

Церковь Всех Святых из Земль Российской Прославшихъ CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 2 MARCH/APRIL 2014

IMPORTANT SERVICES IN MARCH AND APRIL

MARCH 8-9 - SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

MARCH 22-23 - SUNDAY OF THE CROSS

APRIL 2-3 - ST. ANDREW'S VIGIL

APRIL 6-7 - HOLY ANNUNCIATION

APRIL 11-12 - LAZARUS SABBATH

APRIL 12-13 PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 14-18 - PASSION WEEK BEGINS

APRIL 17 - TWELVE PASSION GOSPELS

APRIL 18 - GREAT AND HOLY PASSION FRIDAY

APRIL 19 - GREAT AND HOLY PASSION SABBATH

APRIL 20 - PASCHA EASTER SUNDAY (THIS SERVICE STARTS SATURDAY NIGHT, APRIL 19 AT 11:15 P.M. AND CONTINUES THROUGH THE NIGHT.)

These are the highlights. For a complete schedule of services, please check the Church Calendar or website at <http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/> Try to accommodate your personal schedule to fit in as many services as possible.



MESSAGE FROM FATHER STEFAN

We have begun the holiest period in the Church Calendar Year - Great Lent, Passion Week, and Pascha. It's important to grow spiritually every year and not remain on the same level or slip downward. Focusing on one's salvation is difficult in a secular country with temptations all around us and no encouragement from the general population. Yet, many Orthodox parishioners do just that every year. They look forward to shutting out the world to the best of their ability, attending more services in church, praying more earnestly at home, forgiving others, repenting from sins during confession, and trying very, very hard to acquire the Holy Spirit.

The first step on this difficult journey is to fast during Great Lent. In His Divine Providence for the salvation of all mankind, Our Lord has provided us with everything we need to overcome sin and death and receive the gift of eternal life in His Kingdom. He established His Church and as members of His Body, we are called to follow Him and to follow His example in our lives and live by His Commandments. One of the things that Our Lord and Savior did when He was among His Disciples was to fast for forty days in the desert. His example was followed by Christians from the earliest times and became the Great Lent we know today.

There are many references to fasting in the Scriptures. To learn how Our Lord overcame the temptations of the devil through fasting, read Matthew 4:1-4. In Matthew 17:21, Our Lord points out it takes both prayer and fasting to banish the powers of darkness. 1 Corinthians 7:5 and Acts 13:2 show that members of the early church were already fasting to strengthen their faith.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2014 AFTER LITURGY. EVERYONE IS INVITED BUT ONLY PARISH MEMBERS WHO ARE PAID UP WITH THEIR DUES MAY VOTE OR BE ELECTED.

IF TWO THIRDS OF THE PARISH MEMBERS ARE NOT PRESENT, THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD ONE HOUR LATER ON THE SAME DAY. THIS MEETING WILL BE CONSIDERED VALID IN THE PRESENCE OF ANY NUMBER OF ATTENDING PARISH MEMBERS.

The rules of fasting were developed in the Early Church by observing the lives of ascetics who dedicated their lives to maintaining the Holy Spirit in their souls. In Old Testament times, fasting meant not eating or drinking anything for a designated period of time. This kind of fast was closely associated with grieving, mourning, repenting of sins, and pleading in times of war, famine or drought.

The fast developed by monastic ascetics was based on controlling the passions in order to develop a strong prayer life and to treasure the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Certain "heavy" foods were found to cause spiritual sloth and weakness. Meats (including poultry and pork), fats in vegetable and olive oils, dairy products and eggs, plus fish with backbone were all eliminated. Certain seafood was allowed; however warm-blooded animals and animals with developed circulatory systems were not. It's important to know that

continued...

Christian fasting is not based on clean and unclean foods. All food is blessed by God. Instead, foods prohibited during Lenten periods are those which affect negatively our resolve to pray and our will to fight temptations.

Unlike the Western Church which gives believers a choice of “giving up” favored foods, the Orthodox Church has rules that apply to everyone equally. One must remember that a good fast can be ruined by indulging in Lenten foods prepared in an indulgent manner. Oversized portions and stuffing oneself defeats the very purpose of fasting. Eating simple foods in moderate portions is the best rule to follow.

Orthodox Christians who are elderly, very young, sick and infirm, pregnant and mothers nursing babies can modify these fasting rules to accommodate their specific conditions and needs. Consult with your Spiritual Father and, if need be, with a physician to determine which fasting regime is acceptable for your condition.

If we make an effort to prepare for Pascha with prayer, with caring deeds toward our fellow man, curbing our passions, attending church services, and following the fasting rules, our entry into Passion Week and our celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord will be abundantly rewarded by our loving Lord. We should always remember that God’s Gifts are granted by Him to whomever He wishes at whatever time and level He deems worthy in His Divine Providence for our salvation. We should never look at others judgmentally or with envy. Instead, we should always thank God for all His Mercies to us.

SPIRITUAL VIDEOS ON THE INTERNET

- *Dimitry Bobroff*

During Great Lent, we Orthodox are required to retreat from the world as much as possible by not attending parties, listening to modern music, or watching television programs. The last can be a major hardship especially when one looks forward to relaxing in the evening by watching several favorite shows.

Thanks to technology, the Internet is now providing an excellent alternative. After finding a video that is of interest, you can sit with your family in front of your large computer screen and view professionally filmed and spiritually edifying films. If you have a Smart TV, these Internet programs can even be seen on your large television screen in the family room.

How do you find programs?

Major websites that provide videos in both Russian and English are the following. Be sure to click on the language you prefer.

Pravoslavie.ru - <http://www.pravoslavie.ru/video/>

Pravmir.com - <http://www.pravmir.com/category/multimedia/>

Eastern America Diocese - <http://www.eadiocese.org/videos.en.htm>

Search functions on YouTube - <http://www.youtube.com/>

By inserting a name in the search bar on YouTube, you can bring up a vast amount of fulfilling Orthodox videos. Type in Saint John Maximovitch, Kallistos Ware, Father Seraphim Cardoza, Artemy Vladimirov, Archpriest Victor Potapov, and Tikhon Shevkunov. All have excellent videos for viewing.

One of my favorite videos is “Forpost” which is a Russian documentary about Holy Ascension Monastery in Ukraine which has assumed the role of a children’s orphanage/hospice. You can view it in Russian at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDPI1Fr0lyI&feature=related>. Also available with English subtitles on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FyV2P27EGZ0>

Another one is “St John of San Francisco,” a commentary by Archpriest Peter Perekrestov, filmed entirely at the Holy Virgin Cathedral on Pascha 2013. Some parishioners speak in English. Total length is 20 minutes. <http://pokrovkino.com/film-st-john-of-san-francisco.html>

“Russian America: Hidden Sanctuary of the Orthodox World” are reflections by Archpriest Artemy Vladimirov of Moscow. He spent two weeks visiting parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia primarily in the Eastern Diocese. Total length is 30 minutes. In Russian, check out <http://youtu.be/qY0k7AoPIhU>. In English, http://youtu.be/_2LVL0ILBvY

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REPORT ON 2013 STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

- Andrei Maximow

Although we missed our pledge goal of \$100,000, the Church of All Russian Saints Stewardship Program raised over \$65,000 during 2013. As a result of very generous donations from our parishioners, affiliate organizations, and the greater Orthodox community, we raised sufficient funds to complete the final phase of the church roof and cupola repair project.

Significant donations from Brookside Nursing Home and St. John of Kronstadt Convalescent Home enabled the church to purchase a new vehicle for our Rector, Archpriest Stefan Pavlenko.

For 2014, we set an ambitious goal of \$100,000 once again based on substantial needs of our beloved parish. Those include better quality doors and windows, a video surveillance system to increase security of the church property, and a new ADA-compliant church entrance ramp for disabled people. In addition to capital improvement projects, we are asking Stewardship participants to sponsor ongoing monthly expenses. Details can be found in the Stewardship application and renewal forms.

CHOIR WELCOMES VLADIMIR PAVLOVICH ROUDENKO

- Alla Avisov



(Left to right) Alla Avisov and Rimma Kaliakin reunite with their youth choir director, Vladimir Roudenko, shown with his wife, Evgenia, who is Matushka Tatiania's aunt.

As a long-time member of the Church of All Russian Saints Choir, I was stunned last fall to see my first choir director from the 1940s singing alongside of me. It was Vladimir Pavlovich Roudenko, father of our current choir director, Andrei Roudenko. I couldn't believe it was the same Vova who directed me and many other young singers in the Schleissheim (Refugee) Youth Choir in the Displaced Persons camp of Fuessen, Germany.

By the end of World War II, thousands of us war refugees were assembled in former German Army housing near Munich, Bavaria. Vova and his family also lived at this camp. Because children and young adults had a deep void to fill regarding general education and religious instruction, Russian scientists,

historians, literary experts, linguists, mathematicians, educators and the clergy living in the camp joined forces and began to teach classes in a newly opened Dmitri Mendeleev High School, named after the famous Russian chemist.

Two churches were also opened, one called the Big Church and the other, the High School Church. Being a young, single adult with musical talent, Vova assembled former students and young people who enjoyed singing. In a short period of time, he organized all of us into a disciplined choir. Besides singing at church services, we also performed at Russian choral music concerts.

The choir, as well as the Orthodox Church and the school, gave us children, deprived by the war, a

continued...

sense of belonging, a foundation for the future, a knowledge of how to venerate God, and a pride in the history of Russia not distorted by communists. Vova never scolded us for singing off key. However, E. F.

camp was dark at night, we never heard of crimes during the years we lived there. Nevertheless, we all had an uneasy feeling walking across the dark field that separated our barracks from the recreation center. The choir

Church of the Epiphany where he served as choir director from 1986 to 2013.

In addition, Vladimir Pavlovich became founder and music director of the Russian Choral Society in New York City, acquainting an entire generation of youth with Russian Orthodox Church choral music, including his son Andrei and a young Marina Golubova.

With his wife, Evgenia Dmitrievna, always supporting his musical talents, he performed with Boston's Handel and Hayden Society and the Boston Symphony Orchestra's Tanglewood Festival Chorus.

Now the couple has retired and moved to California to be near their growing family. Not only does Vladimir Pavlovich sing with his son, Andrei, and his grandson Pavel, but on occasion with his granddaughter, Tanya Sarandinaki, and his great-granddaughter, Anastasia.



Choir Director Vladimir Roudenko, front row center, poses with his Schleisheim Youth Choir in Fuessen Germany after World War II.

Beloshinskaia, choir directress of the Big Church, always sat in the front row during our concerts, checking each song with a tuning fork to see if we dropped a tone. Vova was amused and pretended not to notice.

Once, we were invited to a neighboring camp to sing a concert. Because there was no formal stage, Vova had to stand on two chairs so we could see him. As the concert continued, the two chairs started sliding apart wider and wider. Fortunately, we finished the musical selections before he landed on the floor.

During Nativity, we would go caroling around the sleeping camp despite the bitter cold in January. We sang Christmas carols especially loudly under the windows of choir members who chose not to venture with us into the cold. While our

members came up with a brilliant idea on how to identify ourselves in the dark shadows. We would whistle the beginning notes of Lirin's "God be praised." The idea worked well. We always knew who was approaching.

When families started their exodus to different countries, our choir disintegrated. I learned recently from Andrei Roudenko that Vova and his family moved to Casablanca, Morocco where he became assistant conductor of the choir of the Assumption (Uspeniye) Church of Casablanca. There he met and married his wife, Evgenia Dmitrievna Emelianoff. They emigrated to Boston in 1959 where he started singing in the church choir of the Church of the Epiphany. Eventually, he became choir director of the Church of the Resurrection in Worcester, Massachusetts, then returned to the

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

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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 - May 2014

Schedule of services can be found on the Church website:

<http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>

CHOIR NEWS: THE HISTORY OF “O TEBE RADUYETSA...”

- *Andrei Roudenko*

Parishioners attending Divine Liturgies during the church year are accustomed to hearing “Dostoyno yest...” a special hymn of praise to the Mother of God. When a major holiday is celebrated, “Dostoyo yest...” is replaced by a “Zadostoynik”, in which praise to the Mother of God is directly connected to the holiday being commemorated.

During Great Lent, all Sunday Liturgies are of the form compiled by St. Basil the Great (329 or 330-379) instead of St. John Chrysostom. The Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great is somewhat longer with different silent prayers said by the priest. The “Zadostoynik” is also different. It is “O Tebe raduyetsa...” translated below.

“All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace,
the assembly of angels and the race of men.

O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise,
the glory of virgins,
from whom God was incarnate and became a child

- our God before the ages.

He made your body into a throne.
And your womb He made more spacious than the heavens.

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace.

Glory to you.”

The text of “O Tebe raduyetsa...” was written by St. John of Damascus (approximately 680-780). During St. John’s life in Constantinople, the heresy of Iconoclasm arose and

quickly spread. Emperor Leo III the Isaurian (717-741) supported the belief that venerating icons was idol-worship. Rising up in defense of the Orthodox veneration of icons, St. John of Damascus wrote three treatises entitled, “Against Those who Revile the Holy Icons.”

These compelling and God-inspired writings enraged the emperor. Since St. John was not a Byzantine subject, the emperor was unable to imprison or execute him. Instead, the emperor resorted to slander and forgery to discredit him. As a result, the Saracen Caliph ordered St. John’s right hand to be cut off and that he be led through the city in chains.

After this torturous punishment, the severed hand was returned to St. John. The saint pressed it to his wrist and prayed to the Mother of God to heal him so he could defend the Orthodox Faith and write once again in praise of the Most Pure Virgin and Her Son.

That night, St. John fell asleep before the icon of the Mother of God. He heard Her voice telling him that he had been healed and commanded him to toil unceasingly with his restored hand. Upon awakening, St. John found that, in fact, his hand had been re-attached to his arm. Only a small red mark around St. John’s wrist remained as a sign of the miracle. With gratitude, St. John wrote the prayer, “O Tebe raduyetsa...” and many others.

Most of the musical settings of “O Tebe raduyetsa...” are based upon a Greek-chant melody. Many famous

LIVESTREAM SERVICES

For those who are home bound or hospitalized and are not able to attend Services at the Church Of All Russian Saints (COARS), we have enabled live video streaming via the Internet. All live and previously recorded Services can be viewed here:
www.new.livestream.com/COARS

composers have used the Greek-chant melody in their own arrangements. This year, our choir is adding yet another version, this one by Nikolai Mihailovich Danilin (1878-1945). Our choir will introduce Danilin’s version of “O Tebe raduyetsa...” at a concert of sacred music of Great Lent and Passion Week after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, March 16 at 1 o’clock. After a Coffee Hour in the Church Hall with light refreshments, the concert will be held in the church itself.

We cordially invite you to attend. Admission is free. Suggested donation is \$20 per person. All donations will be applied toward our Liturgical Supplies Stewardship Program.

THE PARISH CHOIR PRESENTS A CONCERT OF SACRED MUSIC OF GREAT LENT AND PASSION WEEK ON SUNDAY, MARCH 16 AT 1 P.M. IN THE CHURCH ITSELF. FREE ADMISSION. SUGGESTED DONATION IS \$20 PER PERSON. ALL DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT THE LITURGICAL SUPPLIES STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM.

IRENE AND MISHA BOGOSLOVSKY - LIFETIME SCOUTS

- Ludmilla Bobroff

Participating in Russian Scouting groups has been a lifetime passion for Irene and Misha Bogoslovsky of Burlingame. They both joined two different scouting organizations as children and continue volunteering to this day.

No one could have predicted in 1960 that the “little chick” Irene (or ptenchik as the youngest girls were called in NORS) would grow up to become the Head of the Western American Region of St. George Pathfinders. Irene is the only woman to achieve such a high rank in the organization on the West Coast. In 2009, she was elected to a three-year term, then re-elected again in 2012 for another three years.

Her husband, Misha, is similarly involved. He is the land manager of the scouts’ 78-acre campground in Laytonville, California. The couple jokes that their marriage in 1973 was the first union of a scout from ORUR with a scout from NORS. It took many years, but the two scouting groups did join into one organization in 1980 named St. George Pathfinders, ORUR-NORS.

Irene was born in San Francisco to Nicholas and Olga Makarov who were part of the last group of immigrants to leave the island of Tubabao in 1949 through the Herculean efforts of Vladika Ioan (the future Bishop St. John of Shanghai and San Francisco). When Irene turned 7, her parents signed her up with NORS to keep her firmly grounded in Russian traditions.

The history of St. George Pathfinders goes back over 100 years to Pre-Revolutionary Russia when in 1909 Tsar Nicholas Romanov invited Lord Baden Powell to Russia to



Misha and Irene Bogoslovsky proudly wear their St. George Pathfinders uniforms.

explain the Boy Scouts program begun in England. Impressed with what he heard, the tsar commissioned Colonel Oleg Ivanovich Pantuhoff to start a Russian Scouting program. The program in Russia was called the National Organization of Russian Scouts, or NORS.

The first troop was formed at Tsarskoe Selo, St. Petersburg and Tsarevitch Alexei was the first scout. When the communists gained power, they disbanded the organization and formed their own youth groups. However, Russians who fled the country to China and to Europe remembered the high moral standards and the strong Russian heritage taught by Pantuhov so they organized their own scouting groups along the same lines. Scouts in China still belonged to NORS. Scouts in Europe belonged to ORUR, initials standing for Organization of Russian Youth Scouts.

“My NORS scout leaders in San Francisco were Oleg Levitsky, Elena Orloff, Alexei Kniazeff, and Michael Issaeff. They took us annually to Austin Creek in Cazadero for a primitive camp experience,” recalls Irene. “We used blocks

of ice for refrigeration, washed ourselves in the creek, added special pills to sterilize drinking water, and built outhouses. I loved it all.”

Irene continued her association with NORS into young adulthood. Meanwhile, Misha, born in China in 1947 to Milita and Nikolai Bogoslovsky, was growing up in Burlingame. He was an altar boy to the first official rector, Archimandrite Vasilii Kondratovich. The church was located in a house on Carmelita and Balboa Streets. When Vladika Ioan asked Nikolai Bogoslovsky to help him with the construction of the cathedral on Geary Street, the family moved to San Francisco to be nearer the site. Misha served as an altar boy with Vladika Ioan at the Old Cathedral on Fulton Street for a number of years.

After graduating from Washington High School and San Francisco City College, Misha joined the U.S. Army in 1969. At a going away party, Milita, the mother, encouraged Misha’s friends to write letters to her son serving in Vietnam. Irene agreed to do so and wrote regularly during his deployment. Their romance started during a short leave when she and Misha were in the bridal party at the wedding of Alyosha Shachneff. After completing his tour of duty in Germany and achieving the rank of sergeant, Misha retired from the army. They were married in 1973 in the new Holy Virgin Cathedral on Geary Street.

The young couple started building their lives together in Burlingame.

Having worked in the flower business previously, Misha opened a flower shop in West Portal, San Francisco. Due to many factors, including an allergy to certain flowers, Misha sold the shop after a few years. Next came a deli in San Mateo, but the business did not appeal to him. Discovering he was no longer affected by allergies, Misha returned to the floral business as a florist in Burlingame for Burlingame Plaza Florist. Finally in 2000, he purchased San Bruno Flower Fashions. Besides creating flower arrangements for weddings and funerals, Misha and his staff of three supply flowers for the Church of All Russian Saints as well as to many other churches and organizations in the Bay Area.

When their three children, Anastasia, Daniel, and Nika reached the age of 7, they, too, became St. George Pathfinders. While Irene headed the kitchen staff in summer camp, Misha helped with maintenance. They look forward to seeing their granddaughters, Olivia, 4, and Emilia, almost 1, in camp someday with their parents Tacia and Leigh Burton.

Besides scouts, Irene has been active in other organizations. Since 1994, she has worked with intermediate students as a para-educator in special education for the Burlingame School District. She was also Head Sister of the Sisterhood of the Burlingame Church from 1996 to 2006. Now, she is planning spring and summer events for the Pathfinders.

“Summer camp, which attracts between 75 and 90 children, will

be held the last two weeks of July,” says Irene. “We realize that few children speak fluent Russian, so all commands, lessons and discussions are given in both Russian and English. Prayers and formal ceremonies around the flagpole, however, are in Russian. Amazingly, the children pick up phrases quickly and learn to sing campfire songs in Russian. Those who know little English, come out of camp with greater ability to speak English.

“Approximately, 60 percent of the campers are the children or the grandchildren of former scouts. Forty percent are recent immigrants from Russia,” she continues. “The cost of the summer camp is approximately \$700 for two weeks. We discourage children from coming only for one week because then they do not get their prized necktie (galstook). If they come only the second week, it’s hard to get acquainted with children who have already formed close friendships with one another. Parents are welcome to visit on weekends.

“Complete information on the summer camp will be posted in May. The website is www.sgpzao.org. We hope to welcome many new scouts into the organization this year to enjoy two weeks of camping, swimming, hiking, games, bonfires, and outdoor Orthodox Church services. Speaking from experience, we have found that friendships formed in camp last a lifetime.”

* * * * *

WHAT MY MOTHER, ANASTASIA NIKOLAEVNA SKY, TAUGHT ME

- Maria Sky



Anastasia Sky, left, and her daughter Maria Sky have been parishioners for over 50 years.

Like many mothers, my 91-year-old mother, Anastasia Nikolaevna Sky, taught me many skills, such as reading, cooking, and sewing. But looking back at our 52½ years in the Burlingame Church, I realize there were more important lessons I learned from her. In her own words, she would tell me to “love God, be a true Christian in the very sense of the word, love each member of the family, help each other and help others who are truly in need, be kind and unselfish. Do not judge others, have an open mind and don’t have preconceived notions or prejudices towards different peoples of the world. Finally, be compassionate, have inner strength and faith, and...smile.”

Mama’s parents were born in Odessa, Ukraine. They were Maria Iosifovna Derevianko and Nikolai Mihailovich Iovetz-Tereshchenko. Grandfather’s hyphenated name was recorded in 1678 in the Chernigov Book of Ukrainian Nobility. During WWI, he was awarded the Medal of St. Anna for bravery in action. He and Grandmother fled Ukraine in 1920 with their three-year-old son, Nicholas (my uncle Kolia).

Mama was born in 1922 on a freezing November day.

Grandmother and Grandfather lived at the top of a hill in Zemun, Serbia. Grandfather had to carry the midwife up the hill to assist with the birth. It was so cold Mama almost died. She contracted many childhood diseases during the first years of her life, including pneumonia. The medications the doctor prescribed made her condition worse. It turned out the doctor was a Soviet who was poisoning the children of White Russians. Thanks to Grandmother’s prayers, their little daughter survived.

In 1925, the family moved to Paris, then ten years later to London. Mama survived the WWII bombings, blown-out windows, ceilings crashing down, and shrapnel flying onto the bed where she slept.

My father, Miron Ambrosievich Sorokowsky, was born in New Jersey. He was of Ukrainian descent. As an adult, he shortened his last name to Sky. He was a lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force when he met Mama in a Russian Orthodox Church in London on December 10, 1944. They were married three months later. Soon afterward, Grandfather had a stroke and became paralyzed. Grandmother took care of him at home. He died at age 59.

After WWII ended, Papa remained in the Air Force. We moved frequently, often living in places where there was no Russian Church. So we attended Serbian, Syrian, and Greek Orthodox Churches.

Our final move was in August, 1961. Mama wrote to every Russian Church in California, saying, “Whoever answers first, that’s where we’ll live.” Father Nikolai Masich of the Burlingame Parish was the first to answer her letter. While crossing Donner Pass during our move to California, Papa felt something was wrong with the car. He stopped immediately and to his horror, discovered the brakes were failing. “Our guardian angel saved us,” he said.

Upon arriving in Burlingame, my parents immersed themselves in the life of the church. At that time, the Brotherhood Commemorating All Russian Saints bought property at 744 El Camino Real and started remodeling the structure. My parents helped financially with the costs and volunteered their time. My two brothers were altar boys in the renovated church. I attended Russian School. At that time, the schoolbooks were old, typed, and outdated. Mama created colorful new textbooks with pictures, but her efforts were rejected.

Mama was a teacher by profession. She taught fourth grade in London. At the Air Force Base in Mobile, Alabama, she taught military personnel Effective Writing, Russian and French. In Burlingame, she taught French, World History and Geography at the small, private Moore School, which no longer exists.

After retiring from the Air Force, Papa worked as a Quality Assurance Representative. In 1975 he was in charge of communications for the Apollo-Soyuz Space Link-up and was awarded a medal for "outstanding performance".

That same year, my Grandmother and her second husband, Fedor Kuzmich Novikoff, emigrated to the U.S. They lived with us in Burlingame. Fedor Kuzmich soon became the Church Starosta and

also taught at our Parish School. He died in 1978. Grandmother died in 1983.

That year, Mama was asked to teach at our Parish Russian School and to update the antiquated textbooks. This time, her efforts were greatly appreciated. Fourteen years later, when Papa became ill with Alzheimer's, she gave up teaching. With my help, she took care of Papa at home until he died on April 13, 2004, shortly after their 59th Wedding Anniversary.

Following my mother's footsteps, I became a teacher. My daughter Nadia graduated from Russian School with a Gold Medal. She studied medicine at Tulane University and is now an ER Doctor. In February 2012, she married Christopher Hamilton, a paramedic. Father Stefan performed the marriage ceremony. They live in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

In retrospect, the most valuable lessons taught by my mother are to care for those around me, to be patient and understanding, do my best, accept rejection and know that God guides and helps us throughout life.

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BAPTISED

DECEMBER 2013

KATHLEEN ANNA TURLEY
JOHN HUNTER GREEN

JANUARY 2014

LUKIA VARTANYAN
IA BRINZA
GLEB RADZWILL

MARRIED

THERE WERE NO
MARRIAGES
IN THE MONTHS OF
DECEMBER AND JANUARY

REPOSED IN THE LORD

JANUARY 2014

EVGENY BUTKOV
VSEVOLOD SKAREDOV
NIKOLAI CHARIKOFF

FELLOWSHIP

in the Church Hall

JANUARY 9TH, 2014

FATHER STEFAN'S NAMESDAY



With Matushka Tanya looking over his shoulder, Father Stefan examines an album of 150 photographs of his Ordination Anniversary taken by Dimitry Bobroff and Lena Gauschieldt.



Guests enjoy a hot dinner, drinks, and an assortment of sweets.



After circling and singing to Father Stefan, children from the Parish Russian School present Father Stefan with a karavai, a decorated sweet bread.



Little Stefan Maximow, grandson of Matushka and Father Stefan, shyly celebrates his first birthday in the arms of his mother, Xenia Maximow. Stefanchik was born on his Namesday on Jan. 9, 2013.



Russian school teacher Lada Denisova, seated, and her children, Galina, Alexey and Sergey Isayev pose with the eagerly awaited Ded Moroz.

The first to perform was our youngest student, Sofia Pinaeva, who recited a poem about Saint Seraphim of Sarov. She touched everyone's heart. Next came the play "Little Great Goat" based on a Russian folk tale and directed by A.V. Avisova.

The main presentation was "A Little Christmas Tree" acted by 18 children. Director of this charming play was S.O. Avdeeva. Older students enjoyed playing a Russian family in Chekhov's "Boys," directed by L.N. Denisova.



The Church Hall overflows with children, parents, grandparents, teachers and guests.

Money collected from the sale of lottery tickets and the sale of food goes partly to the Church and partly to cover the cost of books for the Russian School.

A YOLKA TO REMEMBER

- Lada Denisova

A happy childhood tradition, remembered years after we grow up, is Yolka. This year, our annual Nativity celebration was held on January 12. Parents, grandparents and children filled the Church Hall. The program began with opening words said by Father Stefan and Russian School Director A.N. Miroshnichenko.



Narrator Viktoria Pelevina tells a Russian folk tale of a "Grey Little Goat." Acting out the story are Daniil Krouford as the goat and Brendan Ching as the wolf. Svetlana Avdeeva holds the microphone.

Talented little guests attending the Yolka also recited poems and played various musical instruments. Finally, an eagerly awaited guest appeared - Ded Moroz. He told the children riddles, distributed gifts, and posed for photographs.



Among the students performing in "A Little Christmas Tree" are Sofia Yentar, Elizaveta Zaharova, Anna Smeleva, Veronika Saltanova, Dancha Egorova and Chris Ching.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 16 - COFFEE HOUR WITH LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
PRIOR TO THE PARISH CHOIR CONCERT AT 1 P.M.

MARCH 23 - PASTA BUFFET AND DISCUSSION (BESEDA) BY
FATHER STEFAN

MARCH 30 - ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AFTER DIVINE
LITURGY

APRIL 6 - CHILDREN'S KULICH FAIR

APRIL 13 - SPRING BAZAAR AND PALM SUNDAY LUNCH
FEATURING THE SISTERHOOD'S FAMOUS FISH KOTLETI.

CHURCH CLEANING

THE ANNUAL PRE-PASCHA CHURCH CLEANING WILL BE HELD
FRIDAY, MARCH 14 FROM 9 TO 3 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 15
FROM 10 TO 3. COME FOR A FEW HOURS OR STAY THE ENTIRE
TIME. GLOVES, PAPER TOWELS, RAGS, CLEANING SUPPLIES ARE
PROVIDED. TO VOLUNTEER, CONTACT OLGA PARR AT 650-343-
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PELMENI-MAKING SESSIONS

NO SESSIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH AND APRIL.

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TO

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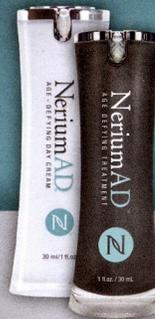


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