

JUNE 14, 2020

BULLETIN – 1ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: ALL SAINTS

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Deadline for Bulletin Submissions – 10:00 am Wednesday ♦ church website: <https://ssppaoc.org/>

PENTECOST RESCHEDULED

Sayidna JOSEPH has approved our celebration of the Great Feast of Pentecost **TODAY** at the usual times. Great Vespers for the feast will be on Saturday at 6:00 pm. Please join your Christian family in this celebration!

LOOKING AT SUNDAY

This Sunday's Pentecost Gospel is the story of Jesus' climactic appearance at the Passover in Jerusalem, just before His arrest. (John 7:37-52) "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink...Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water."

What is it we *all* really thirst for, whether we know it clearly or not? How does He quench it? How does the quenching of our thirst turn into a flow of living water *coming out of us*?

"Do not allow yourself for a moment to have any ill-feeling against anyone; always be kind to everyone, conquering your evil disposition by the love that endureth all things and conquereth all things."

*From My Life in Christ by
St. John of Kronstadt*

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

We will have a little ongoing series for a few weeks congratulating current graduates. This week we honor Lilly Robinson of Felton who graduated from San Lorenzo Valley High School last week.

Lilly has her sights set on a law enforcement career. She has been accepted to San Jose State University for the fall, but with the COVID-driven changes in the education system may elect to take courses at Cabrillo College instead.

ON THE SOUL'S THIRST FOR GOD

*My soul thirsts for God, for the Living God:
When shall I come and appear before God?*

Psalms 42:2

When only a spark of love for God shines in the heart of man, he should not extinguish it but let it burn, and he will see a miracle. That spark will flare up into a torch of unseen radiance, and the light and its warmth will be very great. In the light of his love for God, a man will feel his life in this world to be as darkness; and from the warmth of his love for God, he will feel an unquenchable thirst for God, a thirst to be closer to God, a thirst for seeing God...Is not everything around us infirm? Does not everything around us quickly decay? We grab at shadows, we embrace corpses. We pay today for tomorrow's stench—we pay with gold and silver, sometimes with our honor and conscience, and at times even with our life—for the stench of tomorrow's decay!

*The Prologue of Ohrid compiled by
St. Nikolai Velimirovic (1/9/2012)*

Dear Ss Peter & Paul Church Community,

I want to thank you for letting several FBI San Francisco teams and our partners work from your church grounds the last several days. Your location was perfect for our operational activities to aid the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office and DA's Office in the investigation to bring justice to Sgt. Damon Gutzwiller's family and loved ones. I want you to know how much your generosity and warmth has been appreciated by all.

Thanks again,

Jack

John F. Bennett

Special Agent in Charge

Federal Bureau of Investigation

San Francisco Division

This Week @ Ss. Peter & Paul—June 8-14, 2020

6/17 Wed 6:00 pm – Vespers
6/20 Sat 6:00 pm – Great Vespers
6/21 Sun 8:20 am – Orthros
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy – 2nd Sunday
after Pentecost

Looking Ahead –

June 24 Paraklesis
June 27 Great Vespers
June 28 Orthros & Divine Liturgy

From *Hymn of Entry*
by Archimandrite Vasileios

Progress in the monastic life is not reckoned by the quantity of fasting and bodily penance, but by the degree to which each monk, in all his asceticism, has been led to become a partaker of the grace of the Comforter, and thus is at peace in himself in such a way as to be peace for men, his brethren.

The monks of a certain community were full of the thought that by reason of their many fasts and long services they were surpassing other monks in virtue. A spiritual father said this of them: “Do not tell me how much they fast, how many hours their prayers last. It is something else that interests me. Is there any one among them, even the most advanced, who can understand the tired mankind of our own day, who can comfort those who suffer? Is there anyone who can free those who have fallen into the snares of the enemy? If there is such a one, who can give peace to his brother man, can enable him to come to love life, to rejoice and be thankful to God, that will show that this monk has made spiritual progress.”

The attitude of this spiritual father on Mount Athos is very characteristic. It indicates to what degree the life of the true monk involves love for men. It measures all by the measure of love, by the salvation of all, not by the imaginary activity of each one separately.

JUNE CALENDARS

Pick up a June calendar flyer when you pass through the Narthex on Sunday. We are not

using the parish hall now and no calendars will be in your church mailboxes. The calendar is also posted on the church website.

Many Years – Birthday

Jessica Beck June 18
Emerson Grube June 18

Many Years – Anniversary

Steve & Ginnette Petras June 14

ENOUGH CHANGE, ALREADY!

Has anybody else thought that, or even said it to God in prayer? I have. Doesn't it sound so good just to be together again after all the unforeseen (and unrequested) interruptions to our worship and community life?

Just as we come back together, the Enemy of Souls would love to tempt *us* to throw *ourselves* another curve ball: angst over or focus on the COVID protocols. The Health Officer has told all churches to observe social distancing and masking. Sayidna says to comply.

I am not a legalist! Neither is Sayidna. On Sunday my eyes will be on Christ, not people. I only ask you to give your best to respect those concerned with contagion consistent with your own breathing needs.

The Enemy of course prefers to have mask-users and mask disusers stay away...for opposite reasons! He doesn't much care what separates us from each other and the altar!

Love,
Father George

“Avoid by every means occasions, causes and words that produce enmity, and avail yourself of every opportunity and occasion to show holy and sincere love. By doing the first, the [bad] disposition of the soul will little by little be eradicated, and by the second love will be nourished and strengthened.

From *My Life in Christ* by St. John of Kronstadt

Memory Eternal!

June 15

Mark Watson