

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

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1965-2015

50 Years Repose of *Blessed Metropolitan Anastasy (Gribanovsky)*,
Second Chief Hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia

MESSAGE FROM ARCHPRIEST STEFAN

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕСЕ! ВОИСТИНУ ВОСКРЕСЕ!

Most Orthodox Christians come to church and, unfortunately, understand only a small portion of what is read and sung during any given service. Some basic prayers are familiar by rote and a few words or phrases are caught along the way, but mostly we stand in church, marking time, our mind drifting in and out of attention to our surroundings. At best, we enjoy the sights, sounds, and smells of the rich and beautiful treasures of the Orthodox Christian Liturgical Tradition, but we don't really absorb the "teaching of the Word!"

This is very unfortunate because then, we are tempted to either not care what the services are conveying to us and never reach our spiritual potential, or we quit attending and become tempted by Protestant or Sectarian religions presented in English. Abandoning the Orthodox Church for another denomination or another religion is extremely sad and unfortunate, leading to spiritual illness or even spiritual death.

Our attitude toward Church Services will surely determine if we are serious about our spiritual life as Orthodox Christians. The Lord Jesus Christ revealed to us, "The kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force..."

One of the explanations of this important admonition of Our Lord is that we must make a conscientious effort to acquire the Kingdom, working relentlessly for our salvation. A good first step is to understand what occurs during our rich Orthodox Christian Services and what the Church Service is conveying to us every Sunday and Feast Day. It's as if we're standing on the banks of a great river, flowing with Living Water. Instead of drinking our fill and receiving the benefit of its Saving Grace, we end up with only a few meager drops and begin wilting and withering spiritually.

The solution is to make a concerted effort to learn exactly what takes place in our Cycle of Church Services. It would be beneficial to attend lectures and take courses in Church Slavonic and Liturgics to learn all these things. But there's an easier way without taking seminary courses.

continued...

Michael Veter (Михаил Ветер) lives in Oregon and has made available for quite some time exact word for word translations in English of all Sunday, holiday and important services commonly celebrated in parishes of our Russian Orthodox Church Abroad. Anyone wishing to follow services in English as they take place in our parish can request being added to Mr. Veter's mailing list. His translation from Slavonic to English will be sent in time for the next church service. Many churchgoers don't even print out the service now. They just read it off their iPhones, iPads, or Kindles.

Contact Michael Veter at mdveter@gmail.com to be placed on his mailing list to receive translations in English of Church Services usually celebrated in most Russian Orthodox Churches.

For those who wish to become more fluent in Slavonic, it's also possible to find many services translated into Russian on the Internet. With a little effort, you can understand the Slavonic language better since the Russian translation follows.

Here are some sites that give Russian translations of Slavonic texts:

Slavonic-Russian Prayerbook/Молитвослов <http://kazanskoi.ru/molitvoslov/molitv-utr.html>; <http://azbyka.ru/bogosluženie/molitvoslov/molitv.shtml>

Standard parts of the church service sung in Russian: <http://www.ogkochetkov.ru/liturgicheskie-perevody/>

Important individual hymns: http://plisco.ru/ortho/music/golutvin/#o_vsepetaya

A very useful site by Bishop Alexander Miliant available in many languages: <http://www.fatheralexander.org/>

It's not possible to list all sites which give translations and explanations of the content of our Orthodox Christian Liturgical Cycles. Search on your own and make discoveries for yourself, but be careful to check these are Orthodox Christian Sites. The problem is not so much the language of the Church Service but what effort we care to make to understand what is taking place and what is being conveyed to us at the services. For the sake of our Spiritual Salvation, we must make a heroic effort to take advantage of the abundant gifts offered to us in the Liturgical richness of the Eastern Orthodox Church and hold fast to our Christian Faith in hope of inheriting everlasting Life in the Eternal Kingdom of our Risen Christ!

ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕСЕ! ВОИСТИНУ ВОСКРЕСЕ!
CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

REPORT ON THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

- Marina Roudenko



Dues-paying members listen to reports and vote for officers at the Annual Parish Meeting.

On March 22, 2015, dues-paying members of the Church of All Russian Saints gathered in the downstairs hall for the Annual Parish Meeting. The 38 people in attendance heard reports from the leading members of the Parish Council. The first to speak was Father Stefan, who asked Proto-deacon Sergei to commemorate the parish members who departed this life in the past year. The entire hall sang “Вечная память” (Memory eternal) to the eighteen departed. Father Stefan's report included the news that the Icon of St. Vladimir has been restored by Vladimir Krassovsky and is ready to be hung in its usual place. An offer is being considered to photograph this icon and make prints (памятка) in celebration of the 1000 years repose of St. Vladimir.

In a friendly atmosphere, reports were heard from Head Sister Tatiana Pavlenko, Church Elder Ivan Afanasiev, Parish Russian School Director Alexander Miroshnichenko and Choir Director Andrei Roudenko.

An encouraging financial report was given by new treasurer, Alexei Baranoff. Thanks to the well-thought-out budget initiated by the Finance Sub-Committee, the church books

continued...

are finally in the black. However, the entire parish and friends of the parish need to continue the successful Stewardship Program which was established several years ago. Olga Medvedko presented the Audit Committee Report, which confirmed the accuracy of the past year's accounts.

Elections were also held. Alexei Baranoff, Oleg Bolshakoff, George Misersky and Marina Roudenko were elected to two-year-terms on the Church Council. Larissa Krassovsky was voted in as an alternate.

Olga Medvedko, Sonya Shoorniloff and Elena Gaushieldt were reelected to the Auditing Committee.

Nikolai Koretsky, who requested a leave of absence from the Church Council, was given a standing ovation for all his accomplishments. During the past year, he undertook several successful projects, including the installation of the new ADA ramp, cleaning the church floor on a regular basis without charge, and making innovative suggestions on various issues.

The meeting ended with a prayer. Everyone departed with a feeling of accomplishment and hope toward a bright, work-filled future for the parish.

**THANK YOU
TO**

**ANNA AND NICHOLAS MARKEVICH
FOR GRACIOUSLY SPONSORING
THE COST OF THIS ISSUE.**

THEOLOGICAL QUESTION FOR FATHER STEFAN

WHY SHOULD I GO TO CHURCH WHEN I CAN PRAY AT HOME?

Praying at home is definitely a good habit. Apostle Paul encourages us by saying, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.

So why, you ask, is it necessary to come to church? There are many reasons for regularly attending church services. The Orthodox Church is a spiritual family and any healthy and thriving family always strives to be together during special occasions. What's more, Our Lord Jesus Christ is there! He, Himself, said, "Wherever two or three gather in my name, there I shall be!"

After the Ascension of Christ, the Apostles returned to Jerusalem and attended Temple Services, awaiting the descent upon them of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Himself attended both Synagogue and Temple services throughout His sojourn on earth.

If we pay close attention to the content of church services, we will find they give us a complete theological education in church history, dogmatics, Scriptural reading and interpretation, comparative theology, patristic apologetics and much more.

But, most important is that we come to a Sacred Place. A place appointed by God to receive His Gifts of Grace which are treasured in the Sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist. This communion of the Body and Blood of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is gifted to us by God when we gather in Community in remembrance of His Sacrifice for all of humanity.

Finally, let us again heed the words of Apostle Paul: "...let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his (The Lord's) return is drawing near." Hebrews 10:25

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

ARE YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES UP TO DATE?

-Alexei Baranoff, Treasurer

Even though the Annual Parish Meeting has come and gone, it's not too late to check and make sure you are current and up to date with membership dues. People have asked, "When are our dues due?" The answer is simple. Whenever it's most convenient for you. Dues can be paid monthly, quarterly, annually or a decade at a time. Whatever the frequency, noting the period on the check memo or including a brief note with the check helps ensure that records are kept accurately.

Several options are available for your convenience:

1. Cash or a check can be handed to the person at the candlestand or given directly to the Treasurer.
2. Your bank can set up an automatic check that will be sent directly to the church. This method is typically free of charge through your banking institution.
3. PayPal is a link that can be found on our website under Donation/Memberships.

With any option you choose, please include a note or memo specifying the period of coverage.

Monthly dues are as follows:

	Employed	Retired
Single	\$20.00	\$10.00
Family	\$30.00	\$15.00

Please remember our church is dependent on the continuous generosity by individuals like you. Membership dues are a means of budgeting our income and expenses. Thanks to them, we were able to balance the church budget last year.

If you have not signed up yet as a parish member (which is different from the Stewardship Program), please do so even though the Annual Parish Meeting has passed. Then at the 2016 Parish Meeting, if you are in good standing and your dues have been paid up to date, you can have a voice in deciding which parishioners should be elected to the Parish Council. Please feel free to ask me questions anytime.

CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS

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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 - SEPTEMBER 2015

Schedule of services can be found on the Church website:

<http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>

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CHOIR NEWS

- *Andrei Roudenko*

ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕСЕ! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Inspired and energized by the opportunity to contribute so many beautiful prayers to our Paschal services, in the coming weeks our choir will be preparing for Вознесение (Ascension, May 21), Троица (Pentecost, May 31) and our Храмовой Праздник (Parish Feast Day, June 14).

In addition to church services, our choir is working on several initiatives. As part of our Choral Presentation Series, we have invited Vladimir Krassovsky, choirmaster at our Cathedral in San Francisco, to give a talk about Pyotr Fillipovich Raspopov, choir conductor and composer whose works we sing in our services. Maestro Krassovsky's talk will be on Sunday, June 28, 2015, at the end of Coffee Hour, planned that day after Liturgy.

The next recital in our Choral Presentation Series will be a special "Anniversary" concert featuring works by composers for whom 2015 is an anniversary year. The concert will be on Sunday, October 25, at 1 p.m. More details will be provided in upcoming Newsletters. Be sure to save the date!

On the financial side, thanks to the generous support of our concert patrons, and in particular, the Russian-American Women's League, Marina Dmitrievna Plissak and Peter Wen, our choir presented a \$1,200 check to the Church Beautification Stewardship fund to construct a kiot for our Tikhvin Mother of God icon, install new brass metal railings on the amvon/solea, and if any funds remain, begin other Church Beautification projects, at the discretion of the Stewardship overseers. This was part of the net proceeds from our March concert.

In addition, our choir is announcing a matching grant program to fund production of commemorative icons of St. Vladimir (and maybe St. Olga) in this, the 1000 year anniversary year of St. Vladimir's repose. The choir will match all donations to a "Commemorative Icon Initiative" fund, up to a total of \$250 on a dollar-for-dollar basis. In effect, every dollar collected (up to \$250) will be worth \$2 to the fund. We hope the matching grant will stimulate parishioners and friends to support this initiative, which has been undertaken by our Parish Council.

PARISH COUNCIL LAUNCHES CHURCH SECURITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

- *Dimitry Bobroff*

At its regular meeting on March 16, 2015, the Parish Council launched a Church Security Improvement Project.

THE PROJECT ENTAILS THE FOLLOWING:

1. Instant-on, motion-activated lamps on the periphery of the church building to improve night visibility for the safety of our parishioners and to serve as a deterrent for would-be intruders.
2. A video surveillance system both outside and inside the church to monitor any suspicious activity.
Project Manager: Dima Bobroff
3. New secure steel doors and jambs to replace the current exterior doors in the classrooms.
4. Evaluation of our current alarm system with proposed improvements and enhancements. Project Manager: Andrei Maximow.

Andrei Roudenko volunteered to get Item 1 started, while Oleg Bolshakoff volunteered to investigate Item 3. If anyone is interested in researching other items or becoming a Project Manager for Items 1 and 3, please contact Dima Bobroff.

Our typical practice is to get three bids from companies, then choose the one that will be most effective.

This project will be part of our Stewardship Program. We count on all of you, whether formal parishioners or regular church goers, to become Stewards and to help support the project financially.

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

MATUSHKA TATIANA PAVLENKO: HEAD SISTER AND GOURMET COOK

- Ludmilla Bobroff



Surrounding Head Sister Matushka Tatiana who is standing in the center of the back row, are her hard-working, dedicated Sisters. Front row, left to right: Natasha Shoomiloff, Nadia Soudakoff, Sonya Shoomiloff, and Ira Shegolev. Back row, left to right: Tanya Bolshakoff, Tanya Ionoff, Lena Gauschieldt, Matushka Tanya, Nina Howell, Luba Gauschieldt, and Irene Bogoslovsky.

The first time nineteen-year-old Tatiana Vorobey (our future matushka) noticed the color, texture, and presentation of food was on a date with Jordanville seminarian, Stefan Pavlenko. The couple was walking to a restaurant in Brookline, Massachusetts (where Tatiana lived) and passed a bakery. In the window were strawberry tarts, the most beautiful dessert the young college student had ever seen.

“At home, Mama prepared simple meals because my father was a diabetic and needed to be on a strict diet,” she recalls. “When I saw those luscious tarts in the bakery window, I realized food had to look good besides tasting good. I started buying Bon Appetit Magazines, attempting to duplicate the recipes. It wasn’t the food itself that excited me, but the actual process of cooking. I enjoyed watching egg yolks get beaten and sauces coming together slowly. Cooking became a passion.”

After marrying Stefan Pavlenko and moving permanently to California in 1977, Matushka Tanya continued perfecting her cooking skills. She took classes at Draeger’s and Sur La Table, especially if the classes were free. She appreciated receiving from

her daughters a Christmas gift of classes at the San Francisco Cooking School. And she kept buying Bon Appetit Magazine for the recipes.

When the farm-to-table food trend became popular, Matushka started buying organic food, serving grass-fed beef, and avoiding all genetically modified organisms (GMOs) which alter the genetic composition of the product. Instead, she shopped at Farmers’ Markets for fruits and vegetables, organically grown and sourced locally. Today, between 80 and 85 percent of the food she serves at home is organic.

In 2006, Irene Bogoslovsky resigned from her job as Head Sister of the Burlingame Church Sisterhood to concentrate on leading St. George Pathfinders (a Russian scouting organization). Matushka Tanya stepped forward, incorporating all her ideas

about healthy food into Church meals. For luncheons, she buys only organic chickens, offers soy and almond creamers, along with Coffee Mate, and even sells two types of kulichi – one standard and the other completely organic.

“I always try to buy organic products for church meals if the budget allows,” she says. “Unfortunately, organic products cost more money, so our lunches range from \$12 to \$15.”

Matushka works with approximately 40 women who volunteer in the Sisterhood. Some of these Sisters concentrate on cooking lunches which are offered once or twice a month. Others make pelmeni during once-a-month sessions. Olga Parr is in charge of organizing major cleaning days and repairing altar robes. Luba Gauschieldt is the treasurer and scheduler for the Sisterhood.

But for Matushka, it’s all about the cooking. She likes to work with volunteers who enjoy the process as much as she does. In creating menus, she gets ideas from chefs’ web pages and from farm to table restaurants. She often prepares a dish at home first and asks for Father Stefan’s opinion. During Lenten periods, she tries to be creative within the parameters of what food is allowed.

continued...

She has initiated Pasta Buffets, innovative pirog fillings and the All Organic Golubtsi Lunch. Sonya Shoomiloff and Tanya Bolshakoff came up with the Raw Oyster Bar idea. Offered for the first time at the recent Palm Sunday Lunch, the raw oysters came from Chesapeake Bay and were served in their shells with garnish.

“The biggest challenge in preparing luncheons is having the right amount of food ready to be served when parishioners appear downstairs after liturgy,” she says.

The most difficult dish? Blini. Over the years, either the rise has been too fast or too slow, the wrong paddle was used in the mixer, the cover flew off and batter splattered all over the kitchen. Worst of all, there weren't enough blini to serve everyone.

Nevertheless, because of the skills exhibited by Matushka and her team, they are asked to help at all important events in the Diocese. The Sisters from the Church of All Russian Saints have cooked at youth conferences, anniversary events, even at the World ROCOR Conference held in 2006 that brought 100 clergy and lay people from all over the world to discuss the unification question.

Matushka enjoys the challenge of cooking for so many guests. “I feel like a real chef during those times, managing a large kitchen staff,” she smiles. After the event is over, Matushka and the Sisters, though tired, always sit down together to enjoy the food they prepared and served for others. And then, without hesitation, they start planning the next meal.

**CHURCH OF ALL
RUSSIAN SAINTS
STEWARDSHIP
GOLF FUNDRAISER**

JUNE 20, 2015

East Bay Golf Course
(Specific course TBD)

Please join us and support our stewardship program with a day of golf. All proceeds will go directly to raise funds for the upcoming security upgrade project at our parish.

Cost of tournament will be between \$80 - \$100, which will include golf, prizes, lunch and refreshments.

If interested, please contact or email Alexei Baranoff at coarstreasurer@gmail.com. Additional details will be provided to those who respond and leave contact information.

**UPCOMING EVENTS FOR
MAY AND JUNE**

May 3 – Brunch

May 17 – Lunch offered by the Parish Russian School prior to Graduation AKT. (AKT is open to the public.)

May 31 – Lunch after Pentecost (Troitsa) Service

June 14 – Parish Feast Day

PELMENI-MAKING SESSIONS

May 28

June 25

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.

BAPTISED

FEBRUARY 2015

Anna Hillary
Alexandra Kumari
Clement Le Leyzour
Vivian Marshall
Elizabeth Shevelyov

MARCH 2015

Eduard Borochnik
Mikhail Martynov

MARRIED

FEBRUARY 2015

Elena Dembitska
and Andriy Zezekalo

MARCH 2015

None

REPOSED IN THE LORD

FEBRUARY 2015

Valentina Kern
Claudia Sommer

MARCH 2015

Boris Sigalov

PARISH LIFE DURING GREAT LENT



Choir Director Andrei Roudenko leads his well-trained choir in a concert-recital of special prayers sung during Great Lent.



At the reception following the concert, Bishop Theodosy presents Andrei Roudenko with a two-volume compilation of arrangements assembled by Protodeacon Dmitri Bolgarsky, a respected church musician and long-time friend of Bishop Theodosy.



Constantine Koltzov admires the kulich decorated by his grandson, Misha, at the Children's Kulich Faire.



Shucking oysters for the Palm Sunday lunch are Oleg Bolshakoff, Marc Howell, and Dima Zaverukha.

PASSION WEEK AND HOLY PASCHA



The Bridegroom Service during Passion Week features the illumination in the altar of the Heavenly Palace (Chertog) as the choir sings.



The X.B. lights are lit, flowers surround the Resurrection icon, and the heart-stirring Midnight Matins begin.



After the procession circles the church, Father Stefan cries out joyfully, "Christ is Risen!"



Following Divine Liturgy, Father Stefan blesses the Pascha baskets, placed on the ground and lit with candles.

TWO STUDENTS TO GRADUATE FROM RUSSIAN SCHOOL

With the 2014-2015 school year coming to an end, two students are completing twelve years of classroom instruction this month. Galina Isayeva and Ksenia Vasilyev will receive their diplomas at the Graduation AKT in the Church Hall on Sunday, May 17 after Divine Liturgy. All other students will receive their End-of-the-Year Certificates, as well as Certificates of Merit.

Parents of the graduates are hosting a traditional White Ball for invited guests on Friday, June 5. It will be held in the Small Hall at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross in Belmont.

GALINA ISAYEVA



Galina Isayeva, daughter of Lada Denisova and Mikhail Isayev, has attended Russian School at the Russian Orthodox Church of All Russian Saints in Burlingame since kindergarten. She and her classmate, Ksenia, have become close friends over the years, attending classes, performing in plays, worrying about exams, and helping at school fundraisers.

Galina has two brothers. Alexey is seventeen-years-old and a senior at Mills High School. Fluent in Russian and a graduate of the Parish Russian School, he substitutes for teachers in Russian School when there is a need. Sergey, almost thirteen, is also enrolled in Russian School.

With her family, Galina has traveled throughout California and Russia, visiting many natural wonders and famous landmarks. She has been to St. Petersburg, Moscow, Novgorod, Vladimir, Pushkin, and Valaam Island with its Monastery. On the West Coast, the family has visited Lassen, Shasta, Mohave Dessert, Trinity Alps, Death Valley, and various petroglyph sites.

Sixteen-year-old Galina is completing her sophomore year at Mills High School. Her favorite classes are pre-calculus and history. In sports, she is on Mills' cross country team, running competitively at many meets. She is also on the Mills Drill Team and a member of the Mills Mock Trial Team, which made it to the semi-finals in 2015.

Outside of school, Galina likes to read, bake, draw, play the piano and practice archery. During the summer, she works at Karagod, a camp for children, ages 6 to 14. This tent camp strives to promote the Russian language and culture. In the future, Galina hopes to continue this line of work and become a counselor or a teacher.

KSENIA VASILYEV

Ksenia Vasilyev is the daughter of Alex Vasilyev and Svetlana Avdeeva, as well as the sister of the 2009 Gold Medal graduate of the Burlingame Russian School, Katya Vasilyev.

The fifteen-year-old has attended the Parish School since she was four years old. She loved performing with her friends in the winter Yolka plays and participating and performing at the Day of the Russian Child programs.

One of her best memories occurred on Great Tuesday when she was seven years old. "After Russian School was over, we stayed for the evening service," she remembers. "The 'Vrata' (Royal Doors) opened and all the colorful candle lights glowed in the dark altar. It was magical."

Ksenia was homeschooled until February 2015, before enrolling at San Mateo High School where she is now a straight A student. Her favorite classes are geometry, chemistry, art, and history.

Ksenia enjoys painting, reading, swimming, as well as tennis and playing the piano. In swimming, her Pacific Sectional times have won her numerous awards, including the Swimmer of the Year Award at Burlingame Aquatic Club. Ksenia has also won several Norcal Open tennis tournaments.

The teenager's goals are to qualify for the Junior National Swim Meet this summer and to win a National Tennis Open Tournament. Her long term plan is to enroll in a four year college.



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