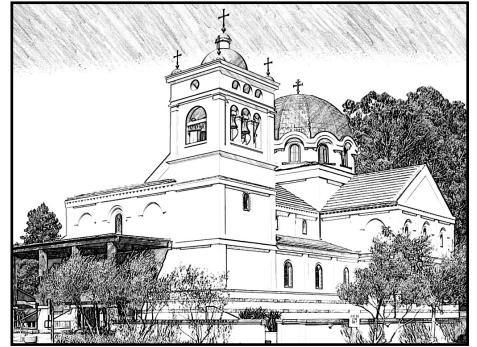


ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, January 22, 2023

Sunday of the New Martyrs of Russia



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, TONE SEVEN:

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death; to the thief, Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy Disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

- TROPARION OF THE NEW MARTYRS, Tone Four:

O ye holy hierarchs, royal passions-bearers and pastors, monastics, men, women and children, ye countless new-martyrs, confessors, blossoms of the spiritual meadow of Russia, who have borne fruit for Christ in your endurance: Entreat Him, as the One that planted you, that He deliver His people from godless and evil men, and that the Church of Russia be made steadfast through your blood and suffering, unto the salvation of our souls.

- KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Seven:

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hades is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: the Savior has come to them that have faith. Enter, ye faithful, into the Resurrection.

- KONTAKION OF THE NEW MARTYRS, Tone Two:

O ye new passion-bearers of Russia, who have with your confession finished the course of this earth, receiving boldness through your sufferings: Beseech Christ Who suffered for you, that they who pray to you in the hour of the testing of their faith may receive the gift of courage. For ye are witnesses to us who kiss your feet, that neither tribulation, prison nor death can separate us from the love of God.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Jan. 21: *Walk For Life* in San Francisco, begins with the 9 AM Liturgy in SF at Holy Trinity
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confessions
BBQ for our guests from St. Andrew Orthodox Church in Riverside
- Sunday, Jan. 22: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:30 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal
12:30 PM, *Parish Council Meeting in Library*
5 PM, Talk on Russian Liturgical Singing by Nicolas Custer, in the Cathedral
- Wednesday, Jan. 25: 6 PM, Vespers, in the Protection Church

- Thursday, Jan. 26: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy in the Protection Church
- Friday, Jan. 27: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions

- 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.

- INTRODUCING THE WEAVERS:

Last Sunday we received James, Roxanne and their daughter Lillianna (or Lily, for short) as catechumens. James and Roxanne are both in their mid-30s and Lily is an infant. Roxanne works as a nurse practitioner for Santa Rosa Community Health and James served in the Army is now studying electrical engineering. They moved to Santa Rosa from Baltimore, Maryland back in early 2021. We warmly welcome them to our parish family.

- NEW MARTYRS OF RUSSIA (reprinted from 2022):

Click [HERE](#) for a photo montage of many of the men, women and children (How familiar many of them appear!) martyred in Russia by the Bolsheviks. These are family photos, church event photos, and prisoner photos. The wave of repressions started soon after the revolution. On January 25th, 1918, Vladimir, Metropolitan of Kiev, the oldest archbishop of the Church, was killed. In the same year, the Cheka executed over 3,000 Orthodox clergymen. Many of them were drowned in ice-holes or covered with cold water until they froze to death. Thousands of Orthodox Christians were sent to the concentration camp [Solovki](#), a former monastery on the islands in the White Sea. Eight Metropolitans, twenty Archbishops and forty-seven Bishops died there. One of the places of mass killings was KGB [Butovo Field](#) near Moscow, when in 1938 alone, over 20,000 Orthodox people met their death. Thousands of churches were destroyed; monasteries and seminaries were closed. In the period between 1927 and 1940, the number of the churches fell from around 60,000 to less than 500. Countless icons and sacred church objects were lost, destroyed or stolen. The government did not allow construction of new churches. Innocent believers—beyond numbering—died in prison, concentration camps and mental hospitals. We know that pain, fear, rejection, oppression, ridicule, suffering and death are weapons of the evil one used by the powerful of this world against Christians. Since the resurrection of Jesus Christ those things have never been effective against those who share in that victory over threats and death. I recommend this [2016 sermon](#) from the Monastery of the Holy Cross in West Virginia and this talk by [Fr. Ilya Gotlinski](#) on the New Martyrs, given here at St. Seraphim in 2018.

- DIAPER BANK:

Many thanks to those who have made donations to the parish diaper bank. There is a drop off box in the parish hall. Catie DeCarlo is organizing the distribution, date to be announced.

- 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

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!

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

- IMPORTANT DATES:

Meeting of the Lord in the Temple—Feb. 2. *Meat-fare Sunday*—Feb. 19. *Forgiveness Sunday*—Feb. 26 (Lent begins).

Annunciation—March 25. *Lazarus Saturday*—April 8. *Palm Sunday and Holy Week*—April 9–14.

Holy Saturday—April 15. *Pascha*—April 16. *Pentecost*—June 4.

- PARISH PRE-LENTEN RETREAT:

What a blessing it is for our parish and the North Bay Orthodox community to receive Fr. Seraphim on Saturday, February 18. We will need some folks to prepare the morning refreshments, some to prepare and serve the lunch, and a team to take care of clean up. Please see Fr. Lawrence if you can help out.



Saturday, February 18

Preparing for Great Lent: Embracing the Impossible

As we prepare to enter Great Lent, we might ponder on the impossible height to which we are being called—to be perfect with the Father's perfection—an impossibility which becomes possible in Christ, as we open up to His presence. This paradox and the tension it creates in us keeps our spiritual life safe from being reduced to empty piety and religiosity.

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REGISTRATION

A Retreat with Fr. Seraphim (Aldea)

9:30 AM	Refreshments and welcome
10:15 AM	First Talk
NOON	Lunch
1:00 PM	Second Talk

St. Seraphim of Sarov Orthodox Church, 90 Mountain View Ave, Santa Rosa CA 95407



- YOUTH / CAMP APPEAL:

This Sunday, January 22, every parish in our area is asked to make a special collection for our [St. Eugene's Camp](#). This supports the fixed expenses of renting a campsite and the ability to have volunteer adult counsellors at no cost to them beyond making themselves available for a week. **PS:** The dates for Camp this year are Sunday, June 25 (evening) through Saturday, July 1 (morning).

- INTERESTING PODCAST:

Check out the Podcast [Human Exceptionalism](#) by Wesley Smith on Ancient Faith Radio as he discusses the importance of—and various threats to—the unique dignity and importance of human life from the context of living in a secular society.