

- 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*

- SAFETY TRAINING:

Saturday's training session for using the new defibrillator was cancelled, due to lack of registration.

- CHURCH CLEANING SIGN-UP SHEET:

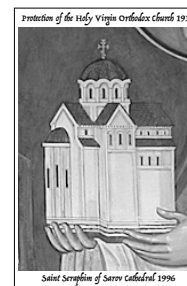
Many thanks to those who signed up to clean the Church. We are covered through September—however, many slots remain until the end of the year. “O Lord, bless those who love the beauty of Thy House.” I hope that every parish member will take the opportunity to participate.

- SACRAMENTS AND THE CHURCH:

A sacrament . . . is always a passage, a transformation. Yet it is not a ‘passage’ into ‘supernature,’ but into the Kingdom of God, the world to come, into the very reality of this world and its life as redeemed and restored by Christ. It is the transformation not of ‘nature’ into ‘supernature,’ but of the old into the new. A sacrament therefore is not a ‘miracle’ by which God breaks, so to speak, the ‘laws of nature,’ but the manifestation of the ultimate Truth about the world and life, man and nature, the Truth which is Christ. . . . The Church is the sacrament of the Kingdom – not because she possesses divinely instituted acts called ‘sacraments,’ but because first of all she is the possibility given to man to see in and through this world the ‘world to come’ to see and and to ‘live’ it in Christ. It is only when in the darkness of this world we discern that Christ has already ‘filled all things with Himself’ that these things, whatever they may be, are revealed and given to us full of meaning and beauty. A Christian is the one who, wherever he looks, finds Christ and rejoices in Him. And this joy transforms all his human plans and programs, decisions and actions, making all his mission the sacrament of the world’s return to Him who is the life of the world. —Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, from the book *For the Life of the World*

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



July 22, 2018

St. Mary Magdalene, Equal-to-the-Apostles



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Seven:

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death; to the thief, Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy Disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

- TROPARION OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, Tone Four:

When Christ God had been born for our sakes from a Virgin, thou faithfully didst follow Him, keeping His statutes and heeding His sacred laws, O august Mary Magdalene. Hence, as we today observe thy holy remembrance we receive the loosing of our sins and transgressions through thy holy prayers for us.

- KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Seven:

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hades is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: The Savior has come to them that have faith. Enter, ye faithful, into the Resurrection.

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KONTAKION OF ST MARY MAGDALENE, Tone Four:

When God, the Mighty, the Transcendent in essence, came into the world, He received thee, O Mary, as His true disciple as was meet. For thou hadst thy whole desire and thy love set upon Him; wherefore, thou didst bring to pass many cures for the ailing; and now translated to the Heavens' heights, thou dost fervently pray for all the world.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

• Saturday, July 21: 10 AM, Kazan Skete Feast Day Liturgy
4:30 PM, Panikhida
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confessions

• Sunday, July 22: 8 AM, Divine Liturgy in Protection Church
10 AM, Divine Liturgy, Noon, Agape Meal

• Wednesday, July 25: 6 PM, Vespers

• EARLY LITURGY:

This Sunday I will serve the Divine Liturgy in the Protection Church at 8 AM. The early hour will enable me to get to SFO for an afternoon flight to St. Louis, where I will attend the All-American Council of the OCA from Monday–Friday. I hope some of you will join me for the early Liturgy in the Protection Church.

• THANKS:

Many thanks to all those who worked to make the Feast day so glorious: cleaners, cooks, food servers, decorators, singers, altar servers, readers and the many, many who came to pray and rejoice in the Feast Day, and the gift of ordination to Father Nicholas. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• ALL AMERICAN COUNCIL:

Every three years the Orthodox Church in America gathers for the All American Council (AAC)—lay parish delegates, clergy from parishes, monasteries, institutions and seminaries, hierarchs of the various Dioceses of the OCA assemble to pray, deliberate on issues affecting the Church, and among other things to review and set budgets for programs (evangelism, youth work, clergy care, outreach, youth programs, education, etc.). This

year, as most of you already know, the Council will meet in St. Louis from Monday until Friday this week. Please pray for all the hierarchs, priests and delegates that the Council will bear much spiritual fruit. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• WELCOME:

We welcome Reader John (aka JJ) and his wife Jeanine Kotalik, visiting us from Seattle. We have offered the Kotaliks to be interns at St. Seraphim beginning in the Fall. May God grant that all the pieces come together so that can happen.

• CONGRATULATIONS:

Our Parish offers congratulations to Abbess Susanna and those with her on the monastery feast of the Kazan Icon of the Mother of God. We are very thankful for the monastic presence in our parish and city—Mother Susanna and the Sisters continually pray for all of us, so let us all pray for them and assist them in whatever material needs they may have. May the Lord grant them strength and His blessings.

• SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOMS:

Framing and electrical work were done in second bay of the storage building this week. Two classrooms are being carved out of that space. The parish is extremely grateful for the benefactors that are making that happen.

• FRESCO OF THE FORTY MARTYRS:

Fr. Patrick and Fr. Moses return this week to continue work on the fresco of the Forty Martyrs of Sebaste.

• 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*