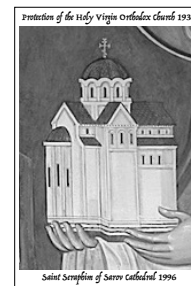


Best wishes and Name Day greetings to all those who are named after one of the Archangels or Angels. Many Years. The Feast day of the Archangels was established in November, the ninth month after March (with which the year began in ancient times) since there are Nine Ranks of Angels. The eighth day of the month was chosen for the [Synaxis of all the Bodiless Powers of Heaven](#) since the Day of the *Dread Last Judgment* is called the Eighth Day by the holy Fathers. After the end of this age (characterized by its seven days of Creation) will come the Eighth Day, and then “the Son of Man shall come in His Glory and all the holy Angels with Him” (Mt. 25:31). The Angelic Ranks are divided into three Hierarchies: highest, middle, and lowest. The Highest Hierarchy includes: the Seraphim, Cherubim and Thrones. The Middle Angelic Hierarchy consists of three Ranks: Dominions, Powers, and Authorities. The Lowest Hierarchy includes the three Ranks: Principalities, Archangels, and Angels. All the Ranks of the Heavenly Powers are called angels, although they all have their own names and positions by virtue of their service. The Lord. The Lord reveals His will to the highest ranks of the angels, and they in turn inform the others. Over all the Nine Ranks, the Lord appointed the Holy Archangel Michael (his name in Hebrew means “who is like unto God”), the faithful servitor of God, as Chief Commander. He cast down from Heaven the arrogantly proud Lucifer and the other fallen spirits when they rebelled against God.

Translation of the names: Gabriel: strength (power) of God, herald and servitor of Divine omnipotence (Dan 8:16, Luke 1:26). He announces the mysteries of God. Raphael: the healing of God, the curer of human infirmities (Tobit 3:16, 12:15) Uriel: the fire or light of God, enlightener (3 Ezdras 5:20). We pray for him to enlighten those with darkened minds. Selaphiel: the prayer of God, impelling to prayer (3 Ezdras 5:16). He prays to God for mankind. Jehudiel: the glorifying of God, encouraging exertion for the glory of the Lord and interceding for the reward of efforts. Barachiel: distributor of the blessings of God for good deeds, entreats the mercy of God for people. Jeremiel: the raising up to God (3 Ezdras 4:36) Each person has a guardian angel, and every nation also receives its own guardian angel from God (Dan. 10:13). When a church is consecrated, it also receives a guardian angel (Palladius, Dial. Ch. 10).

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



November 8, 2020



Synaxis of the Holy Archangels

- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Five:

Let us the faithful praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead, by His glorious Resurrection.

- TROPARION OF THE ANGELIC POWERS, Tone Four:

Supreme commanders of the heavenly hosts, we unworthy ones implore you, that by your supplications ye will encircle us with the shelter of the wings of your immaterial glory, and guard us who fall down before you and fervently cry: deliver us from dangers, since ye are the leaders of the hosts on high.

- KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Five:

Thou didst descend into hades, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, and we cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

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- KONTAKION OF THE ANGELIC POWERS, Tone Two:
Supreme Commanders of God and ministers of the Divine glory, guides of men and leaders of the bodiless hosts: Ask for what is to our profit and for great mercy, since ye are Supreme Commanders of the Bodiless Hosts.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

**Indicates Streaming Services*

- Saturday, Nov. 7: 3:30 PM, Catechism: *On Repentance*
5 PM, Great Vespers* and Confession
- Sunday, Nov. 8: 8:30 AM, Matins
10 AM, Divine Liturgy* (no Confessions)
- Wednesday, Nov. 11: 11 AM, Panikhida in Healdsburg
4 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank
5 PM, Vespers*
7 PM, Study of *Isaiah*, via Zoom
- Thursday, Nov. 12: 9 AM, Akathist of the Protection
- Friday, Nov. 13: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions
- Saturday, Nov. 14: 5 PM, Great Vespers*
- Sunday, Nov. 15: 8:30 AM, Matins
10 AM, Divine Liturgy* (no confessions)
1:15 PM, *Advent Supplicatory Canon* for the beginning of the Nativity Fast*

• CHURCH SCHOOL

Our high school class continues to meet via Zoom on Sundays at 1:30 PM. The Pre-K Class, which was meeting outside by the playground will be taking a break. Being outside with all the distractions that presents, and not having the materials and books that the classroom provides, it seems more sensible to put the class on hold for the time being.

• NOVEMBER 15—AN IMPORTANT DATE

The Nativity Fast begins, as always, on November 15, and continues until Christmas Day, when we break the Fast. The Nativity Fast gives Orthodox Christians the opportunity to prepare for Christmas on December 25. By abstaining from certain food and drink, particularly from meat, fish, dairy

products, olive oil, and wine (how about we also fast from TV and social media), we turn our attention to prayer and almsgiving. One of the aims of fasting, besides self-discipline and obedience to the spiritual practice of the Church, is that hunger, when given wings by prayer, makes us conscious of our dependence upon God. While fasting from food, we are also challenged to fast from sin, from gossip, from jealousy, from anger, and from those other things which, while well within our control, we all too often allow to control us. There is a strong connection between works of mercy for those less fortunate (alms) and fasting. We not only sympathize with those who suffer hunger and want, we show compassion (to co-suffer) as well. Our compassion is sustained by the love of God when we approach fasting in a prayerful, humble and spiritually directed way. [See this link for a short article on fasting.](#) On the first day of the Christmas Fast, Sunday, November 15, a brief Vespers will be served at 1:15 PM to help us make a good beginning.

• THANKSGIVING FAMILY DINNER PROJECT:

It's that time year again for our Thanksgiving Food Box Project! This is our 8th year providing families a full Thanksgiving meal box. \$50.00 supports a full meal box. This year our goal will be to supply **200 families**. This partnership between St. Seraphim Orthodox Church and Catholic Charities has become a staple in our community for families in need. Thank you for your continued support! Please reach out to Amy Margitich or Serge Anderson with any questions (such as when the box assembly and distribution will take place). Donations can be made directly to the Church via Check, Cash or [Paypal LINK HERE](#).

