

VOLUME 8 NUMBER 3  
May/June 2020

CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS

# NEWSLETTER

Церковь Всѣхъ Святыхъ въ Землѣ Россійской Просѣдвшихъ

## MESSAGE FROM ARCHPRIEST STEFAN, RECTOR

No matter what the outcome of the ongoing pandemic is at present, we have all experienced Passion Week, Holy Glorious Pascha, Bright Week and these continuing days of the Feast of Feasts THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as we have never experienced them before.

For all of us, it has been tears and sorrow, fear and trembling, intermixed with radiant bursts of joy and inexplicable gladness, buttressed with heartfelt peace, joy and thanksgiving. Truly, it has been a gift and an important lesson given to all of us!

The pandemic has been presented to all of us, no doubt, as a lesson to cherish and not take for granted our Church Life, and the opportunity to attend church services, in church, whenever we wish.

Having said that, I wish to whole-heartedly and joyfully greet everyone with the Great Feast of Christ's Glorious Resurrection and wish all good health, prosperity, peace and tranquility with this year's uncommonly difficult, but always-joyous Paschal Season.

For everyone's physical safety, we must continue the good hygiene habits that we have acquired, knowing that if we keep them after the initial dangers pass, we will be insuring that all future flu symptoms, viruses, and communicable diseases, will be slowed, curbed and more safely, readily and quickly vanquished.

If we have learned anything at all, it is that we must NOT give up our more intense, sincere and fuller prayer rules, but preserve and even bolster our spiritual fervor. In this way, we strengthen, develop, protect and preserve our spiritual health and not revert back to pre-pandemic laxity.

Whenever we are able, we should attend church services, remembering that they can so easily be taken away from us. We should continue to be mindful of those who are permanently bound to their residences, contact them regularly and try to be of service to all who are elderly or infirm.

If the storm clouds thicken and troubling times redouble against us, we can be thankful that a testing period was presented to us and that we learned lessons about ourselves, our families and our communities which will allow us to make the correct adjustments to our efforts and our domineering personality traits. With all this behind us and with the help of God, we will be able to face even more difficult situations and more aggressive adversaries.

As has been the practice, our website will be refreshed whenever changes or adjustments are necessary. Please visit often to be aware of the latest information. <http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>

May Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ protect, preserve, guide, keep and save all of us.



**CHRIST IS RISEN! Indeed, Verily, Truly HE IS RISEN!** ■

## THEOLOGICAL QUESTION FOR ARCHPRIEST STEFAN

### HOW ARE LOVED ONES COMMEMORATED DURING DIVINE LITURGY?

We have an opportunity to request that people be commemorated at services in the Orthodox Church. This is usually done at Divine Liturgy when the priest is preparing the Holy Gifts. Proskomedia occurs during the first part of the Divine Liturgy when the priest cuts crumb-size particles out of prosphora bread in memory of someone who has reposed, or for the health and spiritual wellbeing of someone living. Only the names of baptized Orthodox Christians can be presented for commemoration.

These names are written beforehand by the faithful on slips of paper, available at the candlestand. The sheets of paper are labeled “For the Living” (О здравии) or “For the Reposed” (О упокоении). Names in Russian should be written in the genitive case (в родительном падеже). For example, Dimitry in Russian should be written Димитрия not Димы, Alexandra in Russian should be written Александры not Сашы or Шуры and Alexander should be Александра. Nicknames or shortened versions of names should not be used. David (Давида) is correct while Davy is not. Julia (Юлии) is correct, not Julie. The names should be carefully printed or written clearly in cursive so that they are not difficult to decipher.

Instead of writing out slips of paper at every Liturgy, some parishioners have prepared little booklets in advance. This booklet is called a romianik (памяник). It contains the names of family members and whomever else the booklet owner wishes to have remembered. Again, only baptized Orthodox Christians can be mentioned.

The slips of paper or booklets should be presented to the person manning the candlestand in a timely fashion, either on the eve of the service or prior to the beginning of the Liturgy. Presenting a list late holds up the service and causes unnecessary delays.

Just after Holy Communion, and before the Chalice is taken away from the Altar Table, all the little particles which were taken out in remembrance of all those commemorated are placed in the Chalice with the Holy Eucharist and are immersed in the Precious Blood. The priest then prays, “Wash away the sins of those here commemorated by the prayers of the Holy Theotokos and all the saints.”

In our private prayers at home, we are encouraged to pray for everyone, no matter whether they are Orthodox, another faith, or no faith at all. Also at home, parishioners should not forget to include the names of people in their prayers who were commemorated at the Proskomedia.

#### For Our Russian Readers:

Вместе с просфорой подаются записки, или помянники--где записаны имена тех, о которых верующие желают, чтобы священник молился, или о здравии живых, или о упокоении усопших. Записки обыкновенно бывают двух видов. Одни о здравии с заглавием, напечатанным красными чернилами. Другие за упокой печатаются с заглавием напечатанным черными.

Можно, конечно, записывать имена и на простой бумаге, но обязательно каждый лист должен быть озаглавлен или “О здравии” или “За упокой”. На одном листе не следует перемешивать имена и живых и умерших. Имена пишутся в полной церковной форме, обязательно в родительном падеже, и без отчеств и фамилий. В храме мы все просто «рабы Божии».

Священнослужителей следует поминать по их чину, т.е. “Архиепископа Антония”, “Протоиерея Константина”, “Протодиакона Евгения”, а не просто “о. Константина” или “Владыки Антония”. Сокращения допустимы, но только если они не двусмысленны, например, сокращение “арх.” могло бы относиться и к Архиепископу, и к Архимандриту, и к Архидиакону. Следует писать “архиеп.” “архим.”, и “архид.”

На списке “О Здравии” можно перед именем добавить слово “бол.”, что означает “болящего” (или “болящую”). На списках “За упокой”, если еще не прошло сорок дней со дня смерти покойного, пишется перед именем “новопр.”, что означает “новопреставленного”. Если покойный служил в армии, то принято перед его именем писать слово “воина”.

Перед именем ребенка пишется “млад.” (младенца), если ребенок моложе семи лет. Если же ребенку старше семи, но меньше 16-ти, пишется перед именем слово “отр.”, что означает “отрока” или “отроковицы”. Не следует добавлять ненужные детали (“слепца Петра”, “врача Иоанна”, “девицы Софии”).

*continued...*



Нужно писать отчетливо и ясно, чтобы священнику легче было бы читать имена.

Вот пример правильно написанной записки “О Здравии”:

О ЗДРАВЬИ и спасении рабов Божиих:	
Анны	
Александра	А не «Саши»
млад. Тимофея	
прот. Стефана	А не «о. Стефана»
отр. Марии	
бол. Софии	
Уоакна	А не «Ивана»

На поминальных записках и в помяниках должны быть записаны только имена крещенных православных христиан, т.к. поминание на проскомидии является литургическим священнодействием, связанным с таинством Причащения. Таинства Св. Церкви преподаются исключительно членам Св. Церкви, т.е. тем, которые были приняты в Церковь через таинства Св. Крещения и Св. Миропомазания. Было бы насилием через поминовение на проскомидии присоединять к Святой Церкви тех, которые сами не желали быть членами Святой Церкви, а тем более умерших вне Ее. Дома, в частной молитве, конечно, можно молиться за всех, включая неправославных, а в Церкви, где преподаются Ее чадам Св. Таинства, могут поминаться за проскомидией только православные. ■

***With thanks to Protopresbyter Father Alexander Lebedeff for permission to quote his brochure on this subject.***

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

## INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON OUR MAIN COMMUNICATION TOOL

Dimitry Bobroff

**H**ave you clicked onto the church website with a question and wondered how to find the answer? Here are answers to frequent questions from visitors and how to locate the answers. <https://allrusiansaintsburlingame.org>

### ***What's happening in our parish?***

Click on the Home Page

### ***Did Father Stefan send out a message to parishioners?***

You'll find out on the Home Page

### ***Can I pay my membership dues online?***

The answer is yes. Click on the Donate button at the bottom of the Home Page.

### ***When was our parish founded?***

The year was 1952. See Parish History under the About Us Page.

### ***Where was Father Stefan born?***

In Austria. See Archpriest Stefan Bio under the About Us Page.

### ***Can I become a formal parishioner? How do I sign up?***

See Parish Membership under the About Us Page.

### ***What is Stewardship and how can I become a Steward?***

See Stewardship under the Home Page.

### ***How can I find out more about Orthodoxy?***

See About Orthodoxy under the Home Page.

### ***I missed the last Choir Concert. Can I see it online?***

Yes. See Video Materials/Concerts under the Choir Page.

### ***I remember reading about Nikolai Misersky. What newsletter issue was that?***

See Index to Biographies under the Newsletter Page.

These and many other questions can be answered by visiting and exploring the website. Its purpose is to be the main communication tool for our parishioners and visitors. The website has proven its worth during the COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place period. Father Stefan wrote timely messages which were posted on the Home Page. Important announcements and decrees from Archbishop Kyrill and Metropolitan Hilarion were similarly posted on the Home Page.

Our Livestream capability (accessible from the Livestream Page on the website) has been the only means of attending our Live Church Services during the quarantine period. Livestream was initially meant to be viewed by a small percentage of people who were homebound, hospitalized, and unable to attend Church Services. During these past two months, all of us became housebound. Hopefully, we will soon be able to return to church and attend services in person. ■



## CHOIR PAGE ON PARISH WEBSITE

Andrei Roudenko

It seems prophetic that just a few months ago, before we entered a new way of life under the Coronavirus Shelter in Place Order, we designed and launched a new and vibrant parish Website! Who knew (!) that our Website would be such a key source of up-to-the-minute information on our services and a variety of other information.

Our Website includes a Choir page, whose structure is illustrated in the chart below.

The four main sections, ABOUT CHOIR, VIDEO MATERIALS, COMPOSERS and MUSIC LIBRARY are accessible from the main menu, which is shown below.



Navigation to our Choir pages is simple and intuitive. From the main menu, select the Choir item, shown above. A drop-down menu will appear, from which one can select:

- About Choir, Video Materials, Composers or Music Library.
- At that point, one can select from the various items shown in the list that will be presented.

If at any point, you experience any difficulties in reaching the information that you seek, don't abandon your search. Instead, please give me a call (650-922-0250) and I'll make sure that you successfully obtain the information that you desire.

As new information is added, I will inform those who receive my weekly bulletins (see the "Services and Saints" item at the bottom of our main screen). If you would like to be added to the bulletins subscriber list, use the "To subscribe to it directly" link. Otherwise, visit our Choir page periodically to see new items that have been added. In the near future, we hope to add lots of interesting information, not just for singers, especially in our Video Materials>Other Links and Composers pages. God bless you and your loved ones as we emerge from the Coronavirus epoch. ■

## CHOIR NEWS

Andrei Roudenko

At the time of this writing, California and most of the U.S. and many other parts of the world, find themselves in some manner of Shelter in Place to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. As of this writing, the last time that our full choir sang in a service or rehearsal was Sunday, March 15. On that day, after our Liturgy, we sang a Moleben asking the Lord, through the intercession of His Most-Holy Mother, to accept our repentance and stem the tide of the virus. As I'm unable to predict our status in May 2020, I can only reflect.

I'm sure our choir members never imagined a situation where we would not be actively, piously and joyously contributing to our Passion Week and Paschal services as a full choir. After all, for Orthodox Christians, these are the most important services of the Church year. Not surprisingly, many of our most splendid and touching musical settings of prayers are from this sacred period. We were all looking forward to our services, but this was not to be. Now, looking back at this time last year, we gain a heightened sense of how fortunate we were then.

Our Lord is loving and merciful. He came in the flesh to save His children – us. He suffered for us, to save us. I have faith that in time, our current obedience, wherein we can "participate" in services only remotely, will be relaxed and then lifted. In recent history, our brothers and sisters in Soviet-era Russia, clergy and laity, were cruelly persecuted for decades for serving and attending church services. Now that this persecution has abated, churches in Russia are overflowing. I look forward to the glorious sight of our church and choir loft overflowing when the virus-related restrictions subside.

For me, having had to abstain from contributing to the services that Marina sang alone, was both difficult and instructive. I thank God for blessing Father Stefan and Marina with the spiritual and physical strength to serve and sing all of our services. Personally, in the future, each time that I am able to enter our choir loft, I will do so with a greater sense of gratitude and recognition that the last service that I sing could, in fact, be the last service that I sing!

Whatever the situation is when this newsletter is distributed, I sincerely hope that when permitted, our parish and all of our choir members will overwhelmingly express gratitude to our Lord tangibly, by attending and praying at every one of our services, praising and thanking Him. God bless you and your loved ones. ■

## FOUR STUDENTS TO GRADUATE FROM RUSSIAN SCHOOL

Anatol Shmelev, White Ball Chairman

The month of March 2020 has been unlike any other March in the recent past, perhaps going back to the Second World War. All of California is on “lockdown” by order of the governor with schools closed and all gatherings banned. Needless to say, this has affected our parish Russian School and in particular the White Ball which was being organized for the graduates. Classes have now been canceled and our entire school is in the same state of uncertainty as every other school in the area. Will instruction be reinstated before the end of the school year? Will children be able to gather together once again?

All White Balls are funded through the efforts of the parents of the graduating children. Typically, the parents organize fundraising luncheons over the course of the year to raise necessary monies to pay for the celebratory dinner dance. As one can imagine, hosting a White Ball is a very expensive undertaking.

This past year, the parents organized several lunches after Divine Liturgy, often assisted by their children who helped with setup, cleanup and tending the dessert table. The final three fundraising luncheons, however, had to be canceled. The first one was due to an expected low turnout because of the developing coronavirus crisis. Then as plans for more luncheons were discussed, a total ban on all gatherings was announced by the governor. Russian School classes were also halted.

The coronavirus even affected the planning of the White Ball itself. Originally, it was scheduled to be held at the Russian Center in San Francisco on Friday, June 12. Now, it is being rescheduled for some time in the autumn because there are too many unknowns to begin planning such a major event earlier. No one wants to cancel it again because of spreading illness, quarantines or other restrictions on gatherings which could possibly be extended into the summer months.

This year, four children are looking forward to their graduation: Sofia Yentar, Timofey Loboda, Anna Shmeleva, and Victoria Yazykova. All are completing the seventh grade in May. Their homeroom teacher is Svetlana Avdeeva, whose strict approach keeps her pupils on their toes and ensures that they know their lessons backwards and forwards before coming to class. Svetlana teaches Russian language and literature, covering the great writers and poets Pushkin, Gogol and others. She gives her students plenty of memory exercises, requiring them to recite poems and great works of Russian literature.

The basic tenets of the Orthodox faith are taught by our rector, Archpriest Stefan Pavlenko. Anatol Shmelev teaches the children Russian history, with the seventh-grade course covering the 20<sup>th</sup> century and all the catastrophes it brought to the Russian people.

Everyone’s favorite teacher is Father Stefan, whose kind disposition, humor and generosity always produces a mutual genuine affection that our parishioners know so well. All of the teachers selflessly devote their time and attention to ignite a passion for the great riches of Russian culture and history in their pupils. Unfortunately, this year the school’s beloved long-time director, Alexander Miroshnichenko, suffered a fall at home that has kept him out of commission for most of the year. We hope to see him at the White Ball. ■

## CONGRATULATIONS RUSSIAN SCHOOL GRADUATES!



**TIMOFEY LOBODA** has attended the Burlingame Church Russian School since age six, longer than any of his classmates. The son of Vera and Alexander Loboda, the boy has shown great love and interest in Russian culture, considering it an important part of his heritage and cultural ancestry. He credits his excellent teachers for teaching him reading, writing, an appreciation for literature, Russian history, and the Russian Orthodox Faith. His father, Alexander Loboda, volunteers as treasurer of the Russian School.

Timofey's favorite memories are preparations for the Christmas Yolkas and meeting friends during school time.

As a student at Carlmont High School in Belmont, his favorite subjects are math and science. He hopes one day to study engineering and bioengineering at a university.

Outside of school, Timofey enjoys basketball, mountain skiing and fishing. He is an avid tennis player. He also plays the piano and is interested in music. Traveling with his family to the beautiful city of St. Petersburg is usually the highlight of the year for him.

**ANNA SHMELEV**, daughter of Anatol and Julia Shmelev, was in the first grade when she started attending the Church of All Russian Saints Parish School. Her older brother, Nikolai, had already graduated from the school, while her father, Anatol, continued teaching Russian history there.

Anna's fondest memories of Russian School are the recesses where she would chat with classmates who would become some of her best friends. She also enjoyed the Yolkas (Christmas parties) where the children performed and Ded Moroz made an appearance.

Fifteen-year-old Anna is a freshman at Los Altos High School. She enjoys reading and drawing, especially cartoon characters. She plays Minecraft with friends online and almost never says "no" to ice cream. With her family, she has traveled to the Russian Federation and Ukraine, visiting many of the Holy Sites, as well as museums and cultural attractions in both countries.

Anna is a member of Saint George Pathfinders, a Russian Scouting organization which holds outdoor outings and an annual summer camp in Northern California. She has also appeared at various events in San Francisco's Russian Center. As a child, she danced in the Firebird Dance Studio productions at the Russian Festival and later appeared with her school group at the Day of the Russian Child fundraiser for the Russian Children's Welfare Society.

Anna is looking forward to her graduation White Ball even though it will probably be delayed this year due to the coronavirus situation. As for the future, she doesn't have any career plans in mind yet. While many things interest her, such as biology, she would also like to make use of her talent and desire to draw.





**VICTORIA YAZYKOVA** is a recent transplant from Russia, arriving in the U.S. with her parents, Ludmila and Oleg Yazykov a few years ago. Victoria started attending the Burlingame Church Russian School during the 2018-2019 school year. It was a new experience for her to attend a Russian school outside of Russia but she quickly adapted to the programs at school and church.

Fourteen-year-old Victoria is graduating from Ralston Middle School this semester and will be attending Carlmont High School in the fall. Prior to the shelter-in-place edict by the governor, Victoria had a heavy workload completing assignments for Russian School, middle school, and Russian Mathematics School. She could hardly find time to spend on her hobbies, such as drawing and cinematography. However, last summer she did learn how to skateboard and has become proficient at it.

This summer, she hopes to do more volunteering and eventually get a job. She has a part-time gig as an English tutor via video conferencing at a European gymnasium (high school) in Moscow. She really enjoys talking to kids halfway across the world and teaching them English. After high school, Victoria plans to go to college and has set her sights on UC Berkeley.

**SOFIA YENTAR**, daughter of Aleksey Kovalenko and Anna Yentar, has been fortunate to be in a class of students who are all fluent in the Russian language. Consequently, Sofia enjoyed debating with her history teacher whether Peter the Great was culturally beneficial or not for Russia and whether the story assigned by the literature teacher conveyed a good message.

Sofia began Russian School at age 9. Being very social, she made friends easily and has continued to be close to most of her classmates over the years. She always enjoyed making memories when she attended rehearsals for Yolka and the Day of the Russian Child. She is thankful to her current teachers, including Svetlana Olegovna, Alexander Shmelev, and Father Stefan, as well as her past grammar teacher, Irina Alexandrovna, for being patient with her. She says that all her teachers over the years put in a lot of work preparing weekly lessons and exhibiting a lot of patience in the classroom.

Sofia attends Mills High School in Millbrae where she enjoys learning. She is a member of several teams, including basketball and soccer. She also likes to play volleyball and to hang out with friends. Since classes have been cancelled due to the quarantine, she has started viewing cooking shows and likes to prepare different recipes for her family to pass the time. She also enjoys painting and watches artists such as Bob Ross in order to become a better artist.

As for future career plans, Sofia says, “I haven’t yet decided on exactly what I want my future career to be, but I’m sure I want it to involve helping people and doing something related to science.” ■

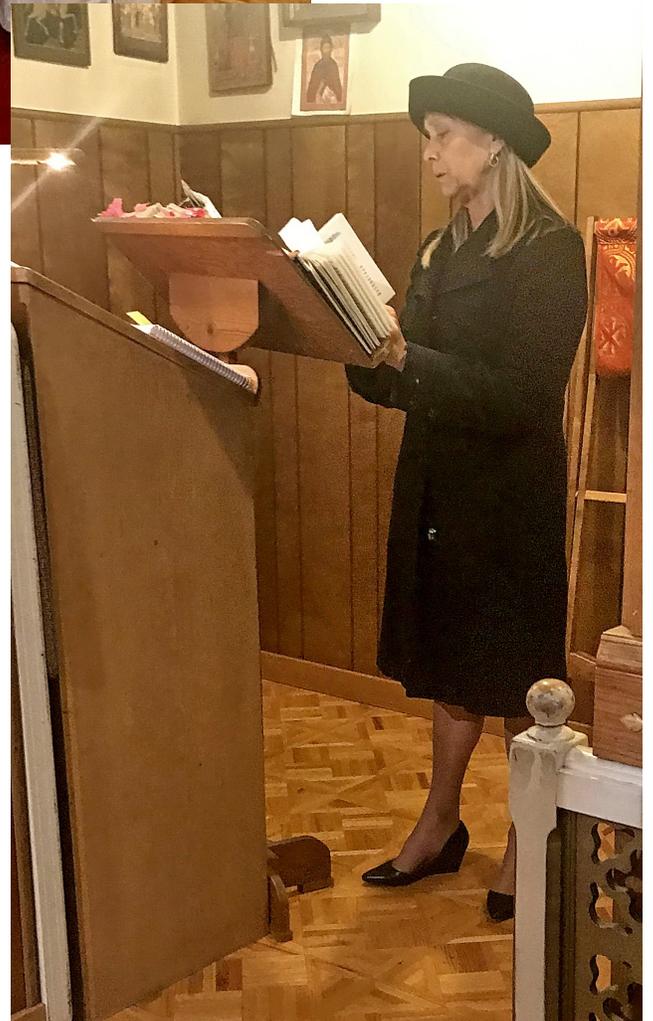


# OUR CHURCH IN LOCKDOWN



Because the coronavirus caused a state-wide lockdown, all events were canceled in the Church Hall. They included the Parish Russian School luncheons, the Children's Kulich Faire and Easter Bazaar, the Palm Sunday Luncheon featuring fish cotleti and oysters prepared by the Sisterhood, the Blessing of Easter baskets, and the Breaking-of-the-Fast on Pascha. Also canceled were the Concert by the Church of All Russian Saints Choir and the Annual Parish Meeting.

Above: Father Stefan and Father Deacon Alexandre conducted all services in an empty church. Here, they stand with the Holy Chalice on Great Saturday. Fortunately, all services were on Livestream and hundreds of the faithful logged on. Parishoners who wished to receive the Holy Gifts were allowed to enter the Church after Divine Liturgy in groups of six and receive Confession and Communion.



Right: Marina Roudenko, wife of choir director Andrei Roudenko, is the official reader and chanter (psalmist) during the lockdown services. She has assisted Father Stefan for many years, working alongside him at weddings, funerals, baptisms, and bi-monthly services at Saint John Kronstadt Skilled Nursing Facility in Castro Valley.

# OUR CHURCH IN LOCKDOWN

After hearing Father Stefan's blessing of the Easter baskets online, Council Member Dimitry Bobroff follows instructions and blesses the family Easter basket at home.



The monthly Church Council Meeting took place virtually, thanks to the Zoom app. Alexander Loboda was the host and helped members set it up. Participating in the multi-screen meeting were (top row, left to right) Yura Misersky, Dimitry Bobroff, Andrei Alexeeff, Andrei Roudenko. (Second row, left to right), Alexander Loboda, Tanya Bolshakoff, Father Stefan and Matushka Tatiana Pavlenko, Marina Roudenko. (Bottom row), Bill Gilchrist.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MAY + JUNE

Our Sisterhood is anxious to restart our lunches and coffee hours. However, due to San Mateo County restrictions, we cannot provide an actual schedule. If we are able to have any events in May and June, we will post them on our church website. Please check often - <http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>

### 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/>

### CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS

A Parish of the Western American Diocese of  
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See the schedule of services on the Church  
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<http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>

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We welcome your suggestions on the type of articles you would like to see in the Parish Newsletter. Send your ideas to Ludmilla Bobroff at [Ludmillaa@aol.com](mailto: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 2020**

### BAPTIZED

**FEBRUARY 2020**

Daniel Marutov

**MARCH 2020**

None

### MARRIED

**FEBRUARY 2020**

None

**MARCH 2020**

None

### REPOSED IN THE LORD

**FEBRUARY 2020**

Ekaterina Gura

**MARCH 2020**

None

# SALES DIRECTORY

Please support our advertisers. All proceeds from ad sales go to the Stewardship Fund. If you would like your business card to appear in the next issue of the Newsletter, please contact Dimitry Bobroff at [jbobroff@aol.com](mailto:jbobroff@aol.com). Cost is \$25. Deadline for submitting cards and sending checks (made out to Church of All Russian Saints) is AUGUST 1st.

Thank you to **Eugenia Kolenko** for graciously sponsoring the printing cost of this issue.

## DENTIST



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## ELECTRICIAN

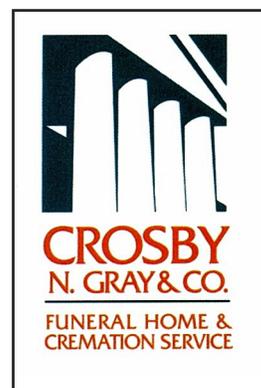


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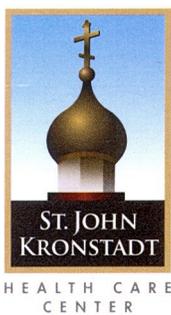
  
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