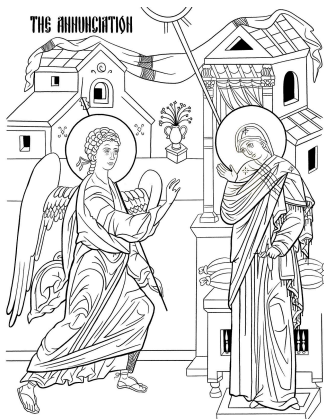




Weekly Bulletin

Orthodox Church of the Annunciation

877 Francine Lane, Santa Maria, CA 93455

Rev. Justin Taylor, *Rector*

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

805-938-7877 (Office) FrJustin@odox.org

www.odox.org

Confessions:

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

Upcoming Services

Sunday, September 6

9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

10 am Divine Liturgy

1 pm Catechesis

Tuesday, September 8

(Nativity of the Theotokos)

8:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

9 am Divine Liturgy

Saturday, September 12

Festal Retreat!

9 am Divine Liturgy w/ *Lunch,*
Spiritual Talk & Fellowship After

5:30 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, September 13

9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours

10 am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, September 6th

14th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 5)

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Matthew 22:1-14

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

A king arranges a wedding for his son, he sends once for those who were bidden, sends twice, but because of earthly cares they do not come—one was busy at home, another with business. A new invitation was made in other spheres, and the wedding chamber was furnished with guests. Among them was found one not dressed for a wedding, who was therefore cast out. The meaning of this parable is clear: The wedding is the kingdom of heaven, the invitation is the preaching of the Gospels, those who refused are those who did not believe at all, and the one who was not dressed for a wedding believed, but did not live according to faith. Each of us must figure out for ourselves which category we belong to. That we are bidden is clear, but are we believers? Indeed it is possible to even be among believers, under their common name, and completely lack faith. One does not think at all about faith, as if it did not exist; another knows something or other about it and from it, and is satisfied; another interprets the faith in a distorted way; another relates to it with complete animosity. All are reckoned to be among the Christians, although they have absolutely nothing which is Christian. If you believe, figure

Many Years!

9/8: Laura Beth Conrad, Judah Bell, Brandon Oakley (Birthdays); 9/9: Anna Russell, Gracious Richey, Annabella Aguilar (Name's Days); 9/11: Georgia McGee (Birthday); 9/12: Taylors & Frebergs (Anniversary)

out whether your feelings, or deeds conform to your faith—these are the garment of the soul, by which God sees you as dressed for the wedding or not. It is possible to know the faith well and be zealous for it, but in actual life to serve the passions, to dress, that is, in the shameful clothes of a sin-loving soul. Such people are one way in word, but are another way in the heart. On their tongue is, “Lord, Lord!” but within they are saying, “count me out.” (Examine yourself, whether you be in the faith and wearing the wedding clothes of the virtues, or wearing the shameful tatters of sins and passions.

Nativity of the Theotokos (September 8)

The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since Saint Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God’s mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna even in her old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. Saints Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple..

The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: “the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls” (2nd Stikhera on “Lord, I Have Cried”, Tone 6).

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion.

Please pray for...

Archpriest Matthew Tate; Archpriest Lawrence Farley; Archpriest Gregory; 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; Anna (sick); Alexis; Shawn; Claude; Olga (recovery from surgery); Kyle; Virginia (cancer); Lana;; Seraphima; Tomica; Tina (Joseb’s mother); Laura (Roger’s wife); 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); Lee and Veronica; Michelle; Michael and Martha; Matt (health); Steve (health); Angelina (labor); Milosava (cancer).

Leanna Marchell and the newborn Maximos; Emma Saperstein and the newborn Nyomi.

Pregnancies: Matushka Rachel, Michelle Millar, Aleena Smith.

Departed: Archpriest John, Mary, Walter, Azure (Gan’s cousin), Jeanne (Elise’s friend).