

• LOVE IS IN THE AIR:

We of St. Seraphim have been blessed with an outpouring of love from above. It has permeated our hearts and all that we do. On Tuesday, February 14th, our expressions of love will be heard and felt by those close to us and by our fellow parishioners at a **Valentine's Day Dinner and Floor Show** in the Parish Hall. This will be a revival of the "talent" shows and the music and poetry evenings of the now distant pre-C-19 past. The date is firm for 6:00 PM, so ink it in; the details have still to be finalized. Several truly talented church members have already said that they would appear, and a few more are yet to be confirmed. If you have a **well practiced, people pleasing, performing proficiency**, please respond to this announcement. The evening will include Italian Red (spaghetti and accompaniments) with potluck desserts. Although the donation jar will be out, there will be no charge. Entertainers will surprise and delight us so that we are not eager to call it a night by nine o'clock. —Vladimir; ursusmjr@sonic.net

• PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

January 22, 12:30 PM (moved from Jan. 15).

• PARISH ANNUAL MEETING:

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 5 at 12:30 PM. The report booklets will be distributed by Sunday, Jan. 29.

Orthodox Sacred Arts Series

Part Four: Russian Orthodox Sacred Music

Speaker: Nicolas Custer



Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 5 PM

Saint Seraphim Cathedral
90 Mountain View Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

Email STS.Y2AM@gmail.com for any questions!

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



January 15, 2023

St. Paul of Thebes and St. John the Hut-Dweller



• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, TONE SIX:

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hades, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: Glory to Thee.

• TROPARION OF THE SAINTS, Tone Four:

O God of our Fathers, always act with kindness towards us; take not Thy mercy from us, but guide our lives in peace through the prayers of the venerable Paul and John!

• KONTAKION OF ST. PAUL, Tone Three:

Today we gather and praise thee with hymns as an un-waning ray of the spiritual Sun; for thou dost shine on those in the darkness of ignorance, leading all mankind to the heights, venerable Paul, adornment of Thebes and firm foundation of the fathers and ascetics.

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ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Jan. 14: 1 PM, 40th Day Panikhida for John Hartman
5 PM, Great Vespers and Confessions
- Sunday, Jan. 15: 9:45 AM, Reception of New Catechumens
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:30 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal
- Wednesday, Jan. 18: 6 PM, Vespers
7 PM, Book Club
- Thursday, Jan. 19: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St.
Mark of Ephesus (*Protection Church*)
(Senior Brunch postponed)
- Friday, Jan. 20: House Blessings (No Confessions)
Hosting St. Andrew, Riverside youth for Walk for Life

• WELCOME:

We joyfully welcome our newest Catechumens, the Weaver family—James, Roxanne and their daughter. Please extend a warm welcome to them.

• MEMORY ETERNAL:

Our dear brother-in-Christ, Ron Parmenas Davis, reposed on Wednesday, January 11, at home. Funeral services times will be posted as soon as they are set. May his memory be eternal. We will sing a Trisagion for his repose on Sunday, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

• [WALK FOR LIFE](#) IN SAN FRANCISCO:

Transportation to the *Walk* is being arranged now. We are expecting Fr Josiah Trenham and about 50 youth from St. Andrew's Orthodox Church in Riverside to come up on Friday, Jan. 20, to sleep in the Hall, the Sunday School rooms and the Rectory. We will caravan with them to Holy Trinity Cathedral in SF on Green and Van Ness for a **9 AM Divine Liturgy** and from there go to the Civic Center for the *Walk*. After the *Walk* we return here for Vespers and a BBQ on Saturday evening. Please come to help with hospitality.

• SENIOR BRUNCH:

The brunch scheduled for Thursday, January 19 has been postponed.

• HOUSE BLESSINGS:

Blessings continue this week and next, per the calendar posted in the Narthex. If your name is not on the list, that is not because it has been forgotten. It may be due to the fact that some of you have never had your home blessed: this is puzzling to me, and indeed, is a spiritual failing for an Orthodox Christian—to be blunt—about which I will continue to remind you. Some others like to schedule the house blessing separately—please contact me ASAP so we can do that before too long. A few of you had to postpone your house blessing: please contact me so we can reschedule. —*Fr Lawrence*

• FEAST OF ST. PAUL OF THEBES ~ JANUARY 15:

Saint Paul of Thebes was born in Egypt around 227 in the [Thebaid](#) of Egypt. Left orphaned, he suffered many things from a greedy relative over his inheritance. During the persecution against Christians under the emperor Decius (249-251), Saint Paul learned of his brother-in-law's insidious plan to deliver him into the hands of the persecutors, and so he fled the city and fled into the wilderness. Settling into a mountain cave, Saint Paul dwelt there for ninety-one years, praying incessantly to God both day and night. He sustained himself on dates and bread, which a raven brought him, and he clothed himself with palm leaves. ...Saint Paul of Thebes died in the year 341, when he was 113 years old. He did not establish a single monastery, but soon after his end there were many imitators of his life, and they filled the desert with monasteries. Saint Paul is honored as the first desert-dweller and hermit. In the twelfth century Saint Paul's relics were transferred to Constantinople and placed in the [Peribleptos Monastery](#) of the Mother of God, on orders of the emperor Manuel (1143-1180). Later, they were taken to Venice, and finally to Hungary, at Ofa. Part of his head is in Rome. Saint Paul of Thebes, whose Life was written by Saint Jerome, is not to be confused with Saint Paul the Simple (October 4). See [HERE](#) for more info on the life of St. Paul. Our Cathedral has a fresco of him, painted by Fr. Patrick, in the south aisle, next to St. Anthony the Great, who buried the saint. St. Anthony is celebrated on Jan. 17.

• IMPORTANT DATES:

Meeting of the Lord in the Temple—Feb. 2. Meatfare Sunday—Feb. 19. Forgiveness Sunday—Feb. 26 (Lent begins). Annunciation—March 25. Lazarus Saturday—April 8. Pascha—April 16. Pentecost—June 4.