

• PG&E WORK:

PG&E will be doing work along Mountain View Ave for the next three months or so. A rep told me about this the other day, and I suggested that it might be good for traffic if the trucks were not parked on the road; perhaps they might want to park equipment in our lot, by the substation side. An agreement was made to that effect. Equipment will be on our lot *only during weekdays*, never on weekends. PG&E has sent us a contract, in which they will give the parish \$3500 for use of the grounds, and afterwards pay to repair any damage done while here. Work starts Monday, August 23. —Fr L

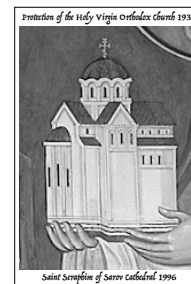
• ADVICE:

Have more love for God and man! On these two wings we will soar to Heaven. These two commandments are the source from which blessings flow for us, and upon them hangs all the Law and the Prophets, as Christ said (Mt. 22:40). Our hearts should burn with love for God and our eyes should be filled with tears of compassion for our brothers, because they are also created after the image and likeness of God, our Creator, and are like us.

—Hieromonk Nikodemos of Karyes, Mount Athos, reposed 1986

# ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

## PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



**August 15, 2021**

**Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos**



• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Seven:

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death; to the thief, Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy Disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

• TROPARION OF DORMITION, Tone One

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity, in thy dormition thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos; thou wast translated unto life, since thou art the Mother of Life; and by thine intercessions thou dost redeem our souls from death.

• KONTAKION OF DORMITION, Tone Two

The grave and death, could not hold the Theotokos, who is unsleeping in her intercessions, and an unfading hope in her mediations. For as the Mother of Life, she was translated to Life by the One Who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.

## SAVE THE DATE

For our 3rd Annual Camp Glendi

**WHEN:**

4 PM, Friday, September 17 — Saturday, September 18  
after Vespers

**WHERE:**

St. Seraphim grounds

**WHAT:**

Fun Family Camp Time! Come pitch your tent on the lawn, put your trailer in the parking lot, or set up your sleeping bag in the Parish Hall.

Meals, activities and s'mores provided

More details to follow...

Protection of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church • 90 Mountain View Ave • Santa Rosa  
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## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, August 14: 8:30 AM–Noon, Parish Work Party  
5 PM, Vigil for the Lord's Day and the Feast of Dormition
- Sunday, August 15: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy  
Pray and blessing for returning students  
Noon, Agape Meal
- Monday, August 16: 7 PM, Men's Group at the Fire Pit
- Wednesday, August 17: 5 PM, Vespers
- Friday, August 19: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions

### • WORK PARTY:

Saturday, August 14, from 8:30 AM to Noon. There will be all kinds of things to do, from light and easy to more strenuous. We have a To Do List.

### • WELCOME:

We joyfully welcome His Grace, our Bishop Daniel, who will be with us for the Vigil on Saturday evening. Since it will be the feast day of the Monastery in Calistoga on Sunday, he will serve the Holy Liturgy there with Deacon Justin assisting him.

### • THOUGHTS FOR DORMITION:

The mystery of God's Mother is not revealed in its totality only on Christmas Day, just as our salvation is not accomplished solely by the Incarnation of the Word of God. There is a process to our salvation—the sinless life lived by our Lord Jesus Christ, which culminates in His Passion, Death, Burial, Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven. And there was also a process for the Mother of God, who grew in her own understanding of the meaning of her Son. The last that we hear of the Virgin in the history of the New Testament is in the *Book of Acts*. On the Mount of Olives, she witnessed the Ascension of her Resurrected Son into Heaven, which was a foreshadowing of her own resurrection and assumption into the celestial mansions. Afterward, she returned to Jerusalem with the Disciples, and there, as the Scripture says: *With one accord they devoted themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers (Acts 1:14)*. This last mention of the Virgin Mary is important, for it shows that she had witnessed the com-

plete salvation of the earthly life of her Son: from His Nativity to His Ascension. And she is with the company of the Apostles and other Disciples of the Lord who followed their Teacher from Galilee. With them, she is prepared to experience the miracle of Pentecost, and thus, she receives the Holy Spirit in a second filling, after her Annunciation.... She is now completely enfolded in the life of God. She has fulfilled the promise of the Resurrection. And that is why there is no relic of the Virgin's physical form. For it is all living in eternity in order to show us that one day we will do the same. The only portion that remains is her sacred Ζώνη, plaited from her own hair, and enshrined today on the Holy Mountain of Athos. Therefore, she lives in Heaven as a guarantee—a promissory commitment—that we will live there, too, because we share the same human nature with her, that she shares with her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. And so, let us always run to her with eagerness and urgency, and ask her to supplicate her Son and God, for she is a mediator for the world. —*Archbishop Elpidophoros*

### • SOMETHINGS TO CONSIDER:

Church School Classes begin here on Sunday, September 12. Parents, please register your son or daughter for Church School after the Liturgy during the next few weeks. Please consider: classes are only twenty to thirty minutes long—even if every student came each and every week, the time spent in class is only enough to reinforce what the child should already be learning and practicing at home, taught by the parents. *Christian faith is learned and lived out at home*. Parents, make your home a little church, a place where God comes first, where His Holy Name is mentioned with words of praise and thanksgiving (rather than in frustration). Speak about the feast days, sing the hymns and read the Holy Scriptures together.

The Diocesan Assembly (gathering of clergy and representatives from all the parishes of the Diocese of the West) will be held this year in Las Vegas, NV at St. Paul Orthodox Church, October 11–14. Our representatives will be Michael Dovey, Alexander Stameroff, Deacon Justin and myself, along with Emma Anderson, who will attend as an official observer and to help sing at the liturgical services.

Yes, we are back to wearing masks indoors, hopefully for a brief time only. His Eminence has asked us to follow the local guidelines. I thank you for your cooperation and understanding. —*Fr Lawrence*