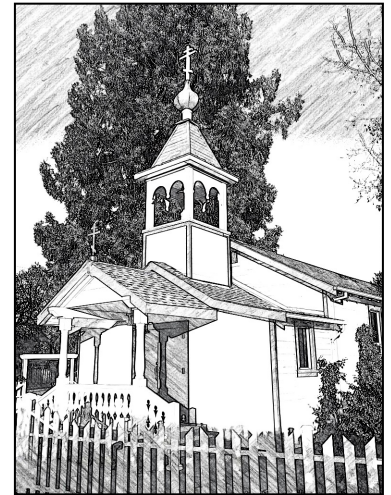


ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ October 16, 2022

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone One:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy kingdom; glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

- TROPARION OF THE HOLY FATHERS, TONE EIGHT:

Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established the Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

- KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, TONE ONE:

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master, Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage, and cries to Thee: Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ.

- KONTAKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS, TONE EIGHT:

The Son Who shone forth from the Father was ineffably born, twofold in nature, of a woman. Having beheld Him, we do not deny the image of His form, but depict it piously and revere it faithfully. Thus, keeping the True Faith, the Church venerates the icon of Christ Incarnate.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Oct. 15: 3:30 PM, Catechism, *What is Catechism?*
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confessions
- Sunday, Oct. 16: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:30 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal
3 PM, Teen Gathering at Holy Trinity Cathedral in SF
- Wednesday, Oct. 19: 5:30 PM, Hosting “Angels Unawares” (see below)
6 PM, Vespers
7 PM, Book Club, in the Parish Library
- Thursday, Oct. 20: 6 PM, *Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos*, Protection Church
7 PM, Bible Study with Fr James
- Friday, Oct. 21: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions (in St. Seraphim)

SOME CALENDAR EVENTS

- ☑ Oct. 19, 7 PM: Book Club, Parish Library. Speak with Dan DeCarlo about the next book.
- ☑ Oct. 19, 6 PM: *Angels Unawares*—Beginning on Wed., Oct. 19, and after that on the first Thursday of the month (except December), starting November 3 until March, our parish welcomes guests from the Redwood Gospel Mission, hosting about twenty or so folks for dinner and providing a place to sleep for the night. Guests will arrive about 6 PM, departure about 6:30 AM the next morning. Michael Dovey coordinates the program. You are invited to participate in serving and welcoming our guests. Any questions, call Michael at (707) 799-4117. *“Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them who suffer adversity...”* (Hebrews 13) Outreach is for all members of the Church. **Dates we host: Wed., Oct. 19; Thursdays, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 2.**
- ☑ Oct. 23, 12:30 PM: Council Members and interested parishioners, our monthly meeting will take place next Sunday, October 23, 12:30 PM (approx), in the Parish Library.
- ☑ 2nd and 4th Wed: The **Redwood Empire Food Bank** distribution is held on the second and fourth Wednesday each month. Volunteers, please arrive around 5 PM to help set up. This Food Bank is an important way in which our parish does outreach to the community. Come and participate in this worthy endeavor.
- ☑ Oct. 26 6:45 PM: Matushka Ann and Fr Lawrence will show photos and speak about their recent pilgrimage to Italy. They visited ancient sites pilgrimage sites in Bari, [Arberobella](#), Salerno, Napoli, San Angeles in Formis, Rome, Ravenna, Venice, Padova, Verona and Milan. Since it will be dinner time, please bring a dish to share for a potluck.
- ☑ Oct. 22, Noon: Eleni Rose will be hosting a **Bridal Shower** for Raquel Llamas (wedding to Dr. John Fullerton is Nov. 13) in the Parish Hall on Saturday, October 22, from 3–4:30 PM. Please bring “finger food” to share. Raquel is registered at <https://tinyurl.com/3vyeunap>
- ☑ Oct. 30, Noon: The men of the parish—of all ages—are invited to attend a brief organizational meeting **Sunday, Oct. 30**, about Noon (we will probably gather at a picnic table outside). Our goal will be to discuss some of the service, fellowship and pilgrimage activities we might do in the next six months. Please speak with Ole Kern or Daniel DeCarlo if you have any questions.
- ☑ Oct. 30, 4 PM: Hear a presentation by Fathers Patrick and Moses on the paintings just completed, with a word on beauty, as expressed in icons, hymns, vestments, carving and singing.
- ☑ Nov. 4, 6:30 PM: Our sister parish of St. Nicholas in San Anselmo will be hosting a *Square Dance* on Friday, November 4th—outside in the courtyard, weather permitting. Join them for a night of fun and fellowship! Come at the start to become familiar with the basics. It’s easy to catch on, don’t be shy! The event is free. Children are welcome. Please bring a vegetarian snack or beverage to share. “Western attire” is encouraged! Invite your friends. Be there or be square! See more [HERE](#).

• AWAY THIS WEEK:

As many of you know, during the All-American Council back in July I was elected to serve on the Metropolitan Council of the OCA (see this [LINK](#) for more info and minutes of past meetings). The MC will be meeting next

week, Oct. 19-20, which means I must once again be away—and I apologize for my absence—but only during the week. I'll depart from SFO Tuesday very early morning, fly to Washington, DC, and return home Friday evening. —*Fr Lawrence*

• THE ASCETIC IMPERATIVE—A MATTER OF COMMUNION:

“I will make my dwelling among them and *walk among them*, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.” (2 Cor. 6:14–18)

God “walks among us” as we walk “in His commandments.” This...passage also points to the contradiction that such a practice brings about with the secularized world. Living in the world, we often fail to see that our lives are always an act of communion. To live mindlessly in this culture is inevitably an act of “channeling” the culture, of living as an expression of the culture in human form. We shop because the culture shops. We “care about stuff” because the culture “cares.” We worry because the culture worries. We weep when it weeps and become angry as it rages. We unconsciously live as “epistles” of the culture (the Scriptures would name it as “Mammon”) even as the culture whispers to us that these are our own thoughts. We imagine ourselves to be willing individuals, centers of consciousness defined by our choices. In point of fact, we are often little more than mouthpieces of the culture-mind, our “consciousness” created elsewhere and marketed to us. If you feel no tension with the culture around you, then you have been swallowed alive and are being digested. There is an ascetic imperative, an utter necessity to enter into the struggle that is Christ’s own struggle. We fast because Christ in us fasts. We pray because Christ in us prays. We forgive because Christ in us forgives. We love because Christ in us loves. We give because Christ in us gives. Such a life is a sign of contradiction, a repudiation of the world’s claims to be “normal” or “just the way things are.” The life of Christ is the true life of the world, the purpose of all things. People came to Christ with this question: “What must we **do** to be saved?” Ultimately, the answer is, “Do Christ.” We walk in Him and He walks in us. This is the ascetic imperative. This is the crucified life of grace, the salvation of the world. —*Fr Stephen Freeman, from his blog*

• CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN OUR PARISH:

What are the ways in which we can gain insight and understanding, both intellectually and spiritually, here in our parish? Let’s list them:

Vespers and Vigils—the hymns celebrate the feast days with prayed theology in song. There’s an ancient maxim that says that *the rule of faith is the rule of prayer*—meaning that the faith of the Church is expressed in our hymns and in the way we pray. We don’t change the Liturgical Services or the Liturgy specifically, since then we’d be changing our faith as well. At Vespers celebrations we also learn about how the Church uses Scripture. And there’s a great deal of scripture that comprises these Services. Finally, Vespers and Vigils give us a chance to pay attention, to engage the soul and heart in something (prayer) besides our busy cares and

TASKS TO DO AROUND HERE

Replace burned out light-bulbs on the outside of the Protection Church and one on the pergola walk-way; paint altar side door; clean the oil chandelier before it is rehung; collect cups, plates and utensils from the yard on Sunday after lunch; join Matushka Ann’s gardening crew; collect candle stubs after services and clean the sand in the stands; windex the church windows; offer olive oil for use in the lamps; offer a case of sacramental wine for the Eucharist; scrape the grass clumps growing in the parking lot holes. And there are many other things too...

responsibilities. This effort can be a struggle (especially if you have kids) but over time it pays “dividends.”

Church School—classes for our children are brief, but carefully crafted and lovingly taught by our teachers. These classes also serve as a time of fellowship for our children, which is very important in their church life. Since we do not have a K-12 church school, alas, please remember that the teaching of prayer, scripture, doctrine and practice are the responsibility of the parent. The Church School can only supplement and help guide.

Catechism—not just for Catechumens. We meet on Saturdays at 3:30 PM, beginning this weekend. Classes run through December 17, after which we break for the Feast Days, and start the second semester (on the Holy Mysteries) on February 11.

Book Club—this group meets once a month to discuss a book, which is related to or about the Orthodox Faith, while enjoying fellowship. We find inspiration and encouragement in these gatherings. We learn to be patient when others are expressing their thoughts and ideas. It’s a teachable moment.

Bible Study—Fr James teaches an online class on Thursday evenings at 7 PM. He has covered the Psalms, the book of Revelation, and various scripture readings assigned to the various feast days. What a treasure of faith can be found here.

Sermons—Weekly brief homilies, aka sermons are part of the Divine Liturgy. The [encyclical on preaching](#) by the Bishops of the OCA tells us this: “The true and only subject of the sermon is God himself: ‘Something which has existed since the beginning, that we have heard, and we have seen with our own eyes; that we have watched and touched with our hands; the Word who is life—this is our subject.’ (1 John 1:1) The Word who is life, the Lord Jesus Christ must be preached and his message made known. The birth, death, resurrection and second coming of the Son of God, the simple apostolic *kerygma* is the theme which moved those present at Pentecost, giving meaning even today and offering salvation.”

Monthly talks upcoming—We begin a monthly series of talks, starting on Sunday, October 30 at 4 PM. Frs Patrick and Moses will speak about the latest iconographic work in the church and how important beauty is for the Christian life.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

PILGRIMAGE AND RETREAT TO ST JOHN'S MONASTERY

MANTON, CA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21ST - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

We will be carpooling from the parish to the beautiful Monastery of St. John near Manton, CA for a weekend retreat away from the noise of the world.

This is a great opportunity to become acquainted and enriched by the monastic way of life and prayer, to recharge spiritually, and to enjoy the natural beauty and peacefulness surrounding the monastery.

**Carpool leaves at 1pm on Friday, October 21st
from St. Seraphim's parking lot
90 Mountain View Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95407**

Donation to the monastery suggested. If you are interested in participating, please RSVP by **October 14th** at sivartkoeller@gmail.com

Questions can be directed to Travis Andrew or Josef Candelario