

- FRESCO UPDATE:

Father Patrick finished painting the fresco of the [Blind Man \(John 9\)](#) on Friday. The scaffold was removed in preparation for our parish festivities (St. Seraphim Day and the Diaconal Workshop on July 26–29). Frs. Patrick and Moses will return in a couple of weeks, with the plan of painting saints on the inside of the aisle arches. To be confirmed. We are still planning to have two painters from Minsk—Ekaterina and Anton Daineko—come to paint with Fr. Patrick. At the moment there is a hold on visas for Belorussian citizens traveling to the US (long story). A lawyer is working on this issue now. More info to come. —*Fr L*

- CHURCH ROAD SIGNAGE:

Visitors welcomed. Members expected.

Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?

Do you spend your time with God's book or Facebook?

Tweet others as you would like to be tweeted.

Honk if you love Jesus. Text and drive if you want to meet him.

If you are more fortunate than others, build a longer table, not a taller fence.

- WE GLORY IN TRIBULATIONS:

When we struggle to see that God cares for us in the midst of our challenges, we must remember St. Paul's example of using suffering and difficulty for growth in holiness: "We also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance, and perseverance character, and character, hope." Not simply wishful thinking, Paul's hope is grounded in "the love of God ... poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit Who was given to us." Christ died for the ungodly, including us, and has sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts and souls to enlighten us with the glory of the Kingdom. In this context, our difficulties and needs are opportunities for gaining greater healing for our souls. We must use these tribulations to gain greater spiritual strength, clarity, and vision by growing in trust, humility, and patience. When we are overcome with worry about any problem or threat in life, we must use our weakness as an opportunity to gain greater spiritual strength: as a reminder to guard our thoughts as we turn our attention from obsessing about what we cannot change to an earnest, humble plea for the Lord's healing mercy. That is how we will open ourselves to greater participation in His life and, thus, find true peace. —*Father Philip LeMasters, [from this sermon](#)*

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



July 11, 2021

New Martyrs under the Turkish Yoke



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Two:

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life-Immortal, Thou didst slay Hades with the splendor of Thy Godhead; and when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of Heaven cried out: O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to Thee.

- KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Two:

Hades became afraid, O Almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb. The dead arose, creation with Adam beheld this and rejoiced with Thee; and the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sat., July 10: 5 PM, Vigil / Confessions
- Sun., July 11: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy, Agape Meal

Protection of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church • 90 Mountain View Ave • Santa Rosa
707-584-9491 • LMargitich@sbcglobal.net • saintseraphim.com

- *Mon., July 12:* *Parish Feast for Sts. Peter and Paul, Stony Point Road*
Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM
- *Wed., July 14:* 4 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank
5 PM, Vespers for Feast of St. Vladimir of Kiev
- *Thurs., July 15:* 9 AM, Divine Liturgy, Feast of St. Vladimir
- *Fri., July 16:* 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions
- *Sat., July 17:* 5 PM, Vigil /Confessions
- *Sun. July 18:* 10 AM, Divine Liturgy, Agape Meal
5 PM, Vigil for the Feast of St. Seraphim

- FOUR NOTABLE COMMEMORATIONS:

July 11 is the Feast day of the [Great Martyr Euphemia](#); the Blessed Olga (see same link), grandmother of St. Vladimir of Kiev; the newly-glorified Elder [Saint Sophrony of Essex](#) in Great Britain, reposed 1993; and the Sunday of the Commemoration of the New Martyrs under the Turkish Yoke. [Here is a brief description](#) of those 500 years of oppression. The Greek Orthodox Church designates the third Sunday after Pentecost as this feast.

- CHURCH CAMP THIS WEEK:

The St. Eugene's Summer Camp takes place this week. Click [HERE](#) for information about this Diocesan Camp. I will be joining the ten kids from our parish, departing Sunday afternoon and returning Saturday afternoon. Fr. Nicholas will be available for any pastoral needs during the week. —*Fr L*

- REDWOOD EMPIRE FOOD BANK:

Our Parish still hosts the food bank on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Come help out this coming Wednesday, starting at 4 PM. See Lydia Nicholson for more information.

- WISDOM FROM ST. SOPHRONY OF ESSEX:

The Greek word *akidia* means etymologically, “lack of care” i.e, about one’s salvation. With few exceptions, all humanity is now living in a state of *akidia*. People become indifferent about their salvation. They do not seek divine life. They confine themselves to forms of life which appertain to the flesh, to everyday needs, to the passions of this world, to mundane activities. God, though, created us out of nothing, in the image of the Absolute and after

His likeness. If this revelation is true, the absence of concern for salvation is nothing else than the death of the human person. Despair is the loss of consciousness that God wants to give us eternal life. The world is living in despair. People have condemned themselves to death. We must struggle resolutely against despondency. —*St. Sophrony, reposed July 11, 1993*

- WRONG IDEA ABOUT SALVATION:

Salvation is often understood simply in terms of “deliverance from sin and its consequences and admission to heaven,” in terms of escaping damnation, that is, and reaching a safe place where we can no longer be tormented by the enemy. According to the Fathers of the Church, however, salvation is not so prosaic a matter, for it involves the “theosis” (the deification or divinization) of the entire human person in Christ; it involves, that is, becoming like unto Christ to the point of identity with Him; it involves acquiring the mind of Christ (as Saint Paul affirms in the second chapter of the *First Epistle to the Corinthians*, verse sixteen), and indeed it signifies the sharing in His very Life. —*Dr. Christopher Veniamin*

- SAINT SERAPHIM LADIES POTLUCK PICNIC IN THE GARDEN:

Saturday, July 17th starting at 1:00 pm (giving you time for Vespers). Daphne Russell’s Home, 1938 Santa Monica Court, Santa Rosa (near Montgomery Village shopping center). We live on a cul-de-sac which can fill up fast with cars so you might have to park outside the court. Bring a side dish or dessert as we will be making homemade pizzas. Any questions, call: 707-291-8546. —*Daphne Russell*

- SAINT SERAPHIM DAY

The *Feast of the Glorification of St. Seraphim* (canonization) approaches. Let us enjoy this feast, making up for the lack of festivities last year! Fr. Kirill Sokolov wrote that “...in the consciousness of the Orthodox Church, the parish (‘altar’) feast day carries a significance second only to Pascha.” On Sunday, July 18 at 5 PM, we will celebrate Vigil for this feast. The Divine Liturgy will be served on Monday, July 19 at 9:30 AM. Matushka Esther will prepare an Agape Meal for our enjoyment. Our celebration will be without Hierarchical ceremony, as neither Archbishop Benjamin nor Bishop Daniel will be present (both intend to be here for the Diaconal Practicum July 26–29).