

- MEN'S GROUP:

We're going disc golfing! On June 13th the Men's Group will be going to the *Disc Golf Course* at Crane Creek. We will meet at 2 PM in the church parking lot and carpool over to the course. This will save money on regional park fees. While disc golf is an extremely fun "sport" it's also just a great excuse to walk around and chat in a beautiful setting. Please come hang out! If you have any questions text me at (707) 799-4117. —*Michael Dovey*

- PENTECOST:

The fulfillment of the Paschal Season is the Feast of Pentecost (*pente=50*), at which we celebrate the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, those with them, and upon each of us who have died and risen with Christ in baptism. Pentecost services as follows:

- June 19: **5 PM Vigil**

- June 20: **9 AM Baptism** of Daryl Charalambous
10 AM Liturgy

Followed immediately by the **Kneeling Vespers**

- VACATION

I will be away on vacation from June 21 until July 2. Father Nicholas will be here for all the services and for any other pastoral needs. You can reach Father Nicholas at (707) 318-5391. —*Fr. Lawrence*

- MAZZA CATERING:

At its May meeting the Parish Council received a request from Kristina Daya's *Mazza Catering* asking if they could continue to rent the Hall kitchen, as has been done last year. The Council approved the request with a motion, second and unanimous vote (*Mazza Catering* pays a monthly rent). One of the Council members commented that if the kitchen had not be rented during the last year (when we had no Agape Meals), the kitchen would at this point be a rather large maintenance mess. In other words, the kitchen was cared for very well and we are grateful for that. Please note: in order to not conflict with our soon-to-be restored Agape Meals and parish events, Kristina has set up a movable "pantry cabinet" and a refrigerator in the first storage bay. The Parish Council congratulates Kristina and Safwan Daya on their success to date. —*Fr Lawrence*

- JULY 5TH AT FORT ROSS:

There will be a Divine Liturgy at the Fort Ross chapel on July 5, 10:30 AM. Bring a hat, umbrella and a folding chair. Pack a picnic to enjoy after the Divine Liturgy.

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION of the HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX Church



June 13, 2021

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Council



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Six:

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hades, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee.

- TROPARION OF ASCENSION, Tone Four:

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit; and they were assured by the blessing that Thou art the Son of God and Redeemer of the world.

- 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 HOLY FATHERS, Tone Eight:

The preaching of the Apostles and the doctrines of the Fathers confirmed

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the one Faith in the Church. And wearing the garment of truth woven from theology on high, she rightly divideth and glorifieth the great mystery of piety.

- KONTAKION OF ASCENSION, Tone Six:

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake and unite earth to heaven, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from them that love Thee, but remaining with them and crying: “I am with you, and no one will be against you.”

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, June 12: 5 PM, Vigil and Confession
- Sunday, June 13: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
2 PM, Men’s Group get together/Crane Canyon
- Monday–Friday: **10 AM–2 PM, St. Seraphim Week Activities**
- Wed., June 16: 5 PM, Vespers
7 PM, Study of Proverbs with Fr James, online
- Thurs., June 17: 7 PM, Parish Council Meeting/Parish Hall
- Friday, June 18: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions (Protection Church)

• SUNDAY’S EPISTLE in honor of the Holy Fathers of the First Council:
In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost. From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them: “You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified... —*Acts 20:16-18, 28-36*

- FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL:

Today we commemorate the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea, who proclaimed that the One Who brings human beings into the eternal life of God is Himself truly divine and eternal: the only begotten Son of the Father. They recognized that even the best angel, prophet, or teacher could not do that, for only One Who is divine and eternal can bring us into the divine, eternal life of the Holy Trinity. That is a key reason why the Council of Nicaea rejected the teaching of the heretic Arius, who did not think that the Son was fully or eternally God. That is why the Orthodox Church has always disagreed with those who seek to reduce Christ to a great religious teacher or moral example, or who view the Kingdom of God as a mere extension of an earthly kingdom of whatever kind. Our salvation comes not merely through instruction or social change, but through the New Adam Who conquers death and ascends to heavenly glory as the God-Man. Even if we know the words of the Nicene Creed by heart, we may still be tempted to turn Christ into a Savior who fits with our preconceived notions about what we would like from a religion. After all, it is much easier to follow a Lord Who serves our own pursuit of pleasure, power, and pride than it is to embrace One Who calls us to holiness in every dimension of our existence. Even as He is fully divine, He is also fully human. He went up into heaven with a glorified human body. To share in His life is to share in His holiness in ways that make us shine with the divine glory in body, soul, and spirit in the world as we know it. That does not mean becoming less human, but becoming more truly ourselves in God’s image and likeness.

—*Father Philip LeMasters*

- UPCOMING BAPTISM:

Please continue to pray for Catechumen Daryl Charalambous who will be baptized, God willing, on Pentecost morning before the Divine Liturgy (June 20).

- SAINT SERAPHIM WEEK FOR KIDS:

Our wonderful annual *St. Seraphim Week for Kids* program will take place June 14–18 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Space is still available for kids and volunteers. Please contact Gloria Collins at (707) 849-6135, or see Niki Myles or Anastasia Brodeur. Fathers Nicholas, James or Lawrence will open each morning, in the Protection Church, with a prayer and a short lesson of the kids.