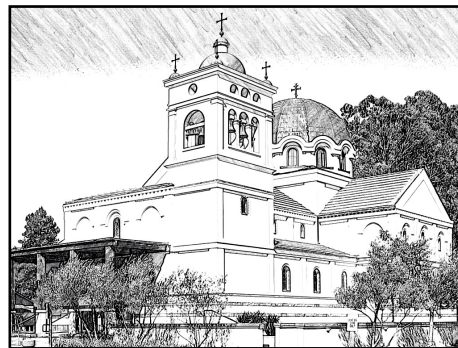


ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, July 7, 2024

All Saints of Russia and America



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone One:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy kingdom; glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

- TROPARION OF ALL SAINTS of RUSSIA & AMERICA, Tone Eight:

As a beautiful fruit of the sowing of Thy salvation, our land doth offer Thee, O Lord, all the saints that have shone in it. By their prayers keep the Church and our land in peace, through the Theotokos, O Most Merciful One.

- KONTAKION OF ALL SAINTS, Tone Three:

Today the choir of saints who pleased God in the lands of Russia and America stands forth in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us. With them the angels glorify Him, and all the saints of the Church of Christ keep festival, and together they pray to the Eternal God for us.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Friday, July 5: *Please note, no confessions today*
- Saturday, July 6: 5 PM, Great Vespers and Confessions
- Sunday, July 7: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy / Noon, Agape Meal
- Wednesday, July 10: 6 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, July 11: 7 PM, Online Bible Study
- Friday, July 12: *9:30 AM, at Sts. Peter and Paul, Feast Day Divine Liturgy (Stony Pt Rd)*
- Saturday, July 13: 5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions

Today Orthodox Christians the world over are celebrating the memory of their local saints. Our parish, our diocese and the OCA in general (with some exceptions) are children of the Russian Orthodox Church, brought to North America in 1794. Therefore we celebrate the saints of Russia, and of course, those that shone forth in America. We are still infants in the realm of sainthood, here in America—nevertheless, we count twenty-two officially glorified saints of America, meaning those that have liturgical services composed for their commemoration. There are others yet to be glorified, for

example, Matushka Olga of Alaska (whose glorification will be soon), Metropolitan Leonty, Bishop Gerasimos (Papadopoulos), Ivan Smirennikov, Father Roman (Braga). The revelation of a saint happens in a humble way, without fanfare and internet chatter. We prayerfully and patiently wait for God to reveal saintly men, women and children to the world. We can reflect on the fact that all Orthodox Christians are called to live saintly lives, to cultivate—with God’s Grace—the holy virtues of faith, love, meekness, humility, and the rest. All of us in the Church are called out, and the word for Church in Greek, *ecclesia*, refers to those of the world who have “been called” — called to glorify God in their lives, to radiate His love and forgiveness to everyone, to set worship of the Holy Trinity as the first and essential task, to follow the commandments, to become holy and to love others with the gift of divine love. Although we ourselves may lack resolve and vision, we in the Orthodox Church do not lack examples of holy men, women and children, not only throughout the world, but here in our parish. For a list of North American saints, and those holy men and women yet to be glorified see the following website: <https://arizonaorthodox.com/saints-north-america/>

The Orthodox Church in America will hold the *Diaconal Vocations Practicum* here at our parish July 16–19. This will be the third time we have hosted the DVP. We expect about 35 Deacons, Subdeacons and Deacons-to-be, plus staff and some family, at the three-day training program, July 16–19. The participants will arrive on Monday, July 15 in the afternoon for registration and refreshments and enjoy a 5 PM BBQ here on the Hall porch, followed by a brief prayer service. Most of the participants will be staying at a hotel in the area. The rest of the schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, July 16 and Wednesday, July 17: Divine Liturgy at 8:30 AM in **both** churches; breakfast here; sessions; lunch; more sessions; Vespers at 5 PM; dinner here and more sessions.
- Thursday, July 18: Divine Liturgy at 8:30 AM in **both** churches; breakfast here; sessions; lunch; more sessions; Vigil for St. Seraphim at 6 PM, with Archbishop Benjamin and Bishop Gerasim from Fort Worth
- Friday, July 19: Festal Liturgy for the Feast of St. Seraphim at 9:30 AM with the Ordination to the Holy Priesthood of Deacon Josef Candelario; Festal Lunch; Vespers for Prophet Elijah in the afternoon, TBA.
- Saturday, July 20: 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy for the Prophet Elijah.

Debbie Buse will be coordinating all the refreshments and meals. Be part of the team of offering hospitality to our guests. Please speak with Debbie about what you might be able to do (cleaning, food prep, serving, etc.). —*Fr. Lawrence*

...we will never make a more important decision in our lives. How we live now, and where we will live in the future—that is to say spend eternity—will depend on how we respond to Christ. “Follow Me,” said Jesus, “because I offer you salvation. Follow Me because I bring you the life-giving message of Truth. Follow Me because I need witnesses in this land where God is being stricken from all formal teachings in schools and the public square.” There is a strange psychology being promoted in our land, and it’s this: the person who holds and makes and commits to certain religious convictions regarding Christ, and who lives in accordance with the Gospel, is called narrow-minded. But the individual who cannot make up his mind, who lives in accordance with the world one day and in accordance with his own philosophy another day is called broad-minded, open-minded. Jesus shattered that sophomoric approach to the Christian Gospel forever when He said, “He who is not with me is against me.” Glory

be to Him Who has come, and has revealed Himself in the multitude of saints; glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen. —*Fr. Michael Margitich, from a sermon in 2010*

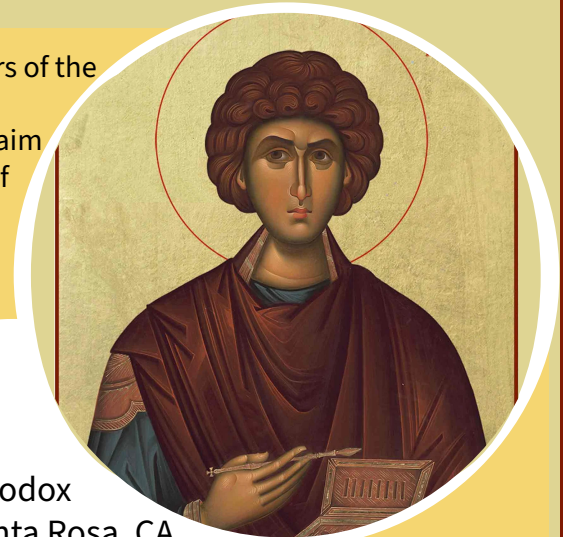
We are not enjoined to adjudicate and control the world. And we are also not called to revolution, but to prayer. We mustn't compel, but impel by love. Neither punching down nor punching up—this is our way. And when pressured to disobey God, we are called to accept humble martyrdom instead of rising up with violence. No other ethic has been given us. —*borrowed*

Fr Alexander Schmemmann wrote: “The gift of apostleship is bestowed upon each member of the Church on the day of his Baptism and Chrismation. If we call our Church ‘apostolic’ it is because She is sent, “apostle” meaning ‘sent by God.’ It is because She is sent in Her totality, and this means in all Her members, into the world to preach the Gospel of Christ, to manifest His presence, to fulfill the salvation which He accomplished. In this sense, we all are apostolic and apostles. We all carry the responsibility for the apostolicity of the Church.” The most effective tool of evangelism that the Church has is not about programs, committees, pamphlets, social media and lectures (all helpful tools, for sure). The most effective evangelism is also extremely simple. Offer an invitation to someone you know to come to Vespers or Liturgy. Pray, wait and look for the opportunity to make that invitation. —*Fr Lawrence*

Reminder: Summer is vacation season. While you are away the work of the Church continues, as do the expenses of the parish. Please remember your weekly or monthly offerings to the Lord. We give offerings, not charity, since as we all know, God does not need our money, nor our time, nor our talents. He has all things, and providentially uses them for the good of His People. More rightly, the Church is God's charity toward us. Our offerings are the sign that we want to work in cooperation with God in helping to empower the Church's charitable work. Small or large, the “widow's mite” or the wealth of Solomon, truly, God can multiply that offering. —*Fr. Lawrence*

St. Panteleimon All Night Vigil

"Come, O ye lovers of the Martyrs, with one accord let us acclaim the prizewinner of Christ..."



St. Seraphim
of Sarov Orthodox
Cathedral Santa Rosa, CA

Friday, July 26th
7:00 P.M. - 2:00am

90 Mountain View Ave

- Vespers
- Litia w/ Artoklasia
- Orthros
- Divine Liturgy

Relic of the Saint
present for veneration

