

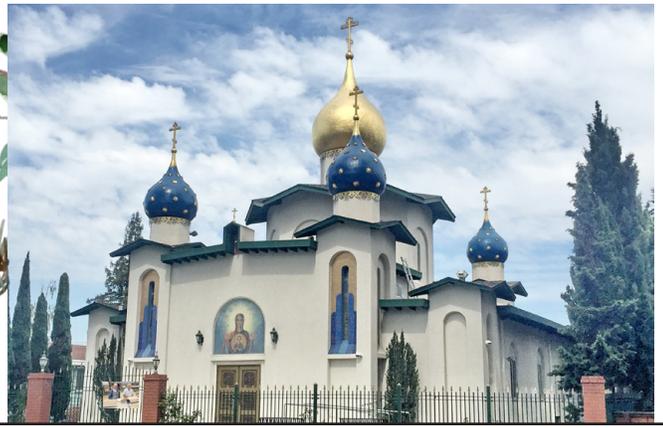


1920-2020

Russian Orthodox
Church Outside
Russia Centennial

VOLUME 8 NUMBER 1

January/February 2020



CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS NEWSLETTER

Церковь Всѣхъ Святыхъ въ Землѣ Россійской Просѣдвшихъ

Christ is Born!!!

Glorify Him!!

MESSAGE FROM ARCHPRIEST STEFAN

Glory be to God! Here it is. A New Year! For most Russian Orthodox Christians, the year 2020 marks the centennial of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia. Besides ROCOR (its initials), the Church is also known as the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad (ROCA), Russian Orthodox Church in Exile, or rarely, Synodal Church (Синодальная церковь). Pejoratively, it's called Karlovatsky Schism (Карловатский Раскол).

Our Church Administration was formulated on canonical grounds back in 1919 in Crimea during war torn conditions. The White Russian Army was battling to hold onto the last tatters of Imperial Russia. This temporary Authority was legitimized by Patriarch Tikhon's Ukaz Number 362, dated November 7, 1920, when the Russian Bishops outside the Soviet-controlled Russian land united to form a temporary Ecclesiastical Authority to serve the faithful.

Later, this Church Authority emigrated with the masses of Russian people. One of the first meetings held by the Bishops took place on the deck of a ship leaving Russia from Sebastopol. That same year, Metropolitan Anthony (eldest bishop by rank) received an Edict from the Patriarch of Constantinople to freely administer the ecclesiastical needs of the Russian emigres. The fleeing Bishops eventually settled in Serbia, having been invited by Serbian King Alexander and Patriarch Dimitri who knew Metropolitan Anthony (Hrapovitsky) personally.

Metropolitan Anthony headed the Church Authority. Under pressure from the Soviet Godless Regime, the Temporary Church Authority was ordered to disband. The bishops abided by the Patriarch's orders and, indeed,

did disband. But then, they immediately formed the Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia. Patriarch Dimitri donated living quarters for the clergy and Church Administration. This took place in Sremski Karlovci, Serbia.

We should also take note that the formulation of the Temporary Ecclesiastical Authority under Ukaz Number 362 and the formulation of the Synod of Bishops were, as stated, temporary. The Ukaz would exist until "normal ecclesiastical communications" could be reestablished and administrative unification of the One Russian Orthodox Church could take place.

This occurred on Holy Ascension Day, May 17, 2007, under the leaderships of Patriarch Alexei II of Moscow and Metropolitan Laurus of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia. Keep your eyes open for notifications of celebratory events pertaining to the Centennial of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia.

While our relationship with the Patriarchate in Russia has blossomed, tensions have grown between the Ecumenical Patriarch in Istanbul, Turkey over questions concerning the Canonical Orthodox Church in Ukraine under the leadership of Metropolitan Onuphry. The Canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church has been attacked by uncanonical jurisdictions and anti-Orthodox influences outside of Ukraine.

May all these troubles be brought to a canonical resolution and a peaceful return to the whole Orthodox Church. Eternally, the Church is Triumphant. In time, it is



the Church Militant.

Individually we struggle for our salvation and as a

Church Body, we are attacked by the powers of evil to divide us and to destroy church tranquility, solidarity and unity.

The Nativity Advent/Fast continues. We should redouble our efforts to properly prepare for the Nativity/Christmas and Theophany Feast Days. I wish you a joyous, Grace-filled, and tranquil Holiday Season and a successful, prosperous, healthy and tranquil 2020 New Year. ■

THEOLOGICAL QUESTION FOR ARCHPRIEST STEFAN

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO ATTEND ALL SERVICES NOT JUST ON SUNDAYS?

One of the vital aspects of our Orthodox Christian life is attendance at regular, feast day and Lenten church services. Unfortunately, for many parishioners, attendance is limited to Sundays and occasionally on Holy Day Divine Liturgies. The Cycle of Services of the Orthodox Church are, by and large, ignored by the faithful which weakens their Orthodox Christian life and understanding of Orthodoxy in general.

One of the main reasons for this sad occurrence is that very few people actually comprehend what is read and sung at any particular service. While the Divine Liturgy has the least amount of changes in content and the unchanging parts become familiar to most attendees, understanding the service is not a problem for them. On the other hand, the evening Vigil service, which is celebrated on the eve of all Divine Liturgies, whether feast days or not, follows the construct of the

Liturgical Cycle. These Vigil services are actually obligatory to the proper celebration or commemoration of any church occasion. No Liturgy is allowed to be celebrated without all the services pertaining to that Liturgy, and in truth, the faithful should be in attendance.

Putting aside their ignorance of the importance of attending Vigils, most don't bother to come because they do not understand the words of the singing, chanting, and reading that takes place. They feel that being present in church is of no benefit to them.

This is wrong, of course, and it's a very sad consequence of not making a personal effort to delve into the meaning of the services. Parish priests are also to blame. No real effort is made to teach the faithful the reasons the services are celebrated as they are and the richness of their content.

Biblical Scriptures, History, Dogmatics, patristics, lives of saints, asceticism, spirituality, comparative theology, and much more are presented to the faithful who attend the full Cycle of Services and listen carefully to what is presented. Archbishop Averky (Taushev), Abbot of Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Monastery and Rector of Holy Trinity Seminary in Jordanville, New York, would always admonish the new seminarians to be attentive to the Church Services. Just by listening intently and not letting stray thoughts slip in, they would receive a well-rounded and comprehensive theological education.

Unfortunately, all of this is lost to the majority of the faithful who just attend no other service than the Divine Liturgy.

What is the cure? What can be done? First of all, one must resolve to attend church services. Second, one must make the effort to actually listen to the words sung, read and chanted. Parish priests should explain the Cycle of Services to their

parishioners and encourage them to attend and even participate in the services. And most importantly, the faithful should follow along and understand the content of the church services as they take place.

A good place to start is to read "A Manual of Orthodox Church Services." It is available at the Holy Trinity Monastery Bookstore in Jordanville, New York.

Also, Father Dimitri Jakimowicz emails weekly translations of upcoming services. You can download the translation into your smart phone and follow the service in English while standing in Church. Contact Father Dimitri at frdimitrij@gmail.com and ask to be placed on his mailing list.

Lastly, you can access the most important portions of Vespers, Vigil, and Liturgy that are prayed during a specific date by clicking on <https://orthodoxaustin.org/liturgical-texts>. The texts are available in both English and Slavonic. Registration is required to open the link.

When we truly care about the content of the Orthodox Services, we are greatly enriched and grow in our Orthodox Christian faith. ■

BAPTIZED

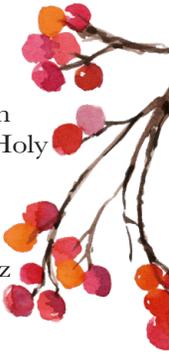
| OCTOBER 2019 | NOVEMBER 2019 |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Nika Krishpinovich Maxim Olskiy | None |

MARRIED

| OCTOBER 2019 | NOVEMBER 2019 |
|--------------|---------------|
| None | None |

REPOSED IN THE LORD

| OCTOBER 2019 | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Roza Maria Katowitsch Alexei Parshooto | Eugenia Roudenko James Wiant |
| NOVEMBER 2019 | |
| None | |



THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 STEWARDS

Anonymous (cash total \$3,136)
 Ellen and Andy Alexeeff
 Alla Avisov
 Anastasia and Alexei Baranoff
 Elena Bederova
 Mila and Dima Bobroff
 Ronald Bulatoff
 Louis Busta
 Olga and Warren Cane
 Anna Derugin
 Ludmila Doktorov
 Helen Dourov
 Anna and Andrei Federov
 Alexei Fomitchev
 Luba Gauschieldt
 Bill Gilchrist
 Larissa Gilyana
 Nina and Mark Howell
 Tania and Nick Ionoff
 Diana Kardash
 Mara and Alik Klestoff
 Olga Kolenko
 Lana and Vova Kondrasheff
 Nikita Korens
 Aleksey Kovalenko
 Sofija and Milovan Krnjajic
 Sonia and Peter Loukianoff
 Xenia and Andrei Maximow
 Yura Misersky
 Irene Motoviloff
 Natalia and Ben Nielsen
 Tatiana Nizhegorodova

Elena and Alexander Novikov
 Lula and Shura Ossipoff
 VRev. Stefan Pavlenko Family
 Marina Plissak
 Roman Ponomarev
 Tatiana Poshibaylo
 Marina and Andrei Roudenko
 Tamara Sheremeta
 Sonja and Nick Shevelyov
 Margarita and Alexander Shkolnik
 Anastasia Sky
 Maria Sky
 Maxim Tolstoguzov
 Valentina Tolstoguzov
 Yuliya Voroninskaya and Chris
 Compton
 Lena Wiant

Other notable donors to the
 Stewardship Program

CALL Primrose Food Drive
 Donors
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 Church Choir
 Newsletter Advertisers
 Newsletter Sponsors
 St. John Kronstadt Health Care
 Center
 St. John's Volunteers/Brookside
 Nursing Home

Published with the blessing of His
 Eminence Kyrill, Archbishop of San
 Francisco and Western America, Russian
 Orthodox Church Outside Russia.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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| Andrei Roudenko Choir Director (650) 922-0250 | |



2019 FILL-A-BOX FOOD DRIVE

Alexei Baranoff The Parish Council would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who participated in our Fifth Annual Thanksgiving Fill-a-Box Food Drive Program. This year, we delivered 28 boxes to the CALL Primrose Food Bank on behalf of the Russian Orthodox Church of All Russian Saints, a fewer number than in previous years. However, because of several generous donations, a check in the amount of \$2,475 (equivalent to 62 boxes) was also collected for a grand total worth of 90 boxes.

When Yura Misersky and Dima Bobroff delivered the bags, boxes, and donations, volunteers greeted them warmly and repeatedly thanked them for the Church's continued support. Teri Boesch, Executive Director of CALL Primrose, also helped unload the boxes and bags, then hugged the men in appreciation of their efforts.

The Fill-a-Box Program was organized by CALL Primrose Food Bank to collect Thanksgiving meals for needy families in San Mateo County. Thanks to the generosity of our parish, many families, who would not have been able to afford a Thanksgiving meal, enjoyed this wonderful holiday.

The Parish Council plans to continue this annual tradition for years to come. Thank you for all your support.



Executive Director of CALL Primrose, Teri Boesch, thanks Dima Bobroff and Yura Misersky for delivering the bags and boxes of food donated by our church.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Dimitry Bobroff

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

Your Stewardship pledges have met our goal of \$60,000 for 2019. We are grateful to all our generous Stewards who value and love our church community.

In January, I will be sending out tax-deductible receipts for your 2019 Stewardship donations, along with 2020 pledge forms and a list of needed projects for the coming year.

Our main projects in 2019 were the following: installation of two metal doors in the downstairs hall to replace our deteriorating wooden doors; the purchase and installation of a new computer for our Livestream; and installation of two stained-glass windows for a total of three installed with eight more to go. Olga Parr and Svetlana Avdeeva have completed the designs for the next four windows and have conceptual designs for the last four windows. Ken Minasian of Oceana Stained Glass in San Mateo is currently fabricating the next two windows. In addition to these projects, we developed and launched a new website in November which is attracting more visitors than we ever had visiting our old website. (See the companion article regarding the website.) Best of all, we finally have a cushion of funds in the Stewardship Fund.

You may recall that in 2018, our total project expenses of \$87,000 exceeded our pledges which decreased our Stewardship Fund reserves substantially. So in 2019, we spent only \$20,000 in order to build the reserve back up for our upcoming expensive projects slated for 2020. Hopefully, with the reserve and pledge donations from current Stewards and new Stewards, we will be able to proceed with much-needed projects in the New Year. For 2020, our much-needed projects include the following: earthquake proofing the cinder block fence in the back of the church; painting the walls and ceiling of the altar area; repairing cracks in the exterior walls of the church and repainting them; repairing wet rot damaged beams on the roof; and enhancing our Livestream capability so that services are more watchable during the darkened Vigil Services. We are also hoping to acquire a tuned set of church bells for our bell tower to replace our current ones which are few and damaged.

You may also have noticed that some of these projects have been on our to-do list for several years. That is due to a lack of volunteers. To make progress on some of these projects, we need Project Managers. If you are qualified to research companies to do the work, then supervise their workmanship, please volunteer for at least one project.

An alive and flourishing church parish depends on

parishioners doing their share of work. There are many opportunities to get active in the Burlingame Church, such as joining the Sisterhood, singing in one of the best church choirs in the Bay Area, teaching in the Parish Russian School, helping to clean the church before major Feast Days, becoming an altar server for boys, etc. – and, finally, becoming a Project Manager overseeing at least one major construction repair.

Hope to see many more of you volunteering in Church. ■

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED

Dimitry Bobroff

Our new website was launched in mid-November. Its URL -<https://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/> - is the same as our previous URL and is hosted by Orthodox Web Solutions. Thank you, Vladimir Lytnev, for hosting our old website on your Lytnev Labs server for so many years.

Here is what the Home Page features:

- The latest headline and breaking news for our parish. Visit the website often in order not to miss important announcements.
- A daily Church Calendar with Saints' names, Epistle and Gospel readings, prominently featured in both English and Russian on the Home Page.
- Andrei Roudenko's weekly choir discussion on upcoming weekend services and Lives of Saints.
- Archpriest Serge Kotar's weekly discussion of the upcoming Sunday Gospel reading.
- A slide show of some of our church events.
- A video segment of one of our choir concerts.
- An interactive 360-degree Virtual Tour of our church exterior and interior areas. The exterior views were filmed from a drone. Enjoy clicking and zooming in on icons and architectural features as you explore the church in depth.
- A map with driving directions, links to useful URLs and a link to our church Facebook page.
- A Donate button to make PayPal or credit card payments for General Donations to our church, to pay Membership Dues, or to donate to the Stewardship Fund.

continued...

■ The Home Page also allows direct access to a number of Sections:

The About Us Section has useful information, ranging from a biography of Archpriest Stefan to detailed and comprehensive information about our parish and about Orthodoxy.

The Schedule of Services Section has the monthly church services calendar in both English and Russian.

The Choir Section features information on the choir, as well as videos of all their concerts, workshops, and a Music Library featuring sheet music notes.

The Sisterhood Section has information on the Sisterhood as well as a Sisterhood calendar.

The Russian School Section has information on the school.

The Newsletter Section contains not only the current Newsletter, but also an archive of all Newsletters. In addition, the section contains an index of people featured in the newsletters, as well as an index of all Theological Questions answered by Father Stefan.

The Livestream Section provides direct access to Live and archival recordings.

The Contact Us Section can be used to communicate with Father Stefan and the webmasters.

Find some free time and explore the new website. We appreciate receiving suggestions from you for improving the website and making it more valuable to you. ■

CHOIR NEWS

Andrei Roudenko

Христос рождается – славите!

Christ is born – glorify Him!

We wish our parishioners and area friends a joyous Nativity and fruitful 2020. We have been working hard to prepare for our Nativity and Epiphany services and look forward to celebrating these special Holy Days with you. We congratulate Father Stefan on his upcoming День Ангела (Namesday) and pray for his continued spiritual and physical strength in the leadership of his flock. Многие лета - (Many years)!

Those who attend our Nativity and Epiphany Vigil services will hear our choir sing the Canons (Каноны) of each celebration. The text of the first Irmos of the

Nativity Canon is “Christ is born; glorify Him! Christ comes from heaven; come to welcome Him! Christ is on earth; lift up your hearts! Sing to the Lord, O earth! Be exalted and sing with hearty gladness, O ye people, sing His praise for He is glorified!” The text of the first Irmos of the Epiphany Canon is “The Lord, powerful in battle, separated the foundations of the sea and led His servants across on dry ground. But, He covered their enemies with the waters, for He is covered with glory.”

Both the Nativity and Epiphany Canons are attributed to Saint Cosmas (the Hymnographer, Bishop of Maiuma), who was a native of Jerusalem. He was orphaned at a young age and raised by the parents of Saint John of Damascus (8th Century). Both Saint Cosmas and Saint John received an excellent education. When Saint Cosmas came of age, he set out for one of the monasteries of Palestine, where he attained recognition for his monastic endeavors. During a time of persecution against Holy Icons, both Saint Cosmas and Saint John staunchly defended Orthodoxy. In 743, Saint Cosmas was made Bishop of Maiuma, an ancient town in present-day Gaza, Palestine. He died at an old age, having written Canons for many feast days.

The musical arrangements of the Canons that our choir will sing are among the most famous and widely loved, composed by Protopriest Dmitri Allemanov (1867-1928) and Vasiliy Lirin (1840-1916), respectively. Both compositions are energetic, festive and prayerful, in keeping with the joyous spirit of their Holy events.

Many other special prayers will be sung at our Nativity and Epiphany Vigil services, including С нами Бог (God is with us), Тропари (Troparia of the Feasts), Малое and Великое Славословие (Lesser and Great Doxology) and special Стихиры (commemoration-specific Stanzas), featuring arrangements by Rachmaninoff, Chesnokov and many others. We look forward to celebrating these special Holy Days with you! ■

LIVESTREAM SERVICES

For those who are homebound, hospitalized or unable to attend Church Services at the Church of All Russian Saints in Burlingame, we have enabled live video streaming via the Internet. Live, as well as previously recorded Church Services are available at

YouTube channel:

<http://bit.ly/burlingamechannel>

Alternatively, the link to the Church Services is also available on the church website at:

<http://www.allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>

MEN IN THE SISTERHOOD

Ludmilla Bobroff



: Our dedicated pelmeni group of men consists of (front row, left to right): Boris Parr, Shura Ossipoff, Vova Kondrashoff. Back row: Alik Shegoleff, Dima Bobroff, and Kostya Belonogoff.

Men have always been excellent helpers at events in the Church Hall without being formally asked. Again and again, they have set up and taken down tables and chairs, swept and washed the floor, and hauled the trash to the outside garbage cans. But there is one job that few parishioners realize they do – make pelmeni.

Selling frozen pelmeni to raise funds for the needs of the Sisterhood has been one of the longest and most successful fundraising projects at the Burlingame Church. The ladies and a half dozen men meet once a month on a Thursday and work between 9 a.m. and approximately 4 p.m. making 5000 pelmeni. When they arrive, 40 pounds of beef and pork for the filling await them, as well as cold dough for the round sochni, prepared the day before by Luba Gauschildt and her team.

How fast the process goes depends on the skill and the number of pelmeni-makers who volunteer. In 2010, Dima Bobroff was dancing with the late Irene Shegoleff at her 50th wedding anniversary when she asked him if he knew how to make pelmeni. The pelmeni group, she said, was falling apart because fewer women were coming due to poor health. Since Dima had learned to make pelmeni at home from his mother, he attended the next session and found it to be lots of fun. Although the number of helpers were few, the late Igor Soudakoff told jokes and Tolya Krasilnikoff sang songs with several pelmeni-makers joining in. However, it took the small group many more hours to complete the task.

Dima decided to bring in more men helpers. He talked Shura Ossipoff, Boris Parr, and Vova Kondrashoff into coming. They became loyal workers. Other men came for a session or two, then dropped out because they didn't like handling meat and dough. Even the tasty potluck lunches with wine the group always enjoys didn't entice them to return. Alik Shegoleff was persuaded to join the group by his daughter, Vera Crossfield, who was a long-time dedicated volunteer. And widower Kostya Belonogoff became a regular participant after being invited by Luba Gauschildt.

Below are short bios in alphabetical order on the men who come month after month to help with the fundraising efforts of the Sisterhood. They even jokingly call each other "sisters."

Kostya Belonogoff retired four years ago from being an Electrical High Voltage Specialist at Stanford University. He was looking for something to do after the repose of his wife. His mother had owned the Cinderella Bakery and Restaurant in San Francisco which served Russian cuisine and she was the one who taught him to make pelmeni.



Kostya prefers working with the dough by standing for hours cutting the round sochni. "I enjoy the company of the other volunteers and the overall process of making pelmeni," he says. "Yes, I love to eat pelmeni at home and have been doing so for most of my life. I place an order often since the pelmeni are delicious."

Dima Bobroff retired in 2002 as an engineer from Hewlett Packard where he worked for 34 years. However, he didn't start volunteering in Church until 2010 when the late Irene Shegoleff persuaded him to join the pelmeni group. "What I enjoy about the pelmeni-making sessions are the discussions we have on every imaginable topic," he says. "I work quickly to make about 300 to 400 pelmeni in the course of the day. There is a break at 1 o'clock for lunch and we talk further on many subjects. Then we go back to work and finish up. I order 200 frozen pelmeni every time and typically we eat them for dinner on Sundays."

continued...



Vova Kondrasheff (left) and Dima Bobroff

Vova Kondrasheff started coming to the pelmeni-making sessions over five years ago after being recruited by Dima. He drives the furthest to Burlingame from Martinez. And he is the first to speak up if the dough is too dry and hard to handle. His mother taught him how to make pelmeni when he was a child in Harbin, China.

Vova retired nine years ago as a Certified Public Accountant. Since then, he has offered his accounting services, free of charge, to a number of Russian organizations. “What I enjoy about the pelmeni sessions is the camaraderie,” he says. “It’s fun listening to church news and gossip about our community. Plus there’s the satisfaction of contributing toward the support of the Burlingame Church. Svetlana and I place orders for the frozen pelmeni almost monthly, not only for ourselves but also for my in-laws, our grandkids, and brother-in-law. Pelmeni are an excellent stand-by meal when one is on the go.”



Boris Parr (left) and Shura Ossipoff

Shura Ossipoff is a long-time parishioner at our church and a former treasurer. Retired in 1997 as a Facilities Manager, setting up security and telephone systems at various companies, Shura has been

active not only in our church but also on the Annunciation Cathedral Parish Board in San Francisco. His wife,

Lula, a Greek Orthodox, belongs to that church and also divides her time between the two churches.

“When Dima recruited me in 2010, I said yes because my mother had taught me how to make pelmeni during my early teens in China,” he says. “Plus, I enjoy the camaraderie of the group. I place an order virtually every time we have a pelmeni session. I like our pelmeni better than the ones sold at Lunardi or Dean’s.”

Boris Parr, another long-time parishioner and loyal volunteer at our Church, has been making pelmeni for over two years. He has been retired for 29 years as a teacher, assistant principal, principal, and district curriculum coordinator. He was the first principal at Saint John’s Orthodox Academy in San Francisco.

Who was his pelmeni-making instructor? His wife, Olga. They enjoy the Burlingame pelmeni both boiled and fried. “Coming to the pelmeni-making sessions helps me feel I’m doing something useful,” says Boris.

Alik Shegoleff, husband of the late Irene Shegoleff, used to count the frozen pelmeni and place them in bags with his wife.

After her repose, he dropped out of the group until his daughter, Vera Crossfield, Luba Gauschildt and Nadia Soudakoff convinced him he was needed to help. Now, Alik prefers cutting the rounds of dough (sochni) and placing them on plates, rather than making the pelmeni because it provides him with more movement and the opportunity to joke around.



Alik Shegoleff

Retired decades ago as a carpenter specialist, Alik likes to eat pelmeni, as well as potstickers because vegetables are included in the filling. He laughs because his family thinks he prepares his delicious potstickers from a secret recipe. “In reality, I prepare them ‘na glas’, he says. “And it’s impossible to provide a recipe when I never measure anything.” ■



Under the direction of Conductor Andrei Roudenko, the Church of All Russian Saints Choir presented a program of works by contemporary composers at their Fall Concert.

Parishioners and guests from all over the Bay Area attended the event.

Choir Concert + Reception



Below: Choir Conductor Andrei Roudenko, far left, along with some choir members acknowledge the applause received at the reception in the Church Hall. The video of the last concert is now available on the church website.



The reception was hosted by parents of the Parish Russian School.





Left: The Sunday before Thanksgiving, members of the Sisterhood prepared a lavish turkey dinner after Divine Liturgy, beautifully served in silver warming trays. Here, they await parishioners and guests.



Parish Council Member Dima Bobroff was congratulated on his 80th birthday and presented with a surprise birthday cake.

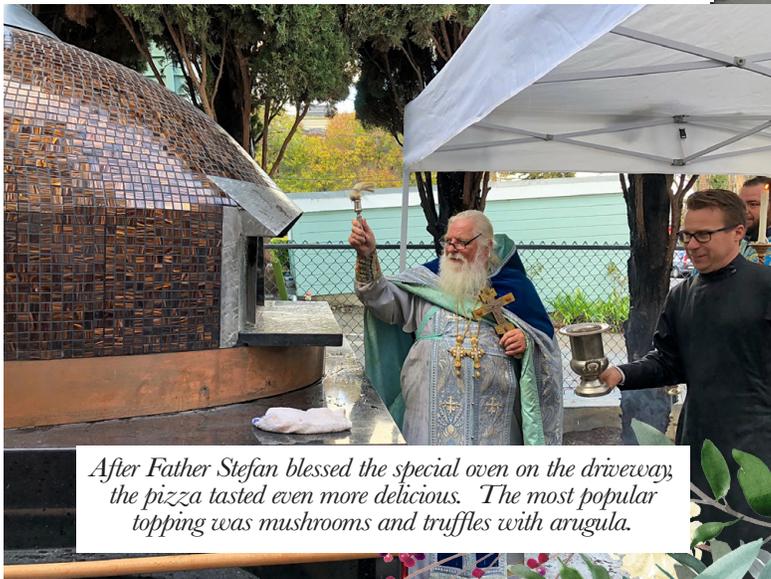


Many children attended the annual Gingerbread Faire, decorating the houses by themselves or with help from parents and relatives.

Autumn Events



Brothers Vasya (left) and Teddy Gibanov, owners/chefs of American River Provisions catering company from Sacramento, prepared Lenten pizzas for attendees. Stacy LaRosa assisted.



After Father Stefan blessed the special oven on the driveway, the pizza tasted even more delicious. The most popular topping was mushrooms and truffles with arugula.



SEND AN IPAD TO A SHUT-IN

Dimitry Bobroff



Irene Jasinski, a resident of a healthcare facility in Wisconsin, shows her iPad on which she streams our church services, listens to choir concerts, and explores our website.

A number of years ago, our parish installed Livestream (live video streaming) to help those who are homebound, hospitalized, or unable to attend our Church Services. But to view Livestream requires Internet capability and a screen, such as a PC monitor.

Typically, people in hospitals, rehab centers, or in long-term care facilities don't have exclusive use of a TV to watch our church services. However, most of these places do have wi-fi throughout the facility, including the person's own room.

Irene Jasinski, the mother of our son's godmother, has been a church-goer

all her life, attending a small Orthodox Church in Lublin, Wisconsin. For decades, she was the choir director at that church. Recently, the health of the 94-year-old resident of the rehab facility deteriorated to the point that she can no longer be driven to church to attend services. She missed church very very much.

After our new website was launched with easy access to Livestream and all the choir concert video recordings, I had an inspiration. Why not send Irene an iPad so that she could see live and archived church services, as well as listen to choir concerts?

Our granddaughter, Kara, donated to Irene a used Apple iPad Air 2. I simplified the interface to include only three buttons on the main screen: a Livestream button, a Choir Concert button, and a button to our website Home Page. I verified that her long-term care facility had wi-fi in her room and asked an employee to connect the iPad to wi-fi.

Within a few days of receiving the iPad, Irene called us on the telephone, saying she watched our church services and sang along with the choir in Slavonic. In addition, she was able to access not only the Choir Concerts, but also to explore the whole website. She was particularly enchanted with the 360-degree Virtual Tour of our church.

Irene called again yesterday because she did not see Mila and me, standing in the front during Sunday Liturgy – and was wondering why. We had to explain we were out of town during the Thanksgiving weekend. We now have an additional reason to always be in church.

If your relatives or friends are shut-ins at a care facility that provides wi-fi in the room, consider buying them an iPad (or something similar). Program the interface to have three buttons which they can push to bring them inside our blessed church. They will love you for it. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JANUARY + FEBRUARY

JANUARY 7

This year, we would like to extend the celebration of Holy Nativity with a festive pot luck lunch after Liturgy. All parishioners and friends are welcome! Please reserve your spot and let us know what you can contribute on the sign-up sheet, available at the candlestand, or call Marina Roudenko. 650-483-3412.

JANUARY 12 AT NOON

YOLKA SPONSORED BY THE PARISH RUSSIAN SCHOOL

JANUARY 19

SISTERHOOD LUNCH

JANUARY 26

COFFEE HOUR CELEBRATING SAINTS TATIANA AND NINA

FEBRUARY 9

LUNCH SPONSORED BY THE PARISH RUSSIAN SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 16

SISTERHOOD COFFEE HOUR

MARCH 1

ANNUAL BLINI LUNCHEON PREPARED BY THE SISTERHOOD

PELMENI-MAKING SESSION (ONLY ONE)

FEBRUARY 13

If you can help, come to the Church Hall anytime between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Call Luba Gauschildt for more information. 650-591-1605.

Thank you, John Crosby of Crosby N. Gray Funeral Home, for your support of our parish and especially for always providing our church with Bilingual Orthodox Calendars.

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR RUSSIAN SCHOOL YOLKA PARTY ON SUNDAY JANUARY 12

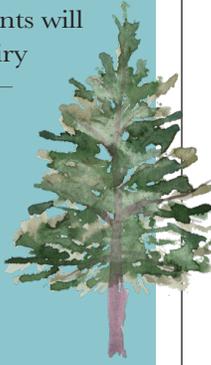
Margarita Herzen

The Parish Russian School invites all children, parents and grandparents to their annual Yolka on Sunday, January 12 in the Church Hall after Divine Liturgy. We'll begin the celebration approximately at noon. It's free and everyone is welcome.

At the beginning, guests can socialize while parents serve tasty treats. The main course, soup and salads, will be served as well as desserts, tea and coffee. Several themed baskets, containing food products and gift certificates, will be raffled off. All proceeds from the raffle and food purchases will go toward projects initiated by the Russian School.

Between 12:30 and 1 p.m., Russian School students will perform songs, dances, poetry readings, and a fairy tale. After the performance, our guest of honor – Ded Moroz – will appear to greet everyone and dance with children near the Christmas tree. At the end of the celebration, he will present each child with a gift.

Please come. You will be most welcome at our annual Yolka party which the children await with great anticipation each year.



CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS

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See the schedule of services on the Church website:
<http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>

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We welcome your suggestions on the type of articles you would like to see in the Parish Newsletter. Send your ideas to Ludmilla Bobroff at Ludmillaa@aol.com or telephone (408) 257-6918. Please write Parish Newsletter in the Subject Line. Deadline is one month prior to publication.

Next Newsletter - MARCH 2020

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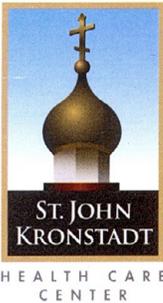
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