

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ July 27, 2025

St. Panteliemon the Great Martyr and Healer

- 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. PANTELIEMON, Tone Three:

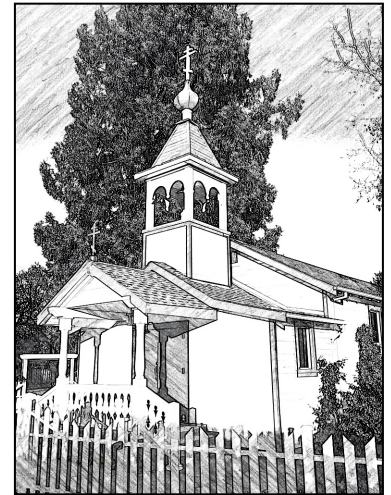
O holy prizewinner and healer Panteleimon, intercede with the merciful God that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offenses.

- 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.

- KONTAKION OF OF ST. PANTELIEMON, Tone Five:

Since thou art an imitator of the Merciful One, and hast received from Him the grace of healing, O prizewinner and Martyr of Christ our God, by thy prayers heal the diseases of our souls, and ever dispel the stumbling blocks of the enemy from them that cry unceasingly: Save us, O Lord.



SCHEDULE

- Friday, July 25: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions
- Saturday, July 26: 10 AM, Work Party to clean the Protection Church
4:30 PM, Akathist for St. Jacob of Alaska
5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions / *Lesser Blessing of Water*
- Sunday, July 27: 8 AM, Divine Liturgy in the Protection Church
9:40 AM, Reception of Catechumens
9:15 AM, Choir Warm-up, parish hall
10 AM, Divine Liturgy / Noon, POTLUCK AGAPE MEAL

We will have the joy of receiving Tami Skikos, Sara Kline-Ritchey and Christopher Martin as catechumens this Sunday at 9:40 AM. Please join me in praying for them.

Saint Panteliemon, who had Nicomedia as his homeland (in modern Turkey), was the son of Eustorgius and Eubula. His father was an idolater, but his mother was a Christian from her ancestors. It was through her that he was instructed in piety, and still later, he was catechized in the Faith of Christ by Saint Hermolaus (see July 26) and baptized by him. Being proficient in the physician's vocation, he practiced it in a philanthropic manner, healing every illness more by the grace of Christ than by medicines. Thus, although his parents had named him Pantoleon ("in all things a lion"), because of the compassion he showed for the souls and bodies of all, he was worthily renamed Panteleimon, meaning "all-merciful." On one occasion, when he restored the sight of a

certain blind man by calling on the Divine Name, he enlightened also the eyes of this man's soul to the knowledge of the truth. This also became the cause for the martyrdom of him who had been blind, since when he was asked by whom and in what manner his eyes had been opened, in imitation of that blind man of the Gospel he confessed with boldness both who the physician was and the manner of his healing. For this he was put to death immediately. Panteleimon was arrested also, and having endured many wounds, he was finally beheaded in the year 305, during the reign of Maximian. Saint Panteleimon is one of the Holy Unmercenarys, and is held in special honor among them, even as Saint George is among the Martyrs.

Once again our parish will be hosting the *Diaconal Vocations Practicum* (DVP), July 28–August 1. This year, as has been announced, there will be a choir directing practicum parallel to the DVP as well as instruction for ten men preparing to be ordained to the Holy Priesthood. We expect about 80 students total for the three tracks, to be instructed by distinguished OCA seminary faculty and other teachers from our Diocese. All are encouraged and welcome to attend these services. The week will culminate with the Vigil for the *Feast of the Procession of the Holy Cross* on Thursday, July 31 at 6 PM, and the Hierarchical Liturgy on Friday, August 1 at 9:30 AM. Check [THIS LINK](#) for more information.

As one can see from the schedule below, this coming week is full of opportunities for prayer (daily Liturgy and Vespers) and offering hospitality to our guests (the 80 or so *Practicum* participants). Please see Debbie Buse if you'd like to join in serving our guests each daytime at the daily breakfasts and dinners. On Friday, August 1, the *Feast of the Procession of the Holy Cross*, we will welcome His Grace, **Bishop Gerasim** of Fort Worth from the Diocese of the South, for the Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM. —*Fr Lawrence*

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| • Mon., July 28: | 5 PM, Registration and welcome BBQ for Practicum Participants
7 PM, Molieben for beginning the Practicum |
| • Tues., July 29: | 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy in both churches/breakfast
5 PM, Vespers in the Cathedral / Dinner for the participants |
| • Wed., July 30: | 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy in both churches/breakfast
5 PM, Vespers in the Cathedral / Dinner for the participants |
| • Thurs., July 31: | 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy in both churches/breakfast
4 PM, Dinner for the participants
6 PM, Vigil for the <i>Feast of the Procession of the Holy Cross</i>
8 PM, Wine and Cheese reception for participants |
| • Fri., August 1: | 9:30 AM, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, followed by lunch |

A very special occasion: The *Feast of the Dormition*, the falling-asleep of the Mother of God, is August 15, with a two week fasting preceding it. We will have the honor and joy of welcoming at the Vigil on Thursday, August 14 at 6 PM, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop Daniel of Chicago (our former bishop) and other Hierarchs of the Holy Synod of the OCA, as well as Bishop Elect of the Diocese, Archimandrite Vasily and the Chancellor of the OCA, Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino. Metropolitan Tikhon will serve for the Liturgy the next day at the Monastery in Calistoga. I encourage all the faithful of our whole parish to gather on August 14 to greet the Primate of the Orthodox Church in America and those with him and to celebrate the Liturgy on the Feast at the Monastery in Calistoga, August 15. There will not be a Divine Liturgy here at St. Seraphim that day. —*Fr Lawrence*

Our Bishop-Elect, Archimandrite Vasily, will be consecrated to be the Bishop of the Diocese of the West at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Van Ness and Green St., at the Divine Liturgy on Saturday, August 16 at 9 AM. The consecration of a bishop is not something we will experience very often, so I encourage all to attend. There will be a festive banquet following the Liturgy, and tickets may be purchased at the following website: dowoca.org/2025/05/01/consecration-banquet/

The new Bishop Vasily will visit us for the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on the Sunday after his consecration, August 24. We also have an 8 AM Divine Liturgy in the Protection that day, which we will keep on the schedule.

Our monthly calendar indicates a *Shubertiade* on September 6th. What is a *Shubertiade*? Until recently, a local pianist named Elizabeth Walter regularly organized occasional all-Shubert performances at the Petaluma museum. She has attended many of the choral concerts here over the years, and naturally asked me if she could organize a musical event in our parish hall. Since it's good for us to be part of our greater community, I agreed we could host the event: performing that day will be vocalists, string players from the SF Symphony and the Russian-born pianist Jura Margulis. More info and a flyer will be forthcoming. —*Fr Lawrence*

Fanaticism has nothing to do with Christ. Be a true Christian. Then you won't jump to conclusions about anybody, but your love will “cover all things.” Even to a person of another religion, you will always act as a Christian. That is to say, you will show respect to him in a gracious manner irrespective of his religion...There must be respect for the freedom of the other person. Just as Christ stands at the door and knocks and does not force an entry, but waits for the soul to accept Him freely on its own, so we should stand in the same way in relation to every soul (*Saint Porphirios of Kapsokalyvia*). Fr Philip McCaffery writes: “*Be a true Christian*. Of course one can pretend, and many do. *Fake it til you make it*. But, ultimately, one does not ‘make it’ by faking it. I should know. One cannot become a Christian without letting Christ in, without letting His Spirit transform our own deep self. Respect others? Impossible! The best we can do is make some sort of ‘deal’ with others to leave each other alone. ‘You go your way, and I’ll go mine.’ ‘Live and let live.’ Otherwise, conflict. However, Christ stands at the door and knocks—oh so quietly, so gently. Come into my heart today, Lord Jesus. Help me to become a *true Christian*.”



**CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY
OF PILGRIMAGE TO FORT ROSS
1925 ✝ 2025**

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon and His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas will lead us in the joyful celebration of the Divine Liturgy on Saturday, October 4, 2025, at this site of the earliest liturgies in the contiguous United States.



Please visit www.fortrosspilgrimage.org for details, registration for the festive meal, and for the ‘Fort Ross-Then and Now’ conference on October 3.

Mark your calendars for this extraordinary event in the life of our Church. Additionally, you will see as you peruse the website, our parish will host a conference on Friday, October 3. The conference—*The Story of Orthodox at Fort Ross, Then and Now*—aims to deepen our understanding and appreciation of the role that Fort Ross has played in the life of the Church, and thereby enrich our life in Christ. Please join us as we explore stories of pilgrimage, saints, and so much more. Register now for this educational and historic conference.

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH

AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 – St. Panteliemon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 AM, Divine Liturgy • 9:40, Receive Catechumens • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, POTLUCK Agape Meal 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Welcome BBQ for Participants of the Practicum 	29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy <i>in both churches</i> • 5 PM, Vespers 	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy <i>in both churches</i> • 4 PM, Diaper Bank • 5 PM, Vespers 	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy <i>in both churches</i> • 6 PM, Vigil for the <i>Feast of the Procession of the Cross</i> 	AUGUST 1 / FAST BEGINS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 AM, Greeting of Bishop Gerasim, and Divine Liturgy for the Feast • Lunch for the Participants 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions
3 – Sts Isaac, Dalmatus, Faustus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape Meal • <i>12:45 PM, Parish Council Meeting</i> 	4	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 PM, Vigil for Transfiguration 	6 – Transfiguration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 AM, Divine Liturgy and the Blessing of fruit and the vineyard • 6 PM, Vespers 	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 PM, Bible Study 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Great Vespers/ Confessions
10 – St. Lawrence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 AM, Divine Liturgy • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape Meal • <i>Men's Fellowship to SF</i> 	11	12	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30 PM, Akathist to St. Olga of Alaska • 6 PM, Vespers 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 PM, Vigil for Dormition here 	15 – Dormition/Fast ends <i>The Liturgy for the Feast will be at the Monastery in Calistoga, 9 AM</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 PM, Vespers in SF 	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 AM, Consecration of Bishop/Liturgy in SF • 5 PM, Great Vespers/ Confessions
17 – Martyr Myron <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape Meal 	18	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 PM, Parish Council Dinner in Petaluma 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30 PM, Akathist to St. Olga of Alaska • 6 PM, Vespers 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 PM, Men's Fellowship Dinner • 7 PM, Bible Study 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions 	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM, Great Vespers/ Confessions
24 – St. Cosmas of Aetolia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 AM, Divine Liturgy • 10 AM, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Greeting of Bishop Vasily • Noon, Agape Meal 	25	26	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 PM, Diaper Bank • 5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga • 6 PM, Vespers 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 PM, Vespers for the <i>Feast of the Beheading of St. John</i> • 7 PM, Bible Study 	29 – St. John the Baptist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 AM, Divine Liturgy <p style="text-align: center;">Fast Day</p>	30 <i>Parish Feast at Anza St., SF</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 AM, Sisterhood • 5 PM, Great Vespers/ Confessions
31 – St. Cyprian of Carthage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape Meal 	SEPTEMBER 1	2	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga • 6 PM, Vespers 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 PM, Bible Study 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1–4 PM, “Schubertiade” piano recital • 5 PM, Great Vespers/ Confessions