

- GIVING ALMS:

Almsgiving above all else requires money, but even this shines with a brighter luster when the alms are given from our poverty. The widow who paid in the two mites was poorer than any human, but she outdid them all.

—*St. John Chrysostom*

No one can say, “I am poor and hence I have no means of giving alms.” For even if you cannot give as the rich gave their gifts into the temple treasury, give two farthings as the poor widow did, and from you God will consider it a greater gift than the gifts of the rich. —*St. Dorotheos*

- TRUST:

I have to listen to complaints about the fact that we are now going through difficult times, that now free rein is given to all kinds of heretical and godless teachings, that the Church is being subjected to the attacks of enemies from all sides and that it will become terrible for Her, that these murky waves of unbelief and heresy are overcoming Her. I always answer, “Don’t worry! Don’t be afraid for the Church! She will not perish: the gates of hell will not prevail against Her, right to the Dread Judgment itself. Do not fear for Her but for yourself—that’s what you have to fear for, and it’s true that our times are very difficult. Why? Because *now* it is especially easy to fall away from Christ, and then—perish.” —*St. Barsanuphius of Optina (1845-1913)*

- SCRIPTURE STUDY SESSIONS UPCOMING

Fr. Nicholas will lead two or three sessions in the study of the *Epistle to the Ephesians*, Wednesday, Oct. 23 and 30, at 6:30 PM, following the usual Vespers. In November, Fr. Lawrence will begin a study of the *Epistle to the Romans* on Wednesday evenings following Vespers. There has been talk of having an early-morning study group meet for a half hour weekly, but nothing has yet been set. Please let Fr. Nicholas or Fr. Lawrence know what days and times might work best.

- HONORING THE SAINTS:

The Saint Seraphim Church School warmly invites you to our 5th Annual **Honoring the Saints** party on Sunday, October 27. We will sing the Akathist to St. Seraphim at 4:30 PM in Protection Church, then gather in the Parish Hall at 5 PM for dinner and crafts. All ages are welcome, and asked to come dressed as a saint. This event is a wonderful opportunity to develop greater understanding and knowledge of the lives of the saints while deepening our reverence for them. More information will be posted soon. Any questions, speak with Adriel or Gloria.

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



October 13, 2019

Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Eight:
Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One; Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings. O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, 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.
- KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Eight:
By raising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam; Eve exults in Thy resurrection; and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O Greatly Merciful One.
- 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

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theology on high, she rightly divideth and glorifieth the great mystery of piety.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Oct. 12: 4 PM, Youth Choir Rehearsal
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confessions
- Sunday, Oct. 13: 8:30 AM, Matins & 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:45 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal
Project Mexico Video in Hall
- Wednesday, Oct. 16: 6 PM, Vespers
- Saturday, Oct. 19: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy, Memorial Saturday
9 AM, Liturgy in Calistoga for anniversary
3 PM, Nativity Play Rehearsal in Hall
4 PM, Youth Choir Rehearsal
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confession
- Sunday, Oct. 20: 8:30 AM, Matins / 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:45 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal
1 PM, Panikhida for Daria Jorgenson

• ASSEMBLY AND PILGRIMAGE:

I will be in Colorado Springs from Tuesday until Thursday attending the Diocesan Assembly. If there is a pastoral need, please call either Fr Nicholas at 318-5391 or Fr John at 318-1559. On Sunday evening, October 20 I will begin a pilgrimage to the Holy Mountain of Athos, returning home on Friday, November 1. I am grateful to parish members for your prayers, and will certainly be praying for all of you at the holy places. —*Fr Lawrence*

• MONDAY, BLESSING OF NEW WINE:

The Sisters at the Monastery of the Assumption in Calistoga have partnered with Thomas Eddy Winery for the production a very fine chalice wine, used for the Divine Liturgy. The grapes will be harvested Monday morning and then blessed. Please join me for the service of blessing, Monday at 12:45 PM, at the winery. I have room in my car for four passengers, and will leave the Church parking lot no later than Noon. Please let me know if you'd like to come along. —*Fr Lawrence*

• HELP IN THE GARDEN:

I could use some help in the gardens for the next two weeks, that is October 12 and 19. There is a lot of trimming which needs to be done, as well as weeding and cleaning of beds. I work from about 9 AM to 1 PM most Saturdays, but you can help anytime. Even just an hour helps out a lot and keeps our grounds beautiful. —*Matushka Ann*

• CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER:

A new church cleaning sign up sheet has been posted in the Narthex; I hope we can fill all the empty slots by the conclusion of the Sunday Liturgy this week. —*Fr Lawrence*

• PROJECT MEXICO:

George Artemoff recently spent a week at Project Mexico building homes for those in need, and working with the St. Innocent Orphanage near Rosarito, Mexico. He has a video to share with us at lunch time on Sunday about the work going on there (he had hoped to share it last week on St. Innocent Day, but was not ready). Our parish will be making an offering to Project Mexico in honor of St. Innocent's Feast Day last week. If you'd like to participate in that offering, please see Martin Thong. For more information about this charitable organization see www.projectmexico.org

• MONASTERY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:

His Eminence Archbishop Benjamin will serve the Divine Liturgy at the Monastery of the Assumption in Calistoga on **Saturday, October 19 at 9 AM**. There will be an open house on 5–8 PM on Tuesday, October 22.

• 27TH ANNUAL REMEMBERING HOME DINNER:

The local benefactors of the *International Orthodox Christian Charities* (IOCC) will host a Vespers, reception and banquet at the Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church in Novato on Sunday, November 10: Vespers: 4:30 PM, Reception at 5:15 PM and Dinner at 6 PM. Tickets: \$65. Please speak with Bobbi Griovski who will be reserving a table for our parish (ten per). Five people have already signed up. For more information about the IOCC or to book your own reservation, [click on this link](#).

• LOST AND FOUND:

The *Lost and Found* box, which can be found on the Hall porch, is full. The items will be taken to Catholic Charities this week, so if you've lost something, please take a look before it is too late.