

- SAINT SERAPHIM WEEK FOR KIDS:

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 10–14 from 10 AM to 1 PM. Volunteers will be needed to help out each morning for a couple of hours. 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.

- 50th ANNIVERSARY PARTY:

Michael Jorgenson and his family will host a 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration for Matushka Patricia and Father James on June 9. We will begin with a Thanksgiving Prayer at 5 PM, followed by a BBQ. In the meantime, please keep Fr. James in your prayers as he recovers from back surgery. Call Matushka Patricia at (313) 903-5757 to confirm your attendance. The family will provide meat to grill, and asks that all of us bring a salad and beverages.

- FISHING TRIP FOR KIDS:


Fred Krueger is organizing a fishing trip to Lake Ilanjo at Annadel State Park on Saturday, June 22. A car pool will depart from the parish parking lot at 9 AM. There is a hike of two miles or so from the parking lot to the lake. Each person is asked to bring their own lunch, water and a hat. Children under age 16 do not need a fishing license. We will return to the Church by 4 PM. Call Fred Krueger for more info: 573-3076.

Summer Retreat—Saturday June 22, 2019

In His Image and Likeness:
Sanctity of Life Teachings of the Holy Orthodox Church and Reflections on an Orthodox Christian Response for Our Times
Conducted by Fr. Edward Henderson and Veronica Ruby

I knew you
 BEFORE I Formed
 YOU in YOUR
 mother's
 womb. BEFORE
 you were born
 I SET YOU
 Apart.
 Jeremiah 1:5

9:00 AM—Session 1
 10:30 AM—Session 2
 12:15 PM Akathist
 1 pm Lunch
 2pm—Session 3

HOLY ASSUMPTION
 MONASTERY

 1519 Washington St.
 Sebastia, CA 94515
 (707) 942-6244

No Fee—donations accepted
 Call Soon—Space is limited

Fr. Edward Henderson is the pastor of St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Berkeley, and Veronica Ruby is Coordinator of Orthodox Christians for Life of the San Francisco Bay Area.

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



June 2, 2018

Sunday of the Blind Man (John 9:1–38)



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Five:

Let us the faithful praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead, by His glorious Resurrection.

- KONTAKION OF THE BLIND MAN, Tone Four:

Being blinded in the eyes of my soul, O Savior, I come unto Thee, O Christ, as did the man who was born blind. And in repentance I cry to Thee: of those in darkness art Thou the most radiant Light.

- KONTAKION OF PASCHA, Tone Eight:

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades. And didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women: Rejoice; And giving peace unto Thine apostles, O Thou who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

Protection of the Virgin Orthodox Church • 90 Mountain View Ave, Santa Rosa, CA.
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ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, June 1: 5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, June 2: 8:30 AM, Matins
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape Meal
- Tues., June 4: 6:15 PM, Matins for Leave-taking of Pascha
- Wed., June 5: 6:15 PM, Vigil for the Ascension of our Lord
- Thurs., June 6: 9 AM, Ascension Day Divine Liturgy

• LEAVE-TAKING OF PASCHA:

After Wednesday we will no longer use the greeting “Christ is risen” or sing the hymn of Pascha. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is, of course, a reality for us, and something we confess and affirm when we recite the Creed in our daily prayers. On Wednesday, which is the eve of the Ascension of the Lord (which we also confess when we recite the Creed) until the following Friday, we sing this hymn: *Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit. And they were assured by the blessing that Thou art the Son of God and Redeemer of the world.*

• FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Orthodox Christians the world over will celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of Christ with **Vigil on Wednesday, June 5**, and the **Divine Liturgy on Thursday, June 6**. I encourage all of you to participate in this feast day by coming to at least one of the festal services. Even though it is mentioned in the Creed, the Feast of the Ascension of Christ does not seem to occupy a place of honor in the worship practices of most Orthodox Christians. The Feast is always on a Thursday—Forty Days after the Resurrection (see Acts 1)—and never on a Sunday, so, alas, most parishioners miss the great blessing of this Feast. What are we missing? One pastor describes it as follows: Ascension is the vindication of the crucified, buried and risen Lord Jesus, the initiation of His reign over all creation, and His power made present in us. “It is the glorified flesh of the Incarnate Word of God which has entered into the very bosom of the Trinity in the Person of Christ. As St. Leo the Great, the Pope of Rome

(+461) taught: ‘With all due solemnity we are commemorating that day on which our poor human nature was carried up, in Christ, above all the hosts of Heaven, above all the ranks of angels, beyond the highest Heavenly powers to the very throne of God the Father.’ This is simultaneously our ascension and our glorification, since we are united to Christ through holy Baptism as members of His Body. Therefore, St. Paul can further write: ‘For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.’ (Col. 3:3) Out of our physical sight, we now ‘see’ the glorified Christ through the eyes of faith. St. Leo further explains how important this spiritual insight is: ‘For such is the power of great minds, such the light of truly believing souls, that they put unhesitating faith in what is not seen with the bodily eyes; they fix their desires on what is beyond sight. Such fidelity could never be born in our hearts, nor could anyone be justified by faith, if our salvation lay only in what is visible.’ The Feast of the Ascension is not a decline from the glory of Pascha. It is, rather, the fulfillment of Pascha, and a movement upward toward the Kingdom of Heaven. It is the joyful revelation of our destiny in Christ. —*adapted*

• GOING AWAY BBQ:

The Hamner family will be moving to Pennsylvania to attend St. Tikhon’s Seminary. Although our Parish life will be much weaker without them, nevertheless we rejoice that Garret has been accepted into the Master of Divinity program, which begins in September. There will be a going-away party for the family on Sunday, June 16 (Pentecost) beginning at 4 PM. Let us assure the Hamner family that we send them to the Seminary with our love and support (and I stress the word support). The Parish Council asks for your participation, so that we can provide to them monthly financial assistance. The Parish will provide the meat for grilling at the BBQ on June 16; everyone is asked to bring something substantial to share, such as a salad and beverages. Please contact Gloria Collins at (707) 849-6135 to confirm you will attend so that we have ample food. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• CHURCH CLEAN UP:

There is a sign up list on the Narthex bulletin board for cleaning the Church. All are invited to take a turn. Please note that no one has signed up to clean the Church after the Liturgy this week.