

• HONORING THE SAINTS:

The St. Seraphim Church School warmly invites you to our 4th Annual **Honoring the Saints** party on Sunday, October 28. We will sing the *Akathist to All Saints of North America* 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. For those who wish to participate, we suggest the following: ✓ Select a saint (patron saint or another) soon! Read your saint's story until you can talk easily about his or her life. ✓ Collect items for a costume that represents the time period and place where the saint lived. ✓ Find an icon to help with this. Consider props that might also suit, e.g., a cross for a martyr, a pen for a Gospel writer, an obedient animal friend (such as St. Seraphim's bear or St. Gerasim's lion), a staff for a bishop, or sword for a warrior saint. ✓ Prepare and practice a short (1–3 min) presentation to give during the Guessing Game. ✓ Remember to keep the identity of your saint a secret. After each participant presents the story, the audience makes guesses as to the saint you have chosen. This year, we are asking that only children over age 5 present their saints to the group. Younger children are encouraged to dress up and know their saints' stories, but they do not need to keep it a secret! If you would like to volunteer, please see Gloria Collins, Sarah Hamner, or Fr. Lawrence. We are looking for six soup-makers, four salad-makers, and six craft volunteers, plus set-up and clean-up crews. Thank you! —*Sarah Hamner* 707-327-9906

• IN PEACE LET US PRAY TO THE LORD:

The Great Litany daily said in the Orthodox Church is the most wise litany, the litany of love; in it both living Christians and the saints are represented as fellow members of the Body of Jesus Christ. It finishes most beautifully with the following exclamation: "Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed, glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ our God." The redoubled and supplicatory litanies are also beautiful. We have grown accustomed to them, but let us imagine that we hear them for the first time: let us put ourselves in the position of foreigners. —*St. John of Kronstadt*

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



October 21, 2018

St. Hilarion the Great



• RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION, Tone Four:

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse, and elatedly told the Apostles: death is overthrown, Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

• TROPARION OF ST. HILARION, Tone Eight:

With the streams of thy tears thou didst irrigate the barren desert, and with sighs from the depths of thy soul thou didst render thy labors fruitful an hundredfold, and becamest a beacon for the whole world, resplendent with miracles. O Hilarion our father, entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.

• RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION, Tone Four:

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb, and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hades, and as Master, He has risen on the third day.

• KONTAKION OF ST. HILARION, Tone Four:

As we gather on this day, we sing thy praise and acclaim thee as a never set-

ting light of the bright spiritual Daystar. Those whom ignorance benighted thou didst illumine with thy beams; and thou dost raise unto the divine heights, O Hilarion, our father, all them that cry out: Height of ascetics, rejoice.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, October 20: 5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, October 21: 8:40 AM, Matins
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:45 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal
- Wednesday, October 24: 6 PM, Vespers, Potluck and reading *Of What Life Do We Speak* by Metropolitan Tikhon
- Thursday, October 25: 6 PM, Great Vespers for St. Demetrios
- Friday, October 26: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for St. Demetrios

• CONGRATULATIONS:

The members of St. Seraphim Cathedral send congratulations to the clergy and faithful of Holy Trinity Cathedral in San Francisco, on the occasion of the 150th Anniversary of the parish. We glorify and thank God for the witness and work of the members of the Cathedral over those many years.

• TIME FOR GOD:

Those who regularly partake of Holy Communion prepare themselves by fasting, praying the Pre-communion prayers and by a Confession at least once per month (ideally, attendance at Saturday Vespers is more than helpful). Because the Divine Liturgy is an offering to God of *the Church*, let us be mindful that we are each members of the Church, and so arrive at the *beginning* of the Liturgy. —*Father Lawrence*

• SCHISM?

We have likely heard or read that the Orthodox Church in Russia—the Moscow Patriarchate—has broken Communion with the Ecumenical Patriarchate[Constantinople] over the latter’s unprecedented interference in Ukrainian church life. All Orthodox Christians, must, I think, be deeply saddened by this situation, repulsed by cynical, political machinations, in-

cluding those of third parties, which are a violation of the unity, communion, and mutual love of Orthodox believers. Unresolved differences in understanding canonical principles and examples drawn from history have been exploited by those with an interest in pushing church relations to the breaking point. And of course, it is the existing canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church under Metropolitan Onufrey, long and universally recognized as the authentic Orthodox community in Ukraine, which is suffering and will undoubtedly suffer much at the hands now maliciously enabled.

Church history teaches us that, tragically, this has happened and happens all the time. Fr Alexander Schmemmann once wrote: “Orthodoxy, besides being first of all and above everything else, the true faith, is also a history filled not only with victories, achievements and manifestations of holiness, but also with tragedies, periods of decay, surrender to different cultures, and so on. Therefore, joining the Orthodox Church means not only accepting a clearly defined body of doctrinal definitions...liturgy, and ...orders, but to make this long and more often than not tragical pilgrimage of the Church through history a part of one’s spiritual experience and memory. It may be that the greatest difference between Orthodoxy and Protestantism is that in the Protestant faith and experience, the Church is always a vertical phenomenon and this means it has no real history, no horizontal dimensions. Even when they join the Orthodox Church, Protestants very often preserve the illusion that there exists an ideal Church, and then, having discovered the Orthodox reality, go through a traumatic experience and disillusion.” We who are to this point not directly involved must, on the one hand not be overwhelmed by despondency, and on the other, pray that the outcome of all of this will be to the good, for we know that God works all to the good for those who love Him. —*Fr Andrew Morbey, St. Mary Orthodox Cathedral, Minneapolis*

• LEARNING RUSSIAN:

Russian language classes, taught by Irina Wysocki, are being held in the Church Library on Sundays at 1:15 PM. All are welcome. Please speak with Irina if you are interested in attending. She can be reached at (707) 608-8963.

• CONDOLENCES:

We offer our condolences to Carl Collard on the repose of his father, Carl, Senior, on Thursday. May the Lord grant forgiveness to his soul, and peace.