

# ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ February 25, 2024

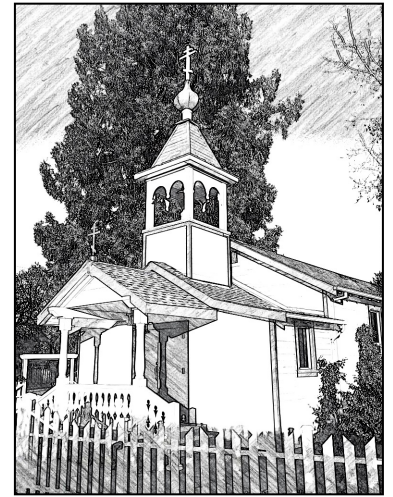
## Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Five:

Let us the faithful praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead, by His glorious Resurrection.

• KONTAKION OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE, Tone Four:

Let us flee the Pharisee's conceited vaunting; let us learn the Publican's humility, and cry with groans unto the Savior: Thou Who alone art swiftly reconciled, be gracious unto us.



### ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Feb. 24: 3:30 PM, Catechism: *On the Holy Mystery of Baptism*  
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confessions
- Sunday, Feb. 25: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy & Agape Meal  
12:30 PM, Spiritual Lesson (Protection Church)  
Youth Gathering at Holy Trinity Cathedral in SF
- Tuesday, Feb. 27: *Fr Lawrence in Portland at the Diocesan Mission Parish Retreat, returns Friday*
- Wednesday, Feb. 28: 5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga  
6 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, Feb. 29: 7 PM, On-line Bible Study with Fr. James
- Friday, March 1: *No Confessions, Fr Lawrence returning from Portland*
- Saturday, March 2: **Retreat/Workshop on Preparing for the Inevitable: Dying and Death**  
5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions

**This weekend** we begin to chant hymns from the Lenten Hymn Book, the *Book of Three Odes*, called in Greek, *The Triodion*. It will be our constant companion right through Holy Saturday (access a scan of the Triodion [HERE](#)). At the end of Vespers, and through all of Lent, we will sing the soul-stirring hymn *Open to me the doors of repentance...* (the hymn actually belongs at the Matins service). The first Sunday of the Triodion is called the *Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee*, since we read the [Parable of that name from Luke 18](#) at the Divine Liturgy. The Pharisee “prays within himself, saying, I thank Thee that I am not like other men.” St. Augustine wrote that “...like Satan, as he appears in the books of Job, this braggart came into the presence of God as an accuser and a judge of his neighbor.” This was not the giving of thanks to God. Fr. Zacharias of St. John's Monastery in Essex, England writes: “Thanksgiving is a kind of prayer particularly pleasing to God and it is very powerful when it is filled with humility and mighty gratitude, when it is accompanied by compassion and entreaty for those who did not receive the same good portion. If such is the case, as our Holy Fathers teach us, thanksgiving

intercedes before God for our weaknesses and makes up for all our shortcomings. Yet its power is annihilated when man ascribes the gifts he has received from above to himself. Thanksgiving provokes divine anger when it proceeds from conceit and hidden pride. It proves to be destructive when it is accompanied by judging and humiliating others.”

**The next Sisterhood** meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16th at 11:30 AM. The theme will be how to transition to a plant-based/vegan diet while avoiding blood sugar dips, feelings of lethargy and a lack of energy. Our guest speaker and resident nutritionist, Alandrea Martin, will be conducting this discussion. If you have any questions you would like her to address during her presentation, please send them directly to her at: [alandrearoase@protonmail.com](mailto:alandrearoase@protonmail.com) Also, if you have any favorite recipes, cookbooks or tips in general you would like to share, please send them to me and I will compile a PDF to distribute at our meeting. Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided. If you attended the last luncheon, you should have received an Evite. If you would like to be included in future correspondence regarding the Sisterhood and attend future events, please send me an email and I will be happy to add you to our group. —*Natasha Tennyson*

**In worship, the community** of God’s people assemble to receive the Word of God in scripture, sermon, and sacrament. The faith experienced there develops responses of praise, obedience, and commitment. At no time has there ever been a biblical faith, or any kind of continuing life in relation to God, apart from such common worship. By persisting in frequent, traditional, and corporate worship in which God’s word is central, God’s people are prevented from making up a religion out of their own private ideas of God. They are also prevented from making a private, individualized salvation out of what they experience, separating themselves from brothers and sisters with whom God has made it clear His saving love is to be shared, both in receiving and giving. All parish ministries originate in this act of worship. At every service the deacon speaks the invitational command, “Let us pray to the Lord.” But the ministry does not end an hour or so later with the pronouncing of the dismissal. Our parish ministries accompany us as we live out what we have heard, and sung and received at the Divine Services. These ministries unfold in the ordinary lives of people as they work, love, suffer, grieve, play, learn and grow in times of crisis and times of routine. Our parish ministries begin at the amvon, the kliros, the baptismal font and the altar table; they continue in the hospital room, the family room, the fellowship hall, the counseling room, and the committee room. —*Adapted from Five Smooth Stones for Pastoral Work by Eugene Peterson*

**Monthly Confession:** It is an incalculable blessing to receive Holy Communion regularly—indeed, every Lord’s Day. Preparation is essential. We pray, we fast as we can and we make a regular confession, once a month being a good benchmark for those who commune each week. When to make a confession?

- Most Fridays, from 11:30 AM–1 PM, no appointment necessary
- On Saturdays, before, during and after Vespers
- Anytime or day (Other than Sundays and Mondays), simply call, email or text

## TEEN EVENT: Bowling Today in SF

- \* **Who:** .....St. Seraphim teens who are current 8th–12th graders. Please see the [Registration form HERE](#)
- \* **What:** .....Northern CA Bay Area OCA teen gathering. Bowling!
- \* **Where:** ....San Francisco, Holy Trinity Cathedral
- \* **When:** .....Sunday, February 25, 2024 at 2 PM. Carpools will depart St. Seraphim after the Spirit Lesson
- \* **Why:** .....Fun and fellowship with teen parishioners—Activity to be determined soon. Contact Vicky Basch at 707-291-2369 with questions

# PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH

## MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Feb 25 - Publican and Pharisee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, Agape Meal</li> <li>• 12:30 PM, Spiritual Lesson</li> </ul>	<b>26 - Fast Free Week</b>	<b>27 - St. Raphael of Brooklyn</b>  <i>Fr Lawrence in Portland for the Mission Parish Retreat, returns Friday</i>	<b>28 - No Fast</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 PM, Diaper Bank</li> <li>• 5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga</li> <li>• 6 PM, Vespers</li> </ul>	<b>29</b>	<b>1 - No Fast</b>  <i>No Confessions</i>	<b>2</b>  <b>WORKSHOP HERE</b> <i>No Catechism today</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions</li> </ul>
<b>3 - Prodigal Son</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, POTLUCK Agape</li> <li>• Mentoring</li> </ul>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga</li> <li>• 6 PM, Vespers</li> </ul>	<b>7</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 PM, <i>Angels Unawares</i></li> </ul>	<b>8</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11:30 AM-1 PM, Confessions</li> </ul>	<b>9</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3:30 PM, Catechism <i>On Holy Chrismation</i></li> <li>• 5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions</li> </ul>
<b>10 - Last Judgment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, <i>Blini Luncheon</i></li> <li>• 12:30 PM, Spiritual Lesson</li> </ul> <i>Meatfare Sunday</i>	<b>11</b>  <i>Begin to fast from meat products</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 PM, Kitchen Users' Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga</li> <li>• 6 PM, Prelenten Vespers</li> </ul>	<b>14</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 PM, Prelenten Vespers</li> </ul>	<b>15</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11:30 AM-1 PM, Confessions</li> <li>• 3 PM, Master Plan Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>16</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11:30 AM, Sisterhood</li> <li>• 3:30 PM, Catechism <i>On the Eucharist</i></li> <li>• 5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions</li> </ul>
<b>17 - Forgiveness Sunday</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, Agape Meal</li> <li>• 1 PM, Forgiveness Sunday Vespers (Lent begins)</li> </ul> <i>Cheese-Fare Sunday</i>	<b>18 - the Fast Begins</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM, Lenten Matins</li> <li>• 7 PM, Great Compline with Canon</li> </ul>	<b>19</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM, Lenten Matins</li> <li>• 7 PM, Great Compline with Canon</li> </ul>	<b>20</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM, Canon of St. Andrew</li> <li>• 6 PM, 9th Hour, Presanctified and Meal</li> </ul>	<b>21</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM, Lenten Matins</li> <li>• 7 PM, Great Compline with Canon</li> </ul>	<b>22</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10:30 AM, Presanctified with Canon to St. Theodore the Recruit (Blessing of Koliva)</li> </ul>	<b>23</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3:30 PM, Catechism <i>On Confession</i></li> <li>• 5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions</li> </ul>
<b>24 - Sunday of Orthodoxy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy and Procession with Icons</li> <li>• Noon, Agape Meal</li> <li>• <b>5 PM, Vigil for Annunciation</b></li> </ul>	<b>25 - Annunciation</b>  <b>5 PM, Vesperal Liturgy for Annunciation</b>	<b>26 - St. Gabriel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM Lenten Matins</li> </ul>	<b>27</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM Lenten Matins</li> <li>• 6 PM, 9th Hour, Presanctified and Meal</li> </ul>	<b>28</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM Lenten Matins</li> <li>• 6:30 PM, Parish Council Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>29</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM Lenten Matins</li> <li>• 11:30 AM-1 PM, Confessions</li> <li>• 6 PM, Small Compline/Akathist</li> </ul>	<b>30</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3:30 PM, Catechism <i>On the Priesthood</i></li> <li>• 5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions</li> </ul>
<b>31 - St. Gregory/St. Innocent</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, Agape Meal</li> <li>• 12:30 PM, Mentorship</li> </ul>	<b>April 1</b>	<b>2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM Lenten Matins</li> </ul>	<b>3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM Lenten Matins</li> <li>• 6 PM, 9th Hour, Presanctified and Meal</li> </ul>	<b>4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM Lenten Matins</li> </ul>	<b>5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM Lenten Matins</li> <li>• 11:30 AM-1 PM, Confessions</li> <li>• 6 PM, Small Compline/Akathist</li> </ul>	<b>6</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3:30 PM, Catechism <i>On Marriage</i></li> <li>• 5 PM, Vigil for the Veneration of the Cross</li> </ul>

# PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH

## APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>March 31 – St Gregory Palamas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, <u>Potluck</u> Agape Meal</li> <li>• Mentorship</li> </ul>	1	2 • 8 AM, Matins	3 • 8 AM, Matins  • 6 PM, Presanctified and Meal	4 • 8 AM, Matins	5 • 8 AM, Matins • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confession • 6 PM, Small Compline/Akathist	6 • 3:30 PM, Catechism <i>On Marriage</i>  <b>5 PM, Vigil for the Veneration of the Cross</b>
<b>7 – Veneration of the Holy Cross</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, Agape Meal</li> <li>• 12:30 PM, Spiritual Lesson</li> </ul>	8	9 • 8 AM, Matins	10 • 8 AM, Matins  • 6 PM, Presanctified and Meal	11 • 8 AM, Matins	12 • 10:30 AM, Presanctified  • 6 PM, Small Compline/Akathist	13 • 3:30 PM, Catechism <i>On Holy Unction</i> • 5 PM, Great Vespers and Confessions
<b>14 – St. John Climacus</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, Agape Meal</li> <li>• Mentorship</li> </ul>	15	16 • 8 AM, Matins	17 • 8 AM, Matins  • 6 PM, Presanctified and Meal	<b>18 – Great Canon</b> <b>9 AM, Matins with the Great Canon of St. Andrew and Life of St. Mary of Egypt</b>	<b>19 – No Matins</b> • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confession <b>• 6 PM, Theotokos Akathist Matins</b>	<b>20 – Theotokos Saturday</b> • 3:30 PM, Catechism <i>On Death and the Funeral</i> • 5 PM, Great Vespers and Confessions
<b>21 – St. Mary of Egypt</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, Agape Meal</li> <li>• Spiritual Lesson</li> </ul>	22	23 • 8 AM, Matins	24 • 8 AM, Matins  • 6 PM, Presanctified and Meal	25 • 8 AM, Matins	<b>26 – End of Lent</b> • 8 AM, Matins • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confession • 6 PM, Matins • 6:45 PM, Baptismal Instructions	<b>27 – Lazarus Saturday</b> • 9 AM, Baptisms and Chrismations • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Reception • Decorate for Palm Sunday <b>5 PM, Vigil for Palm Sunday</b>
<b>28 – Entrance into Jerusalem</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 AM, Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Noon, Agape Meal</li> <li>• 6 PM, Bridegroom Matins</li> </ul>	<b>29 – Holy Monday</b> • 10:30 AM, Presanctified Liturgy • 6 PM, Bridegroom Matins	<b>30 – Holy Tuesday</b> • 10:30 AM, Presanctified Liturgy • 6 PM, Bridegroom Matins	<b>May 1 – Holy Wednesday</b> • 6 PM, Presanctified Liturgy with Canon for Holy Thursday	<b>2 – Holy Thursday</b> • 11:30 AM, Vesperal Liturgy • 6 PM, Matins of Holy Friday	<b>3 – Holy Friday</b> • 9 AM, Royal Hours • 3 PM, Vespers of Holy Friday • 6 PM, Matins of Holy Saturday	<b>4 – Holy Saturday</b> • 1 PM, Vesperal Liturgy • 4 PM, Reading of Acts until 11:20 PM • 11:30 PM, Paschal Services Begin