

• THE VENERATION OF THE CHAINS OF THE APOSTLE PETER:

In about the year 42, on the orders of Herod Agrippa, the Apostle Peter was thrown into prison for preaching about Christ the Savior. In prison he was held secure by two iron chains. During the night before his trial, an angel of the Lord removed these chains from the Apostle Peter and led him out from the prison ([Acts 12:1-11](#)). Christians who learned of the miracle took the chains and kept them as precious keepsakes. For three centuries the chains were kept in Jerusalem, and those who were afflicted with illness and approached them with faith received healing. Patriarch Juvenal (July 2) presented the chains to Eudokia, wife of the emperor Theodosius the Younger, and she in turn transferred them from Jerusalem to Constantinople in either the year 437 or 439. Eudokia sent one chain to Rome to her daughter Eudoxia (the wife of Valentinian), who built a church on the Esquiline hill dedicated to the Apostle Peter and placed the chain in it. There were other chains in Rome, with which the Apostle Peter was shackled before his martyrdom under the emperor Nero. These were also placed in the church. On January 16, the chains of Saint Peter are brought out for public veneration. For accounts of miracles ascribed to this secondary relic, see [this link](#). Here is a [photo of the chains](#) in a reliquary in Rome.

• TEEN GET-TOGETHER:

St Nicholas parish in San Anselmo is looking forward to hosting the next teen event on January 30th. The plan is that we will gather at Saint Nicholas Church at 2PM. Weather permitting (light drizzle is okay), Father Stephan will lead the teens on a hike up Bald Mountain to enjoy spectacular views. The hikers will return via Phoenix Lake on foot to Saint Nicholas Church sometime between 5 and 6 pm. Once back at Saint Nicholas, Father Stephan will lead a brief discussion after which dinner will be provided by Saint Nicholas Church. Dinner will be followed by bingo and other games led by Matushka Elaine Meholick. Pickup will be between 7 or 8PM. Adult chaperones/drivers are welcome to join us for all activities. Everyone will need good walking shoes, a water bottle, and a mask. —*Corrina Lozanov, St. Nicholas Parish (see Fr Lawrence or Vicky Basch for more info)*

• UPCOMING:

The *Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple*, also known as *Candlemas*, is celebrated with Vigil on Feb. 1 and Divine Liturgy on Feb. 2, with the blessing of candles. See this [link about the Feast](#).

# ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

## PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



January 16, 2022



## Feast of the Chains of St. Peter

• 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 CHAINS OF ST. PETER, Tone Four:

Thou didst come to us without leaving Rome through the precious chains that thou didst wear. First-enthroned of the Apostles, we bow down to them in faith and pray: "Through thy prayers to God grant us great mercy!"

• KONTAKION OF THE CHAINS OF ST. PETER, Tone Two:

Christ the Rock radiantly glorifies the Rock of Faith, the first-enthroned of the disciples; He calls us to honor the miracles wrought through Peter's chains, so that He may grant us forgiveness of our sins.

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Protection of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church • 90 Mountain View Ave • Santa Rosa

707-584-9491 • LMargitich@sbcglobal.net • saintseraphim.com

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Jan. 15: 5 PM, Vigil for the Resurrection/Confessions
- Sunday, Jan. 16: 9:40 AM, Third and Sixth Hours  
10 AM, Divine Liturgy  
(No Agape Meal or School)
- Wednesday, Jan. 19: 5 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, Jan. 20: 7 PM, Parish Council Meeting  
• 7 PM, On-line Bible Study with Fr. James
- Friday, Jan. 21: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions (Protection Church)  
**7 PM, Visit of the Icon of St. Anna/  
Akathist**
- Saturday, Nov. 27: *11:30 AM, Prayer Service at the Walk for Life in SF  
(depart Church parking lot at 10 AM)*  
5 PM, Vigil / Confession

### • POSTPONEMENT:

By now most of our congregation is aware that the visit of the miracle-working icon of St. Anna, the Mother of the Theotokos, was postponed. We hope to receive the icon on Friday, January 21 at 7 PM, and sing the Akathist to Sts. Joachim and Anna before it. Copies of the Akathist will be provided. [Here is a link](#) for those who might want to pray it ahead of time.

### • COUNTY MANDATE:

This last week Sonoma County issued a mandate in response to the locally rising rates of covid. [See the Press Release](#) for more information. Note that churches are exempt from the mandate, so we will NOT be moving our Altar outside nor will we suspend Church Services (even if both priests get sick, Reader Services will still be held). *Our response to the County directive:* Church School classes and Agape Meals are on hold for the time being. Our Church School Principal, John Gilluly, will post some helpful lessons on our GROUPS forum. God willing, we will return to our usual Sunday meals and classes by the beginning of February (one remembers the “fifteen days to flatten the curve,” yet I remain optimistic). —*Fr Lawrence*

### • PARISH ANNUAL MEETING:

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 6**, following Divine Liturgy. Besides elections for five new Council Members,

we will also review our finances and seek approval for the 2022 operating budget. We will also vote on new Parish Bylaws, so that they will conform to the newly-revised and standardized Diocesan approved parish bylaws. Our hope and expectation is that the current covid spike will drop off by the date of our meeting so that we can gather together.

### • ST EUGENE'S SUMMER CAMP:

The volunteer camp committee for our annual St. Eugene's Camp is hard at work preparing for camp this summer! The dates are Sunday, June 26 (evening) through Saturday, July 2 (morning). This year's camp will be held near Dunlap, CA. Our Orthodox camp is a foundational experience in the Christ-centered upbringing of our kids! Our parish offers scholarships to our kids to attend; just speak with Fr. Lawrence (or if you'd like to be a counselor!) Here is a message from the Camp Director, Fr. Andrew Smith:

Please join all the other parishes in the deanery in holding a collection for [St Eugene Camp](#) on **Sunday, January 23rd** (New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia). As always, funds from this collection will go toward funding the cost of counselors. We wish we could pay them all handsomely, but at the very least we should not ask them to pay their own way! Wouldn't it be wonderful if every parish in the deanery came together in this effort? Your responses to this appeal can be made out to St. Eugene Camp and mailed to our *Camp Treasurer Kathy Pieracci at 9535 Sun Poppy Way El Dorado Hills CA 95762*. Please indicate on the check that the funds are for Camp Appeal 2022. I am always willing and eager to speak with you if you have any camp-related questions or if you would like to refer a potential counselor to our team. Thank you for your efforts—they are essential to the success of this camp that, with God's help, feeds and nourishes the children of our parishes in this deanery. —*Priest Andrew Smith, Director, St Eugene Orthodox Youth Camp, (707)-327-617. Email: director@steugeneecamp.org*

### • WALK-FOR-LIFE IN SF:

The 2022 Orthodox gathering at the *Walk for Life* is Saturday, January 22 at 11:30 AM. Look for the Orthodox banner. A [Service of Supplication](#) will be sung at 11 AM. Full information: <https://www.oclife.org/walk> Please speak to me if you are interested in attending. —*Fr Lawrence*