



Weekly Bulletin

Orthodox Church of the Annunciation

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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 5

9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

10 am Divine Liturgy

1 pm Catechesis/Inquirers Class

Thursday, July 9

11 am Funeral for Helen (Donna) Wheatley

Saturday, July 11

(*St Sophrony of Essex*)

8:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

9 am Divine Liturgy

5:30 Great Vespers

Sunday, July 12

9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

10 am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, July 5th

5th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 4)

Romans 10:1-10

Matthew 8:28-9:1

The Uncovering of the Relics of the Venerable Sergius of Radonezh

The relics of Saint Sergius (September 25) were uncovered on July 5, 1422 when Saint Nikon (November 17) was igumen. In the year 1408, when Moscow and its environs was invaded by the Tatar horde of Edigei, the Trinity monastery was devastated and burned, and the monks led by Saint Nikon hid themselves in the forests. They saved the icons, sacred vessels, books and other holy things connected with the memory of Saint Sergius.

In a vision on the eve of the Tatar incursion Saint Sergius informed his disciple and successor about the coming tribulations. He also said that the vexation would not be prolonged but that the monastery, arising from the ashes, would flourish and grow even more. Metropolitan Philaret wrote about this in his Life of Saint Sergius: "Just as it suited Christ to suffer, and through the Cross and death to enter into the glory of the Resurrection, so it also becomes everyone who would be blessed by Christ with length of days in glory, to be tested by one's own cross and death." Going through its own fiery cleansing, the monastery of the Life-Creating Trinity was resurrected unto length

* **Fr Justin will be away at a Deanery Retreat this week.** For pastoral emergencies during that time, please contact Fr Lawrence (805-720-1974).

* **After this Sunday (7/5), our next catechesis class will be Sunday, 8/2 after Divine Liturgy.**

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

Many Years!

7/6: Luci Fetzko & Heather Mackean (Birthday)

7/7: Sunday Ballas (Name's Day); 7/11: Alex Bell, Olga Howe (Name's Day); Howens (Anniversary)

of days, and Saint Sergius himself rose up, so that his holy relics should dwell within it forevermore.

Before the beginning of construction of the new temple of the Life-Creating Trinity on the site of the former wooden one (which was consecrated on September 25, 1412), Saint Sergius appeared to a certain pious layman and bid him inform the igumen and the brethren: "Why do you leave me so long in the grave, covered by earth and in the water, constraining my body?" During the construction of the cathedral, when they dug the ditches for the foundations, the incorrupt relics of Saint Sergius were uncovered and brought up. All were astonished that not only his body, but also his clothing was undamaged, although there was water around the grave. Amidst a large throng of the devout and the clergy, in the presence of the son of Demetrius of the Don, the prince of Zvenigorod Yurii Dimitrievich (+ 1425), the holy relics were removed from the ground and placed temporarily in the wooden Trinity church (at this spot now stands the church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit). With the consecration of the stone Trinity cathedral in 1426, the relics were transferred into it, where they remain.

All the threads of the spiritual life of the Russian Church converge towards the great saint and wonderworker of Radonezh, and through all of Orthodox Rus the grace-filled, life-creating currents radiate outwards from the Trinity monastery he founded.

Naming a church for the Holy Trinity within the Russian land began with holy Equal of the Apostles Olga (July 11), who built the first Trinity temple at Pskov. Afterwards, similar churches were built in Great Novgorod and other cities.

The spiritual contribution of Saint Sergius in teaching the theology of the Holy Trinity is quite significant. The monk had profound insight into the secret mysteries of theology with the "spiritual eyes" of the ascetic, in prayerful ascent to the Tri-Hypostatic (i.e. in Three-Persons) God, and in the spiritual experience of communion with God and God-likeness.

"Coheirs of the perfect light and contemplation of the Most Holy and All-Sovereign Trinity," explained Saint Gregory the Theologian, "are those which become perfectly co-united in the perfection of the Spirit." Saint Sergius knew from personal experience the mystery of the Life-Creating Trinity, since in his life he became co-united with God, he became a communicant of the very life of the Divine Trinity, i.e. he attained as much as is possible on earth to the measure of "theosis" ["divinization"], becoming a "partaker of the Divine nature" (2 Pet 1:4).

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...

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