



*I am the vine  
you are the branches.*

*John 15:5*

# **Be Grapevine**

**A NEWSLETTER OF ST. LAWRENCE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

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*Protection of the Theotokos  
(Altar Feast) October 1/14*

## **CALENDAR**

- Oct. 13** Spiritual Retreat in Daly City
- Oct. 14** 11:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting  
3 p.m. Campagna  
Wedding Shower
- Oct. 18, 25** 7 p.m. Catechism

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## *Feast of the Protecting Veil of the Theotokos Cultivating Our Sense of Being Protected*

“Encompass us beneath the precious veil of your protection; deliver us from every form of evil by entreating Christ, your Son and our God that He may save our souls.” - Troparion

“The Most Holy Mother of God prays for us ceaselessly. She is always visiting us. Whenever we turn to her in our heart, she is there. After the Lord, she is the greatest protection for mankind. How many churches there are in the world that are dedicated to the Most Holy Mother of God! How many healing springs where people are cured of their ailments have sprung up in places where the Most Holy Theotokos appeared and blessed those springs to heal both the sick and the healthy! She is constantly, by our side, and all too often we forget her.”  
- Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

“If the nine orders of angels desired to descend from the heavens, and become demons, if all men would become evil, if all creations, heaven, lights, priests, animals desired to apostasize from God; all these evils of creation weighed against the fullness of the Holiness of the Theotokos could not sadden God. For only the Lady Theotokos was able to please Him in all things. She alone stands between God and men, who made God the son of men, and men sons of God. Without her intercessions no one, neither angels, nor men could entreat God, for she alone is found on the border between the uncreated and natural creation. She alone is God immediately after God and has second place to the Holy Trinity, as being truly the mother of God in essence. And she alone is not only the protector of the treasury of all the riches of the Godhead, but she is the distributor to all angels and men, all those gifts from God to the supernatural creation, illumination and divine and spiritual gifts. And there is no one who cannot call upon her with faith and not be heard with compassion. This Son of God and beloved Son of the Virgin gave us His mother (and thus our mother) as such an advocate, to help us towards our salvation.”

- St. Nikodemos of the Holy Mountain

# FROM THE PARISH



## ACADEMY CORNER

- Oct. 15, 29            2:45 p.m. Youth Choir
- Oct. 16                    Weird Hat Day  
                              – Hot Lunch
- Oct. 17                    All School Field Trip  
                              – Monterey Bay Aquarium
- Oct. 18                    7 p.m. Parent Meeting
- Oct. 22-26                No School
- Oct. 30                    Poetry Tea

## NEED A NEW CAR—CASH?

Just by purchasing a \$5 ticket, you will be entered into a drawing to win a new Toyota Prius C, Subaru Crosstrek, or \$25,000 cash! They are also offering ten \$1,000 cash prizes on top of the other 100 prizes. Tickets are \$5 each, but a book of 6 tickets only costs \$25, and the Academy gets to keep every dime. You can buy tickets through Academy families, by visiting [www.stlawrenceacademy.com](http://www.stlawrenceacademy.com) and clicking on “drive for schools,” or there will also be a table after church. But hurry! This fund-raiser lasts until October 28, so get them before it’s too late!

## 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](http://www.slocc.com/audio). Take a listen!

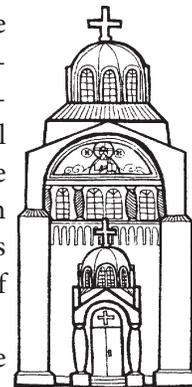
## The Doors! The Doors! The Narthex Doors!

For many years we had no doors separating the narthex from the nave. Now that we have them, we have the need to re-establish their traditional use. These doors are referred to as the “Royal Doors” as they were used in ancient times for the ceremonial entrance of the Emperor and his entourage. Traditionally, the doors are unlocked, but kept closed, until the litany for the catechumens, after which the catechumens exited the nave and stood in the narthex. When the deacon announced “The Doors! The Doors! In wisdom, let us attend!” the royal doors were locked for the remainder of the Divine Liturgy. The doors were locked to protect the mysteries of the Church from the public, to keep secret the prayers of the Anaphora from the uninitiated (not yet Baptized), and under the assumption that there was absolutely no need to go in and out of the nave in the second half of Liturgy.

Today, it is not common practice for catechumens to exit the nave after the litany and prayer of the catechumens, nor is locking the royal doors after “The Doors! The Doors!” But it is common practice for the royal doors to be closed. On a practical level, the closed doors cut down on noise caused by people entering and exiting, and provide a better place for parents with infants and toddlers to do what is necessary. We have speakers in the narthex and nursery (video too), so that occupants of those areas can hear and / or see the Liturgy.

Spiritually, the royal doors remind us that when we enter the Church, we are leaving behind, rejecting, and separating ourselves from the secular environment (“world”) and its stress and distractions. We enter the narthex...breath deep...exhale...shake off whatever is wearing us out or captivating our mind...and voluntarily (of our own will) push past the last barrier between us and Christ (the royal doors), and enter into the peace of the heavenly Kingdom.

So beginning this week, the royal doors will be unlocked but closed during services. As always, there will be a few exceptions: weddings, funerals, processions, cleaning, and whatever else is necessary. If you have any questions, please contact the church office (831-335-0300). But when we are inconvenienced in any way by having to push through the royal doors to get in or out of the Church, let’s remember how symbolic of life these doors are. We can’t get into the Kingdom of Heaven without making our own personal and voluntary effort. And we can’t get out of it without doing the same.



# PERSON TO PERSON

## FROM THE PARISH

### Annual Parish Meeting

Please set aside the evening of Thursday, November 15, for our annual parish meeting. The meeting will begin after Vespers at approximately 7:45 p.m. Our parish's financial transparency and accountability to its members gains closure each year at this meeting, so please come and give your "Amen!" Each ministry area will present a financial report and we will elect board members to serve for the next three years.

### Nominating Board Members

"Come and see!" The sad truth is, we hear horror stories about parish boards that range from political drama, to mind-numbing numeric boredom, to an inescapable "club mentality." This is not our board. Our board exists to fund our mission and vision, and maintain a sustainable financial practice. And the "spirit" of the board is dictated by those who voluntarily serve on it.

Are you good with numbers or business? Do you like to plan or organize? Want to see the parish grow and expand? Are you committed to Orthodox Christian education? Do you want to participate in establishing our spiritual legacy? Nominate yourself or a neighbor!

Nominations for the Board of Trustees can be given to any member of this year's nominating committee: Joseph Mendes, Bethany Young, Kären Stevens, Monica Menard, or Bodhi John Galt.

## NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES

### Room For Rent

Dn. Paul Trigg will have an upstairs room to rent available in November. If you know of someone who needs a room please call him for details: 336-8912.

### Guest Room?

Erik Axelsson's parents, Bert & Alicia, are looking for a room to rent in the area for about 3 weeks, from around Nov. 20



## The Vicariate for Palestinian & Jordanian Orthodox Communities in America Monthly Schedule Sheet — October 2018 Very Rev. Fr. Damaskinos Alazrai Archimandrite of the Ecumenical Throne

Sunday, Oct. 7	Divine Liturgy	The Orthodox Church of the Annunciation 2525 Etiwanda Ave., San Bernardino 92410	10 a.m.
Sunday, Oct. 13	<b>Third Annual Spiritual Retreat</b>	St. George Orthodox Cathedral 1617 Southgate Ave. Daly City, CA 94015	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 14	Divine Liturgy	St. George Orthodox Cathedral 1617 Southgate Ave. Daly City, CA 94015	10:30 a.m.
Sunday, Oct. 21	Divine Liturgy	The Orthodox Church of the Annunciation 2525 Etiwanda Ave., San Bernardino 92410	10 a.m.
Sunday, Oct. 28	Divine Liturgy	Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church 12 1924 Trinity Ave. Walnut Creek CA 94596	12 p.m.

on (Erik & Kristyn have no extra space). Please contact Bert at baxelsson08@gmail.com or call them at their home in Kentucky, (502) 365-4055, if you are able to help. Thank you!

### Help Needed

Joseph Fox is trying to help a family friend, Steven Montany, find a room to rent during Nov. and Dec. so he can be near his daughter, who lives in Aromas, while she is undergoing cancer treatments. Please call Joseph, 252-1557, with any information.

## TRADING POST

### Free Firewood

The Mears have some free firewood available. You pick up in Mount Hermon. Call if interested 335-5156

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### Walk For Life Success!

The Executive Director of PRC wanted to thank everyone who came out for the Walk for Life. This year they had 110 registered walkers and runners which represented 25 churches in our community and together raised over \$40,000!!!! A BIG thank you to all who participated, helped, prayed, and walked or ran, and

everyone who sponsored someone, sponsored yourself, and/or got sponsors!

### Wedding Shower

Women, high school and up, please join us for a Wedding Shower at Claudia Clausing's, Sunday, October 14, at 3 p.m. in honor of Jill Juliana. More details in the invitations in the church mailboxes.

## ADDRESS UPDATE

The Tanguay's have moved to Ben Lomond. Their new address (physical and mailing) is: 276 Woodland Dr., Ben Lomond, CA 95005

## AWAKENINGS NEWS

A bookstore first! A 30 day devotional for children (and written by one), "Growing With God Through the Eyes and Heart of a Child" Awesome!

## TRICKS OF THE TRADE

### How to Pray

"There is no need at all to make long discourses; it is enough to stretch out one's hand and say, 'Lord, as You will, and as You know, have mercy.' And if the conflict grows fiercer, say, 'Lord, help!' God knows very well what we need, and He shows us His mercy." —Abba Macarius

## SHOP THE ABBOT'S!

### New This Week

- ✦ Tote bags
- ✦ Dorm frig.
- ✦ Harmonica
- ✦ Wok, electric
- ✦ exercise mats
- ✦ Autumn decor
- ✦ Teapot, electric
- ✦ Ionic air purifier
- ✦ Pasta storage jar
- ✦ Flip-style toaster
- ✦ Vicks air purifier
- ✦ Personal trampoline
- ✦ Child's pottery wheel
- ✦ Helmets, great variety
- ✦ "Angel of Happiness" music box
- ✦ Perfect Bacon Bowl form, box



## SAINT LAWRENCE

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
6192 Highway 9 • Felton, CA 95018  
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Return Service Requested

# HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

### SERVICE SCHEDULE

<b>Fri. Oct. 12 (Sept 29)</b>	<i>No Services</i>
<b>Sat. Oct. 13 (Sept 30)</b>	7 p.m. Great Vespers (L)
<b>Sun. Oct. 14 (1)</b>	<b>Protection of the Theotokos</b> 7:30 a.m. Festal Matins 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy
<b>Mon. Oct. 15 (2)</b>	<i>No Services</i>
<b>Tues. Oct. 16 (3)</b>	7 p.m. Vespers
<b>Wed. Oct. 17 (4)</b>	7 p.m. Vespers
<b>Thur. Oct. 18 (5)</b>	<i>No Services</i>

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

*For Sunday, October 14 (1)*  
Galatians 1:11-19  
Luke 6:31-36

### BIRTHDAYS

Fr. Luke Dingman	October 12
James Menard	October 12
Barbara Woodthorp	October 12
Wendell Woodthorp	October 13
Archdeacon Lazarus Adams	October 15

### ANNIVERSARIES

Peter & Deborah Bogart  
Married 36 years, October 17

### CLEANING TEAM

**October 13** Susan M., Maria D.,  
Tia G., Presv. Susan, Molly K..

### CONTACT THE GRAPEVINE

E-mail: [newsletter@slocc.com](mailto:newsletter@slocc.com)  
Phone: (831) 335-0300 Fax: (831) 335-0353  
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.