

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, June 9, 2019

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the
First Ecumenical Council

- 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.

- TROPARION OF ASCENSION, Tone Four:

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy disciples by 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.

- TROPARION OF THE HOLY FATHERS, Tone Eight:

Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established the Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

- KONTAKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS, Tone Eight:

The preaching of the Apostles and the doctrines of the Fathers confirmed the one Faith in the Church. And wearing the garment of truth woven from theology on high, she rightly divideth and glorifieth the great mystery of piety.

- KONTAKION OF ASCENSION, Tone Six:

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake and unite earth to heaven, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from them that love Thee, but remaining with them and crying: "I am with you, and no one will be against you."

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, June 8: 4 PM, Children's Choir Rehearsal
5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, June 9: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy (*Men's Group at Liturgy and Ballgame in SF*)
11:45 AM, Agape Meal
5 PM, Thanksgiving Service and Reception for Jorgenson's 50th Wedding Anniversary
- Mon–Fri.: 10 AM–1 PM, St. Seraphim for Kids Week Activities

- Wed., June 12: 5 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank
6 PM, Vespers
- Thurs., June 13: 7 PM, Parish Council Meeting
- Sat., June 15: 9 AM, Memorial Liturgy for day before Pentecost
Afternoon—decoration of Church for the feast
5 PM, Vigil for Pentecost, confessions during the Vigil
- Sun., June 16: 9 AM, Baptism of Catechumens—Karla, Landis and Brian—and the reception of new Catechumens
10 AM, Festal Divine Liturgy, Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost
Agape Potluck
- Mon., June 17: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for *Holy Spirit Day*

- SAINT SERAPHIM WEEK:

Our annual “Vacation Bible School” will be held from June 10–14. Daily schedule here at the church will start with arrivals by 10 AM, a morning prayer at 10:15 AM sharp, followed by a brief spiritual lesson with Fr. Lawrence, then crafts, games, snacks, music, and a wrap-up prayer at 1 PM. This year our spiritual focus will be on the work of the Holy Spirit. Registration and Volunteer forms are available at the candle desk after Liturgy. **Questions?** Please contact Gloria Collins at (707) 849-6135.

- JORGENSONS:

Michael Jorgenson and his family will host a 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration for Matushka Patricia and Father James on Sunday June 9. We will begin with a Thanksgiving Prayer at 5 PM, followed by a BBQ. Call Matushka Patricia at (313) 903-5757 to confirm your attendance. The family will provide meat to grill, and asks that we all bring a salad and beverages.

- MEN'S GROUP:

Our Parish Men's Group will attend the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 9, at Holy Virgin Church on Fulton St. in San Francisco (ROCOR), where St. John of SF used to Liturgize. Following the Service they will go to AT&T Park to watch the Giants beat the Dodgers.

- TODAY'S CELEBRATION

The seventh Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha is observed by the Orthodox Church as the *Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council*. This day commemorates the “318 God-bearing Fathers who gathered in Nicaea” in 325

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



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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.

at the request of the Emperor, Saint Constantine the Great, to address the heresy of Arianism together with other issues that concerned the unity of the Church. Arius was a protopresbyter of the Church of Alexandria, and in 315, he began to blaspheme against the Son of God saying that He was not the true God, but rather divine being created by God. The Bishop of Alexandria, Alexander, attempted to correct Arius through admonitions, cut him off from communion, and finally deposed him in 321 through a local council. Arius continued with his heretical teachings, creating controversy and division in the churches of other cities, which led to a theological and ecclesiastical crisis throughout the Christian East. Moved with divine zeal and concern for unity, the Emperor Constantine the Great, equal to the Apostles, summoned the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea in 325. The Holy Fathers composed the holy symbol of Faith, the Nicene Creed: “We believe in one God. The Father Almighty...And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; true God of true God; begotten not made; *of one essence with the Father*; by whom all things were made...” The Church has appointed this present Sunday after Ascension for their annual commemoration, in thanksgiving and unto their praise and honor. Today’s feast affirms that the One Who rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven, is truly God and truly man, uniting in Himself therefore heaven and earth. —*borrowed*

- PENTECOST—Saturday and Sunday, June 15 and 16:

Pentecost—the Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit—is both the completion of Pascha (the end of the Fifty Days of celebration since Pascha) and our “access” to the Paschal way of life (the Holy Spirit is God’s “seal” upon us, for He enlivens and enables us to share in the Lord’s death and rising here and now. Our celebration will begin with the Memorial Divine Liturgy on Saturday morning, June 15 at 9 AM. This is the last in the long series of Memorial Saturdays which began before Great Lent. On this day we commemorate all departed Christians, since they also participate with us in salvation through the power of the Holy Spirit. Then, on Saturday afternoon the Church will be extravagantly decorated with lush greenery, trees and flowers in preparation for the Vigil, which begins at 5 PM (help will be needed for this work—see Denise Pellizzer). The attentive worshipper at this Vigil will hear true theology of the Holy Trinity prayerfully expressed in hymn after hymn. The Feast continues on Sunday morning at 9 AM with the reception of two new catechumens, the Baptism of Karla van Meter, Brian Rademacher and Landis Sims, the Festal Divine Liturgy with the reception of the Holy Eucharist, and wonderful *Kneeling Vespers*.

- ALL SHOULD COMMUNE ON PENTECOST:

I encourage all of us to make a confession and carefully prepare for Holy Communion for the Feast of Pentecost. This is the Fiftieth Day after Pascha, the day of the coming of the Holy Spirit—let us celebrate it together as a Parish, with one mouth and one heart. This sacramental union—in Christ Jesus—ushers us into the realm of holiness, making us into a *holy people*. Isn’t this holiness and unity one of the reasons that the Parish exists? A great miracle then occurs: the entire Church, in heaven and on earth, are joined together in Jesus Christ in one song of praise, for in Christ, all are alive and united. *How to prepare ourselves? Pray and make a confession in the days beforehand.* Confessions will be heard anytime this coming week (just email, call, text or ask to set an appointment), during the hour before the Vigil, then during and after the Vigil. Confessions will NOT be heard before the Divine Liturgy on Pentecost, since there is a Baptism at 9 AM, and Fr. John will be serving at the Kazan Skete. —*Fr. Lawrence*

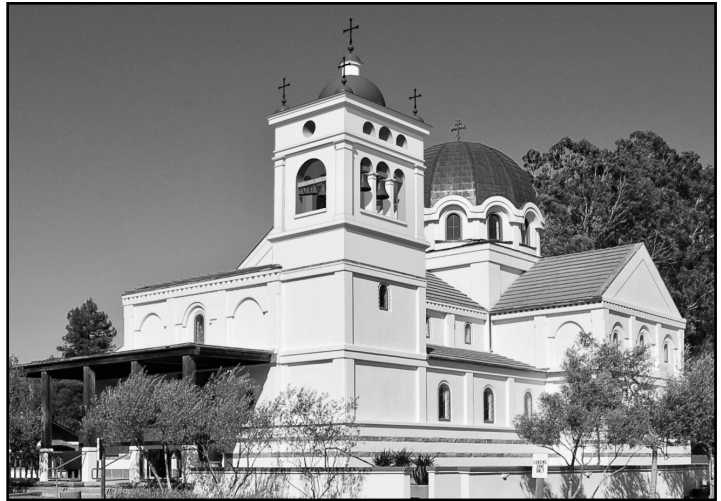
- GOING AWAY PARTY FOR THE HAMNERS:

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 send monthly financial assistance. Everyone is asked to bring something substantial to share for the BBQ, 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

- BELL TOWER:

Thanks to digital editing, the photo on the right shows our Cathedral with a completed bell tower. While the addition of another level on the church seems like a simple matter, the fact is that there are a multitude of issues to work out: overall design, engineering for the additional weight and vibration, access to the bells, addition of another bell, how to install a new staircase for access to the bell ringer platform, windows to allow for placement of the bells, bell-ringer platform, dome construction, various County code compliance, etc. All these issues have been solved, hopefully in a cost-effective manner, and we now await pricing from a reputable commercial contractor. Stand by for more information.



- DIACONAL PRATICUM TRAINING:

The Diocese of the West asked our Cathedral parish to host 25 or so Deacons, Subdeacons and Deacons-to-be at a three-day training program, July 16–19. Students will arrive on Tuesday, July 16 in the afternoon for refreshments, attend a 5 PM Molieben and lecture on the diaconate, and gather for dinner in our Parish Hall. Most of the participants will be staying at the new Oxford Suites Hotel in Rohnert Park. The rest of the schedule is as follows: Wednesday, July 17, Divine Liturgy at 9 AM; breakfast here; sessions; lunch; more sessions; Vespers at 5 PM; dinner here and more sessions. Thursday, July 18, Divine Liturgy at 9 AM; breakfast here; sessions; lunch; more sessions; dinner at 5 PM; Vigil for St. Seraphim with Vladyka Benjamin; preparation for the Hierarchical Liturgy. Friday, July 19, Festal Liturgy for the Feast of St. Seraphim at 9:30 AM; Agape Meal; Vespers for Prophet Elijah at 1:30 PM, approximately. Our Sisterhood and Men's Group has been asked to assist with hospitality—providing refreshments, meals, rides if needed, etc. Help will be needed to provide hospitality for our guests. Please see me if you are able to assist in any way whatsoever (cleaning, food prep, serving, driving, etc.). The Diocese will provide funds to cover teacher honoraria, food and supplies. —Fr. Lawrence

- ABBESS SUSANNA:

Please keep Mother Susanna in your prayers as she recovers from a serious case of pneumonia.

- VACATION:

I will be leaving for vacation on Tuesday, June 18, returning July 2. Please keep me and my family in your holy prayers. —Fr. Lawrence