# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN MAY 14, 2017

#### • RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION, Tone Four:

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



# TROPARION OF MID-FEAST, Tone Eight:

At Mid-feast give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of piety; for Thou, O Savior didst cry out to all: Whosoever is thirsty let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Well-spring of Life, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

# KONTAKION OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN, Tone Eight:

The Samaritan woman came to the well in faith; she saw Thee, the Water of Wisdom and drank abundantly; she inherited the Kingdom on high and is ever glorified.

# • KONTAKION OF MID-FEAST, Tone Four:

O Sovereign Master and Creator of all things, O Christ our God, Thou didst cry unto those present at the Judaic Mid-Feast: come and draw the water of immortality freely; wherefore, we fall down before Thee and faithfully cry aloud: grant Thy compassion unto us, O Lord, for Thou art truly the Well-spring of life for all.

# **ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK**

• Saturday, May 13: 5 PM, Great Vespers & Matins

• Sunday, May 14: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy

11:45 AM, Church School

Noon, Agape Meal

• Tuesday, May 16: 7 PM, Parish Council Meeting

• Wednesday, May 17: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for Leave-Taking of Mid-Feast

6 PM, Vespers

• Thursday, May 18: 6 PM, Prayers for the sick

7 PM, Master Planning Meeting

#### • HAPPY MOTHERS DAY:

Today we celebrate the wonderful holiday—an international holiday—giving thanks to God for our mothers. Each one of us began life in the womb of our mother, and we recognize the great travail, unceasing work, prayers and love endured by our mothers and godmothers for the sake of their children. Perhaps some mothers failed in that heavy task, but they are forgiven and certainly honored for giving us life. We honor our mothers because they helped to form and shape us in creative synergy with God. Of course, we are created in the image and likeness of

God (Gen. 1:26), however, God created us so that we might participate in His creativity. Let us spend this day considering how precious are those good mothers that truly nurture their children. Indeed, our own mothers are forever in our hearts and minds. They are the subject of our fondest thoughts. When we are young, we treasure our mothers. As we get older, we know the treasure to be even greater than we ever imagined.

# • THIS SUNDAY:

Father John will be serving the Divine Liturgy at Kazan Skete this Sunday. Providentially, we welcome Father Andreas and Matushka Theodora Blom and family, from St. Gabriel Orthodox Church (Diocese of the West) in Ashland, OR.

#### • KITCHEN WORK PARTY:

There will be a Kitchen Clean Up Work Party on Saturday, May 20 starting at 9 AM.

#### • BAPTISMS:

Next Sunday we will welcome back Franchesca Duval and her baby, Caspian David, after the "forty days." Caspian David will be baptized at 9 AM. I rejoice to share with you the news that

catechumens Keri DeMaar and Norm Peter Vachon will be baptized on the day of Pentecost, 9 AM.

#### PASCHAL MATINS / LEAVE-TAKING & ASCENSION:

On **May 23, at 7 PM**, we will celebrate the final Paschal Matins Service of the year. For the last time this year—perhaps the last in this life for some of us—we will sing "Christ is Risen" and all of the hymns of the glorious day of the Resurrection of the Savior. If you were unable to attend the Paschal Matins and Liturgy, or just want more, do come and rejoice in this bright Service. The Vigil for **Ascension Day** will be served the following evening, May 24 at 6:15 PM. and the Divine Liturgy will be on May 25 at 9 AM.

#### • CATHOLIC CHARITIES VISIT:

Last Sunday we were honored to host Margie Pettibone, who serves with Catholic Charities (CC) in Santa Rosa. Margie gave us an overview of the work this organization does, and has been doing for a long time, in Sonoma County. One of the encouraging comments Margie made was that CC found permanent housing for over six hundred people last year, who had been homeless. Margie also described other activities, such as immigration advice, working with Alzheimer's patients, shut-ins that have no outside help, etc. I am proud to say that a number of our parishioners volunteer at CC weekly. Tom Pellizzer and I attended a brunch on Wednesday this week to get a report on the Family Shelter near A and 7th St in Santa Rosa. Perhaps many in our parish do not know that we fund (\$100 per month) a room at the Shelter (St. Philaret the Almsgiver Room). I'd like to propose that we increase our monthly support to \$200. The Family Shelter is an old building (originally a WW1 barracks), and is in constant need of maintenance, so our help will be appreciated. —Fr Lawrence



#### • ADVICE FROM THE BOOK OF TOBIT:

Do not turn your face away from any poor man, and the face of God will not be turned away from you. If you have many possessions, make your gift from them in proportion; if few, do not be afraid to give according to the little you have. So you will be laying up a good treasure for yourself against the day of necessity. For charity delivers from death and keeps you from entering the darkness; and for all who practice it charity is an excellent offering in the presence of the Most High. —*Tobit 4:7–11* 

#### MEMORIAL DAY AT THE CEMETERY:

A Panikhida will be served on Memorial Day, May 29, at Noon, at Santa Rosa Memorial Cemetery. I invite all of you to join me in praying for those who laid down their lives for their country, and as a public witness of our Orthodox Faith in prayerful action.

#### • TRIPTO HOLY TRINITY AND THE GIANTS:

The Parish Men's Group is organizing a Sunday trip (May 28) to Holy Trinity Cathedral for Liturgy and then to see the SF Giants play. We have twenty-five tickets available. The tickets cost \$43. We would like to give a donation to Holy Trinity Cathedral when we are there, so, call it \$50. See Tom Pellizzer to purchase a ticket or for more information.

#### A TALK ON LOVE, MARRIAGE AND SEXUALITY:

Mother Melania from Calistoga will share her wisdom on these vital topics with us, here, Wednesday, May 31 at 7 PM after Vespers.

#### • ST SERAPHIM WEEK IS AROUND THE CORNER:

If you have children, grandchildren or godchildren ages ten and under, you'll want to enroll them in our *St. Seraphim Week for Kids* program. This annual "Church School" will take place June 19–23 from 9 AM to noon. Volunteers will be needed to help out each morning for a couple of hours. We especially love our teenage volunteers. We have opportunities to help with crafts, story telling, playing games, snack prep and, of course, clean up. Please contact Gloria Collins at (707) 849-6135.

#### DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMP:

Please see Fr. Lawrence for info on the Summer Camp, July 2–8.

#### • A PRECIOUS GEM:

Liturgy is not a rigid thing to be repeated unconsciously. It is an expression of the human need to talk to the Lord, and to thank Him for His grace. Liturgy is spirit and life running through the veins of the body of the Church, and nurturing all its members. It revives the Church, the community and the individuals with the grace that is bestowed upon them. Hence, we are here before a precious gem. We should polish it and reveal its glorious face, stressing the essence of the liturgical practice which leads the believer to grow in Christ. It is therefore important to resort to all tools that enable the people to reach the depth of this inspiring liturgy, that they may take from it that which will help them attain salvation and understanding of the mystery of God. —Patriarch John of Antioch

#### • GLENDI—or not?

The Glendi Team and other parishioners met on Wednesday evening to discuss Glendi 2017 and brainstorm some ideas. Several irreversible conditions, practical and financial in nature, make it necessary for us to "retool" Glendi. Will it be one day... two day... evening only? How much can we simplify menus, set-up and downsize our layout and still keep the famous Glendi atmosphere? Will Glendi happen at all? The brainstorming session produced a number of very interesting and viable ideas, however, in all cases, details and cost/income analyses need to be worked out. Our brainstorm session lasted one hour, and all of us left feeling very positive about what might be possible this year. We are seeking competent advice on several points, and a final decision will be made at the next

Glendi meeting later this month. If you are concerned about Glendi, you will want to attend and share in the discussion. The date and time of the meeting will be announced soon. —Fr. Lawrence

# • PENTECOST—THE FULFILLMENT OF PASCHA—SUNDAY JUNE 4:

By the Gift of the Holy Spirit bestowed upon them on the first Pentecost (see Acts 2), the Apostles and all the disciples of Jesus were empowered to live the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Pentecost is so great and so important for the Church that we say it fulfills and actualizes Pascha within the Church members. This gift is still given and is available for every person. The Holy Spirit—not an impersonal life force but a Divine Person, turned everything upside down. He made the fishermen into theologians and gave them, and the Church, the grace, power and courage to announce—in every language—that the Risen Jesus is Lord. "As a lamp," wrote St Simeon the New Theologian, "although it is full of oil and has a wick, remains dark unless it is lit with fire, so the soul is quenched and dark until it is touched by the light and grace of the Holy Spirit." The feast of Pentecost—the Descent of the Spirit will be celebrated with great solemnity, joy and many services, as is only appropriate for something that is the "fulfillment of Pascha." We have the additional joy of baptizing Keri and Norm before Liturgy on Pentecost. Divine Services will be celebrated as follows:

Saturday, June 3: 9 AM, Memorial Liturgy, Afternoon decorating of the Church with greenery

5 PM, Vigil for the Feast

Sunday, June 4: 9 AM, Baptisms of Norm Vachon and Keri DeMaar

 $10\ AM$  Divine Liturgy followed by Kneeling Vespers (we do not kneel or

prostrate until Pentecost)

12:30 PM, Pot-luck Agape and Reception for the newly baptized

Monday, June 5: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for Holy Spirit Day

#### • BELL TOWER:

Four years ago a parishioner commissioned the Parish Council to develop a preliminary design for a bell tower. That drawing appears here. The drawing was done by Robert Leys, our architect for the Parish Hall, who modeled this drawing on a medieval Serbian church. Recently a benefactor came forward to fund the architectural plans. As the drawing shows, the tower is built upon the area above the stairs. Once preliminary engineering is determined and long before any building starts, the full plans will be presented to the parish and parish council for approval.

