

this it will be greatly appreciated. We want to make this a very special event honoring Deacon Nicholas on the day of his ordination. Please let me know—ASAP—how you will be helping; my sleepless nights in the next week will be greatly reduced!!!!

- KNOWING GOD:

God is not the object of a science, and theology is differentiated radically from the thought of the philosophers: The theologian does not search for God as one searches for an object. He is overcome by him as one is overcome by a person. And it is because he has first been found by God, because God, one could say, has come to find him in the encounter of the revelation, that he can search for God, as one searches for a person with all one's being (and thus also with one's intellect). The God of theology is a "Thou" — He is the living God of the Bible, the Absolute, certainly, but a Personal Absolute with whom one can be on a "first-name basis" in prayer. —*Vladimir Lossky, Dogmatic Theology*

- AGAPE MEALS:

Many thanks to those who have signed up to prepare our Agape meals. We are covered until September 9th—but there are many Sundays remaining until the end of the year. Please see Eleni to sign up.

- BLESSING BAGS FOR THE NEEDY:

On Sunday, July 29, after Liturgy we will be assembling Blessing Bags for the needy. The bulk will be donated to the outreach program in Sonoma County. I am asking for help from the charity committee members and parishioners. We will set up assembly line style in back of the hall. Both adults and school age children are welcome to help. If you are interested, you may take a few bags to put in your car. Then when you see someone in need you have something to offer. —*Tom and Denise Pellizzer*

- HELP FOR KIDS:

Mark your calendars for the City Kids event at Julliard Park, on August 11th, 10 AM–4 PM. We will be handing out backpacks and school supplies for the under-privileged children of our community. Face painters are needed, and there will also be shifts available for volunteers to fill packs with the supplies the week before event. Thank you for your support in all of St. Seraphim Ministries! —*Tom and Denise Pellizzer*

# ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

## PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



**July 15, 2018**

**Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils and  
St. Vladimir of Kiev**



- 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 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.

- TROPARION OF ST. VLADIMIR, Tone Four:

O glorious sovereign Vladimir, thou wast like a merchant in search of fine pearls. By sending servants to Constantinople for the Orthodox Faith thou didst find Christ, the Priceless Pearl. He chose thee as a second Paul, washing away in baptism thy physical and spiritual blindness. Wherefore, we

celebrate thy falling asleep, asking thee to pray for all Christians and that Orthodox people be granted peace and great mercy.

- 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.

- 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 ST. VLADIMIR, Tone Eight:

Like the great Apostle Paul, O most glorious Vladimir, in thy maturity thou didst forsake the zeal for idols as childish, and as a full-grown man thou wast adorned with the royal purple of divine Baptism. And now as thou standest in joy in the presence of Christ our Savior, pray that thy land of Russia be saved, and that Orthodox people be granted peace and great mercy.

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, July 14: 5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, July 15: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy, Noon, Agape Meal
- Wednesday, July 18: 6:15 PM, Vigil for the Feast of St. Seraphim
- Thursday, July 19: 9:30 AM, Greeting of Archbishop Benjamin and Divine Liturgy with Ordination  
Festal Meal to Follow  
2 PM, Vespers—Feast of the Prophet Elijah
- Friday, July 20: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy
- Saturday, July 21: 10 AM, at Kazan Skete, Divine Liturgy for the Monastery Feast Day

- THE FEAST:

I encourage each of you to prepare for our Parish Feast of St. Seraphim on July 19 by Confession and Holy Communion. The Divine Liturgy, and

therefore Holy Communion (and the celebration of our Parish Feast) is a work of the Church, and not an individualistic and private spiritual matter at all. Consider: we are members of one another, members of the Body of Christ—the Church—to be exact. Take responsibility before one another to live in Christ as closely as He calls you to live. There will be opportunity to make a Confession this weekend at Saturday Vespers (and to a lesser extent on Sunday) and during the Festal Vigil on July 18. Keep Deacon Nicholas and his family in your prayers as he—and we—prepare for his ordination to the Holy Priesthood. The Ordination of a priest takes place during the Liturgy immediately after the Great Entrance. Deacon Nicholas will come out of the Altar, along with the bread and the wine, with his head covered by the Chalice veil. In other words, he too is an offering to the Lord God. He will then be escorted into the Holy Altar by deacons, and led around the Holy Altar by priests, after which the Bishop says the prayers of ordination. The newly-ordained priest is then presented by the Bishop, and his vestments are placed upon him as clergy and congregation all sing the exclamation “Axios” meaning, “he is worthy.”

- CONFESSIONS PRIOR TO DIVINE LITURGY:

Please be mindful that on Sunday morning confessions are heard from 9 AM until about 9:50 AM, after which the Divine Liturgy begins. A much more appropriate time to confess is before or during (when there is a priest available) or after Vespers on Saturdays. I am available for confessions on almost any weekday (except Monday) by appointment. —*Fr. Lawrence*

- NOTE FROM BARB OWENS ON PREP FOR THE FEAST:

On Sunday July 15th after the agape meal, I need two strong men to help rearrange tables for the upcoming Feast Day. I already have three Alexanders helping, but someone by a different name would also be welcome! The work will only take about one-half hour—provided we have lots of help. Secondly, on Tuesday July 17th at 5 PM we will decorate the hall—help is needed. Thirdly, six to eight servers will be needed on Thursday for the meal. Serge and his family will be cooking the meal (we thank them, as always), but they need help in serving the meals in a timely fashion. Lastly...the fun part! As many hands as possible are needed to clean up after the big event. The janitors will be hired to wash the dishes, so our work will be to organize the kitchen, remove tablecloths, take out the trash, rearrange the tables, etc. Obviously, not ALL of you are needed for ALL of this, but if you or your spouse or your teen could help with any of