

• JULY 4TH:

The annual Pilgrimage to Fort Ross on July 4th will not take place this year.

• HYMN TO ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA:

Come, let us praise the Saints of North America, holy hierarchs, venerable monastics and glorious martyrs, pious men, women and children, both known and unknown. Through their words and deeds in various walks of life, by the grace of the Spirit they achieved true holiness. As they now stand in the presence of Christ who glorified them, they pray for us who celebrate their memory in love.

• A SHORT SERMON:

...throughout all the centuries of Christianity there have been in the Church heroic members, young people of both sexes, who by the grace of God have kept their souls pure and intact, and have dedicated to the honor of God the noblest attribute of their human life, namely, an untarnished purity of soul and body. Such persons have had the courage and such unbounded confidence in God's assistance that, although living in the world and its dangers, though threatened by the cravings of their own individual passions and by the temptations of the devil, yet they have succeeded bravely in preserving this treasure even in a frail earthen vessel, have carried it uninjured through life's long journey here below, and have finally presented it to their Lord. Christian heroes and heroines, you who have imitated or who still do imitate the sublime example of the Mother of God, the Church admires your spirit of sacrifice as she does that of the holy martyrs, who in a few hours finished their contest and proved their fidelity to God and their faith; because you are called to combat, to suffering, and to sacrifice. May Christ fill your heart and more than compensate you for the fleeting, transient, worldly love that you have laid down at His feet. The eternal Judge will find you waiting like the wise and prudent virgins who all through life carry in their hands the pure oblation of love and the burning light of good example. Therefore, faithful to the end, He will invite you to the eternal wedding feast in heaven. Amen. —*St. Sebastian of Jackson and SF (+1940)*

• CATECHISM, Saturday at 3:30 PM:

All are invited to log-on for Saturday talks. Our three Catechumens and two inquirers will attend in person, and all others may watch on Zoom.

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



June 21, 2020

Sunday of All Saints of Russia and America



• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone One:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy kingdom; glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

• TROPARION OF ALL SAINTS of RUSSIA & AMERICA, Tone Eight:

As a beautiful fruit of the sowing of Thy salvation, our land doth offer Thee, O Lord, all the saints that have shone in it. By their prayers keep the Church and our land in peace, through the Theotokos, O Most Merciful One.

• KONTAKION OF ALL SAINTS, Tone Three:

Today the choir of saints who pleased God in the lands of Russia and America stands forth in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us. With

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them the angels glorify Him, and all the saints of the Church of Christ keep festival, and together they pray to the Eternal God for us.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, June 20: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy in Protection
3:30 PM, Catechism, *Hall Porch and Zoom*
5 PM, Great Vespers
- Sunday, June 21: 9:40 AM, Hours
10 AM, Divine Liturgy (Archbishop Benjamin here) and Priestly Ordination
- Monday, June 22: 7 PM, Men's Group Online Fellowship
- Tuesday, June 23: 5 PM, Great Vespers for the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist
- Wednesday, June 24: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist in the Cathedral
4 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank
5 PM, Daily Vespers
7 PM, Study of the *Epistle to the Romans* with Fr. Lawrence (picking up at Chapter 9)
- Thursday, June 25: 7 PM, Parish Council Meeting
- Friday, June 26: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions in Church
- Saturday, June 27: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy in Protection
3:30 PM, Catechism, *Hall Porch and Zoom*
5 PM, Great Vespers

• WELCOME:

We welcome Archbishop Benjamin and Protodeacon Brendan on Sunday morning, here to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the Feast of All Saints of America and Russia, and to ordain Deacon Gregory Matlak to the Holy Priesthood. Fr. Gregory will be assigned to St. Christina Orthodox Church in Fremont, replacing Fr. Michael Anderson who has been appointed to serve at St. John of Damascus in Poway, CA. *Axios! Worthy!*

• CONFESSIONS:

I continue to hear confessions by telephone, but have also resumed hearing

them in person by appointment, and on most Fridays, 11:30 AM–1 PM. See the monthly calendar to confirm. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• PARISH STATUS:

The Parish is not yet open for attendance in Church during Divine Services. Those who are prepared to receive Holy Communion at the Divine Liturgy will be ushered in at the proper time to do so. The church doors will be open, and the outdoor speakers (thanks to Preston Booker for his work on this) will broadcast the prayers and singing. With the ordination on Sunday, we do expect to have a few visitors (family of Dc. Gregory) in the church, as well as two more singers. The Parish Council and I will discuss on Thursday evening at our monthly meeting the details of opening the church for attendance. When we do open, there will be limited attendance (according to floor space) and a way to determine attendance (online sign-up, etc.). Please accept the ongoing protective measures. We are all doing our best to improvise as challenges arise. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• UNITED IN CHRIST:

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, Who is above all and through all and in all....speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from Whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, makes bodily growth and upbuilds itself in love. Now this I affirm and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds...Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for edifying, as fits the occasion, that it may impart grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in Whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. —*excerpts from Ephesians, RSV*