

lovingly encourage them. The Hamners became catechumens at the Orthodox church in Santa Fe, and moved to Petaluma back in January.

- NEW CATECHUMEN:

After Vespers on Saturday we will do the prayers and exorcisms for the reception of a Catechumen, for Randy Rex (everyone calls him “Rex”), a wonderful man who’s been attending now for a couple of months. Please come to support and pray for Rex as he begins his entry into the Orthodox Church.

- PRAY FOR ALL THE CATECHUMENS:

Ryan Duval, Edward, Jeff, Adriel, Jupiter, Katharine, Garret, Sarah, Rowan-Beatrice, Freddie, Niki, Desmond, Cheryl, Kira and now, Rex.

- ACQUIRING PEACE:

Living as we do in the world, we often see the “sea of life surging,” but we do not feel the presence of Christ, the Lord of peace. Our life is like a journey travelled in pitch darkness. Within us, contrary winds blow strongly. We are battered by waves and have no sense of consolation, whether divine or human. So we experience what St. Gregory the Theologian describes: “The voyage at night; no beacon anywhere; Christ is asleep” (Mark 4:37-8). In this state, we come to the house of God. There we feel that “the Church of Christ is tranquil peace.” And when the Divine Liturgy begins, we ask with all our might for peace from above, peace in our souls, peace for the world. In seeking peace however, we are in reality seeking Christ Himself: “One who seeks peace is searching for Christ, for He is peace,” writes St. Basil the Great. (from *The Divine Liturgy, A Commentary in the Light of the Fathers*, pg. 116.

- FRESCO PROGRAM:

Next to be painted will be St. Stephen the New, defender of the Holy Icons, a gift of the painters to our church, St. Maximos the Confessor (we still need additional funds for this), St. Nilus of Sora, and St. Columba of Iona, the great Celtic evangelist. This saint has not yet been commissioned. Please see Fr. Lawrence if you’re interested. The cost is \$3000. Following these frescos we will paint the north aisle: St. Esther, Johanna the Myrrhbearer, St. Isidora, St. Macrina, St. Lucy of Syracuse, and the Grand-duchess Elizabeth. Questions? Please contact Father Lawrence. After this the painters will begin Pentecost, on the Eastern Wall, above the confessional.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, July 18, 2010 ~ Holy Fathers

- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, TONE SEVEN:

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death; to the thief, Thou didst open Paradise. For the myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

- TROPARION OF THE HOLY FATHERS, Tone Eight:

Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established the Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

- KONTAKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS, Tone Eight:

The preaching of the Apostles and the doctrines of the Fathers confirmed the one Faith in the Church. And wearing the garment of truth woven from theology on high, she rightly divideth and glorifieth the great mystery of piety.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, July 17: 9:30 AM, RETREAT with Fr. Andrew Morbey
5 PM, Great Vespers / Reception of R. Rex as Catechumen following Vespers
- Sunday, July 18: 9 AM, Confessions / 10 AM, Divine Liturgy
Noon, Agape Lunch
5 PM, VIGIL FOR ST. SERAPHIM
- Monday, July 19: 9:30 AM, Hierarchical Liturgy for St. Seraphim, followed by Festive Luncheon
TBD, Vespers for Prophet Elijah

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Tuesday, July 20: 4 PM, Vigil at Kazan Skete—Feast of the Monastery

Wed., July 21: 9:30 AM, Liturgy at Kazan Skete, Bishop Benjamin will preside
6 PM, Vespers

Thurs., July 22: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy for St. Mary Magdalene

• WELCOME:

The Parish welcomes back its dear friend, and former rector, Archpriest Andrew Morbey, from Minneapolis, MN. Father Andrew is here to speak and to lead us in a retreat, on the theme of remaining faithful to the faith. The Retreat begins Friday, at 7 PM, with a short Akathist to St. Seraphim, then the first talk by Fr. Andrew, and continues on Saturday, at 9:30 AM.

• SAINT SERAPHIM DAY:

“God is wonderful in His saints...” says the Psalmist, and we are blessed to have the prayers of the Venerable Father Seraphim of Sarov, who is the patron of our church. The vigil for St. Seraphim will be celebrated on Sunday, July 18 at 5 PM. The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy—His Grace, Bishop Benjamin will be with us—is on Monday, July 19 at 9:30 AM. Prayers of thanksgiving will be offered to God for all the Priests and the Deacons in Christ, and their wives and children; we will congratulate our beloved Sisterhood, the Parish Council members, the Church School teachers, the Altar servers, and our excellent Choir and Readers, which lead us in the compunctionate and humble hymns of our Orthodox Church. The parish feast is everyone’s *saint day*, and so we pray and give thanks for all our parishioners, friends and supporters.

• DINNER-DANCE:

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in San Anselmo will be hosting a dinner-bingo-disco party for Orthodox youth from 6–10 PM on Friday July 30. Laurel Counts will be organizing rides to get our youth there (FYI, the bingo is “fun raiser” not a “fund raiser”). See or call Laurel if you have any questions.

• THIS LAST WEEK:

During this last week, the Parish hosted three events: one for the young children, one for the high school students, and one for the adults. Saint

Seraphim week for the youth was organized by Lara Anderson, and we ask God’s blessings on her, and thank her for this important activity which helps teach our children about Jesus Christ and His Saints. About 20 children were involved this year. The parents are also to be commended for their participation and help. Secondly, our Parish High Schoolers hosted the Youth group of St. Andrew Orthodox Church, Riverside, CA.—some 37 strong—on Wednesday evening. The St. Andrew youth were on their eighth annual summer trip, led by their energetic Deacon and youth director, and their beloved priest, Father Josiah Trenham. The group spent Wednesday working at the monastery in Calistoga, and then came here to the parish for dinner, a camp fire, an inspiring talk by Fr. Josiah, evening prayers, and an overnight in tents. The next morning the group prayed and sang at the Divine Liturgy for St. Vladimir, and made our feast all that much more joyous. Finally, on Friday and Saturday we are hosting a retreat, led by Fr. Andrew, for the adults, helping us to remain faithful and strong in our faith. Dear Parishioners, let’s give thanks to God that we have such opportunities to grow in the faith. Take advantage of what’s being offered!

• GLENDI:

Our Glendi is slowly but surely ramping up. Vicky and Ray Basch will be preparing piroshki next week, July 24. PLEASE ask them how you can help in that effort. We have some changes this year: Isaac Ferguson and Herman Vasquez will be taking over the Kabob Booth and will add their own special twist. Daniel Bell has volunteered to set out and (just as importantly) pick up the Glendi signage. Certain areas need volunteers, for example, we need a Parking Manager this year to organize the field, and staff it and the parish lot throughout the two days. For the last few years our Glendi has been run by committee, and it has operated well. We might be more well-organized if we had a **Glendi Manager** who had an overview of the entire operation. Anyone interested in learning more about what a Glendi Manager does, please see Fr. Lawrence.

• BAPTISMS:

On Sunday, August 1, at 9 AM, the day of the Feast of the Procession of the Holy Cross, we will baptize Garret Paul, Sarah and Rowan Hamner. Of course, all are invited and encouraged to come and pray at the Baptism, since Baptism is NEVER a private family event. How appropriate it is for the entire parish to be present not just to welcome, but to witness the rebirth by “water and the Spirit” of God’s new children, newly illumined, and to