



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, July 17, 2016

Holy Passion Bearers & New Martyrs

Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Three:

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; for the Lord hath shown strength with His arm; He hath trampled down death by death; He hath become the first-born of the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of hades, and hath granted the world great mercy.

- 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.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, July 16: 11 AM, 40th Day Memorial for John Andronico
5 PM, Great Vespers and Matins
- Sunday, July 17: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape luncheon
12:45 PM, Sisterhood Meeting
- Mon., July 18: 6:15 PM, Vigil for St. Seraphim Day (Bishop Daniel will be present)
- Tues., July 19: 9:30 AM, Greeting of Archbishop Benjamin and Bishop Daniel and Divine Liturgy
- Wed., July 20: 6 PM, Akathist for Prophet Elias day
- Thurs., July 21: *At Kazan Skete, Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM, Monastery Feast Day*
7 PM, Parish Council Meeting
- Fri., July 22: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for St. Mary Magdalene (Memorial Liturgy for Sakovich family)

- SUNDAY USHERS:

George Barsi and Vladimir Baer.

- FEAST OF ST. SERAPHIM OF SAROV:

On July 19 we will celebrate the anniversary of the glorification of Saint Seraphim of Sarov. Since our church bears the name of this magnificent and universally venerated Saint (and by extension, St. Seraphim is patron for each one of us), the day and evening before are kept with special solemnity and Paschal joy. The celebration will begin at 6:15 PM, Monday, July 18, with the serving of the festal Vigil. We are expecting His Grace, Vladyka Daniel (yes, Bishop of Santa Rosa!) to serve the Vigil. The next morning, 9:30 AM, Tuesday, July 19, we will gather at to welcome both Archbishop Benjamin and Bishop Daniel and begin the Divine Liturgy. With joyful expectation, may the Lord grant that our entire parish come together—mystically joined to St. Seraphim through Jesus Christ—to specifically ask St. Seraphim to intercede for us as we glorify God “who is wonderful in His saints.” A luncheon will be served following the Divine Liturgy.

- HOLY PASSION-BEARERS and NEW MARTYRS:

July 17 is the commemoration of the Passion-Bearers Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich, Empress Alexandra Fyodorovna, Prince Alexis, Princesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia, Grand Duchess Elizabeth (FYI, the commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils this Sunday moves the hymns of the Royal martyrs to the service of Compline). A Passion-bearer is a certain type of martyr. They were not explicitly killed for their faith, however, it was because of their faith that they were able to face death in a Christ-like manner, when they could have done otherwise, or run away. Notable passion bearers include the brothers Sts. Boris and Gleb, and the entire Imperial Family of Russia who were executed by the Bolsheviks in 1918. Metropolitan Hilarion (Alfaev) of the Russian Church said the following on the feast of these saints:

...when we think about the fate of the royal family we cannot separate them from the fate of the whole people. Indeed, the royal family suffered the same as thousands of other families did. Indeed, innocent people regardless of their age, sex or social status were repressed. The godless ones killed adults and children, men and women, rich and poor, believers and non-believers alike. And when today we remember all of Russia's passion-bearers and new confessors, we realize that it is impossible to enumerate all their names because many of these names are unknown. We know about the death of the royal family because these people were in the public eye, but there were a great number of similar families, similar young men and women who were executed by shootings, thrown down mines, and other ways, and no one will ever know their names. Their names however are written in Heaven. Historians are still arguing about the role the last emperor played in the fate of the Russian Empire, about whether he ruled rightly and whether he made mistakes. The Church does not argue about it. She does not judge politicians and statesmen. She rather looks at how one lived, how one built his relations with God and how one died. In the fate of the last Russian emperor we can see that, led to the slaughter, he sacrificed his life for his own sins, for the sins of the people and for the sins of Russia. And today all this family, his faithful servants and all those who went the same way of martyrdom and passion-bearing, intercede for our sinful land, for our sinful people so that the Lord may have mercy upon us and may forgive our sins and that our people may at last see the sought-for bright future which they so much wanted to see and which they did not see in the decades of the godless power. —*Metropolitan Hilarion (Alfaev)*

- THE FAITH OF THE FATHERS OF THE ECUMENICAL COUNCILS:

The faith is not something imparted only to the wise and those in authority, but to all of us, who are called to search out the truth, to drink deeply of the waters of the Scriptures and the fathers, to be transformed in our minds, hearts, and lives. To each of us is given the promise that we will “yield a hundredfold of fruit...hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart” (Luke 8:15). Christianity is not a faith for the elite, but for all who listen, look, and are transformed. Our icons are on the walls for the illiterate to contemplate; our Scriptures are read aloud in the vernacular language for all to understand; from the earliest days the sermon was given even to those who were not baptized, that they might eventually come to illumination. Christ's gift is gloriously for the

free, not those who are enslaved, for everyone, regardless of age, ability, race, or education. Though there are mysteries, these are hedged only for our protection, and we are meant to grow into them, all of us! Holy Things are for the Holy! We have a sure foundation, Jesus Christ himself, and will not be left in shallowness, so long as we apply ourselves to what we have been given. —*Edith M. Humphrey, from her blog: A **Lamp for Today***

- PARISH MEN'S GROUP TRIP:

The men of the parish are invited to join a “pilgrimage,” Sunday, July 31 to attend Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity Cathedral, followed by an SF Giants baseball game. The Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity begins at 10 AM (not 9:30, as was previously announced). Following the Liturgy and lunch, there will be a short tour of the Cathedral, time permitting. Speak with either George Barsi or Tom Pellizzer to reserve your baseball tickets and a ride to SF.

- A REMINDER AND REQUEST:

When you approach the Holy Chalice to receive the Mysteries, 1) please say your name to the priest, 2) open your mouth, slightly tilt your head back (bowing your head forward does not work, considering the nature of gravity), close your mouth around the spoon rather than pulling away with your lips or teeth, and allow the priest giving Holy Communion to remove the spoon. Please excuse the seeming crassness of the request, but when dealing with the All Holy Mysteries, we do not want to have an accident. —*Fr. Lawrence*

- SCRIPTURE LECTURES:

On Monday and Tuesday, August 1 and 2, our parish will serve as host to a series of lectures on the Holy Scriptures. These lectures are formally part of the Diaconal Vocations Program (DVP), organized by the head of the Program, Archdeacon Kirill Sokolov. The talks will take place here, since we have some men who have expressed interest in being part of the DVP. Fr George Gray, rector at St Nicholas Orthodox Church in Portland, OR. and an excellent resource for study of the Holy Scriptures, will come to St. Seraphim to give these talks, the overall theme being “Theophany in the Holy Scriptures.” Fr. George has asked that the talks be open to anyone interested in a focused and intensive study of the Bible to attend the talks. I would only ask you let me know you plan to attend. Call me at the church office 707-584-9491 — *Fr. Lawrence*. The schedule is as follows:

MONDAY, August 1

1–3 PM:	<i>Session 1: Intro and then Genesis / Exodus (Creation and the First Covenants)</i>
3–3:30 PM:	Break
3:30–4:30 PM	<i>Session 2: Prophets and the Anointed One</i>
4:30–6 PM	Dinner Break
6–7 PM:	<i>Session 3: The Gospels: Baptism, Transfiguration and Resurrection of the Savior</i>

TUESDAY, August 2

6 - 8 PM	<i>Session 4: The Book of Revelation</i>
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- PARISH NEEDS:

Yellow Jacket traps: collect traps from around the property, bait and distribute

Sweep walkway around St. Seraphim (ask kids to stop throwing pebbles)

Clean covers of Outside Baptismal Font

Scrap wax off church floor

Clean and polish brass candle stands in St. Seraphim (one hour work party on Monday, July 18, at 1 PM)

• MANY THANKS:

We thank the members of the Sisterhood for providing wonderful memorial lunch on Thursday after the Funeral for the blessed memory of Musya Sakovich.



BAKING

Our annual Glendi summer baking project kicks off on Monday and Tuesday, July 25 and 26. Many hands make light work, and we need your help! On July 25 we'll be baking Greek twists (koulourakia). Come and help make these yummy treats—the "twist" is easier than you may think. On Tuesday, July 26 we'll bake one of our best selling favorites, Soft Ginger Cookies, very easy to make, and so tasty. We start at 3 PM and continue until we're done—probably around 7 or 8 PM. You could stop by for an hour in the afternoon, and be home in plenty of time for dinner. Or come by after work to put in an hour of bagging and boxing the cookies for

freezing. Please remember—the Glendi bakery is the top money-maker of all booths at Glendi. I hope to see you in the Church hall on our baking dates—thanks in advance for your help. Invite your friends! — *Catherine Ostling, Glendi Baking Chairman*

PIROSHKI

Piroshki for Glendi. This year we will be doing two piroshki fries. We will be assembling and frying meat piroshki on Saturday, July 30th. The date for the frying of the cabbage piroshki is yet to be determined. Here's how you can participate: *Boiling of eggs*—Hard boil and peel the eggs and have them back to the church by Tuesday evening (Job taken care of). *Chopping*—chop the eggs; chop parsley and dill on Wednesday, July 27th. *Fry*—fry the meat on Thursday, July 28th; *Dough*—prepare the dough, Friday, July 29th.

And then, the big day: SATURDAY, JULY 30TH—WE NEED MANY VOLUNTEERS TO HELP PINCH AND FRY OVER 800 MEAT PIROSHKI. No experience necessary. Training is offered as we work. It is very easy to learn and a lot of fun. Some parishioners have brought their "foodie" friends/relatives to help too. All are welcome. You don't have to commit to a full day—just a few hours would be a great help. Please let me know off list or in a text if you can help in any way. Many hands make light work! — *Vicky Basch, vbasch@sonic.net* or call at (707) 291-2369.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

The Glendi is in need of a team to organize and run the very popular (and essential) Children's Activities. Having a team, rather than one person in charge, might be the most convenient approach, according the Gloria Collins, who organized this area for a number of years. Gloria is willing to advise the new team. See Alex Stameroff if you'd like to help.

SET-UP

Fr. Lawrence manages the final set-up on the two days prior to Glendi. He needs a team of at least ten–twelve men and women, able to move tables, chairs, signs, and other equipment, and to help clean, decorate, make phone calls and run errands. See Fr Lawrence to reserve your spot on the Glendi Set Up Team. ❀