

Friday, September 15, 2017



*I am the vine
you are the branches.*

John 15:5

be Grapevine

A NEWSLETTER OF ST. LAWRENCE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

6192 Highway 9 • Felton, CA 95018 • phone (831) 335-0300 • fax (831) 335-0353 • office@slocc.com
www.slocc.com



Nativity of the Theotokos
Great Vespers and Festal Matins
Wednesday, Sept. 20, 6 p.m.
Liturgy Thursday, Sept. 21, 8 a.m.

CALENDAR

Sept. 17 2:30 p.m. Luera / Adams Wedding

Sept. 30 10 a.m. PRC Walk for Life

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Darrell and Karen Luera
Request the pleasure of your presence at the
marriage of their daughter

Nicola Frances
- to -
Thomas Alan

Son of
Archdeacon Lazarus and Diana Adams
- on -

Sunday, September 17, 2017,
At 2:30 p.m.

- at -
Saint Lawrence Orthodox Christian Church
6192 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018

Reception by
Invitation only



FROM THE PARISH



ACADEMY CORNER

- Sept. 18 2:45 p.m. Youth Choir
- Sept. 20 10 a.m. Picture Retakes
- Sept. 21 7 p.m. Back to School Night

“The most important thing is to try to create a moral environment, a realm of love, that will act like morning rain on small plants.”

—Fr. Artemy Vladimirov



K-1 Class baking Apple Rosettes and apple-sauce with freshly picked apples.

HOMILIES ONLINE!

An easy way to prepare for Sundays and feast days throughout the year is to listen to the previous year’s homily at www.slocc.com/audio. Take a listen!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Recommitting to Continuous Renewal

In the Orthodox Christian Church, September 1st is New Year’s Day. Having made whatever growth we were able in the last twelve months, the cycle is renewed again for refreshed awareness of God’s plan of salvation. The summer warmth is waning, the leaves on the trees are beginning to fall, there is no more harvest to be taken from the fields and fruit trees, and only stubble or dry vines remain. The natural year has come to a close. And amidst the natural bareness of the fall, we pray to God that once again, all things would be made new. That every spiritual and material seed that falls into the ground and dies, being watered through the winter by prayer and rain, will bring forth new fruit in the spring.

The last great feast of the year is Dormition. For with the death of His most holy mother, the Virgin Mary, our cycle of remembering the events of Christ’s time on earth is completed. And the first great feast of the New Year is the Nativity of the Theotokos. For our celebration of Christ’s time on earth begins anew with her birth, her life, and her love for God that is the beginning of the Incarnation of the Son of God. Just as her womb mystically contained God, the uncontainable, so the days of her life also encapsulate His days on earth. Her birth and her death are the bookends that hold the story of our salvation in Christ, our incarnate God.

As the liturgical day goes from evening to morning and into the day, so the liturgical year goes from fall and winter to spring and into the summer harvest. For Israel, the month of September was the beginning of the civil year (Exodus 12:2), the month of gathering fruits and offering to God sacrifices of thanksgiving. The chosen people’s Exodus from Egypt took place during September, as did their entry into the Promise Land. Tradition tells us that Christ entered the synagogue on September 1 to announce His mission to mankind (Luke 4:16-22). Quoting from Isaiah (61:1-2), saying, “The spirit of the Lord is upon me...to proclaim the acceptable Year of the Lord.” September is also the month that Constantine the Great was victorious over Maxentius, and granted freedom to the Church from persecution in 312AD.

Formally, the Church New Year is called “The Indiction” from the Latin word, “to impose.” For Constantine established an annual tax on this day for the maintenance of his troops. In this way September 1st became the civil New Year in the Roman Empire and the bishops of the early church, recognizing God’s providence in Constantine’s decree, declared September 1st the start of the liturgical year at first Ecumenical Council in 325AD. Not coincidentally, the school year usually begins in September, a tradition inherited from England, which was established so by St. Alfred, King of England, who founded the English educational system. In Britain, as well as the school year, the judicial year begins in September as was established by St. Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury, who was a Greek by birth.

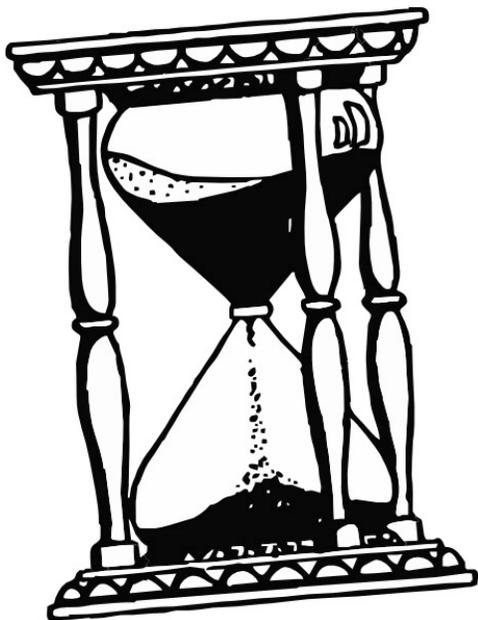
So September is a very important time in agriculture, Christian history, our liturgical cycle, and therefore in our lives. And we are called to pay attention to

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PERSON TO PERSON

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time as it passes. St. Paul exhorted the Ephesians saying, "Therefore watch carefully how you walk, not as fools, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Therefore, September is the spiritually wise month to be asking ourselves, "How, in this new year, are we going to 'redeem the time'? How, this



year, are we going to reap an even greater spiritual harvest?"

The New Testament uses two different words for "time": *chronos* and *kairos*. *Chronos* refers to chronological time, calendar time, time that moves on, second, hours, weeks, months, years, lifetimes, centuries, and millennia. But this kind of time will come to an end; for each person, when they die, and universally when Christ returns; it is created time, it has a beginning and an end. But there is another kind of time. When St. Paul says, "Watch carefully...redeem the time," the word "*kairos*" is used, meaning, not chronological time, but God's time. *Kairos* literally means "opportunity" it is time laden with meaning and choices, a moment that will lead to gain or to loss.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, let us enter into God's time and plan our lives according to it rather than the world's time. He longs to share Himself with us, to raise us up to unreachable heights, wherein, as mortals, we attain immortality, and as finite beings we enter into infinity. We sorrow and He gives us joy. Imperfect, He gives us perfection. Broken, He heals us. Solitary, He brings us into communion. Orphans, He makes us adopted sons and daughters of God.

Divine grace and power in the new year,

Fr. Thaddeus

FROM THE PARISH

In the Shade

When you use the patio area and the shade umbrellas please lower the umbrella at your table when you leave. This will help prevent them from being blown over and broken when more gusty breezes start in the autumn months.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Walk For Life

Put on your walking shoes and plan to join us September 30 as we help raise funds for the Pregnancy Resource Center! This is one of their two major fundraisers and they need OUR help!

Pregnancy Resource Center is a medical clinic that has been around for over 30 years providing accurate, competent, compassionate, and FREE medical care.

Their comprehensive services provide women, families, and youth in our community with counseling and supportive programs for pregnancies, classes, education, and much more.

Register online www.prcwalk.org, or the day of the Walk. 544 West Cliff Dr. SC., Shrine of St. Joseph, 9:30-10 a.m. Registration. Walk begins at 10 a.m. Prizes, raffle and lunch following the Walk.

Free Samba-style Drumming

David Brooks and Tatyana Rekow are organizing a free samba-style drumming class. They need at least 7 people to sign up. The potential times are: Fri. night, Sat. daytime, or Sun. after church (maybe). Please email to both of them which time/s would work for you. They are enthusiastically looking forward to hearing from you. David: brooks.david.alan@gmail.com, Tatyana: matthew_tatyana@hotmail.com.

NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES

Help With Flowers

If you enjoy arranging flowers, or would like to learn, there is a need for 4-5 people to help with flower arranging for feast days, etc. All skill levels welcome. Please call the church office, 335-0300, if you are interested.

For Rent

Spacious 950 sqft 1 Bedroom 2 Bath Granny Unit for rent in Ben Lomond. Very quiet and private setting in the trees. For more information, call Jonathan Pflueger at 246-2205.

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Treasures in Heaven

Tithing is like an eternal savings account. A set amount given regularly leads to riches, while random amounts given sporadically create a false impression of devotion.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal." (Matt. 6:19-20)

SHOP THE ABBOT'S!

New This Week

- ✦ Dart board
- ✦ Toddler drum set
- ✦ Cushioned rocker
- ✦ Whoopee cushion
- ✦ Madeline doll, plush
- ✦ Hot dog/bun toaster
- ✦ Durogousa coveralls
- ✦ Lamps, all sorts @ 50%
- ✦ Music sheets/booklets
- ✦ Shoehorn - extra long, metal
- ✦ Baskets, useful and gorgeous
- ✦ Dining tables/chairs, selection
- ✦ Cross stitch checker brd., framed
- ✦ Thumbler's Tumbler rock polisher
- ✦ Games: Pass the Pigs, Jack Straw, chess, puzzles
- ✦ Autumn décor: cornucopia, silk bouquets, wreaths, etc.



SAINT LAWRENCE

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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Return Service Requested

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Fri. Sept. 15 (2)	<i>No Services</i>
Sat. Sept. 16 (3)	7 p.m. Great Vespers
Sun. Sept. 17 (4)	7:30 a.m. Matins 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Mon. Sept. 18 (5)	<i>No Services</i>
Tues. Sept. 19 (6)	7 p.m. Vespers
Wed. Sept. 20 (7)	6 p.m. Great Vespers (L) 7 p.m. Festal Matins
Thur. Sept. 21 (8)	Nativity of the Theotokos 8 a.m. Divine Liturgy

SCRIPTURE READINGS

For Sunday, September 17 (4)
2 Corinthians 4:6-15
Matthew 22:35-46

BIRTHDAYS

Mark Jr. Roberts	September 15
Mark Shisler	September 15
Genevieve Herlé	September 17
Seraphim Sparrow	September 17
Menas Flippen	September 18
Caiden Pflueger	September 18
Mark Roberts	September 18
Pam Xenia Tovik	September 18
Randall Moore	September 19
William Mears	September 21

ANNIVERSARIES

Fr. Nathaniel & Pres. Susan Johnson
Married 43 years, September 15

CLEANING TEAM

Sept. 16 Maria S., Presv. Claudia C.,
Katherine C., Max C., Ramah H.

CONTACT THE GRAPEVINE

E-mail: newsletter@slocc.com

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Submissions by e-mail are preferable!

Deadline for announcements: Tuesday noon for Friday's issue

Please specify how long you want the announcement to run. Default is 2 weeks.