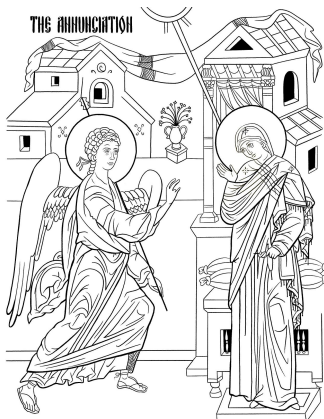




Weekly Bulletin

## **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, August 16**

9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

10 am Divine Liturgy

1 pm Catechesis

#### **Wednesday, August 19**

6 pm Great Vespers

#### **Thursday, August 20**

8:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

9 am Divine Liturgy

#### **Saturday, August 22**

5:30 pm Great Vespers

#### **Sunday, August 23**

9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

10 am Divine Liturgy

1 pm Catechesis

## **Sunday, August 16th**

11th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 2)

*1 Corinthians 9:2-12*

*Matthew 18:23-35*

***From Thoughts for Each Day of the Year According to the Daily Church Readings from the Word of God, by St. Theophan the Recluse.***

The Lord concluded the parable about the two debtors with the following words: *So likewise shall My Heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.*

It would seem that such a small thing is needed: forgive and you will be forgiven. When you are forgiven, you are brought into mercy; and when you are brought into mercy, you have become a participant in all the treasures of mercy. So here is salvation, and paradise, and eternal bliss. What a great acquisition for such a small thing as forgiving!

Yes, it is a small thing, but for our self-love there is nothing more difficult than to forgive. We still perhaps forgive some unintentional annoyance dealt to us in private so that nobody sees; but if it is just a bit more sensitive, and in front of people, do not even ask—no forgiveness. There are circumstances when whether you want to or not, you are not allowed to express your displeasure—and so you remain silent. However, only your tongue is silent—meanwhile your heart speaks and builds evil plans.

### **Many Years!**

8/18: Stephen Fetzko (Birthday)

8/20: Michele Aguilar; Melissa Abboud; Blake Thompson (Birthdays)

Raise the annoyance yet another degree—and there is no restraint. Neither shame, nor fear, nor loss, nor any other thing will restrain you. Egoism which has reached the boiling point makes a person as though insane, and he who gives in to it begins to talk foolishness. The people most subject to this misfortunate state are usually not just anybody—the more civilized one is, the more sensitive he is to insults, and the less forgiving. Relations will often remain smooth on the surface, but inwardly there is clearly discord. Meanwhile, the Lord requires that we forgive with our whole heart.

**Translation of the Image “Not-Made-By-Hands”  
of our Lord Jesus Christ from Edessa to  
Constantinople, the Third “Feast of the Savior in  
August”**

The Transfer of the Icon of our Lord Jesus Christ Not-Made-by-Hands from Edessa to Constantinople occurred in the year 944. Eusebius, in his History of the Church (I:13), relates that when the Savior was preaching, Abgar was the ruler of Edessa. He was stricken with leprosy all over his body. Reports of the great miracles performed by the Lord spread throughout Syria (Mt.4:24) and even reached Abgar. Without having seen the Savior, Abgar believed in Him as the Son of God. He wrote a letter requesting Him to come and heal him. He sent his own portrait painter Ananias to Palestine with this letter, and commissioned him to paint a likeness of the Divine Teacher.

In his Church History, the sixth century writer Evagrius Scholasticus refers to the Holy Mandylin (or Napkin) as The Icon made by God.

During the time of the Iconoclast heresy, the defenders of the holy icons, who shed their blood for them, sang the Troparion to the Icon Not-Made-by-Hands. In proof of the validity of venerating icons, Pope Gregory II (715-731) sent a letter to the Byzantine Emperor, in which he mentioned Abgar's healing, and the sojourn of the Icon Not-Made-by-Hands at Edessa as a commonly known fact.

The Icon Not-Made-by-Hands was put on the standards of the Russian army, in order to protect them from the enemy. In the Russian Orthodox Church it is a pious custom for a believer to read the Troparion for the Icon of the Savior Not-Made-by-Hands when entering the temple, together with other prayers

The Feast of the Transfer of the Icon Not-Made-by-Hands is observed along with the Afterfeast of the Dormition.

The particular reverence for this Feast in the Russian Orthodox Church is also expressed in iconography, and the Icon Not-Made-by-Hands was one of the most widely distributed.

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**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; 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); Luci (recovery from surgery); John (Alzheimer's) and his wife Eileen; Marion (sick); Timothy (cancer); Ken (cancer); Ethne; Daniel; Iskra; Viktor and Andrea; Ionna (cancer); Cheryl (cancer).

Leanna Marchell and the newborn Maximos; Emma Saperstein and the newborn Nyomi; Julie and the newborn Callen (MacLane family); Luisa and the newborn Jonah

**Pregnancies:** Matushka Rachel, Michelle Millar, Aleena Smith

The newly departed Manwa Fadel (Samir's aunt); Archpriest John, Mary, Walter.