

**The Samaritan woman** came to the well without any spiritual purpose; she came, as she came daily, to fetch water—and she met Christ. Each of us may meet our God at any turn in our life, when we are about our most homely tasks, if our hearts are turned in the right direction, if we are prepared to receive a message, to listen; indeed—to ask questions! Because the Samaritan woman asked a question of Christ, and what she heard transcended her question in such a way that she recognized in Him a prophet, and later—the Christ, the Savior of the world. But the light must not be pushed under a bushel. Having discovered that the Light had come into the world, that the word of divine truth was resounding now amidst men, that God was among us, she left behind all concerns and ran to share the joy, the wonder of what she had discovered with others. She brought her fellow-citizens to Christ. She told them first why she believed; and when perhaps curiosity, or the convincing power of her words, and the change that had occurred in her brought them to Christ, they saw for themselves and said to her, “It is no longer because of what you say that we believe—we have seen, we have heard.” And this is what the Samaritan woman teaches all of us: be open at every moment of life, while we are busy with the simplest things, to receive the divine word, to be illumined by the divine light, to be cleansed by His purity, to receive it in the depths of our souls, receive it with all our life, so that people seeing what we have become may believe that the light has come into the world. Let us pray to the Samaritan woman to teach us, to guide us, to bring us to Christ in the way in which she came, and to serve Him in the way in which she served Him, being the salvation of all who were around her. And may the blessing of God be upon you, the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, now and forever and world without end! Amen. —[Metropolitan Anthony of London, reposed 2003](#)

**Our St. Seraphim Cathedral** has been blessed with financial gifts from wills and bequests through the years. Those funds—substantial or modest—each one a great blessing for the giver and the parish, have allowed our church to grow in so many different ways. When you update your will or trust, remember this parish. It’s never too early to establish a legacy at St. Seraphim. —*Fr Lawrence*

**Many thanks to those** who helped clean up St. Seraphim and put all our liturgical items, chairs, carpets, icons, icon stands, etc. back in place after the plaster project.

# ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

## PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



**June 2, 2024**

**Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Four:  
When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse, and elatedly told the Apostles: death is over-thrown, Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.
- TROPARION OF MID-FEAST, Tone Eight:  
At Mid-feast give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of piety; for Thou, O Savior didst cry out to all: whosoever is thirsty let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Well-spring of Life, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.
- KONTAKION OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN, Tone Eight:  
The Samaritan woman came to the well in faith; she saw Thee, the Water of Wisdom and drank abundantly; she inherited the Kingdom on high and is ever glorified.
- KONTAKION OF MID-FEAST, Tone Four:  
Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the

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707-584-9491 • [Lmargitich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Lmargitich@sbcglobal.net)

feast of the Law: “Come and draw the water of immortality!” We fall before Thee and faithfully cry: “Grant us Thy mercies, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!”

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Friday, May 31: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions
- Saturday, June 1: 5 PM, Resurrectional Matins/Confessions
- Sunday, June 2: 9:45 AM, Reception of Catechumens  
10 AM, Divine Liturgy  
11:30 AM, Spiritual Lesson  
Noon, Agape Meal  
4 PM, Cantiamo Concert\*
- Wednesday, June 5: 5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga  
6 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, June 6: 7 PM, Online Bible Study
- Friday, May June 7: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions  
7 PM, First Talk by Prof. David and Mary Ford  
on St. John Chrysostom

**Welcome Guests and Visitors.** We welcome you and hope your experience at the Divine Liturgy is edifying and spiritually nourishing. Please take a moment after the service to introduce yourself to our pastor, Father Lawrence. Please join us for lunch after the service. We would love to greet you and answer any questions.

**Retreat this Friday and Saturday,** June 7 and 8 on St. John Chrysostom. There are spaces still available if you have not yet registered, which you can do in person on Sunday after the Divine Liturgy, or use the QR Code on the flyer.

**An aspect of preparing** for Holy Communion, along with the Pre-Communion Prayers, fasting and Saturday evening Vespers, is Confession. As mentioned previously, we should make a confession at least monthly if

we are regularly receiving Holy Communion. Confessions are available before, during and after the Saturday evening Vespers, on most Fridays between 11:30 AM and 1 PM, and most any other time during the week (except on Mondays) by appointment.

**\*The well-known** and excellent chorus *Cantiamo Sonoma* will present a concert here at the church on Sunday at 4 PM. Tickets are \$20 and will be sold at the door. There will be a reception immediately following the concert. Featured composers will be J. P. Sweelinck, Lassus, Dan Forrest, Ēriks Ešenvalds, Kevin Siegfried, Eric Whitacre, Moses Hogan, and more.

**Congratulations** to our graduates: Larisa Basch, graduating from High School; Raquel Dechant, Luke Rademacher, Gabriel Jupiter Scarborough moving on to 9th grade, as is Zoya Margitich, who was honored as “Student of the Year” at *Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts*; Rita Alyward (Ellen’s daughter) is graduating from UW with a Geology PhD in Ocean Science; Kermena Yousef and Bishoy Yousef on their graduation from college; and Edie Dovey is moving into middle school and her brother Jacob is graduating from kindergarten. God bless them all.

**Pentecost is celebrated**, as its name implies, fifty days after Pascha (which means “passover”). In the next few weeks I hope to offer a few thoughts to the congregation in the sermon about the meaning of  $7 \times 7 + 1 = 50$  and how Pentecost is for us who are baptized into Christ, the culmination and actualization of the Resurrection Life, the New Life of the Kingdom. I hope to explain how one can’t live Pascha without Pentecost, and therefore our celebration on Pentecost should be no less joyful, exuberant, solemn and full than Pascha—full of the Spirit of God in our souls and yes, full of people in the Church celebrating the Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost will begin with a Memorial Liturgy on Saturday, June 22 at 9 AM, followed by the Festal Vigil at 5 PM and the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 23 at 10, followed by the “Kneeling Vespers” and a BBQ potluck.

**Archbishop Benjamin, Archpriest Kirill** and the faithful of our Diocesan *Cathedral of Holy Trinity* in San Francisco invite all of us to join them for their parish feast day of Pentecost. Vigil at 6 PM and the Divine Liturgy with a festive Procession at 9:30 AM.