

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 2, 2026

- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Eight:

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One; Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings. O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee.

- TROPARION OF THE PROTOMARTYR STEPHEN, Tone Four:

Thy relics have risen from the depths of the earth, like a treasury for the immortal life of all creation. The Church, rejoicing in the grace that she receives from them, dutifully honors thee, O Protomartyr Stephen. Preserve us from error and heresy by thy intercession!



EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

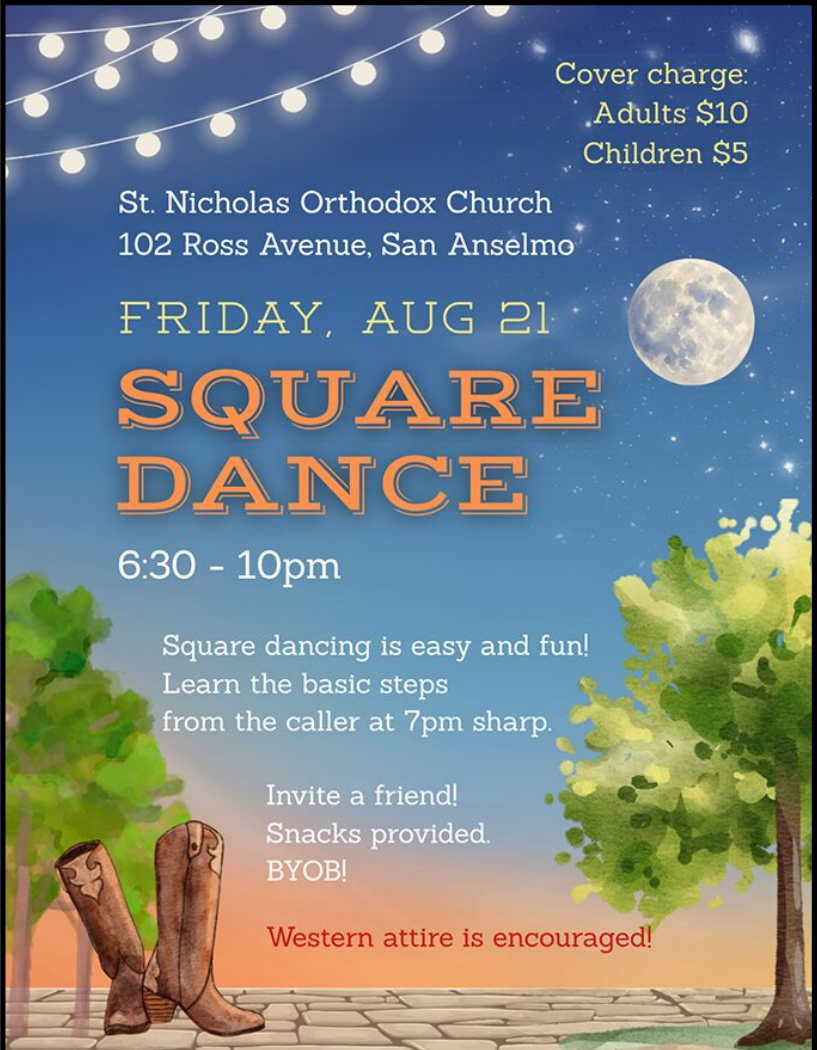
- Friday, July 31: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions
6 PM, Matins for the August Feast of the Cross
- Saturday, Aug. 1: 9 AM, Blessing of Water (and the beginning of the Dormition Fast)
5 PM, Resurrectional Vigil/Confessions
- Sunday, Aug. 2: 8 AM, Divine Liturgy in the Protection Church
9 AM, Choir Rehearsal
9:40 AM, Receive Catechumens
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape Meal
- Tuesday, Aug. 4: 6 PM, ***Funeral Service for a Priest*** for Father John Schettig (here at St Seraphim)
- Wednesday, Aug. 5: 9:30 AM, Memorial Divine Liturgy/Burial in Healdsburg
6 PM, Vigil for the Feast of the Transfiguration
- Thursday, Aug. 6: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for the Feast with the blessing of baskets of fruit (each family should bring a basket) and the vineyard

We welcome our guests and visitors, and trust that you will have a good experience at the Divine Services—please speak with one of our priests if you have any questions. Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer (Pre-Communion Prayers), fasting and a recent Confession (at least within a month's time). With the fear of God, with faith and with love, draw near.

We have the great joy of receiving catechumens on Sunday at 9:40 AM. Please pray for Jack Snyder and Trevor Gage as they embark on the next step of the journey. Your presence at the “Rite of reception” would be most welcome.

Dear Parents, as our parish grows, glory to God!, we should respond to that growth positively and creatively. One area we must prioritize is the care of our children. Please be watchful over your children before, during and after (especially after) the church services. The playground is not “free-range” and to that point, there are some things that our children should avoid doing while on the parish property: Please, let’s not have children swinging on and climbing our trees. Branches are being broken on the olive trees (a falling child might break something too!). Secondly, please keep your children from picking the unripe figs from the fig tree. Thirdly, absolutely no playing with rocks or piling up little pyramids of rocks on the sidewalks or elsewhere. **Fourthly, and most importantly for the moment:** There is a game known to the kids as “Hurricane” which is being played (swings child B around in a circle by his or her arms.) This game often ends badly, especially when one child is much smaller. Parents, it is your responsibility to see that this activity does not happen. In fact, I would ask any member of the parish who sees this in action to put a stop to it immediately. Finally, I would remind you, children under the age of 8 or so should be accompanied while going to the rest room, getting food and beverage in the Hall, and on the playground. Please forgive me if any of this sounds restrictive: the parish is a public place, and in addition to things I have listed above, *safety and liability are important issues*. As we grow, we have to make adjustments and allowances, of course, while trying to care for our children, our parish grounds, and one another. —Fr Lawrence

On August 1 we begin the Dormition Fast. We now prepare for the Feast of the Dormition of the Virgin (August 15), and we fast from dairy, eggs and meat. To benefit spiritually during this time, our thoughts and activities are best focused on spiritual things. Being the last month of the Church Year, there are many feasts of profound relevance in August. First of the month’s feasts is that of the *Procession of the Holy Cross*, with Matins and the bringing out of the Precious Cross on July 31 at 6 PM and a service of the Blessing of Water at 9 AM on August 1. On August 5, at 6 PM, we will celebrate Vigil for the *Great Feast of the Transfiguration*; the next morning, August 6 at 9 AM we will serve the Holy Liturgy with the blessing of fruit (we all bring a basket of fruit) and the vineyard to follow. In addition, we have the commemoration of many well-known saints during August (Prophet Samuel, St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, St. Ireneaus of Lyon, Prophet Micah, the Hieromartyr Alexander Hotovitsky, Sts. Florus and Laurus, St. Cosmas the Aetolian). We are also given the last great feast of the year, that of the Repose, or *Dormition of the Theotokos* on August 15. This is a summer Pascha in so many ways. Finally, we will finish the Church Year with Vespers



Cover charge:
Adults \$10
Children \$5

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
102 Ross Avenue, San Anselmo

FRIDAY, AUG 21
**SQUARE
DANCE**
6:30 - 10pm

Square dancing is easy and fun!
Learn the basic steps
from the caller at 7pm sharp.

Invite a friend!
Snacks provided.
BYOB!

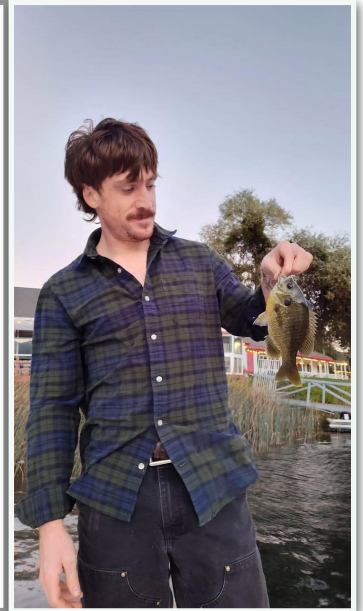
Western attire is encouraged!

for the *Beheading of St. John the Baptist*, 6 PM, Aug. 29. Let us begin August with the Cross—and carry the one Christ gives each of us; let us celebrate the Lord's Transfiguration—and heed the invitation to join Him in His Uncreated Light and be transformed; let us celebrate the repose and resurrection into the Life of the Age to Come of the Holy Theotokos—and in her death and glorification, see the path set us for us to follow. —*Fr. Lawrence*



Hi I'm Jack Snyder, I grew up in Mill Valley and moved to Santa Rosa from Montana about a year ago. I am a financial advisor here in Santa Rosa and love spending time with my dog and cat!

Hello! My name is Trevor Gage, I'm 28 years old, born and raised in Santa Rosa. I've been an inquirer of the Orthodox Church coming up on a year now, and I'm excited to start the process of formal catechism and to become part of the wonderful community you all have built in this parish.



Hi, I'm Stephanie Caron—or as many of you may know me, Jonah's mom! I was born and

raised in Santa Rosa and have attended many churches in town over the years. Jonah introduced me to St. Seraphim, and I am grateful to have finally arrived with an open heart. After Pascha, I realized the Orthodox faith holds everything I have been searching for in other churches but never found. What moved me most was realizing that every part of the liturgy and worship has

meaning and history behind it—nothing is by accident—and for the first time, I found a church that felt truly authentic. After speaking with Father Lawrence, becoming a catechumen felt like the natural next step. In addition to Jonah, I have two other grown children, Bailey and Annabelle, and a son-in-law, Ben. I am a self-employed personal trainer at a small studio in Bennett Valley. I enjoy hiking, reading and spending time with friends and family. I look forward to getting to know more of you as I grow in the Orthodox faith.

The Holy Monastery of the Assumption (Dormition) of the Theotokos in Calistoga will celebrate its Feast on August 14, Vigil at 5 PM, and the Divine Liturgy the following morning at 9 AM. All our welcome. Our parish clergy will be celebrating the Feast there for the Liturgy rather than here. *N.B. Vigil will be celebrated here at 6 PM, per the calendar.*

Memory Eternal. Early Sunday evening, July 26, Frances Ann Brown, mother of Lara Anderson, peacefully reposed in the Lord. Her funeral was held on Thursday, July 30.

On the evening of July 29, Archpriest John Schettig, formerly assigned to our parish (since 2020 has been with Sts Peter and Paul) unexpectedly and peacefully fell asleep in the Lord. We grieve his passing from us, but have hope in the resurrection. His funeral will be here at St Seraphim, Tuesday evening and Wed. morning.

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH

AUGUST 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					July 31 • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions • 6 PM, Matins for the Feast of the Cross	AUGUST 1 – Cross Feast Dormition Fast Begins • 9 AM, Blessing of Water • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
2 – Protomartyr Stephen • 8 AM, Divine Liturgy • 9:40 AM, Receive Catechumens • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape	3	4 • 6 PM, Funeral Service for Father John Schettig, (HERE)	5 • 9:30 AM, Memorial Divine Liturgy and Litya for the Departed (HERE) • 6 PM, Vigil for Transfiguration	6 – Transfiguration • 9 AM, Divine Liturgy and blessing of fruit and vineyard • 7 PM, Bible Study	7 • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confession • 6 PM, Small Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos	8 • 4 PM, Q&A for Inquirers and Catechumens • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
9 – St. Herman of Alaska • 8 AM, Divine Liturgy • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape • 1 PM, Vespers for St. Lawrence of Rome	10 <i>Liturgy for the Feast of St Lawrence at St. Lawrence Orthodox Church, Felton</i>	11 • 6 PM, Small Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos	12 • 5:30 PM, Akathist to St Olga of Alaska • 6 PM, Vespers	13 • 6 PM, Small Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos • 7 PM, Bible Study	14 • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confession • 6 PM, Vigil for Dormition	15 – Dormition <i>9 AM, Liturgy in Calistoga at the Monastery</i> • 5 PM, Great Vespers
16 – Icon “Not-made-by-hands” • 8 AM, Divine Liturgy • 9 AM, Baptisms • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape	17	18 • 6 PM, Parish Council Dinner (off site)	19 • 5:30 PM, Akathist • 6 PM, Vespers	20 • 6 PM, Men’s Fellowship Dinner • 7 PM, Bible Study	21 • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confession	22 • 4 PM, Q&A for Inquirers and Catechumens • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions
23 – St. Irenaeus of Lyon • 8 AM, Divine Liturgy • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape	24	25 • 6 PM, Parish Council	26 • 4 PM, Diaper Bank • 5:30 PM, Akathist • 6 PM, Vespers	27 • 7 PM, Bible Study	28 <i>No Confessions today</i> • 6 PM, Great Vespers for the Feast	29 – Beheading/St John Strict Fast Day • 9 AM, Divine Liturgy <i>Feast Day in SF at Christ the Saviour, Anza St.</i> • 5 PM, Vespers only
30 – St. Alexander Nevsky • 8 AM, Divine Liturgy • 10 AM, Divine Liturgy • Noon, Agape • 3 PM, Wedding of Zac and Juliana from Napa	31	September 1 • 6 PM, Akathist <i>Glory to God</i> , for Church New Year	2 • 5:30 PM, Akathist • 6 PM, Vespers	3 • 7 PM, Bible Study	4 • 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confession	5 • 4 PM, Q&A for Inquirers and Catechumens • 5 PM, Vigil/Confessions

• The Dormition Fast begins on August 1 each year, fifteen days before the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. We fast from dairy, meat, eggs, and on most days, wine and oil.