

Parents: May I offer a gentle and fatherly reminder that young children should not be left unattended, for example, on the playground, in the restroom, getting food or lemonade in the Hall. You know, maybe not, that when the lemonade is gone, then for some kids, inventive and motivated as they are (two qualities I highly admire) then it's time for sugar water (by *sugar water*, I mean sugar with a little bit of water). Let's keep a close watch. 100% of the time. Needless to remind you, it's important that the kids are playing kindly, nicely with one another. There is also the issue of safety—this is a public place. Your responsibility is for your children. Thank you. —*Fr L*

There are two pilgrimages to monasteries planned: The first to St. Herman Monastery in Platina, May 28–31 (Pentecost weekend). Rides are available. The second pilgrimage is to St. John of SE, in Manton, July 9–12. Both retreats are open to men and women and teens (with a parent).

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate all our graduates—we ask you make yourselves or your children known. If you are a graduate or someone in your family is, please send us the information including future plans.

Please keep Aly Brigid and Justin in your prayers as they prepare to be united in Holy Matrimony on Sunday at 3 PM. We ask your prayers for those who will be baptized next Sunday, May 17 at 9 AM: Gabriel D-P. and his infant son John Carlos, Ron, Anthony and Brian.

Please be aware that I will be in Phoenix/Tempe, AZ leading a choir workshop at the parish of St. John the Evangelist, Wednesday and returning on Saturday.—*Fr Lawrence*

The person who lives in Christ in the Church, where the fullness of grace is found, receives the “pledge of the Spirit,” knows spiritually the first fruits of the goods to come. On this spiritual plane, sin, the devil, death and corruption no longer have power over him, cannot affect him; he is spiritually free from them. But incorruptibility and immortality, if thus assured to him, will become real for his body only after the Resurrection and the Judgment, just as the deification of his whole being will find its complete fulfillment only at this ultimate moment (cf. 1 Cor 15:28). —*Professor Jean-Claude Larchet*

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH



May 10, 2026

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman ~ Mother's Day



- 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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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 8: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy, Feast of St. John the Theologian
- Saturday, May 9: 5 PM, Resurrectional Matins/Confessions
6:15 PM, Wedding rehearsal
- Sunday, May 10: 8 AM, Divine Liturgy, Protection Church
9 AM, Choir Rehearsal—please be prompt
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:30 AM, Church School
NO AGAPE MEAL due to Wedding
3 PM, Wedding of Aly-Brigid and Justin
- Wednesday, May 13: 5:30 PM, Akathist to Matushka Olga
6 PM, Vespers
- Thursday, May 14: 7 PM, Online Bible Study
Fr. Lawrence in Phoenix until Saturday
- Friday, May May 15: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions

Welcome Guests and Visitors! We welcome you and hope your experience at the Divine Liturgy is edifying and spiritually nourishing. Take a moment after the service to introduce yourself to one of our priests and join us for lunch after the service. We would love to greet you and answer any questions. Please be aware that Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves with fasting, prayer and a recent Confession.

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 is May 31. Pentecost Sunday is not just another “ordinary” Sunday, but is the culmination of all these days that began with Pascha. We will decorate the church on Saturday in an elaborate way (help is welcome); we have Vigil at 5 PM, and on Sunday the Divine Liturgy at 8 AM and 10 AM, followed by the potluck Agape and then at 1 PM, the beautiful Vespers with the Kneeling Prayers.

Bishop Vasily and 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 on Saturday, May 30th and the Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM on Sunday, May 31st with a festive Procession to follow.

Pay respect to your neighbor without distinguishing between age, gender or class, and the holy love will gradually begin to appear in your heart. Show respect to the blind, leprous, damaged in mind, infants, criminals and pagans, for they carry an image of God. Care not about their weaknesses or shortcomings! Observe yourself so that you do not have a lack of love. ...If you think that you love God, and there is ill disposition in your heart albeit toward one person, then you are in sorrowful self-delusion. Keep your conscience in relation to your neighbor: do not be content with the mere speciousness of your behavior. ... Love for God consists in love for one's neighbor. He who has nurtured in himself love for one's neighbor, acquires in his heart the invaluable spiritual treasure of love for God. Christ, revered and loved in our every neighbor, is the only reason for our love. He who loves his enemies has achieved perfection in love for his neighbor, and the gates of love for God are already open to him. Do not seek or expect love from anyone. With all your might, seek and demand from yourself love and compassion for people. —Source: <https://pravlife.org/ru/content/svt-ignatij-bryanchaninov-11-fraz-o-lyubvi>