

and make Our home with him” (John 14:23) says the Lord about the souls loving Him. And so, adherents of Christian feasts and the present feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, brightly adorned with every virtue and translated to the heavenly kingdom to Her Son and God, cry to each and everyone about preparing their souls to be the dwelling place of the Lord, about continual repentance, and about incorruptible well-adorned Christian virtue, that your death also be unashamed, peaceful and serve as the pledge of a good answer at the dread judgment seat of Christ. Amen.

— *St. John of Kronstadt, Sermons and Teachings*

• MYRRHSTREAMING ICON TO BE IN SF:

The Hawaii Iveron Myrrh-streaming Icon will be in San Francisco at the Geary Street Cathedral on Sunday, August 18 at 6 PM for the Vigil of the Transfiguration (Old Calendar) and for the Liturgy on the following day (early Liturgy at 7:30 AM and late at 9:30 AM).

• LOVE:

Father Gabriel Bunge, in his excellent book, *Despondency: The Spiritual Teaching of Evagrius Ponticus on Acedia*, writes: “There is a safe criterion to distinguish real love of neighbor, which for Evagrius always manifests itself as meekness, from its counterfeit: its fruits. True love makes one lovable; by contrast, ‘charitable activism,’ born from despondency [created by anger and desire], renders one bitter and intolerant.”

• SATURDAY EVENING VESPERS:

“...grant us to pass through the night of the whole present life with watchful heart and sober thought, ever expecting the coming of the bright and appointed day of Thine Only-begotten Son, our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ...ready to accompany Him into the joy and divine palace of His glory, where there is the ceaseless sound of those that keep festival...” So states one of the daily prayers. Inasmuch as the Sunday Divine Liturgy is an anticipation and participation in the coming Kingdom, Vespers on Saturday serves to prepare us for that Day. Since the day that the Apostles gathered in the Upper Room, on the First Day of the week, Resurrection Day, the Church has joyfully and solemnly kept Vigil before the Divine Liturgy, and has protected and guarded this time, outside of time, as one of the ways in which Her Members meet the Risen Lord, and prepare themselves for the Second Coming in a way that is concrete and spiritually therapeutic.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 18, 2013

Post-Feast of Dormition

• 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 DORMITION, Tone One

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity, in thy dormition thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos; thou wast translated unto life, since thou art the Mother of Life; and by thine intercessions dost thou redeem our souls from death.

• KONTAKION OF DORMITION, Tone Two

The grave and death, could not hold the Theotokos, who is unsleeping in her intercessions, and an unfading hope in her mediations. For as the Mother of Life, she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Aug. 17: 9 AM, *Glendi and Grounds Work Party*
5 PM, Great Vespers and Confessions
- Sunday, Aug. 18: 9 AM, Confessions
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape Meal
4 PM, Baby Shower for Marina Glanville
- Monday, Aug. 19: **5 PM, Glendi Baking in Parish Hall**

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- Tuesday, Aug. 20: 6 PM, *GLENDI "HEADS" MEETING*
- Thursday, Aug. 22: 8 AM, KAZAN SKETE: Divine Liturgy

- HOLY COMMUNION:

We welcome our visitors and our guests this morning, and would remind them, as well as all Parish and Church members, that the reception of Holy Communion is reserved for Baptized and Chrismated Orthodox Christians. No Orthodox Christian should approach the Chalice to receive Holy Communion unless he or she has prepared by fasting, prayer (especially the "Pre-Communion Prayers") and a recent participation in the Holy Sacrament of Confession. If you are a visitor to the Church, we most cordially invite you to our Sunday meal.

- AWAY THIS WEEK:

Father Lawrence and Matushka Ann will be away this week, visiting the Monastery of the Savior on Vashon Island, WA. They will return Tuesday, August 27.

- GLENDI ACTIVITIES:

A very productive *Glendi and Grounds Work Party* was held on Saturday, August 17, from 9 AM until about 2 PM. I commend and thank all of you for the hard work and camaraderie. Signs updated and posted around town, equipment fixed, trees and bushes trimmed, lawns mowed, yellow-jacket bait set out, outside of the Protection cleaned up, posts set, and on and on it went. There are many more things to do—and I hope you will make some time during the coming weeks to get involved. There are Glendi work-parties scheduled each Saturday at 9 AM. See Joe Anderson, Esther Schau or Bobbi Griovski if you have any questions. —*Father Lawrence*

- GLENDI FRIDAY:

Geoffrey John Lake, Joe Anderson and Fr. Lawrence are looking for men and women to be on their *Glendi Friday Setup Team*. On Friday, September 20, the day before Glendi, the team will take care of all the final set up of the event: stage, booths, wiring, lighting, garbage, shade, fencing, signage and a hundred other tasks. We are looking for folks who want to offer their talent, energy and time, but because of their humility, don't want any thanks or recognition! Call Joe (888-2860) or Fr. Lawrence (217-4556) if you're up to the challenge.

- HUMILITY:

It is not the self-critical who reveals his humility (for does not everyone have to somehow put up with himself? Rather it is the man who continues to love the person who has criticized him. — St. John Climacus, *Ladder of Divine Ascent*, Step 22

- ELDER PAISIOS ON HAVING CHILDREN IN TODAY'S WORLD:

The Elder was asked a question: "...many young people today don't want to have children because they see the kind of world into which they'll bring their child. Pollution from chemicals and nuclear energy, life full of anxiety, wild society, wars...If we are already in the time of the Antichrist, as it seems to me, maybe it's not worthy getting married and having children." He answered: "No, Thanasi, it's not like this! Didn't Christians at the time of the persecutions get married? Didn't they have children? They both married and had children! They had their hope in Christ, not in people. This way of thinking is faintheartedness. In one minute God can change everything; straighten all the crooked things. People make plans. God has His own plan as well. If you knew how many times the devil wrapped the earth in his tail so as to destroy it; but God doesn't allow him. He ruins his plans. The evil which the devil attempts to initiate, God uses and produces great good. Don't worry!" (from *Orthodox Christian Parenting*, pg. 77. Elder Paisios reposed in 1994)

- PRECIOUS TIME:

The churchgoer who never misses Sunday liturgy may spend as much as 78 hours per year in corporate prayer to God. Sound like a lot? An average American spends more than 2900 hours per year in front of some kind of screen. So for every hour we spend praying with God's people and getting to know Him better, we spend more than 37 communing with rectangles with moving pictures [TV or computer]. It's no wonder that we know far more about politics, sports, fashion, soap operas and science fiction than we do about God. —*Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick*

- DORMITION

The Heavenly King needs souls, adorned with incorruptible virtue, souls prepared so that the true Lord could live in them. Do not marvel that the Lord wants to live in us. In fact the human soul is more spacious than the heaven and earth for it exists in the image of God and if one removes sins from it, the Lord of all will settle in it and will fill it. "We will come to him