

**\*On Sunday we will have the joy** of receiving as Catechumens Zach, his wife Julie and their children Paisley and Iris. Please keep all the catechumens in your prayers:

AJ and Francine and their children Charlie, Emily, June and Abner; Gabrielle Lily and her son Cyprus Nikolai; Kiel Smits, Dylan Estes, Christopher Best, John Coffey, James Weaver, James Epstein, Nicholas Garrett, Nathan Zeigler, Jeff Boyd and his son Lachlann. . . .*make them worthy in due season of the washing of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins, and the robe of incorruption. Unite them to thy holy, catholic, and Apostolic Church, and number them with thy elect flock, that with us they may glorify thine all honorable and majestic Name...*

**One of our Parish Ministries** will have an informational table in the Parish hall each Sunday after the Divine Liturgy for the next few months. This week Linda McKee will offer us information about the work of the *Matushka Olga Michael* (MOM) Diaper Bank.

**The Feast of the Angels and Archangels** is celebrated November 8 each year. We will serve Great Vespers in St. Seraphim Cathedral on Thursday evening and the Divine Liturgy in the Protection Church on Friday morning.

**Angels Unawares** is a program run by the *Redwood Gospel Mission*, in which Sonoma County church communities provide a meal and a place to sleep every night of the month for those who are unhoused. Our parish welcomes those in need on the first Thursday of each month. Come out to greet and serve our guests (usually less than 20) on Thursday evening, Nov. 7 at 5 PM. Please speak with Michael Dovey or Peter Tennyson.

**On Sunday, November 10** there will be a Divine Liturgy celebrated at 8 AM in the Protection Church. Please let Fr David Lowell know if you plan to attend so he can prepare accordingly. The 10 AM Divine Liturgy will be served in St Seraphim Cathedral as usual. Those attending the early Liturgy can pick up their Prospora at the St. Seraphim Candle Desk.

**The Divine Liturgy** will be served on Thanksgiving Day, 9:30 AM, in the Protection Church. A Thanksgiving Day Dinner will be held in our lovely parish hall at 5 PM. It's a joy to celebrate this holiday together, and all are invited. Simply let us know if you plan to attend, so that we can prepare. Please speak with John Gilluly if you plan to attend and help out.

# ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

## PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



**November 3, 2024**



## Holy Unmercenary Healers

- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Two:  
When Thou didst descend to death, O Life-Immortal, Thou didst slay hades with the splendor of Thy Godhead; and when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of Heaven cried out: O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to Thee.
- TROPARION OF THE UNMERCENARIES, Tone Eight:  
O holy Unmercenarys and wonderworkers, visit our infirmities; freely ye received, freely give unto us.
- KONTAKION OF THE UNMERCENARIES, Tone Two:  
Having received the grace of healing, ye extend health to those in need, O glorious and wonderworking physicians. Hence, by your visitation, cast down the audacity of our enemies, and by your miracles, heal the world.

---

Protection of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church • 90 Mountain View Ave • Santa Rosa

707-584-9491 • LMargitich@sbcglobal.net • saintseraphim.com

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Friday, Nov. 1: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions
- Saturday, Nov. 2: 3 PM, Christmas Play Rehearsals begin  
3:30 PM, Catechism: *On Jesus the Son of God*  
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confessions
- Sunday, Nov. 3: 9:40 AM, Reception of Catechumens\*  
10 AM, Divine Liturgy  
11:30 AM, Church School  
Noon, Agape Meal
- Monday, Nov. 4: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy at Kazan Skete for the  
Feast of the Kazan Icon
- Tuesday, Nov. 5: 9 AM and again at 6 PM, *Akathist with Molieben  
for the Protection of the Theotokos*
- Wednesday, Nov. 6: 5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga  
6 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, Nov. 7: 5 PM, Angels Unawares Guests Arrive  
**6 PM, Great Vespers for the Feast of the  
Holy Angels and Archangels**  
7 PM, On-line Bible Study with Fr. James
- Friday, Nov. 8: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Angels,  
Protection Church

**The November Menaion** (hymn book for the month) indicates that the first Sunday of this month is dedicated to the memory of the *Holy Unmercenary Healers*—those saints, most of them martyrs—who were physicians and healers continuing the signs and miracles of the Lord Jesus Christ. See this link for a delightful children’s [workbook about these healers](#). Jean Claude Larchet writes: “This concern of Christ’s, and then of his apostles, for the sick and infirm was surprising at a time when the dominant philosophies and religions tended rather to be concerned with those in good health, attaching importance to the salvation of the soul alone. Christ, however, expressing God’s love for mankind, shows that he has come to save man as a whole, both soul and body, and not only in this life, in which he invites us to experience in both body and soul the first fruits of the divine

blessings, but also after death in the next world where, after raising our body and making incorruptible, he intends us to enjoy these blessings in all their fullness with our whole being. In other words, with our whole spirit, our whole soul, and our whole body for all eternity.”

**Tuesday is election day** in the USA, and therefore it ought to also be a day of prayer. For those who are able to come, on Tuesday I will serve the *Akathist to the Protection of the Theotokos* in the Protection Church at 9 AM and again at 6 PM. Our prayer is not for victory of this or that cause or candidate, but for God’s mercy, peace and help. Briefly, let us consider how we pray for our country as Christians. At the Divine Liturgy the Deacon repeated asks us to pray “for **this** country, its President, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces...” At the Divine Liturgy, where the faithful gather to be the Church and to manifest the Kingdom of God—not the Kingdom of Man—we ask for mercy for *this country and its president* rather than *our country*... Yes, we Christians must love *our* country and its people and try to be patriotic, for sure. Nevertheless, during the Divine Liturgy we are first of all citizens of the Kingdom of the Heaven, Whose King is the Creator and sustainer of all things, both visible and invisible. The second psalm at the Divine Liturgy reminds us—I wonder, do we hear it?—to “put not your trust in princes or the sons of men in whom there is no salvation.” In other words, even while voting for those who are to govern, we are warned (and that’s the right word), to be careful about our worldly expectations and where, or in whom, we put our faith. Two more prayers help guide us to a balanced view of our responsibilities as citizens of this land. After the Consecration of the Gifts, we also ask the Father of Lights, to grant those who are in elected office “peaceful governance, that we, in their tranquility, may lead a calm and peaceful life in all godliness and sanctity.” And as the Liturgy ends, as we “depart in peace” we hear this final prayer: “Give peace to thy world, to thy churches, to thy priests, to all those in civil authority, to the armed forces, and to all thy people. For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from thee, the Father of Lights, and unto thee do we send up glory, thanksgiving, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Then we give our heartfelt *AMEN*. Please join me on Tuesday, either in the morning or the evening, as we pray for this land and its people, for God’s blessing, peace, tranquility and concord and the protection of the Theotokos upon each person. —*Fr Lawrence*