



*Christ
is Born!*

GLORIFY HIM!



CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS

NEWSLETTER

Церковь Всѣхъ Святыхъ въ Землѣ Россійской Просѣдвшихъ



MESSAGE FROM FATHER STEFAN

I wish to convey my heartfelt felicitation to all on the Glorious Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the Holy Days of “Sviatsi” which bring us to the Great and Glorious Feast of the Lord’s Baptism— also called Theophany and Epiphany. As all Feasts of the Lord, they reinforce for us the magnitude of God’s Mercy for His Creation and for all mankind.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Divine Second Person of the One True God and the Second Person of The Holy Trinity was born into the world of His Creation as a humble, lowly and poor human child. He came to this world because all mankind was fallen and could not inherit Eternal Bliss, a state of perfect happiness, since sin or unholiness cannot exist in God’s Presence. So the Lord Himself took upon Himself the complete and genuine likeness of Man, perfect and exact in every way except WITHOUT any taint of sin!

Living and existing as a true Human Being, God was able to be both a Just Judge of Humanity and the Merciful Savior of all of Mankind without infringing on our true and absolute Free Will. This is, indeed, a Great Mystery but it is the essence of our Salvation and God’s Divine Love of His Creation.

The Lord Jesus Christ Himself revealed this teaching

of the Orthodox Church to the Apostles and the first Disciples. Moreover, through the centuries, it was carefully treasured, preserved and passed on from one generation of Holy Fathers and faithful Christians to the next, eventually reaching us and the faithful Orthodox Christians found in every corner of this wide world.

From the very beginning, this Orthodox Teaching of our salvation through the incarnation of God was attacked by demonic powers through false teachers. These false teachers worked either inside the established Church, as did the Judaizers, a false movement of the Early Church, or on the outside, as did the Pagans who attempted to inoculate Christian Teachings with doses of pagan philosophy and Gnostic mystical heresies.

These heretics often published books under false names, using the names of the Apostles and Disciples of Christ. In this way, they tricked many to believe the false teaching they promulgated in their writings. Many false, heretical and apocryphal writings were well known to the early Fathers of the Orthodox Church. So when the Holy Scriptures were gathered to be included in the lists comprising what is now known as the New Testament, these heretical books were summarily rejected.

Invite your
priest to bless your
home with Holy Water
after the Feast of the Holy
Baptism of Our Lord on
January 19, 2017.



continued...



THEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS FOR FATHER STEFAN

CAN PEOPLE WHO PROFESS OTHER FAITHS BE SAVED?

In His Divine Justice, His Divine Love, and His Divine Mercy, God will bestow on every soul its just desserts based on every aspect of their life and how they lived it to the extent that person comprehended God and lived according to his conscience. Since the Voice of God is in every man, the gifts of Grace and Revelation are accorded it in the Lord's Providence for each person's salvation. To Orthodox Christians, the Path to Salvation is revealed in its most pure and complete form in Holy Scripture. "To whom more is given, more will be expected in return."

IF WE ATTAIN HEAVEN, WILL WE MISS THOSE BELOVED TO US WHO DID NOT?

It is very difficult to determine exactly what the condition of those "saved" will be and to comprehend how we will feel about anything or anyone in that reality. We know there will be "no tears, sickness or sorrow," and that it will be blissful beyond our human comprehension.

In Church, we pray for every Orthodox Soul that their memory be Eternal. Specifically, that means they will not be forgotten in the Lord's Eternal Kingdom. That may be a hint to us that those who do not attain Eternal Salvation in God's Kingdom will not be remembered as ever existing in order not to diminish the Joy of being in Heaven. How things will be in actuality is a Mystery of God which will be revealed to us after the Dread Judgment and our own personal placement. ■

Among them was the so-called Gospel of the Apostle Barnabas, which was rejected early on for not being written by any true disciple of Christ. It directly contradicted the known history of Christ's Redemptive Sacrifice and the Trinitarian revelation of the Godhead, along with the Divinity of Christ. Copies of this apocryphal document were found in 16th century manuscripts preserved in Italian and Spanish versions.

Lately, sensational news revealed the discovery of an ancient lead metallic Book of the Gospel of Barnabas from the earliest period of our Christian era. Scholars and specialists have determined the document is genuine and comes from that early era.

The fact that it is genuine is truly a marvelous historical treasure, but its authenticity and age do not make its content any more true or relevant to the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church than it did when the Holy Fathers of the Early Church rejected it as false and heretical. While interesting, it is certainly not definitive to the Orthodox Church.

Every Easter and during each Nativity season, we find publications and programs proclaiming the so-called "True Person of Jesus". These old and rejected heresies and even blasphemies are rehashed and presented as "new and definitive facts" for our consideration and speculation. In truth, nothing is new under the sun.

We should treasure and profess our Orthodox Creed, which is our sacred Symbol of Faith, and not be swayed, confused or depressed by these ever-reoccurring outbursts against the Christian Church.

May you have a Joyous and Grace-filled Holiday Season! ■

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/>

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Alexander Loboda
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Marina Roudenko
(650) 483-3412



THANK YOU STEWARDS OF OUR CHURCH

DIMITRY BOBROFF

Every time you attend our church, it seems money is requested for dues, the collection plates, a special collection or a financial appeal. Unfortunately, this is true.

While many Christian denominations adhere to the Biblical tithing practice of each parishioner giving ten percent of his/her earnings, in the Orthodox sphere, especially in the émigré Russian Orthodox communities, it seems that the tin-cup begging practice is more prevalent. It's interesting to note that the average one dollar donation to the plate collection is the same now as it was twenty, thirty years ago. Yet, inflation and the costs of supporting a parish have gone up immensely.

Our parish church exists strictly on plate collections, dues, candle and prosfora sales, rental house income, and donations. There is no government support as in other countries.

In 2012, the Church of All Russian Saints in Burlingame started a Stewardship Program to fund extraordinary expenses such as repairing cupolas, providing an automobile for Father Stefan, building an ADA ramp, improving church security, etc. The Program has been successful thanks to our Stewards who answered the call and have allowed us to fund these projects and become financially in the black. Each year, the number of Stewards has hovered between 40 and 45 families, well short of the number of parishioner families who formally belong to the church, and very much below the number of families who attend church regularly but are not dues-paying formal parishioners.

Our parish is our spiritual home, as well as our spiritual community. Just think what we could accomplish if everyone tithed. We could eliminate plate collections, dues, financial appeals, the Stewardship Program, etc. Hopefully, this dream will become a reality someday.

For 2016, we had \$40,000 in Stewardship pledges which allowed us to install a security video surveillance system, remodel our adjacent rental house to command a higher rent, and to beautify our grounds with jasmine bushes along a newly-painted front fence. We are deeply grateful to all our Stewards for their generosity.

The Parish Council has developed a list of projects for 2017 which will be announced in the near future. This month, January 2017, I will be sending out 501(c)(3) tax deduction notices to all our 2016 Stewards, along with a Renewal Pledge Form. We hope all our current Stewards will continue donating to this Fund in 2017 and invite everyone to become a Steward and support OUR church. You do not have to be a dues-paying parishioner to become a Steward.

Brochures listing 2017 projects and application forms will be handed out on several Sundays in January. If you miss receiving them, they will be available in the entryway by the candle stand. ■



Archimandrite Roman (Krassovsky), Chief of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem (center) speaks to our parishioners about the de-mining project currently in progress on ROCOR property near the Jordan River. Parishioners respond generously with their donations.

SALUTING THE 2016 STEWARDS

Anonymous
Ellen and Andy Alexeeff
Anastasia and Alexei Baranoff
Elena Bederova
Ludmilla and Dimitry Bobroff
Tanya and Oleg Bolshakoff
Ronald Bulatoff
Louis Busta
Olga and Warren Cane
Ludmilla Doktorov
Anna Federova
Luba Gauschildt
Pelagia and William Gilchrist
Korina Hovet
Irina and Alexei Irklienko
Diana Kardash
Mara and Alik Klestoff
Olga Kolenko
Lana and Vladimir
Kondrasheff
Patricia and Nikita Korens
Nicholas Koretsky
Aleksei Kovalenko
Larissa Krassovskaya
Vera and Alexander Loboda
Sonia and Peter Loukianoff
Olga and George Lysenko
Vera Lysenko
Victoria and Michael
Mackinnon
Xenia Maximow
Yura Misersky
Natalia Mishko
Irene Motoviloff
Natalia and Ben Nielsen
Ruslan Nikolaev
Alexander Novikov

Lula and Alexander Ossipoff
Olga and Boris Parr
Matushka Tatiana and Father
Stefan Pavlenko
Marina Plissak
Marina and Andrei Roudenko
Margarita and Alexander
Shkolnik
Anastasia Sky
Helen and James Wiant

Other notable donors to the Stewardship Program

Becky Kirchner in memory of
Nikita Derugin
Church of All Russian Saints
Church Choir
Church of All Russian Saints
Sisterhood
Church Fellowship
Coffee Hour Hosts
Natalia Mishko Funeral
(Stewardship collection)
Newsletter Advertisers
Newsletter Sponsors
Royal Chicken Society Eggery
Russian American Women's
League
St. John Kronstadt
Health Care Center
St. John's Volunteers/Brookside
Nursing Home
Stained Glass Window Project
Donors



THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE SHEREMETEV FAMILY

GEORGII ALEXANDROVICH CHEREMETEFF/SHEREMETEV

I am dedicating this short biography of the Sheremetev family to my reposed sister, Anna Alexandrovna Markevich, better known as Annushka to all the choir members and parishioners at the Burlingame Church.

Both Anna and I are descendants of the Sheremetev family who held a prominent position in affairs of state in Tsarist Russia. Their contribution to the formation of Muscovite Russia goes back to the 14th century and reached its zenith with the Romanov Dynasty. Boyar Boris Petrovich, a close associate of Peter the Great, served Russia as Field-Marshal starting in 1702, then was the first in Russia to acquire the title of Count in 1706. Our more immediate ancestors, great-grandfather Aleksandr Dimitrievich continued the family tradition of service in the military as General-Major in the Cavalier Guards of His Imperial Majesty and my grandfather Georgii Alexandrovich was also an officer of the same regiment. While involvement in affairs of state and military exploits fill pages in history books and is therefore public knowledge, considerably less known is the family's investment and contribution to the artistic heritage of Russia.

Love of music and the fine arts has always been at the heart of our family, whether through promotion of talent among the peasants through education, innovation in theatre stage design and choreography, or through the revival of Russian architecture. Our ancestors encouraged the study of Russian Medieval Literature, and founded the Historic Music Society, St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra, and Court Cappella Choir. On their ancestral estates, peasant-serfs were trained in the traditional Russian arts and crafts and many became recognized painters in the 18th and 19th centuries. Argunov father and son became court painters for the Sheremetev family and were commissioned by leading aristocratic families to paint portraits. Others became architects.

Not surprisingly, it was our private opera founded in the 18th century by our great-great-great grandfather Nicolai Petrovich which acquired the greatest fame with its state-of-the art innovations in stage design and professionally trained singers. Among them was the famous coloratura soprano Praskovya Ivanovna Kovalevskaya (professional

name Zhemchugova), a serf-peasant who would marry Nikolai Petrovich and become Countess Sheremeteva. Performances were given with the Imperial attendance of Catherine the Great, Paul I, and Alexander I.

Behind the family's efforts was a desire to promote native Russian art and bring it back to the people. Our great-grandfather Alexander Dimitrievich, composer, musician and director of the Court Cappella Choir, personally funded a Symphony Orchestra in St. Petersburg in 1882. From 1889, subsidized concerts were available free of charge to the general public. In 1910 a Historic Music Society was organized, bearing his name. Throughout the generations, family members were major patrons of the arts, amassing extensive art collections, especially of paintings by Russian artists.

Following the Russian Revolution of 1917, our grandparents and parents modestly continued our familial connection with music, initially singing only in church choirs. Later, both Anna and I expanded our choir participation to include singing secular music with the Slavyanka Chorus of San Francisco under the able directorship of Irina Shachneva. Anna had always dreamt of visiting Russia which she came close to realizing with the planned Slavyanka tour in October of 2016.

Tragically, Anna became seriously ill. Since I regularly visit Russia to revive my spirit, mind and soul, I promised her that once she recovered, we would go there together. Yet God deemed differently. Anna succumbed to her grave illness shortly after the Slavyanka singers departed for Russia.

Throughout the trip, however, she was with us, especially when we sang in our ancestral homes, Kuskovo in Moscow and Fontannyi Palace in St. Petersburg. We could feel her spirit at Panihidas sung on the soil of her beloved ancestral land, privately at Optina

Monastery, which is the heart of Russian Starchestvo, and especially at a village church in Ratmino when, during the memorial service, the entire choir sang the Lord's Prayer for her eternal memory. ■



Count Nicolai Petrovich Sheremetev founded a private opera in the 18th century with serf-peasants trained to become professional singers.



Countess Praskovya Ivanovna Sheremeteva was originally a serf-peasant who became a famous coloratura soprano before marrying Nicolai Petrovich.

REMEMBERING MY COSSACK ANCESTORS AND OTHERS

ANASTASIA IOVETZ-TERESHCHENKO SKY

When I was a child, my mother told me stories about my father whom she knew since age nine. She also talked about other members of his family, all of whom perished during the Russian Revolution. My father, on the other hand, never said a word about the early years of his life.



My parents, Nicholas and Maria Lovetz-Tereshchenko, fled the Soviet Union in 1920.

were Zaporozhian Cossacks (Zaporozhite) who owned land in Chernigov County. These Cossacks lived beyond the rapids of the Dnieper River in Central Ukraine and became a strong political and military force. They served a valuable role fighting against the Tatars and the Turks and enjoyed considerable freedom granted by the Tsars.

One grandson, named Herman, was elected Chief of the Zaporozhians. He served in the Chernigov Regiment and was knighted “Chevalier du Saint-Empire” by the Decree of Lambry in 1775. His son Gregory, Court Councilor, was granted “Hereditary Nobility” in 1844 - Imperial Decree #739. This is recorded in the book of Ukrainian Nobility.

The family’s Cossack connection eventually ended. From documents, I learned that my great-grandfather, Vassili, was a State Councilor and received a medal for his involvement in the liberation of serfs. He also received six decorations for bravery during the 1853-56 wars. Later, from 1875 until his death in 1892, he was Lord Mayor of Kherson. He had two sons, Michael (my grandfather) and Paul (Galia Amochaev’s grandfather.)

Grandfather Michael was a Collegiate Assessor who served on the Board of Directors at the University of Odessa. He received the Order of St. Stanislaus and a Silver Medal with an Alexander of Neva ribbon. He married Natalia Vladimirovna Shidlovsky, whose ancestors were granted “Hereditary Nobility” in 1585. My father

When he reposed, Mama gave me and my brother family documents that opened up a whole new world to us. Since my brother and I were both adults by then, I encouraged him to do additional research at the British Museum in London. To our surprise, there was a huge amount of information about our family. Prior to his death, he gave me all the original documents, as well as xeroxed copies of translations from French to English.

My ancestry dates back to 1678 when brothers Andrei and Cyril

was their only child. During World War I, he was awarded St. Anna’s Medal for bravery in action. Grandmother Natalia’s niece, Elizabeth, was a lady-in-waiting at the Court in St. Petersburg. Grandmother’s brother Michael was the Engineer and Chief Communications Officer of the Trans-Siberian Railway between Moscow and Vladivostok. Another brother, Dimitri, was a Medical Practitioner in the Commercial Fleet and was married to Evgenia, daughter of Baron Nicholas Tiepolt.

My parents and three-year-old brother, Kolia, fled Russia in 1920 with the help of my father’s uncle, Fedor Shidlovsky. Uncle Fedia was a naval captain who provided passage on his ship from Odessa. When Uncle Fedia returned to the Soviet Union, he was murdered by the Bolsheviks. Tragically, all of my grandmother’s 14 siblings perished during the Revolution.

I was born in Serbia in 1922. In 1925, we moved to Paris and ten years later to London. Papa obtained a PhD and taught psychology at Oxford University. Even then, he seldom talked about life before the Revolution. However, we socialized with the Galitsin, Meschersky, Kleinmihel, Rodzanko, Narishkin families, as well as with Grand Duchess Xenia who was the sister of Tsar Nicholas II, and with her son, Nikita Alexandrovich and his wife Maria Ilarionovna (Vorontzoff-Dashkova). Life in exile was extremely difficult for everyone.

I met my husband, Miron, in the Russian Orthodox Church in London on December 10, 1944. He was a USAF Officer stationed in England during WWII. We were married by Father Michael Polsky on March 14, 1945 and I immigrated to the U.S. in 1946. We moved to Burlingame in 1961 with our three children: Nicki, Misha and Maria. My beloved husband died in 2004.

I do not have any relatives in Russia, however, on April 23, 1972, I learned by chance that my one and only cousin Galia Amochaev (maiden name Iovetz-Tereshchenko) lived in San Francisco. We had a very joyful family reunion! I also traveled to the Soviet Union in 1975, 1976, 1983, then in 1992 and 1997 when the country became Russia again. Everyone I met during the Soviet era and afterwards was friendly and curious about life in America.



Captain Fedor Shidlovsky helped his grand-niece and her family escape the Bolsheviks in Odessa.

CHOIR NEWS

ANDREI ROUDENKO

Христос рождается – Славите! (Christ Is Born – Glorify Him!)

Congratulations to all on the Birth of Christ, the beginning of our salvation! This part of the church calendar is filled with rejoicing and hope, second only to Пасха (Easter)! Shortly after the Nativity of Christ, we celebrate the Baptism of Christ (18th and 19th of January) and the appearance of God (Крещение Господне/Богоявление). Our choir has been hard at work preparing the special prayers that mark these celebrations, and the prayers of the weeks that precede Great Lent (Великий пост), which are coming up soon.

Last year on Sunday, November 13, our parish choir presented a concert of liturgical choral music. Our concert was dedicated to the memory of our long-time and much-beloved choir member and friend, Annushka Markevich, who reposed in the Lord on the 4th of October 2016. Our concert was well-attended, including area conductors Vladimir Krassovsky, Sergey Riabchenko and Irina Shachneva, conductors of our Holy Virgin Cathedral Choir, Christ the Savior Church Choir and the Slavyanka Chorus, respectively. Our fundraising goal was to sponsor a stained-glass window that would be dedicated to Annushka's memory. We're happy to report that, thanks to the generosity of all those who attended, our goal was accomplished! We also express our gratitude to members of our Parish Russian School for hosting our reception, and to many church members for setting up chairs for our concert, bell-ringing and other behind-the-scenes support activities. Thank you all!

In parallel with preparation for, and singing at, upcoming special services, our choir is already preparing for our next recital, at which time, we will feature works of the Lenten period. Our concert is scheduled for Sunday, March 19. It's the third Sunday of Great Lent (Крестопоклонная / Adoration of the Holy Cross). Save the date and please come to our musical Lenten retreat in Burlingame. As in the past, we will sponsor our parish Stewardship program. But equally important, we will acquaint our listeners with the prayers and arrangements of the works that will be heard at our upcoming services.

Call to Singers! If you have any "ear for music" (слух), and if you have even the most limited experience of singing in a choir, e.g., детском хоре (children's choir), irrespective of age (the younger, the better), please contact Andrei Roudenko at avrouden@hotmail.com or 650-922-0250, to discuss joining our parish choir. Everyone with an interest in contributing to our services is welcomed. (You need not be a conservatory-trained singer, just someone who loves the Church and is willing to learn). ■



The Burlingame Church choir concert attracts many guests, including choir conductors from several churches.

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR RUSSIAN SCHOOL YOLKA PARTY

LADA DENISOVA

The Parish Russian School invites all children, parents and grandparents to their annual Yolka on Sunday, January 15 in the Church Hall after Divine Liturgy. The party will begin approximately at noon. It's free of charge and everyone is welcome.

During the first hour while guests socialize, parents will serve tasty treats. The menu usually includes soup, as well as salads, desserts, tea and coffee. Several themed baskets containing food products and gift certificates will be raffled off. All proceeds from the raffle will go toward projects initiated by the Russian School.

Between 12:30 and 1 p.m., all Russian School students will perform in a special program of songs, dances, poetry readings, and a fairy tale. After the performance, our guest of honor – Ded Moroz – will appear to greet the children and dance with them around 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.

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



SECOND ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS



Executive Director Terry Boesch (standing next to Father Stefan) and her staff of volunteers at CALL Primrose are excited to receive so many bags and boxes of food products from our church during their annual food drive.

Terry Boesch, Executive Director of CALL Primrose Center, expressed a big, big thank you to Father Stefan and our Burlingame Church parishioners for participating in their annual food drive. CALL Primrose Center is a local non-profit food bank which provides grocery assistance to families and individuals in need in San Mateo County. Yes, seemingly affluent Burlingame has many families who need help year round.

Last November, Alyosha Baranoff organized our second "Fill-A-Box - Feed-A-Family" food drive which asked us to purchase specific food items plus a \$20 Safeway Gift Card and place them all in a box or bag so they could be distributed to individuals and families in time for Thanksgiving. The Parish Council set a goal of 100 boxes, double the number of bags and boxes collected in 2015. Could we do it?

You responded beyond all expectations. We collected 82 bags along with \$3,900 in checks. The purchase value of a bag was around \$50 which included the Gift Card. At that valuation, the \$3,900 represented 78 bags for a total of 160 equivalent bags and boxes of food.

Special thanks go to Brookside Skilled Nursing Facility, St. John Kronstadt Health Care Center, and Russian-American Women's League for the large checks donated by their Board of Directors. In addition, workers at both Brookside and St. John Kronstadt collected and donated a large number of food bags themselves.

The bags and the money were delivered on Thursday, November 17 to CALL Primrose by Dima Bobroff and Father Stefan. Their car and van were overloaded. Upon delivery, Executive Director

Terry Boesch and a half dozen volunteers unloaded the boxes, continuously mentioning how awesome was our parish and how much they appreciated our support of the local community. As the bags and boxes were being unloaded, a stream of people entered the house to receive their allotted bag of food.

The Center is located at 139 Primrose Road in Burlingame. It is open Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Food donations are appreciated throughout the year, not only during the holidays.

Thank you, thank you, thank you goes not only to our generous parishioners and Bay Area organizations but also to our Russian School parents and to our supporters in Danville and Sacramento.

BAPTISED

OCTOBER 2016

Alexandra Gavrilov
Makari Krishpinovich
Christian Mann
Sofia Petrov

NOVEMBER 2016

Nicholas Cherenshchikov
Hannah Green
Marie Rozanski

MARRIED

OCTOBER 2016

Andrei Chichemelinine
and Dina Bobeica

Jered Lee Ulschmid
and Anastacia Mayden

NOVEMBER 2016

None

REPOSED IN THE LORD

OCTOBER 2016

Anna Markevich

NOVEMBER 2016

None

CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS
A Parish of the Western American Diocese of the
Russian Orthodox Church Abroad

744 El Camino Real, Burlingame, CA 94010

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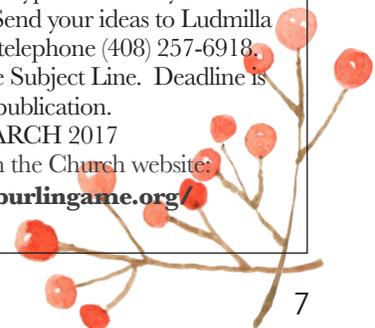
We welcome your suggestions on the type of articles you would like to see in the Parish Newsletter. Send your ideas to Ludmilla Bobroff at Ludmillaa@aol.com or telephone (408) 257-6918.

Please write Parish Newsletter in the Subject Line. Deadline is one month prior to publication.

Next Newsletter -MARCH 2017

See the schedule of services on the Church website:

<http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>



CHOIR CONCERT RECEPTION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, 2016



Choir Conductor Andrei Roudenko thanks guests for attending the concert and donating funds toward a stained glass window in memory of reposed choir singer, Annushka Markevich.

Joining Andrei Roudenko at the reception are (left to right) Paul Andrews, founder of the Slavyanka Chorus of San Francisco, Irina Shachneva, current conductor of the Slavyanka Chorus, and (far right) Sergey Riabchenko, conductor of the Christ the Savior Church Choir.



Russian School parents and friends prepare delicious hors d'oeuvres for the reception following the concert. Helpers are Elena Bederov, Svetlana Avdeeva, Ludmila Torba, Yanna Ponomarova, and Vladimir Egorov.

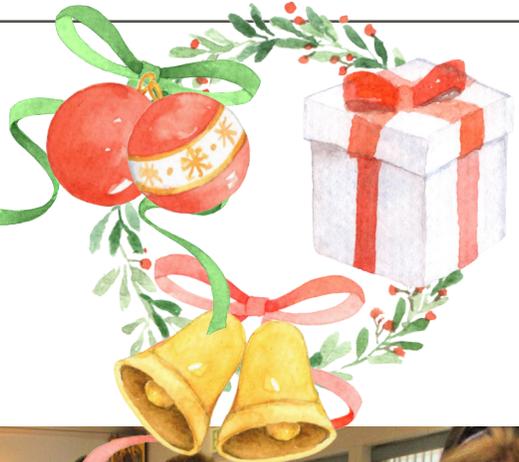
Most attendees of the Burlingame Church Choir Concert stay for the elegant reception afterward in the Church Hall.



GINGERBREAD FAIRE



An aunt, father, mother and grandmother all help their little ones decorate gingerbread houses.



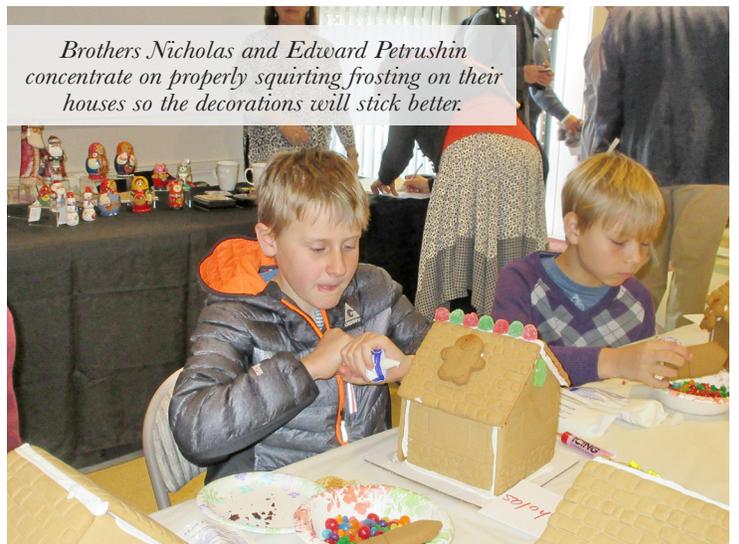
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 2016



Brother and sister proudly show off their creation.



Emilia Burton ponders whether the roof needs more candies.



Brothers Nicholas and Edward Petrushin concentrate on properly squirting frosting on their houses so the decorations will stick better.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JANUARY + FEBRUARY

JANUARY 15

starting at noon after Divine Liturgy
Russian School Yolka

JANUARY 22

Sisterhood Lunch

JANUARY 29

Coffee Hour for January
Namesday Celebrants

FEBRUARY 12

Sisterhood Lunch

FEBRUARY 26

Sisterhood Blini

PELMENI-MAKING SESSION

JANUARY 12

No pelmeni-making session in February

If you can help, come to the Church Hall anytime between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Call Luba Gauschildt for more information.
650-591-1605

BAKERS NEEDED

If you like to bake, please sign up to prepare desserts when requested by the Sisterhood. Contact Tania Ionoff at tionoff@aol.com to add your name to the list.

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM THE SISTERHOOD

Please do NOT drop off any donations of dishes, cookware, clothing, toys or books at the Church Hall. We are not planning any garage or rummage sales in the near future and unfortunately, do not have any storage space to keep these items. If you have anything that you feel the Sisterhood could use in the church kitchen, please check with Matushka Tatiana Pavlenko at tpavlenko@hotmail.com or call 650-430-9806.

BILINGUAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

From April 26 to May 12, 2017, Archpriest Peter Perekrestov, dean of the Holy Virgin Cathedral in San Francisco, is leading a bilingual pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Father Peter is known for his outstanding Russian/English translations. The guide in the Holy Land will be a nun from the Gethsemane Convent.

Pilgrims will visit and pray at all the holy sites in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas. The cost is \$1,750 which includes airport transfers, accommodations, all meals, transportation, gratuities to hotel personnel and driver, plus donations to churches and monasteries. Airfare is extra.

For complete information, see <http://2017pilgrimage.tild.ws/en>

OCTOBER NAMESDAYS



Father Stefan congratulates Bill Gilchrist and Misha Bogoslovsky on their November namesdays.

NOVEMBER NAMESDAYS



Celebrating their December namesdays with Father Stefan are, left to right, Alexander Bayden, Nikolai Koretsky, Daniel Gilchrist, Andrei Roudenko, Daniel Petelin, Andrei Bamberg, Katya Kovalenko, Alexander Khalin, Alexander Loboda, Andrei Zezekalo, and Katya Uher.

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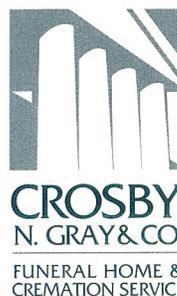
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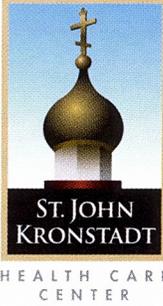
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