

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 26, 2021

Commemoration of the Righteous Saints David, James and Joseph

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

- TROPARION OF THE FEAST:

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath shone to the world the light of wisdom; for by it those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to worship Thee the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Dayspring from on high. O Lord, glory to Thee.

- TROPARION OF THE RIGHTEOUS ONES, Tone Two:

O Joseph, proclaim the wonders to David the father of our Divine Lord. Thou hast seen a Virgin conceive; thou hast given glory with the Shepherds; thou hast worshipped with the Magi; and thou hast been warned by an Angel. Implore Christ our God, to save our souls.

- KONTAKION OF THE RIGHTEOUS ONES, Tone Three:

Godly David on this day is filled with gladness of spirit; Joseph also joineth James in offering glory and praises. They rejoice, for as Christ's kinsmen, they have received crowns: and they praise the One ineffably born upon earth as they cry out with a great voice: O Lord of mercy, save them that honor Thy Name.

- KONTAKION OF THE FEAST:

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in essence; to the Unapproachable, the earth doth offer a small cave; Angels join in choir with shepherds in giving glory; with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; for our sakes is born a young Child, He that existed before the ages as God.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Friday, Dec. 24: 11:30 AM, Vesperal Liturgy for the Feast
6 PM, Festal Matins for Christmas
- Saturday, Dec. 25: 9:30 AM, Festal Divine Liturgy
- Sunday, Dec. 26: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy / Coffee and donuts after the Service
- Monday, Dec. 27: 9:30 AM, *Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St Stephen / San Anselmo*
- Wednesday, Dec. 29: 5 PM, Vespers
- Friday, Dec. 31: 5 PM, Great Vespers and Prayers for the New Year
- Saturday, Jan. 1: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy for Feast of the *Circumcision of Christ and St. Basil*
5 PM, Great Vespers and Akathist for the Feast of St. Seraphim

- Sunday, Jan. 2: **10 AM, Greeting of Bishop Benjamin and Divine Liturgy for the Feast,** Festal luncheon to follow

ON CHRIST'S NATIVITY

The child in that distant Bethlehem cave has no desire that we fear Him; He enters our hearts not by frightening us, by proving His power and authority, but by love alone. He is given to us as a child, and only as children can we in turn love Him and give ourselves to Him. The world is ruled by authority and power, by fear and domination. The Child God liberates us from that. All He desires from us is our love, freely given and joyful; all He desires is that we give Him our heart. And we give it to a defenseless, endlessly trusting child. —*Fr. Alexander Schmemmann*

- THE SECOND DAY OF THE FEAST:

The day after Nativity is dedicated to the Theotokos. We call that feast the [Synaxis of the Mother of God](#). The name *Synaxis* signifies the gathering of the faithful in order to praise and glorify the All-Holy Virgin, who gave birth to our Savior. On the Nativity of the Lord, the Church glorifies the Redeemer of the human race, and the blessed deliverance which freed the sinful world from the snares of the Enemy. It is only natural that on the second day of the Nativity of the Lord, the Church calls upon us to honor the Ever-Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Lord. This year, since the day after Christmas is a Sunday, instead of the feast of the *Synaxis*, we will remember in the Church others who are connected to the Messiah: the Righteous Prophet and King David, the forefather of the Lord; Saint James, the son of Joseph, who became the first bishop of Jerusalem, whom we call “The Brother of the Lord.” And finally, we remember Saint Joseph, the foster-father of the Lord.

- JANUARY 9: OUR CHILDREN'S MUSICAL OFFERING:

Come One, Come All to a Yuletide gathering of music and good cheer hosted by our singing youth. The program will include many delightful surprises as well as traditional carols. Fabulous homemade goodies to follow. Festivities are scheduled for January 9 at 5 PM, in the Parish hall.

- PARISH FEAST DAY: REPOSE OF SAINT SERAPHIM OF SAROV—JANUARY 2:

Once again we are preparing, as a parish, to celebrate one of the two St. Seraphim Days in the Church year. We are expecting His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin, to join us for Liturgy on **Sunday, January 2, 2022, 9:30 AM**. The evening before, Saturday, January 1, we will have Vespers and the Akathist for St. Seraphim at 5 PM. I look forward to celebrating the feast day of our patron together with you. —*Fr. Lawrence*

- WELCOME JOSEPH AND EFROSINI:

Our new parish interns, Joseph and Effie Candalario will be arriving on St. Seraphim Day, to begin their year long work here with us. Please offer them a hearty welcome.

- FEAST OF THEOPHANY, JANUARY 6:

We can see how important this feast is in the life of the Church by the number of liturgical services that we have been given. *Royal Hours* on Tuesday, January 4, at 6 PM. The *Vespertine Liturgy* on Wednesday,

January 5 at 11:30 AM (we fast strictly before this service to prepare for receiving Holy Communion). Holy Water will be blessed at the conclusion of the Vespers Liturgy. *Matins for Theophany* will be celebrated on Thursday as well, at 6:15 PM. The *Divine Liturgy of the Feast* will begin at 9 AM on Thursday, January 6, with another Great Blessing of Water (perhaps an outdoor blessing at Spring Lake??, TBD). Quite a few of our parishioners were baptized on this feast day, and we rejoice with them, asking that the Lord grant many years of fruitful service to the Church.

- HOUSE BLESSINGS:

A sign up list will be posted on January 2 for House Blessings. The late Archpriest John Udics reminds us that “on the Feast of the Parish or the Feast of Theophany we rededicate [and spiritually cleanse] our home for its original purpose, just as we must periodically rededicate our life to Christ. We do it especially on this

Feast of Theophany because this is the day on which we remember in the Church Year the coming of Christ who began His ministry when He descended into Jordan to be baptized by Saint John the Forerunner. He enters again into our lives reminding us that we must ‘repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand.’ An Orthodox Christian must dedicate not only himself and his house to the Lord, but his daily work and all his efforts as well. All things are to be done to the glory of God. That is why in the Christian Orthodox Church, not only religious objects, such as icons, crosses, churches and vestments, are blessed, but also homes, fields, animals, clothing and all objects which are used in our daily lives for the good of man. In this the Church expresses its faith that the Holy Spirit’s sanctifying action extends over the whole Creation.”

- UPCOMING — PARISH ANNUAL MEETING:

The Annual Meeting for 2017 will convene on **Sunday, February 6**, following the Liturgy. According to our Parish By-Laws, the Annual Meeting is to take place on the first Sunday of February. All parish members are asked to attend the meeting. What constitutes Parish Membership? Very simply, four things: A formal member of the parish is one who 1) is a baptized Orthodox Christian, 2) is at least 18 years of age, 3) regularly confesses and communes in this parish, 4) financially supports the parish. Besides elections to the Parish Council, this year we will also approve the new *Standard Parish By-laws* approved by the Diocese in October. The By-laws will be published in the Annual Meeting Report book.



Molieben and Akathist with anointing:
[Jan 14 7pm](#)
 St. Seraphim's OCA Cathedral, Santa Rosa.
[Jan 15 10.30am](#)
 Christ the Saviour 2040 Anza St. San Francisco.
[St. Christina's Fremont](#)
[Jan 15 6pm](#)
 Vespers and talk and [Jan 16 9.30am](#) Divine Liturgy and Molieben. All talks by Archimandrite Sergius (Bowyer) Abbot of Monastery of St Tikhon of Zadonsk Pennsylvania.

JANUARY 14-16 2022
MIRACLE-WORKING
ICON OF ST ANNA
VISITING THE BAY AREA

Contact:
 Fr Philip Halliwell,
 Christ the Saviour Church 2040, Anza St. San Francisco
 Phone: 415-823 9927
 frphiliphalliwell@gmail.com
 Parking on Jan 15th
 Saturday 10.30am at Star of the Sea Catholic church, 2nd entrance on 8th and Geary

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:45 AM, Reception of Catechumens • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • 11:30 AM, Agape Meal 	27 - St. Stephen Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Church in San Anselmo 	28 <i>Office closed this week</i>	29 - NO FAST <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Vespers 	30	31 - NO FAST <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Vespers for Feast of St. Basil and the Circumcision 	Jan. 1 - St. Basil Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy and prayers for the New Year • 5 PM, Vespers and Akathist for St. Seraphim
2 - St. Seraphim Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM, Greeting of Archbishop Benjamin and Divine Liturgy • Agape Meal to follow 	3	4 - Pre-feast of Theophany <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 PM, Royal Hours for Theophany 	5 - STRICT FAST <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30 AM, Vespers • Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water • 6:15 PM, Festal Matins for Theophany 	6 - THEOPHANY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 AM, Liturgy • 11:30 AM, possible <i>Outdoor Blessing of Water</i> at Spring Lake, TBD 	7 - St. John the Baptist <i>Old Calendar Nativity</i>	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Great Vespers
9 - Sunday after Theophany <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • 11:30 AM, Church School • Noon, Agape Meal • 5 PM, <i>Our Children's Musical Offering</i>, Parish Hall 	10	11	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank • 5 PM, Vespers 	13	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30 AM-1 PM, Confessions • 7 PM, Visit of the Icon of St. Anna, Akathist 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
16 - Chains of St. Peter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • 11:30 AM, Church School • Noon, Agape Meal 	17	18	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Vespers 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 PM, Parish Council 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30 AM-1 PM, Confessions 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
23 - New Martyrs of Russia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • 11:30 AM, Church School • Noon, Agape Meal 	24	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Vespers 	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank • 5 PM, Vespers 	27	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30 AM-1 PM, Confessions 	29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
30 - Three Hierarchs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • 11:30 AM, Church School • Noon, Agape Meal 	31	February 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:15 PM, Vigil for the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord 	2 - Meeting of the Lord <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 AM, Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Candles 	3	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30 AM-1 PM, Confessions 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions