

An invitation from Fr Stephan Meholick, rector at St. Nicholas Church in San Anselmo: On behalf of the entire parish of St. Nicholas in San Anselmo, I would like to cordially invite you, your family, and your flock to join us in the celebration of our “altar feast” on December 6th. The Festal Vigil will begin at 7 PM on Tuesday evening. The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be served at 9:30 AM on Wednesday. There will be a festal trapeza and fellowship following the Liturgy with a “visit” from St. Nicholas. This year, all proceeds from our annual raffle will again go to the support of St. Nicholas House at Holy Assumption Monastery in Calistoga.

Journey to Christmas: We begin the Forty Day Fast on November 15. During the fast we abstain from meat, dairy, eggs, and on most days, wine and oil as well. It might be good to add social media to that list. Plan ahead.

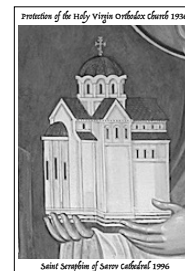
Holy Trinity Cathedral in SF has will host the annual Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 2. Please mark your calendars! The retreat master this year is Fr. Andrew Morbey, Dean of St. Mary’s Cathedral in Minneapolis, Minnesota (and former Rector of our parish in Santa Rosa). Father’s topic is *Why Institutional Church, Anyway?* He will share insights from St. Theoleptos of Philadelphia, a teacher of St. Gregory Palamas, on why we should be in the Church and in Church. The day begins at 10:30 AM and Vigil that Saturday will be at 4 PM. Register at holy-trinity.org/events



November 11 marks the anniversary of the repose of the Mitered Archbishop Michael Margitich, who departed this life in 2017, having been a priest for sixty-three years. Fr. Michael served as rector here for only nine years, yet his deep faith and love for Christ and all people had a profound and incalculable impact on countless people, within and outside of the Church. Truly, as the scripture says, “he, being made perfect in a short time, fulfilled a long time.”

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



November 12, 2023

St. John the Merciful & St. Martin the Merciful of Tours



• 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 ST. JOHN THE MERCIFUL, Tone Eight:

In thy patience thou didst win thy reward, O righteous Father. Thou didst unceasingly persevere in prayer: thou didst love the poor, and didst provide for them bountifully. But intercede with Christ our God, O blessed John the almsgiver, that our souls be saved.

• KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Six:

When Christ God the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed Resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life and the God of all.

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ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Nov. 11: 3:30 PM, Catechism *On Jesus Christ the Savior*
4:45 PM, Litya, Anniversary of the Repose of the Archpriest Michael Margitich
5 PM, Great Vespers and Confessions
- Sunday, Nov. 12: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Agape Meal to follow
Mentorship
2:30 PM, Litya for repose of Alan Duquette
3 PM, Clear out Narthex, prep for plastering
- Monday, Nov. 13: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St. John Chrysostom (Protection Church)
- Tuesday, Nov. 14: Noon, Senior Lunch Fellowship and presentation on Christian Art
- Wed., Nov. 15: *Nativity Fast Begins*
5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga of Alaska
6 PM, Vespers
- Thurs., Nov. 16: 7 PM, Online Bible Study with Fr. James
- Friday, Nov. 17: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions

Welcome—Guests and Visitors: Whether you are searching for a new church home or just visiting, we are glad you're with us today. If you have a prayer request, are looking for more information about the Orthodox Faith, would like to join our parish, or would like to speak with Fr. Lawrence or Fr. Nicholas, we invite you to fill out a visitor's card and drop it in the offering basket as your offering today. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

We expect Anton Daineko to be here painting from December 15–January 15, after which he and his wife Ekaterina will return to St. Tikhon's Seminary to continue teaching. He will return to us once again at the end of May. We had hoped that he could begin painting the pendentives (under the dome), but that is a big project, and requires a finish coat of plaster before Anton can paint on it. So the plan at the moment is as follows: Fr. Patrick will have Anton paint in the Narthex—a less intrusive area for now. Plasterers will come this week to apply a finish coat of plaster so the wall is ready

for Anton. What iconographic scenes are in the Narthex? *The Three Youths in the Furnace*, the *Prophet Daniel in the Lion's Den*, *Crossing the Red Sea*, *Noah's Ark* (behind the Candle Desk), *Jonah and the Whale*, the *Raising of Jairus' Daughter* (above the St. Nicholas Kiot), the *Raising of the Widow's Son* (above the St. Innocent/Herman Kiot). A month's time is not enough to finish painting all of these scenes, but a great deal will be accomplished. In preparation for Anton's return in May, we will have the pendentives plastered sometime during February. It's clear that the scaffolding and plastering of the pendentives will be extremely disruptive to normal parish life—but more on that later. —Fr. Lawrence

...in the early twenties—before my departure to Mt. Athos in 1925, I wept and prayed to God: “Find a way to save the world—to save all of us, we are all defiled and cruel.”

I would pray with particular fervor for the “little ones,” the poor and oppressed.

Towards morning, with my strength waning, my prayer would be disturbed by the thought that if I grieve for mankind with all my heart, how is it that God can look on indifferently at the pain and torment of millions of beings whom He Himself had created? Why does He allow the innumerable instances of brute force in the world? And I would turn to Him with the insane challenge, “Where art Thou?” And in my heart I heard: “Was it you who was crucified for them?” ...The gentle words uttered by the Spirit shook me to the core—He Who was crucified had answered me as God. —*Saint Sophrony, reposed July 11th, 1993*

A Thanksgiving Day Dinner will be held in our lovely parish hall at 5 PM on November 23. It will be a joy to celebrate this holiday together, and all are invited. For more info contact Fr. Lawrence or John Gilluly.

M.O.M. DIAPER BANK

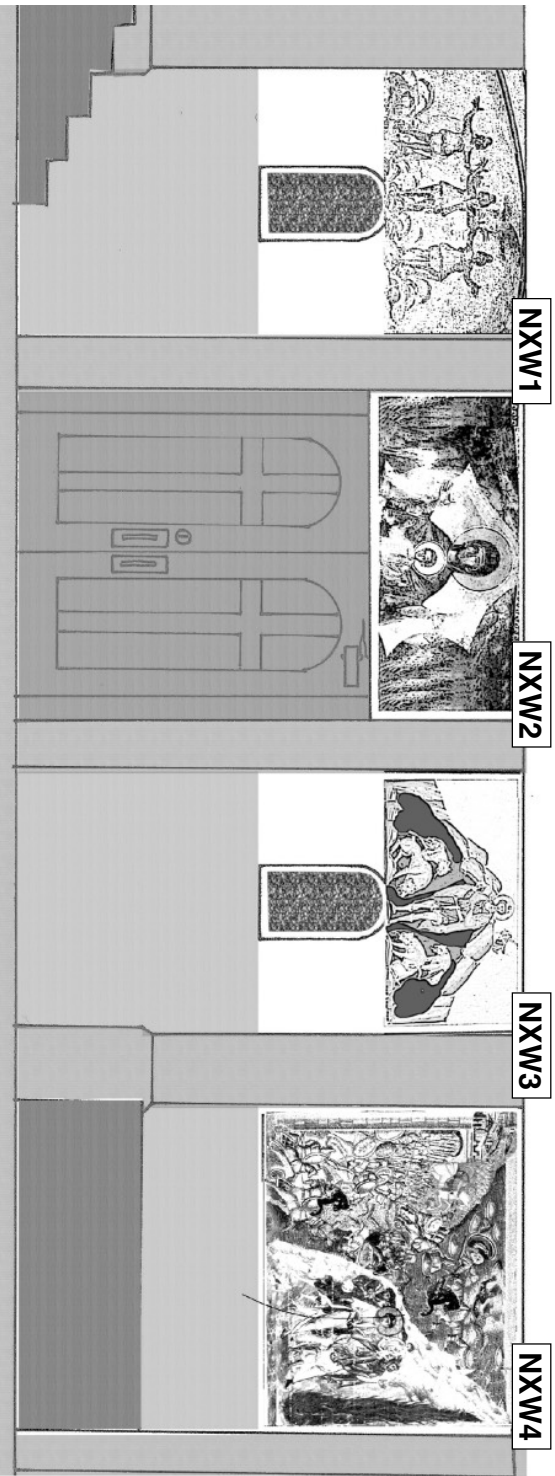
The parish diaper bank, now named after Matushka Olga Michael—MOM



Outreach—and asking for her prayers—will take place on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 3 PM. Call Catie DeCarlo for

information on how the distribution will take place (see [HERE](#) about the saintly Matushka Olga of Alaska).

Narthex - West Wall



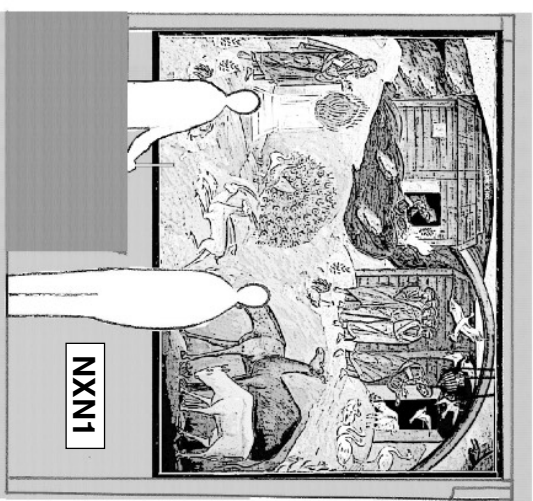
NXW1 Three Youths in the Furnace

NXW2 Virgin of the Sign
NXW3 Daniel in the Lions Den

NXW4 The Crossing of the Red Sea

Narthex - North Wall

NXN1 Noah's Ark



Narthex - East Wall

NXE1 Jonah and the Whale
NXE2 Raising of Jairuses Daughter

NXE3 Christ Raising of the Widow's Son

