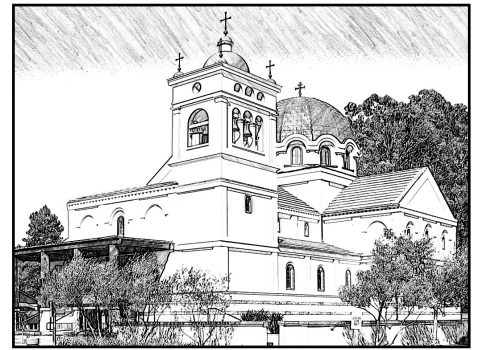


ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN
MAY 22, 2022



- RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION, Tone Four:

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse, and elatedly told the Apostles: death is overthrown, Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

- TROPARION OF MID-FEAST, Tone Eight:

At Mid-feast give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of piety; for Thou, O Savior didst cry out to all: Whosoever is thirsty let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Well-spring of Life, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

- KONTAKION OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN, Tone Eight:

The Samaritan woman came to the well in faith; she saw Thee, the Water of Wisdom and drank abundantly; she inherited the Kingdom on high and is ever glorified.

- KONTAKION OF MID-FEAST, Tone Four:

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law: “Come and draw the water of immortality!” We fall before Thee and faithfully cry: “Grant us Thy mercies, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!”

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, May 21: 5 PM, Vigil / Confessions
- Sunday, May 22: **9 AM, Baptisms**
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:30 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal and Reception for the Newly-Illumined
1 PM, Parish Council Meeting (Library)
- Wednesday, May 25: 4 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank
5 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, May 26 7 PM, Bible Study with Fr James, online
- Friday, May 27: 11 AM, Supplicatory Canon to St. John the Russian
11:30 AM–1:30 PM, Confessions (in the Protection Church)

- YE FAITHFUL, PRAY FOR THE NEWLY-ILLUMINED:

Many Years to the Newly-illuminated and their sponsors: Bibiane (Gretchen and Martin), James (Ray), Evan (Timothy), Raquel (Harriette) and John (Joseph M).

• MEMORY ETERNAL:

His Eminence, the kind and righteous Metropolitan Hilarion, first Hierarch of the *Russian Church outside of Russia* (ROCOR) reposed this week after a lengthy illness. Please add his name to your prayers for the departed.

• THE JOY OF PASCHA:

Christ weeps at the grave of his dead friend Lazarus—what a powerful witness! He does not say, “Well, now he is in heaven, everything is well; he is separated from this difficult and tormented life.” Christ does not say all those things we do in our pathetic and un-comforting attempts to console. In fact he says nothing—he weeps. And then, according to the Gospels, he raises his friend... Is not Christianity first of all faith in the resurrection of Christ from the dead, in the assertion that “the dead shall arise and those in the graves shall rejoice?” ...Christianity proclaims, confirms and teaches, that this separation of the soul from the body, which we call *death*, is evil. It is not part of God’s creation. It is that which entered the world, making it subject to itself, but opposed to God and violating His design, His desire for the world, for mankind and for life. It is that which Christ came to destroy... Here, I would once more like to repeat and emphasize that God did not create the world for this separation, dying, ruin and corruption. And for this reason the Christian Gospel proclaims that “the last enemy to be destroyed is death.” The Resurrection is the recreation of the world in its original beauty and totality. It is the complete spiritualization of matter and the complete incarnation of the spirit in God’s creation. The world has been given to man as his life, and for this reason, according to our Christian Orthodox teaching, God will not annihilate it but will transfigure it into “a new heaven and a new earth,” into man’s spiritual body, into the temple of God’s presence and God’s glory in creation. “The last enemy to be destroyed is death...” And that destruction, that extermination of death began when the Son of God Himself in His immortal love for us voluntarily descended into death and its darkness, filling its despair and horror with His light and love. And this is why we sing on Pascha not only “Christ is risen from the dead,” but also “trampling down death by death...” He alone arose from the dead, but He has destroyed our death, destroying its dominion, its despair, its finality. Christ does not promise us Nirvana or some sort of misty life beyond the grave, but the resurrection of life, a new heaven and a new earth, the joy of the universal resurrection. “The dead shall arise, and those in the tombs will sing for joy...” Christ is risen, and life abides, life lives... That is the meaning; that is the unending joy of this truly central and fundamental confirmation of the Symbol of Faith: “And the third day, He rose again according to the Scriptures.” According to the Scriptures, i.e. in accordance with that knowledge of life, with that design for the world and humanity, for the soul and body, for the spirit and matter, for life and death, which has been revealed to us in the Holy Scriptures. This is the entire faith, the entire love, and the entire hope of Christianity. And this is why the Apostle Paul says, “If Christ is not risen, then your faith is in vain.” —*Fr. Alexander Schmemmann*

• CONGRATULATIONS:

Many Years and congratulations to those who are graduating this year:

- ❖ Father Paul Garret Hamner, from St. Tikhon’s Seminary in Pennsylvania. Fr. Paul and Sarah and family will be going to serve at St. Paul’s Orthodox Church in Las Vegas, the largest parish in the Diocese.
- ❖ Carmen Anderson, University of Stirling in Scotland, degree in history (finishing a year early!)
- ❖ Gabriel Nicholson, SSU with honors and a degree in Electrical Engineering.
- ❖ Sophia Basch, graduating from Windsor High School.

• MEMORIAL DAY AT THE CEMETERY:

A *Panikhida* will be served on Memorial Day, May 30, at Noon, at Santa Rosa Memorial Cemetery. I invite all of you to join me in praying for those who laid down their lives for their country, and as a public witness of our Orthodox Faith in prayerful action. You will find me under the trees at the eastern, somewhat central, area of the cemetery.

- PASCHAL MATINS / LEAVE-TAKING & ASCENSION:

On **Tuesday, May 31 at 6 PM** (please not the time change from 7 PM to 6 PM), we will celebrate the *Leave-taking of Pascha* with Matins. For the last time this year—perhaps the last in this life for some of us, God knows—we will sing “Christ is Risen” and all of the hymns of the glorious day of the Resurrection of the Savior. The following evening, **June 1 at 6:15 PM**, being forty days from Pascha, we will have a Vigil to mark the Ascension of Christ into Heaven. The Divine Liturgy for Ascension will be celebrated the next morning, **June 2 at 9 AM**.

- ST SERAPHIM WEEK IS AROUND THE CORNER:

If you have children, grandchildren or godchildren, you’ll want to enroll them in our *St. Seraphim Week for Kids* program. This annual “Church School” will take place June 6–10 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Volunteers will be needed to help out each morning for a couple of hours. Registration will take place after Liturgy. [Register HERE](#).

- ON LOVE, from St. Ignatius Brianchaninov:

Do not seek or expect love from anyone. With all your might, seek and demand from yourself love and compassion for people. Love for one’s neighbor is a path leading to love for God, because Christ, who is God, willingly assumed the shape of each of our neighbors. Give reverence to your neighbor as an image of God. Bear this reverence in your soul; keep it invisible to others and evident only to your conscience.

Pay respect to your neighbor without distinguishing between age, gender or class, and the holy love will gradually begin to appear in your heart. Show respect to the blind, leprous, damaged in mind, infants, criminals and pagans, for they carry an image of God. Care not about their weaknesses or shortcomings! Observe yourself so that you do not have a lack of love.

If you think that you love God, and there is ill disposition in your heart albeit toward one person, then you are in sorrowful self-delusion. Keep your conscience in relation to your neighbor: do not be content with the mere speciousness of your behavior.

Any Orthodox Christian who wants to leave behind carelessness and adopt a spiritually-attentive life and his own salvation must first pay attention to his relations with his neighbors. Love for God consists in love for one’s neighbor. He who has nurtured in himself love for one’s neighbor, acquires in his heart the invaluable spiritual treasure of love for God. Christ, revered and loved in our every neighbor, is the only reason for our love. He who loves his enemies has achieved perfection in love for his neighbor, and the gates of love for God are already open to him. Do not seek or expect love from anyone. With all your might, seek and demand from yourself love and compassion for people. *Source: <https://pravlife.org/ru/content/svt-ignatij-bryanchaninov-11-fraz-o-lyubvi>*

- FRECOES UNDERWAY:

Sts. Gerasimos of the Jordan and Ephraim the Syrian are being painted now. Upcoming in the south aisle will be the recent Sts. Porphyrios and Paisius, and on the large column, eventually St. Moses the Black and St. Panteleimon (areas above need painting before the last two can be done). In the north aisle we have the following saints commissioned: St. Anastasia—Healer of potions, St. Xenia of Petersburg, St. Stephanie the Martyr, St. Suniva of Norway and St. Elizabeth—Mother of St. John the Baptist. Word was received two weeks ago that the fresco painters who will work with Fathers Patrick and Moses—Ekaterina and Anton Daineko from Minsk—have received permission to travel here. We hope to see them at the end of June, perhaps July. Travel details are pending.

- FATHER THEODOR AND HANNE and the kids:

Good news: The Svane family will be visiting us for a couple of weeks, arriving here on June 9.

- PENTECOST:

St. Luke relates in the Book of Acts that St. Paul was “was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost” ([Acts 20](#)). Having celebrated the Lord’s Pascha and Ascension, we too should be eager to celebrate Pentecost (June 12)—*the crown of Pascha*—in order that the grace of the Spirit may be renewed in us.

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH

JUNE 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 29 • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • 11:45 AM, Agape Meal and <i>end of Church School</i> celebration	30 <i>Memorial Day</i> • Noon, Panikhida at Santa Rosa Memorial Cemetery	31 • 6 PM, Matins for the Leave-taking of Pascha	JUNE 1 • 6:15 PM, Vigil for Ascension	2 - ASCENSION DAY • 9 AM, Divine Liturgy • 7 PM, Online Bible Study with Fr. James	3 • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions	4 • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
5 - Holy Fathers • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • 11:45 AM, Agape Meal	6	7	8	9	10	11 - Memorial Saturday • 9 AM, Divine Liturgy • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
	<i>St. Seraphim Week for Kids, 10 AM–2 PM</i>			• 4 PM, Food Bank • 5 PM, Vespers	• 7 PM, Online Bible Study with Fr. James	<i>No Confessions</i> • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
12 - PENTECOST • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy with the <i>Kneeling Vespers</i> to follow • 12:30 PM, Agape Meal	13 Fast Free Week	14	15 • 5 PM, Vespers	16 • 7 PM, Online Bible Study with Fr. James	17 • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions	18 • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
19 - All Saints • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape Meal • 1 PM, Parish Council Meeting, Library	20 <i>Beginning of the Fast of the Holy Apostles (abstinence from meat, dairy, eggs, etc.)</i>	21	22 • 4 PM, Food Bank • 5 PM, Vespers	23 • 6 PM, Great Vespers for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist	24 - Nativity of St John • 9 AM, Divine Liturgy	25 • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
26 - All Saints of America • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape Meal • Depart for Church Camp	27	28 • 6 PM, Great Vespers for the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul	29 - Sts. Peter and Paul • 9 AM, Divine Liturgy • 5 PM, Vespers	30	JULY 1 • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions	2 - St. John of SF <i>Services at Holy Virgin, Geary St. in SF</i> • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions

- Fr. Lawrence will be away from June 13–23. He will depart for Church Camp following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 26, and return afternoon of July 2.
- Fort Ross: Annual Divine Liturgy at the Fort begins at 10:30 AM, followed by a picnic
- Shaded days indicate a Fast Day (abstinence from meat, dairy, eggs, etc)