

hands make the work go quickly! —*Catherine Ostling*

- CATHOLIC CHARITIES ROOM

There is a new family now staying in the Family Support room at Catholic Charities that our parish sponsors: father—Kenneth, mom—Jennifer and teen age daughter—Christine. Tight quarters for 3 adults. They moved in a couple weeks ago. I will be putting together a welcome basket. If anyone would like to donate anything such as new personal care items or baked goods, I will be dropping it off early next week. Thank you for your continued support and prayers for this ministry. —*Denise Anna Pellizzer*

- GLENDI POSTER CARDS

Two cartons of colorful cards are by the piano in the Hall. Please take a large handful. Give them to friends, mail them to more distant friends, leave some at businesses where you trade, post on bulletin boards, or put wherever else folks will see them and take one. Put one on your own refrigerator door, too.

- TAKING STOCK OF OUR STRUGGLE:

The Christian struggle is waged in the heart, for this is the focal point of creation itself. It is here that we see the fullness of the Creator's purpose, and here that the whole of creation finds its summation. It is the human person who is the capstone of God's creative work, which exists as a microcosm of all creation, and so any struggle which seeks to Christianize the cosmos, to evangelize and fulfill Christ's call to mission [or to try and correct the mistakes of others] yet which does not begin with the human heart, works with secondary things rather than primary. Such action is analogous to one who seeks to repair a crumbling house by working on its outer timbers, while its foundations remain in crumbling disintegration. The foundations must be repaired and strengthened first: only then can the remainder of the structure be repaired in a manner that will last, that will abide. So it is with the Christian life. Asceticism [spiritual struggle, fasting, prayer, works of mercy, etc.] begins in the heart: in obediently re-orientating the heart toward the Kingdom, in understanding its enemies and the passions [compulsions, thoughts, disordered desires, intrusive thoughts] that lay buried with it, and coming to combat and defeat them by Christ's power. — Fr. Irenei (Steenberg), from *The Orthodox Word, Vol. 44, No. 6*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday ~ July 19, 2015

Saint Seraphim of Sarov

- 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 ST. SERAPHIM, TONE FOUR:

From thy youth thou didst love Christ, O blessed one, and ardently desiring to work for Him alone, thou didst struggle in the wilderness with constant prayer and labor, and having acquired love for Christ with compunction of heart, thou didst prove to be the beloved favorite of the Mother of God. Wherefore we chant to thee: Save us by thy prayers, O Seraphim, our righteous father.

- KONTAKION OF ST. SERAPHIM, TONE TWO:

Having left the beauty of the world and what is corrupt in it, O Saint, thou didst settle in Monastery of Sarov, and having lived there an angelic life, thou wast for many the way unto salvation. Wherefore Christ hath glorified thee, Father Seraphim, and enriched thee with the gift of healing and miracles. And so we cry to thee: Rejoice, O Seraphim, our righteous Father.

- KONTAKION OF THE PROTECTION, TONE THREE:

Today the Virgin stands forth in the Church and invisibly with the choirs of Saints prays to God for us; the Hierarchs bow down with the angels, the Apostles and the Prophets rejoice, for the Theotokos prays to the Eternal God for us.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, July 18: 5 PM, Vigil for the Feast of St. Seraphim
- Sunday, July 19: 8:45 AM, Lesser Blessing of Water
10 AM, Divine Liturgy & Procession
12 Noon, Festal Agape Meal
- Monday, July 20: *At Kazan Skete, 9 AM: "Prayer in Time of Drought"*
3 PM, Glendi Baking
- Tuesday, July 21: *At Kazan Skete, 9:30 AM, Monastery Feast Day Divine Liturgy*
3 PM, Glendi Baking
- Wednesday, July 22: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy, St. Mary Magdalene
6 PM, Vespers

• FEAST OF SAINT SERAPHIM:

"Come, O ye congregations of the faithful, let us glorify today with songs of praise a most wondrous father, and let us chant unto him thus: O righteous Father Seraphim, thou wast in truth found worthy of divine life, receiving from God the crown of incorruptible glory; wherefore the Monastery of Sarov doth boast in thee, and the people, beholding the venerable shrine of thy relics and the miracles occurring thereat, glorify the Lord Who greatly glorifieth thee. Do thou entreat Him, O righteous one, to grant our souls peace and great mercy." —*hymn from the Vigil*

• ADVICE OF ST. SERAPHIM:

One should endure every trial that may come upon him with gratitude and for the sake of God. Compared to all eternity, our life is but a single minute. According to the words of the Apostle, "The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory which shall be revealed to us." Should an enemy offend you, bear your pain in silence. Open your heart only to the Lord. Try as hard as you can to forgive anyone who hurts or insults you. Let us love humility so that we may see the glory of God, for the glory of God abounds wherever humility is found.

• ALL AMERICAN COUNCIL:

Father Theodor and I will be gone this week, attending the All American Council (AAC) of the Orthodox Church in America in Atlanta. The AAC is

comprised of clergy and lay delegates from all the parishes of the OCA, presided over by the Holy Synod of Bishops. Please keep us in your prayers as we deliberate over church polity, finances, and the various issues facing us. Fr. Theodor and I will fly out of SF on Sunday evening, and return Friday evening. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• PIROSHKI PREP THIS WEEK:

Bobbi Griovski is organizing the prep for piroshki production, Wednesday to Saturday. Those who have volunteered, please reconfirm with Bobbi ASAP.

• PRAYER SERVICE FOR RAIN:

Vladyka Benjamin sent out an email last week asking that all parishes hold a prayer service "In Time of Drought" on, or close to, the feast of the Prophet Elijah, July 20. Why on that saint day? Read *1 Kings 17 and 18*. Notice that in St. Elijah's time it was human sin, abuse of earthly resources, decadence, grasping for power, injustice and of course, lack of faith, that brought on the drought. Is our own situation so different? Probably worse? There is the hubris, greed and evil of pollution and of "geo-engineering." Some claim this is contributing to drought conditions. Either way, let us pray to God, repent of our personal and corporate sins, and ask the Lord to come with power and help us. Since I will be at the All American Council in Atlanta all week (I'm departing at 10:30 PM Sunday, July 19, return Friday very late), Father John will do the service at the Kazan Skete, 9 AM, July 20. I appeal to you all: Please, as many as possible go to the Skete to pray with the Sisters that the Lord would end this drought. Also, the following day is the Feast of the Monastery, the Kazan Skete icon, with Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• GLENDI BAKING:

Our Glendi baking got off to a great start this week, thanks to excellent crews of helpers. Over 500 ginger cookies were baked and frozen on Monday, and almost as many chocolate chip cookies were made on Tuesday. Both evenings we finished early, before 7 PM. This coming week, we'll be extra-busy. On Monday starting at 3 PM, we'll be making a new cookie: Strawberry Squares. If you're handy with a rolling pin, come on Tuesday morning at 10:30 AM to help make Poppy Seed Strudels. Tuesday afternoon at 3 PM we'll be baking ginger cookies again--they are one of our most popular offerings at Glendi. Please plan to come and help out. Many