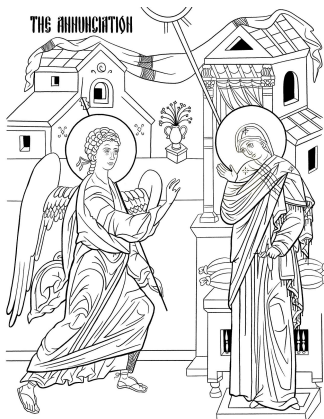




Weekly Bulletin

Orthodox Church of the Annunciation

877 Francine Lane, Santa Maria, CA 93455

Rev. Justin Taylor, *Rector*

V. Rev. Lawrence Russell, *Pastor Emeritus (Retired, Attached)*

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Confessions:

During & after Vespers, before Divine Liturgy, or by Appointment

Upcoming Services

Sunday, July 12

9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

10 am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, July 15

(*St Vladimir*)

8:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

9 am Divine Liturgy

Friday, July 17

(*Royal Martyrs & St Elizabeth the Newmartyr*)

8:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

9 am Divine Liturgy

Saturday, July 18

5:30 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, July 19

9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

10 am Divine Liturgy

* **Our next catechesis class will be Sunday, 8/2 after Divine Liturgy.**

* **Saturday, July 18: BBQ Fundraiser @ 11 am!**

* **Sunday 7/19: Summer Meeting**. During Coffee Hour, we will have a short parish meeting. Bring your questions!

Many Years! 7/12: James Michie (Name's Day); 7/18: Presvytera Rachel & Laura White (Name's Day)

Sunday, July 12th

6th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 5)

Romans 12:6-14

Matthew 9:1-8

Venerable Paisios of the Holy Mountain

Venerable Father Paisios (Paΐsios) of the Holy Mountain was born to devout parents, Pródromos (Prodromos) and Eulampía Enzepíde (Enzepídē), at Pharasa (Phárasa) in Cappadocia on July 25, 1924. Shortly before the family left for Greece because of the exchange of populations, he was baptized by Saint Arsenios of Cappadocia (November 10). His godfather wanted to name the child Christos, after his grandfather, but Archimandrite Arsenios, the parish priest, refused saying, "Not so! He shall be called Arsenios. You shall have many other children, but I am a monk; I will have no children. I want him to be a reminder of me."

In Greece, the family of little Arsenios settled in Konitsa in Epeiros, where he spent his childhood and youth. Nurtured with stories about the wondrous life of Saint Arsenios, the boy, at the age of five, declared that he would become a monk. When he learned to read, he was loved by those who had not been taught. He went into the forest to study and pray in silence. Delighting in the Lives of the Saints, he tried to imitate their ascetical contests with fervent zeal and astonishing exactness. At the same time, he cultivated the virtues of humility and love.

Times of turmoil and upheaval followed for Greece, because of foreign occupation and civil war (1945-1949). However, he was both a citizen and a soldier during his service, displaying unparalleled courage and self-sacrifice. Sometimes he volunteered to take the place of married men with families, who were about to be sent to the Front. He was willing to give every moment, and even his life, to save others. In fact, he was often in the line of fire. Not only did he protect many soldiers by his fervent prayers, but he also guarded himself in a miraculous way.

For most of his military service Arsenios served as a radio operator. He said that they all felt secure only when they communicated with their Division every hour. "When our communication was limited to every two hours," he revealed later, "we felt a bit insecure. Sometimes, when we could be in touch with them just twice a day, we felt uncomfortable, lonely, and lost. The same thing applies to our prayers. The more we pray, the more we feel secure, on a spiritual basis, of course."

After all these things, he wanted to embrace the angelic life of monasticism, which gives wings of divine love. Thus, he went to the Holy Mountain seeking a guide to a life of godly silence. However, he did not manage to fulfill his desire right away. At the same time, people found themselves in great economic difficulty when they called on him for help. Thus, he returned to Konitsa and worked as a carpenter. In 1953, at the age of 29, he forsook the world and went to the Holy Mountain.

After visiting various Sketes (Skētēs) and Kalyves, the Saint finally followed the advice of a venerable Elder and joined the brotherhood of the Holy Monastery of 'Esphigmenou, known at the time for its strictness. There he lived in the midst of everyone and engaged in severe asceticism, surpassing the others in his labors for the grace of Christ and his brethren. Then, on March 27, 1954, he was tonsured and received the name Averkios. But desiring a stricter life of asceticism, he received the Igoumen's blessing and went to live in the Holy Monastery of Philotheou, which was then idiorhythmic. Under the guidance of a hermit, they lived a very strict ascetical life. When

his Elder reposed, he left and went to another hermit. This Elder would greet people he had never met by name, and that is what he did with Father Averkios. However, he did not permit Father to live with him. Instead, he told him to take care of another old and sick hermit, and then come back to him for Confession. In this way, Father Averkios prepared himself for the eremitic life, under the guidance of a wise monk, Elder Simeon.

On January 13, 2015, the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople met and decided to include Saint Paisios of the Holy Mountain in the Hagiologion of the Orthodox Church. May his blessing be upon us.

Please pray for...

Archpriest Matthew Tate; Archpriest Lawrence Farley; Joe (Sunday's brother); Thomas; Helen; Marija (cancer); Maria; the nun Paraskeva and her mother Radojka; Ginny; the newborn Sieglinda (for health); Derek (Nektarios) for employment/housing assistance; Miles (Larissa's grandson); Zoi and Valeri (Oxana's parents); Natalia (Nina Slater's sister); Maria Carmen (Joseph Nuno's mother); Carol (Edie's mother); the child Rastko; Vasilije; Sophia; Steve; Alexis; Angelina; Helen (cancer); the child Uriah; Anna (sick); Alexis; Shawn; Claude; Olga (recovery from surgery); Kyle; Virginia (cancer); Lana; Ben, Maggie, Ada, and Stevie; Alexandra (health); Joseb; Seraphima; Tomica; Tina (Joseb's mother); Laura (Roger's wife); the child Stefan; Hannah; Jonah; Lydia; Alexandra (recovery from surgery)...

...Emma Saperstein and the child to be born of her, and Scott; Leanna Marchell and the child to be born of her, Brandon, Elizabeth, and Margaret; Luisa and the newborn child (Fetzko's friend); Nevena and the child to be born of her (Brown's friend); Julie and the newborn Callen (MacLane family); Matushka Rachel and the child to be born of her; Michelle Millar and the child to be born of her, and Scott...

...The newly departed Hieromonk Alexis, Helen (Donna Wheatley); George (Lana Clemen's cousin).