offer their prayers to Christ just as do we. We all, both those in heaven and those still upon this earth, pray before the same "sole mediator between God and man", Jesus Christ. It is Christ through whom we approach the Throne of the Father. Finally, why would we not want to ask for the prayers of those who have already won their place in Paradise, and are already standing before the Throne of God, worshiping the Holy Trinity? —*Abbot Tryphon, Vashon Island*

• THE NEED FOR A SENSE OF URGENCY:

...Remind yourself every day that "now" is in our hands, but "tomorrow" is in the hands of God, and that He who gave you this morning has not bound Himself with the promise to give you the evening too. Refuse to listen to the devil when he whispers to you: give me now, and you will give tomorrow to God. No, no! Spend all the hours of your life in a way pleasing to God; keep in your mind the thought that after the present hour you will not be given another and that you will have to render a strict account for every minute of this present hour. Remember that the time you have in your hands is priceless and if you waste it uselessly, the hour will come when you will seek and not find it. Consider as lost day when, although performing good deeds, you have not struggled to overcome your bad tendencies and desires. ..."Fight the good fight" always (I Tim 6:12). For one hour of diligent work has often gained heaven and one hour of negligence has lost it. Take care if you want to prove before God your firm faith in your salvation. "He that putteth his trust in the Lord shall be made fat" (Prov. 28: 25) —*St. Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain, Unseen Warfare*

• GREAT LENT APPROACHES:

Meat-fare Sunday is February 19. Cheese-fare Sunday, better known as "Forgiveness Sunday" and even more correctly as "Commemoration of the Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise" (but perhaps too wordy), is February 26. The first Presanctified will be Wednesday, March 1. Annunciation is Saturday, March 25 (Vigil the evening before). Pascha is April 16.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday ~ January 22, 2017

Holy Apostle Timothy

• 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.

• 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.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, January 21: *Walk for Life* in San Francisco
9 AM, Piroshki prep all day
5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, January 22: 9:30 AM, receiving of Norm Vachon as catechumen
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:45 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal
- Tuesday, January 24: 10 AM, Akathist to St. Xenia of Petersburg
- Wednesday, January 25: 6 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, January 26: 6 PM, Nomadic Shelter
6 PM, Vespers for St. John Chrysostom
7 PM, Parish Council Meeting
- Friday, January 27: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy, feast of St. John Chry.

- WELCOME:

We welcome our guests: Fr. Innocent Dresdow from Kodiak, Alaska, who is serving and preaching today; and Michael and Margaret Hoffman (former and beloved parishioners), parents of the groom.

- PRAYERS:

Please keep in your holy prayers Norm Vachon, who will join the ranks of the catechumens at 9:30 AM, Sunday morning.

- CONGRATULATIONS:

We offer our prayers to the Lord, and best wishes to the Counts and Hoffman families on the marriage of Tyler-Rose and Nicholas. All are invited to attend the wedding.

- PARISH COUNCIL:

The Council will meet at 7 PM, Thursday, January 26, in the Parish Library.

- NOMADIC SHELTER:

We will welcome our guests on Thursday, January 26. If you would like to help out with serving dinner and speaking with the guests, please come by 6 PM. For more info contact Ambrose Inlow at (707) 490-4700.

- MASTER PLANNING MEETING RESCHEDULED:

Because of flooded roads last week, the Master Plan meeting scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 10 was cancelled, and rescheduled for Thursday, February 2, at 7 PM. We will focus on preparing a report for the Parish Annual Meeting.

- KONEVETS CHOIR VISIT:

Our parish was planning to host the Konevets Choir on Sunday, January 29, but due to their scheduling conflicts, this visit has been cancelled.

- GREEK DINNER DANCE:

Due to lack of ticket sales the Dinner Dance, scheduled for February 10, has been cancelled.

- ANNUAL MEETING—FEBRUARY 5, 2017, 12:30 PM

All Parish Members are asked to attend in order to hear reports on parish life, expenses, income, plans and programs for 2017, and to vote for new Parish Council Members. *All nominations for Parish Council are to be finalized with the Parish Council Secretary, Bonnie Alexander, no later than the week prior to the meeting, Sunday, January 29.* We follow this procedure not to “control” the vote, but to avoid embarrassing on-the-spot nominees who are not parish members or

may not be able to fulfill Diocesan and Parish qualifications.

- COMMENTS REGARDING PARENTAL DUTY:

“...He [appointed a law in Israel] and commanded our fathers to teach to their children; so that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise to tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.” —*Psalm 78*

Fr. James Jorgenson emailed the following comments to Fr. Lawrence:

Reading Psalm 78 I thought of your “Parental Duties” article. The context is similar: Apostasy of Israel then = secularization of Christians in the 20/21st centuries. The Lord did not tell them to be sure to send their children to Sabbath (Sunday) School—not to disparage Sunday School—but that the primary obligation for religious education lies with the parents, then and now. I believe too many parents think that attending Divine Liturgy and Sunday School (occasionally?!) is enough upbringing in the Church. They have to pray with their children at home, at meals, and at night, and reading Bible stories and simple things about the Church are necessary. We always read a children’s story, and a Bible story, at night to our kids...surprising how much they remember! I went to eight years of elementary school (all teachers then were nuns, and four years at a Jesuit prep high school, and most of my teachers were priests). Even this overwhelming daily religious atmosphere was no guarantee that the kids would be and remain faithful Roman Catholics, if it would not be accompanied by a home life of parental example and prayer.

- PRAYING TO THE SAINTS:

In the book of Revelation, we read: “[An] angel came and stood at the altar [in heaven] with a golden censer; and he was given much incense to mingle with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar before the throne; and the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers of the saints from the hand of the angel before God” (Rev. 8:3-4). And those in heaven who offer to God our prayers aren’t just angels, but humans as well. John sees that “the twenty-four elders [the leaders of the people of God in heaven] fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and with golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints” (Rev. 5:8). The simple fact is, as this passage shows: The saints in heaven offer to God the prayers of the saints on earth. Yes, we have Christ as the only intercessor before the