

# Sts. Peter & Paul Church Council News

## April–May 2019

M.A. Mogilev, Publisher  
Joanna Chidlow, Editor  
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www.facebook.com/stspproca · www.stspproca.org

850 St. Olga Ct.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95407  
mishamish@email.com  
707-584-4092



### Priest's Corner

By the time this issue of our newsletter comes out, the final week of Great Lent will be upon us. At the beginning of that final week, we celebrate, with great joy, the Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem – while at the same time realizing the reason for which he came to Jerusalem. This was the mistake the ancient Jews made when initially welcoming the Lord: They thought He had come to reestablish the Kingdom of Israel on Earth, not to open the doors of the Heavenly Kingdom for all mankind. Because of this misunderstanding, the same people who had cried “Hosanna!” as the Lord entered into Jerusalem would several days later cry out to Pilate, “Crucify Him!”

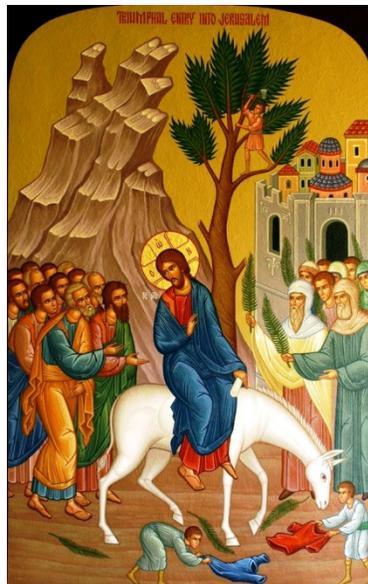
We should not, in any way, imitate those who first welcomed the Lord, receiving the great gift of the coming of their Savior only to turn their backs on Him later. “We have seen the True Light” (from the Divine Liturgy), we have been blessed with the priceless opportunity to have our sins remitted and cleansed through Holy Confession, and we will commemorate Our Lord’s sacrifice upon the Cross, upon which His most precious Body was broken, upon which His most precious Blood was spilled, for the cleansing of our souls and bodies, the remission of our sins, and the reunion of all mankind with God.

Let us not forget the efforts we made during Great Lent, nor turn our backs on the promises we made in Confession by simply going back to our bad habits after celebrating Pascha. Let us remain true to Our Savior, Who grants us forgiveness of our sins and His most precious Body and Blood, which renews in us the divine nature of our humanity. At each Divine Liturgy we hear the words of the Cherubic Hymn: “Let us lay aside all earthly cares” as we prepare to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. Holy Week is the celebration of the very first Eucharist, of that pivotal moment in human history when blood sacrifices were replaced by the most pure Blood of Our Savior and the gates of heaven were reopened to us. Let us celebrate Holy Pascha by continuing the good work we have begun during Lent

and continue our sincere efforts to live in a way more pleasing to Him, for in doing so: “*We proclaim His death and we bear witness to His Resurrection!*” (from the Liturgy of St. Basil).

***Glory to Thy passion, O Christ, Glory to Thy most Holy Resurrection, O Lord! Truly Our Lord is risen!***

—Fr. Alexander



❖ ❖ ❖  
**Congratulations to the parents, godparents and relatives of the newly baptized: Alexander Gerrans, baptized on February 16, 2019, and to those celebrating their Name’s days\*:**

April 5 – Lydia Ammosow, Lydia Koohtin, Lydia Reoutt, Lydia Romanovsky, and Lydia Sinkevich

April 8 – Alla Zaharoff, Larissa Krassovsky, and Larissa Saschin

April 14 – Maria Markoff

May 6 – Anatoly Avdienko, George Franke-Zaharoff, George Logvy,

George Lowery, George Lucas, George Lysenko, George Sokoloff, Alexandra Huhlov, Alexandra Krassovsky, Alexandra Logvy, and Alexandra Stewart

May 8 – Marcus Schluter

May 14 – Matushka Tamara Wawiliuk

May 15 – Zoya Litvinenko

May 17 – Pelagea (Paula) Cesik-Karuzic

May 18 – Irina Saschin

May 22 – Nicholas Spring, Nicholas Schneider, Nicholas Cesik-Karuzic, and Christopher Jones

May 24 – Kyrill Mogilev and Kyrill Logvy

May 25 – Herman Schneider

May 26 – Svetlana Jones and Svetlana Logvy

May 27 – Max (Holvardt) Reighart

May 31 – Andrei Litvinenko

*\*Fr. Alexander asks that you please notify him if we have missed anyone’s name’s day in our lists. Thank you!*

### *In Memoriam*

With a degree of sadness but, as always, with faith in our resurrected Lord Jesus Christ, we note the passing of:

- † **Maria Alexandrovna Mandrussova-Boiko**, who passed away on March 4, 2019;
- † **Albert (Alexander) Javoian**, the last surviving member of the Javoian family, which donated the land upon which our church stands, who passed away on February 22, 2019; and

May God grant rest to the souls of His newly departed servant **Maria** and newly reposed servant of God **Alexander**, together with all of his ever-memorable reposed family: **Joseph, Olga, and Paul**, and I ask that you remember them in your prayers both in church and at home. *Memory eternal!*



### **The Journey of Joyful Sorrow**

The main reason Christianity spread so rapidly following the Resurrection of Christ was the power behind the Resurrection. The truth of Christ's Resurrection empowered believers to joyfully embrace martyrdom, knowing that they would be joined in eternal bliss with their resurrected Savior. Although their martyrdom would involve both mental and physical anguish, they were almost joyful in their willingness to go to their deaths rather than betray their faith. Not the kind of thing one would do just to be part of some "religion." Many contemporaries observed that these Christians were facing their martyr's death as though they were about to be married. They were not grim-faced but shone with a certain light in their countenance, embracing as they did their crown of martyrdom.

When Saint Polycarp was sentenced by the proconsul, he responded by asking why they were delaying his death by burning. These believers were rejoicing as they faced their imminent death, for their knowledge of the bodily Resurrection of Christ was proof enough to have given them an invincible courage as they faced certain death. Grand Duchess Elizabeth and Nun Barbara were said to have been singing hymns long after being thrown into the mine shaft by the Bolsheviks, as they prepared for eternal life with Christ.

Early Christian apologists cited hundreds of eyewitnesses, many of whom willfully and resolutely endured prolonged torture and death rather than repudiate their testimony. Their willingness to suffer death ruled out deception on their part. According to

the historical record, most Christians could have ended their suffering simply by renouncing the faith. Instead, most opted to endure their suffering unto death and proclaim Christ's Resurrection.

What makes the earliest Christian martyrs remarkable is that they knew whether or not what they were professing was true. They either saw Jesus Christ alive and well after His death or they did not. If it was all just a lie, why would so many Christians perpetuate a myth, given their circumstances? Why would they all knowingly cling to such an unprofitable lie in the face of persecution, imprisonment, torture, and death?

Immediately following Christ's crucifixion, His followers hid in fear for their lives. Yet following Christ's Resurrection, they boldly proclaimed the resurrection despite intensifying persecution. Only a true resurrection could have accounted for a sudden change that would lead believers to give up everything, including their lives, to preach Christ's Resurrection.



One skeptic, Paul, was of his own admission a violent persecutor of the early Church. Yet after an encounter with the resurrected Christ, Paul underwent an immediate and drastic change from a vicious persecutor of the Church to one of its most prolific and selfless defenders. Following his encounter with the Risen Christ, Paul suffered impoverishment, persecution, imprisonment, beatings, and finally execution for his steadfast commitment to Christ's Resurrection.

The sorrow we Christians experience during our lenten journey is tempered with the knowledge that Christ is conquering death by His death, and that His Resurrection is our resurrection. We look to the future with the same faith of the saints and martyrs who have gone on before us, and we've experienced the truth of Jesus Christ's teachings, for our hearts have been transformed by the power of His message. Our sins have been forgiven, and we are guests at the eucharistic banquet, awaiting our time when the gates

of paradise will be opened to us. We fear nothing, just like the martyrs, because we know the truth of the Holy Resurrection of Christ our God.

*With love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon  
All-Merciful Saviour Monastery  
Vashon Island, Washington*



## 2019 Annual Parish Meeting

The annual General Parish Meeting convened on Sunday, March 3. Many projects were completed in 2018 and much is planned for this year. George Sokoloff chaired the meeting, and Lana Logvy acted as secretary. After acceptance of the 2018 minutes, discussion of the 2019 operating budgets and capital projects ensued.

A report of the Auditing Committee found that our parish assets total \$2.1 million, including real estate holdings, investments, and bank accounts (e.g., Benevolent Fund, Sisterhood, and savings). Michael Kirchanski, our Financial Manager, noted that our finances are strong and stable. This year, we will be working with our insurance carrier to reassess and adequately insure our real estate holdings. Inflows for the year exceeded \$300,000. This amount included \$26,202 in stewardship and membership, \$94,490 in iconostasis donations, and \$67,378 in rental income (almost \$25,000 from the hall alone, thanks to the ongoing efforts of Paul Johnson), as well as a \$20,000 transfer from savings. Outflows totaled \$305,000. We have spent \$82,957 on the iconostasis to date, which is 75% paid up. Last year's budget projected a deficit of \$150,000, while in fact, we had a \$21,000 deficit, quite an accomplishment considering the investments we are making in church beautification. We were blessed to receive much more in donations than we expected. For 2019, we plan to spend approximately \$35,000 for the iconostasis and \$35,000 for iconography. Toward this goal, we are conducting a gala auction night fundraiser on May 3. Our goal is to raise enough money to pay off the iconostasis.

We plan to transition from Quicken to Quick Books for our accounting, which will give us more options in terms of recordkeeping, payroll, and categorizing funds, as well as giving receipts to donors.

In the pastor's report, Father Alexander reviewed our 41st year of parish life. For 2018, he reported four baptisms of children and adults, one wedding, and four deaths: Olga Zaharova, Sonja Hoffmark, Barbara Drost, and one of our founding members,

Olga Javoian. Over one hundred people received Holy Unction at the service in March 2018, served by seven clergy, and in January 2018, Father performed 64 house blessings, traveling from Clear Lake to San Francisco to Sacramento. The number of communicants during Great Lent (401) was the lowest since the 1990s. Unfortunately, our membership levels have not returned to those of a few years ago when many of our members passed away, and we have only 85 dues-paying families/members this year. We need to work on expanding our regular membership. When we see new people, we should welcome them and invite them to lunch to make a personal connection.



Two major projects have been ongoing for several years: church beautification in preparation for the full Consecration, and the cemetery project. We are moving ahead with the permit process on our cemetery. Although the county is moving very slowly, we still have high hopes for the project coming to fruition. Father asked that we reelect the Board of Directors of the Saints Peter and Paul Fund, LLC, for another year: Paul Johnson, George Sokoloff, Todd Stewart, Vladimir Kondrasheff, and Demitrios Handelih (who is replacing Eli Shikaloff).

The iconostasis project is coming along well. The artisans in Crete are done carving the wood and have begun staining and gilding. The results are phenomenal. We are awaiting delivery of the completed iconostasis, which is planned for May. The transport and inspection will take more than a month, after which we will fly over two representatives to help install the iconostasis in the church. We will provide tools, scaffolding, and manpower. We will disassemble the old iconostasis, refinish the altar floor, and install the new one. We don't anticipate an interruption in the service schedule during the transition.



Many of the icons for our altar screen will be finished in time for the

Consecration, to be painted by Vladimir Krassovsky. However, we are not yet able to set a firm date for the full Consecration of our church.

We will need to prepare our altar table according to the instructions in the rubrics, which is a very detailed process, involving a relic compartment, sealing with special wax, and nailing the top onto the table with rocks. We can either build a new altar table or construct a larger cover over the existing one. The first two hours of the service will take place in the altar with a male choir. New vestments must be sewn for the altar and the rest of the church. The clergy and choir have a great deal of preparation as well. Father plans to travel to Kiev this year in July to purchase material for the vestments. The costs there are significantly less, and Zoya Litvinenko has graciously offered to sew them.

Father reported that several of our fire families have resettled into new homes. However, there have been significant delays by the county and the insurers. Please keep them in your prayers and continue to give them the support they need.

The stewardship program continued successfully in 2018: we received 104% of pledges, up from 98% the previous year. Of 56 stewards, 32 exceeded their pledges. The total amount collected from stewardship and membership combined grew to roughly \$26,000—an important segment of our annual operating budget. In addition, we far exceeded our expected donations for the iconostasis, at \$94,500. It is so heartening to see everyone rising to the occasion. After doing away with plate collections, we actually increased our donations, which are now anonymous, using envelopes. This is in spite of the fact that attendance at services did decline significantly.

Father thanked the Parish Council and Starosta Paul Johnson as well as Nadia Stewart, the Senior Sister. A great deal has been accomplished this year, and we have made wise and productive use of our resources. He noted that the spiritual condition of the parish is worrisome, with poor attendance at liturgies and vigils. We feel the loss of the older generation, as younger people are not taking their place. Father encouraged everyone to resist the spiritual

complacency and busyness that interfere with fully participating in the life of the church, and asked people to reach out to family and friends to encourage them to attend, especially during holy Lent with its special services.

Father Alexander gave a heartfelt thanks to his brother clergymen who filled in for him while he was out with an injured foot, including those from around the Bay Area—Holy Protection Church in Palo Alto, St. Seraphim's in Santa Rosa, and the San Francisco Cathedral—and his brother, Archimandrite Roman, who celebrated Liturgy on the 30th anniversary of Father's ordination. Thanks also went to Father Deacon Afanassy for helping to serve during this difficult time, and for everyone's prayers and patience. Father also thanked those who work quietly and diligently to accomplish so many tasks in our parish: the choir, Sisterhood, teachers, newsletter contributors, donors, and other benefactors. May God reward and strengthen them for years to come.



The slate of Parish Council members was reelected by acclamation, and there were minor changes to the Auditing Committee: Chair Helen Powers is stepping down after her many years of service to the parish, and Chris Jones will become a full member. John Reighard and Daniel Alva will be reserve members, and Diana Handelih and Ian McWethy will continue in their roles. Michael Kirchanski will continue as Financial Manager, and Elisabeth (Aliona) Russie will serve as Assistant Financial Manager.

The Starosta's report by Paul Johnson summarized infrastructure accomplishments of the past year. We painted the exterior of our church, which was a major project. The job, costing ~\$24,000, should last for many years to come. We installed moisture barriers in the doors in the hall and fly screens that are working well. Our sign had its light secured in a cement block to prevent vandalism. Repairs were made to the parsonage roof and ceiling. We had our well inspected by the state water board. As a result, we fixed a backflow issue, rerouted piping, built an enclosure and retaining wall to prevent contamination, and installed a flow meter, all costing ~\$4,000. Also, we installed

LED lights in the parking lot, which save us money on our PG&E bill.

Future capital improvements to our church include updating and expanding our kitchen. This project will be looked at after the main Consecration of our church has been accomplished. Our main focus now is the installation of the new iconostasis, during which we plan to refinish the floors.

Our hall rentals (\$25,000) were up 60% in 2018, and this year, they are up 23% over 2018. In another milestone, we are grateful to Demitrios Handelih, who has created a beautiful, living website for our church (stspbroca.org). The streaming services, which are available there, are a benefit to those unable to attend.

Lana Jones presented the Sisterhood's annual report. Nadia Stewart will be continuing as Head Sister, and Lana will be continuing as Treasurer. She mentioned that it would be great to get more members participating in the lunches and give a break to those who so often prepare them. Thanks are due to all who contributed to the success of this year's Bazaar. Gift baskets were well received at Christmas and Easter by shut-in members of our parish. There were no major purchases in 2018, but they hope to have some in 2019, including updates to the kitchen. Preparations are under way for Pascha, and presales are ongoing.

The Sisterhood ended the year with a balance of \$14,637. During the year, they donated almost \$3,000 in bonuses and \$30,000 in cash to the church. Their revenues of over \$42,000 included proceeds from Sunday lunches (\$15,784), the annual pre-Christmas Bazaar (\$21,126), and sales of kulich and pascha (\$2,500). Pelmeniy-making, which is a social and fund raising activity, will take place on the first Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. It drew 22 participants at a recent session, and is another successful fundraiser. Thanks go to Zoya and Alex Litvinenko for preparing the ingredients.

The cemetery report was given by Todd Stewart (photo at right), a member of the LLC that is in charge of the project. They've made excellent progress, with input from key parish members (Yura Sokoloff,

Vova Kondrasheff, Paul Johnson, Demetrius Handelih, and Father Alexander) and Michael Swicegood, our land planner. Daniels Chapel of the Roses, WRA Environmental, and Mel Lewis have also been supportive consultants.

After an 18-month hiatus during 2016–2017, the designs have been changed and the project has been modified to be more compliant with permitting requirements. New architectural drawings have been created. The gazebo will be replaced by a religious monument in the center (photo at left shows the Cossacks' Memorial at Serbian Cemetery). We completed a noise study (costing \$5,800) along the road in front of the proposed site as well as an updated water table (hydrogeological) study. We plan to use waterproof vaults in our burials in order to allay environmental concerns. Our permit application was formally submitted to the Sonoma County PRMD on July 23, along with a fee of \$16,715. We expect a timely response from our contracted individuals for the county review process. We plan to submit responses to any further requests during the next few months. There will be a hearing with the county in July or August, and then hopefully a permit decision in October.



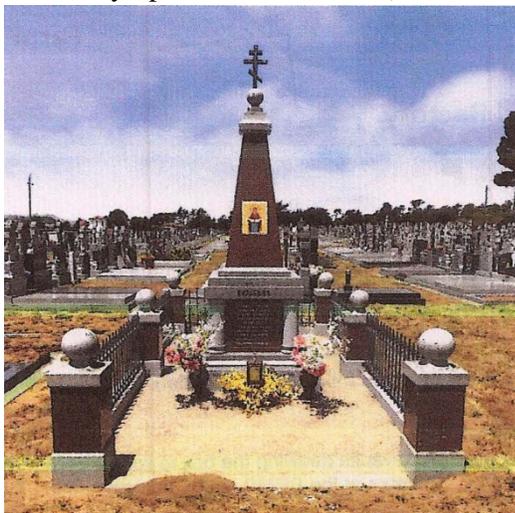
George Sokoloff, the honorary chair of the meeting, spoke on behalf of the LLC, which has \$115,000 in total assets and \$310,000 in loans. In 2018, it spent \$46,000 more than it took in, including on bank and development charges as well as interest. Our accounts are in good shape, in that our assets greatly exceed our liabilities in terms of cash on hand and property value. Once we start operating the cemetery, we will be able to generate a good income.



## Sisterhood News

The Sisterhood has been very busy, as usual, with all the preparations leading up to Pascha along with other activities and events. Thank you to all who have been contributing where necessary.

The Blini Luncheon on Sunday, February 24, was a great success and very tasty, with lots of help from our Sisters preparing for the big event. Thank you all!



Also, thank you to those who made the lunches for the Meeting of Our Lord and Savior on February 15, Forgiveness Sunday on March 10, and the Veneration of the Holy Cross on March 31. They were all a great success on top of being a much appreciated opportunity for many to socialize.



We also had ladies who baked *Zhavoronki* (skylarks, left) and potato cocktail piroshki for sale as an added extra treat during these lenten days. Thank you ladies! We will be putting together the *verbiy* bouquets next week in preparation for sale

on Palm Sunday (April 21). If you can help or can donate any flowers, please let me know.

Kulich and pascha are being made by the ladies in the Sisterhood for sale at \$18 per pound, and for the Outreach Baskets. These will be ready for pick-up on Palm Sunday. We also have a few five-pound buckets of *tvorog* (farmer's cheese) left for sale at \$20 each, and vanilla sticks for sale at \$4 each. We will also need help decorating the church for Easter, after the morning Vespers Liturgy on Saturday, April 27. Also, please come and help us set up for the Midnight Feast on Pascha night and the blessing of the *kulich* and Easter baskets.

Our Annunciation luncheon fundraiser on April 7 was a great success—thank you to Zoya, Aliona, Kapa Huhlov's family, and Anna Ferguson (*photo at right*). The next major lunch fundraiser is Palm Sunday, April 21, another fish day during Lent. Subsequently, the Midnight Feast on Pascha (*Rasgovlenia*) will take place on April 27–28, and a Bright Monday lunch will be held after Matins and Liturgy on April 29. If you would like to bring food for the Pascha Feast, please sign up at the candle counter or the bar in the hall. If you would like to help out on future Sunday or holiday lunches, please contact me, our lunch scheduler.

Please do not forget our ailing members and shut-ins who could always use our prayers, visits, and phone call. We will need volunteers to donate their time to create the gift baskets for these folks closer to Easter. For more information on ways to help, please contact our Outreach person, Anna Judd at 707-823-2372 or [annajudd@comcast.net](mailto:annajudd@comcast.net).

Our Pelmeniy Group just met this week and worked very hard and had lots of fun—thank you all very much! So there are pelmeni for sale at \$25 for a bag of 100. If you would like to join us in making

pelmeni, we are planning to meet on the first Thursday of the month (May 2 next) at 9:00 a.m. There are also frozen cocktail-size potato piroshki for sale at \$10/bag.

The next Sisterhood meeting is to be determined. Thank you to everyone for your continuing support of and dedication to the Sisterhood. May 2019 be another successful year!

—Nadia Stewart, Head Sister  
of the St. Olga Sisterhood  
925-372-7838 ♦ [Nadiastew55@yahoo.com](mailto:Nadiastew55@yahoo.com)



## Recipe Corner

### Cheese Pascha

Ingredients:

- 2 whole eggs, large
- 1 egg yolk, large
- ¾ cup sugar
- ¾ cup heavy cream
- 1½ sticks (¾ cup) softened unsalted butter
- 2 packages farmer's cheese (can substitute ricotta, mascarpone, or similar), drained between several layers of paper towels for half an hour and sieved
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 2 tsp. freshly grated orange zest
- 1/3 cup finely chopped almonds
- ¼ cup dried fruit (currants, cranberries, or raisins) plus additional for decoration

1. Beat the whole eggs and the yolk together with the sugar in a bowl until the mixture is thick and pale yellow in color.
2. Scald and add the cream in a thin stream, beating constantly, and transfer the custard to a heavy saucepan. Cook the custard over moderately low

heat, stirring constantly, until thickened (175°F or so). Do not let this boil.

3. Strain the custard through a fine sieve or cheesecloth into a metal bowl set in a larger bowl of ice and cold water, and let the custard cool, stirring occasionally.
4. While the custard is cooling, in another bowl cream the butter and gradually add the cheese, beating constantly, and then beat the mixture at moderate speed for 5 more minutes. Beat in the custard, vanilla, orange zest, almonds, and ¼ cup of the dried fruit.
5. Line a large clean clay flowerpot with a double-layer of rinsed and squeezed cheesecloth, add the cheese mixture, and pack it tightly, smoothing out the top.
6. Fold the ends of the cheesecloth over the top of the packed mixture. Place the flowerpot into a small bowl, and place a four-pound weight on top that just fits inside the pot (e.g., you can use a small plate with another coffee can filled with water on top of the plate).
7. Chill the pascha for at least 12 hours or overnight. Decorate with additional dried fruit. Suggestion: Serve with fresh strawberries.



## Orthodox Community Events

- **Father Alexander will give Spiritual Talks** on Sunday, **April 14** and **21**, on the Beatitudes, Sts. Peter & Paul Church hall, following lunch at around 12:30 p.m.
- **Annual Lenten Retreat, Holy Virgin Cathedral, Sun., April 14.** Keynote speaker: **Father John Whiteford.** 7:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy; 9:45 a.m. registration, breakfast; lectures start at 10:30; fellowship at 3:00, church tour at 4:00, and Vespers in

English at 5:00 p.m. For more information, contact Rev. Peter Perekrestov at [ruspast@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruspast@sbcglobal.net). 6210 Geary Blvd., San Francisco.

- **Divine Liturgy, Friday, April 19, Presanctified Liturgy, 8:00 a.m. Hours; May 1, 10:00 a.m. Bright Wednesday Liturgy. Our Lady of Kazan Skete, 2735 Victoria Dr., Santa Rosa, 707-542-7798.**
- **Service of Holy Unction, Great Wednesday, April 24, Holy Virgin Cathedral.** Confessions from 3:30 p.m., Matins at 4:00 p.m., Unction at ~5:30 p.m. 6210 Geary Blvd., San Francisco. *\*Available only to those who have not received Unction this Lent already.\**
- **Pascha candle decorating for children, Holy Friday, April 26, 1:00 to 2:30.** Supplies will be provided. **St. Seraphim Orthodox Church, 90 Mountain View Ave., Santa Rosa.**
- **April 28, Paschal Agape Vespers** at 1:00 p.m. followed by **Potluck Barbecue and Picnic. St. Seraphim Orthodox Church, 90 Mountain View Ave., Santa Rosa.** All are welcome.
- **Thursday, May 2, 5:00–8:00 p.m. Pascha celebration and parish Slava (feast day),** Come and enjoy an evening of festive cheer, Easter eggs, and fellowship. **Saint George Serbian Orthodox Church, 94 9th St. Oakland, CA 94607.**
- **The Nomadic Shelter program (“Angels Unawares”): first Thursday of the month, May 2.** Guests from the Redwood Gospel Mission will arrive about 6:00 p.m. and depart about 6:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed from 4:00–8:00 p.m. Any questions call Michael or Rachel Dovey at 707-799-4117. **St. Seraphim Orthodox Church, 90 Mountain View Ave., Santa Rosa.**
- **May 4-5, Retreat and Monastery Feastday, Fr. Demetrios Carellas** is the featured speaker for this annual retreat which combines lectures at **Saint Nicholas Ranch** and worship services at the Monastery. 38526 Dunlap Rd., **Squaw Valley, CA 93675.** 559-338-2103. [info@stnicholasranch.org](mailto:info@stnicholasranch.org).
- **“From Russia with Love.”** Santa Rosa Symphony, Bruno Ferrandis, conductor, Olga Kern, piano. Stravinsky, Shostakovich, and Tchaikovsky. Saturday, **May 4, 7:30 pm**, Sunday, **May 5, 3:00 pm**, Monday, **May 6, 7:30 pm. Green Music Center, SSU campus, Rohnert Park.** For tickets, go to <https://gmc.sonoma.edu>.
- **Redwood Empire Food Bank** distribution, second Wednesdays, **May 8, at 5:00–6:00 p.m. St. Seraphim Orthodox Church** parking lot, 90 Mountain View Ave., Santa Rosa, 707-584-9491.



- **Pilgrimage to the Holy Shrines of Russia:** Moscow, Holy Trinity-Sergius Lavra, Tver Region, Vladimir, Murom, Diveevo, Mordovia, and Raizan. **May 12–27**, leaving from Toronto, Canada. Spiritual director of the pilgrimage: Archpriest Vladimir Malchenko. 416-265-5651; vmalchenko@yahoo.com. www.synod.com
- **Oakland Greek Festival, May 17–19**, 11:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 11:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. Sunday. **Ascension Greek Orthodox Cathedral**, 4700 Lincoln Ave., Oakland. \$6 adult admission. Free admission on Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Sunday from 5 p.m. to closing. For more information, visit oaklandgreekfestival.com or call 510-531-3400.
- **St. Michael's Celtic Festival, May 18, Sat.**, 12:00 – 8:00. Dance, food, crafts, Irish music, bagpipes, Scottish Country dancing, and games. Vespers at 5:30. Evening entertainment and folk dancing at 6:30. **Holy Dormition Orthodox Church**, 1521 Rose Ave., **Santa Rosa**. For info, call 707-545-5688 or visit <https://www.holydormitionchurch.org/>.
- **Real Break Mt. Athos** (male only), **May 22–30**, \$2,500 per person. **Real Break Jerusalem** (female only), **June 7–15**, \$3,000 per person. Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF), the official campus ministry of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops, encourages college students to register. Fees for both trips includes food, lodging, transportation, international airfare, and trip specific costs. For more info, <https://www.ocf.net/events/real-break-mt-athos-2019/>. For more information about Real Break Jerusalem 2019, visit <https://www.ocf.net/events/real-break-jerusalem-june-2019/>. Or contact OCF's National Programs Manager Donna Levas: donna@ocf.net or 617-850-1227.

- **46th Annual Marin Greek Festival**, Memorial Day Weekend, Friday–Sunday, **May 24–26**, 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Authentic homemade Greek food, live bands, Minoan dancers, cooking demonstrations, children's activities, Greek marketplace, exhibits, and church tours. \$5 admission. **Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church**, 1110 Highland Drive, Novato, 415-883-1998.
- **Mon., May 27: Memorial Day Pilgrimage and Liturgy** at the Chapel at **Fort Ross State Historic Park**, 10:00 a.m., 11 miles north of Jenner on Hwy 1.
- **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, May 28–June 7**. led by Bishop Nicholas of Manhattan, organized by St Seraphim Parish in Sea Cliff, NY. Visit [www.synod.com](http://www.synod.com) or [www.stseraphimchurch.org](http://www.stseraphimchurch.org) for more information.
- **Orthodox Life School, June 16–22, St. John of San Francisco Monastery**, 21770 Ponderosa Way, **Manton, CA 96059**. Speakers include Bishop Daniel of Santa Rosa, Fr. Innocent Green of the monastery, and Mother Melania of Holy Assumption Monastery. \$200. Applications due May 15. Ages 18–35 . Visit [www.monasteryofstjohn.org/retreats](http://www.monasteryofstjohn.org/retreats) for more info.



- Saturday, **June 22**, Fr. Edward Henderson and Veronica Ruby will be speaking on the **Sanctity of Life**. **Holy Assumption Orthodox Monastery**, 1519 Washington St., Calistoga.



**Our Website Has Been Redesigned!**  
**Visit Our New Website at: [www.stspproca.org](http://www.stspproca.org)**  
**Under Parish Life, you will find links to our Streaming Services,**  
**archives of past services, and much more.**

## Our Council Members

Rev. Alexander Krassovsky ..... 707-585-8330  
 Paul Johnson, Warden ..... 707-696-5566  
 Michael Kirchanski, Financial Mgr.... 707-536-8842  
 Elisabeth Russie, Asst. Fin. Mgr. .... 415-892-0902  
 Nadia Stewart, Head Sister ..... 925-372-7838  
 Lana Logvy, Secretary ..... 707-942-4436  
 Fr. Deacon Athanasius Ferguson..... 707-812-4125  
 Anna Ferguson ..... 707-812-4124  
 Demitrios Handelih ..... 707-292-2842  
 Michael A. Mogilev ..... 707-953-3636  
 Joanna Smith Chidlowsky ..... 617-285-5211  
 Nick Spring ..... 707-481-4825  
 Vera Spring ..... 559-334-7411  
 Alla Zaharoff ..... 707-387-5044  
 Lana Jones, Reserve Member..... 707-528-6540



### Meeting Notices:

- **Parish Council meeting: Thursday, April 18, 6:00 p.m., in the Admin Building**
- **Auction Fundraiser meeting, Wednesday, April 17, 6:00 p.m. in the Admin Building**