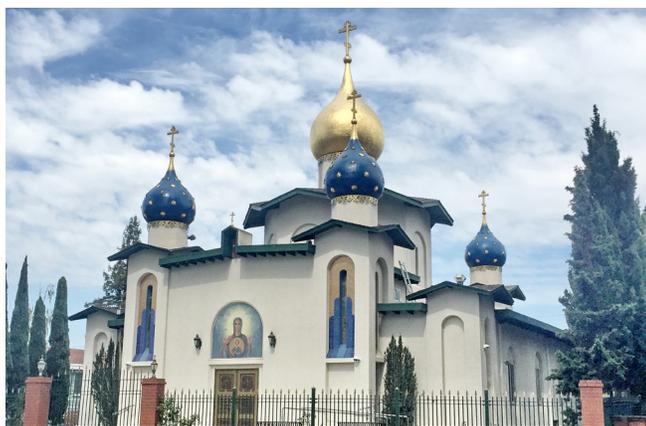


**VOLUME 5 NUMBER 5**  
*November/December 2017*



# CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS NEWSLETTER

Церковь Всѣхъ Святыхъ въ Землѣ Россійской Просѣдвшихъ



## MESSAGE FROM FATHER STEFAN

Our San Francisco Western American Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia is combining a number of anniversary remembrances on the November 6th Feast Day of the Cathedral of the Icon of the Mother of God Joy of All Who Sorrow. The Cathedral is located on Geary Blvd and 26th Avenue in San Francisco.

Along with the Altar Feast of the Cathedral (престольный праздник), the Tenth Anniversary of the reconciliation of the two parts of the one Russian Orthodox Church will be joyously commemorated. In addition, the 25th anniversary of the consecration of our ruling bishop, His Eminence Archbishop KYRILL, will be acknowledged at this time. We congratulate His Eminence and pray for his health and continued success in all his God pleasing endeavors.

That's not all. One hundred years has passed since the re-institution of the Russian Patriarchate, a major event in the history of the Russian Orthodox Church. This event will also be joyously

commemorated. And last but not least, the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution and the Civil War will be somberly commemorated.

Along with the Feast Day Church Services on Sunday evening and Monday morning, there will be lectures and discussions to which the public is invited. A Panihida Requiem service during the evening of November 7th will commemorate the victims of the Communist takeover of Russia.

Metropolitan Hilarion is expected to attend, along with guest bishops and clergy. The Western American Diocese Pastoral Conference is scheduled after the feast day celebrations with some lectures open to the faithful.

Please check the schedule of events on the Diocese and Cathedral websites and try to attend the services and lectures. The Diocese website is: [www.wadiocese.com](http://www.wadiocese.com) The Cathedral website is: [www.sfsobor.com](http://www.sfsobor.com) ■

## THEOLOGICAL QUESTION FOR FATHER STÉFAN

### WHY DO WE LIGHT CANDLES DURING CHURCH SERVICES?

All Orthodox Christians should light a candle at every service they attend. By doing so, they become participants in the service that is about to take place, glorifying, praising and thanking the Lord.

Our Burlingame Church and most parishes use pure beeswax candles because they burn purely as opposed to paraffin candles that tend to emit unhealthy elements into the air. Holy Monastic Saints St. Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem in the 7th century, Blessed Simeon of Thessalonica in the 15th century, and others say candles signify the Light of Christ. According to the Gospel, we should “Let our light so shine before men, that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father which is in heaven!”

The saints also say we should conduct our lives in purity as the candle wax is pure. Our hearts should be as supple as beeswax in order to easily bring God’s teachings into our souls and our lives. The light and warmth of the candle should remind us of the Light of Christ as well as the burning Flames of the Fiery Tongues which descended upon the Apostles at Pentecost. This descent of the Holy Spirit is mentioned in all the Sacraments of the Orthodox Church.

A pious priest once recalled to me that whenever Ever Memorable Metropolitan Laurus visited a new church, he would light the candles himself or had a designated altar server light the candles for him. Metropolitan Laurus suggested that all priests follow his example.

In the Ancient Church, the light of the lamp or candle was brought with special dignity to the

Vespers Service. We witness this symbolic act at the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy when the celebrating Priest brings out the Candle and censor, then proclaims, “THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENLIGHTENS ALL!”



*Candles light up the icon of Wonderworker Saint John of Shanghai and San Francisco*

Lastly, by giving a donation when we acquire our candles, we are supporting our Parish Family and the needs of the Holy Temple. It is an offering to God, giving thanks to Him for answering our prayers, and in the hope our needs will be met through His Divine help. ■

### WHEN SHOULD WE GIVE ALMS? Fr. Stefan Pavlenko

According to the Holy Fathers of our Orthodox Christian Church, we are to respond kindly to anyone who requests alms from us and give according to our means. In other words if someone asks, we should give as much as we can afford. The Holy Fathers say we never know if the person who asks is an angel of God, testing us for our compassion and our generosity. When we don’t give to the truly needy, then it is completely our sin.

What happens if we give to someone who is a fraud, pretending to be a person in need? Then, it’s that person’s sin, not ours. What should we do when we confront a person who is known to be

a member of a criminal group, bilking people by pretending to be in need? We are certainly not obligated to support criminals and their fraudulent schemes.

This brings us to the fact that occasionally people come to our church and ask for help. The usual response is to help in some way as best as we are able. But lately, parishioners have noticed that different women, always with a child, have been standing outside our church gate with a sign, asking for donations. It is suspected that these ladies are part of a larger group who are not what they claim to be.

I advise that parishioners smile at the women but not give them donations with the hope they will get the message and not return. Some of us have even started to provide them with information regarding CALL PRIMROSE, an organization that offers grocery assistance to families and individuals in need. The house with shelves full of donated groceries is located at 139 Primrose Road, Burlingame. It is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Our parish is collecting items to be included in a Holiday Meal Box that CALL PRIMROSE will give to needy families and homeless people. Please see the adjoining article for details. Then do your part and put together a bag or box of requested items and deliver to the Church Hall by November 15. ■

## PLEASE DONATE FOOD TO CALL PRIMROSE



*Father Stefan and Food Drive Chair Alexei Baranoff stand before the many bags and boxes of food that our Church and Russian School donated last year.*

Our local non-profit food bank, named CALL Primrose, is once again collecting bags and boxes of food to help less fortunate families in our community. During the 2016 drive, our church donated 82 bags of food along with \$3,900 in checks. Let's see if we can surpass that total this year.

The food bank announces a few changes to the 2017 Food Drive. Since all Holiday Meal Boxes must have the same food items, it's important to purchase all of the requested food items. The cost will be approximately \$40 if purchased at Safeway. Furthermore, CALL Primrose will not be including a gift card in each bag this year. Instead, it will be providing poultry and other perishable items with the holiday boxes. If you would like to include a gift card, CALL Primrose welcomes the donation and will use it to offset the cost of the extra items. There will be a separate box in the Church Hall to collect these gift cards.

Please fill up your bag or box with the following items:

- 2 15 oz. cans of Canned Yams
- 1 16 oz. bag of Mini Marshmallows
- 2 15.25 oz. cans of Canned Corn
- 2 14.5 oz. cans of Canned Green Beans
- 2 14.5 oz. cans of Canned Fruit
- 1 14 oz. can of Cranberry Sauce
- 1 6 oz. box of Stuffing Mix
- 1 13-14 oz. box of Instant Mashed Potatoes
- 1 12 oz. jar/can of Chicken/Turkey Gravy
- 1 8.5 oz. box of Corn Bread/Muffin Mix
- 1 48 oz. bottle of Vegetable Cooking Oil
- 1 16 oz. box of Pasta
- 1 20 oz. can of Pasta Sauce
- 1 5 oz. box of Chocolate Jello Pudding/Pie Mix
- 1 6 oz. No Bake Graham Cracker Pie Crust
- 1 14 oz. can Condensed Milk

The deadline to bring your boxes and bags of groceries to the Church Hall is **NOVEMBER 15, 2017**. For questions, please contact Alexei Baranoff at [coarstreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:coarstreasurer@gmail.com) or 916-799-0898. ■

## BAPTISED

**AUGUST 2017**

Daniel Banerjee  
Anastasia Kouznetsov  
Tatiana Popov

**SEPTEMBER 2017**

Nikolai Ivanov-Pham  
Michael Minin  
Natalie Potselueff  
Natalia Wasserman

## MARRIED

**AUGUST 2017**

None

**SEPTEMBER 2017**

None

## REPOSED IN THE LORD

**AUGUST 2017**

Alexander Korniyush  
Katrina Kramer

**SEPTEMBER 2017**

Nikolai Kirichenko

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

**THANK YOU TO**

*Jane Orange*

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## FAREWELL FATHER DIMITRI

Ludmilla Bobroff



*After more than two years serving in the Burlingame Church, Father Dimitri and his family have departed for St. Louis, Missouri. Standing in the side room, the family consists of (left to right) son Vassily, grandmother Irina Aleksandrovna, Matushka Larissa, Father Dimitri, and son Yevgraf*

After serving with Father Stefan for slightly more than two years, Father Dimitri Jakimowicz and his family are leaving the West Coast and resettling in St. Louis, Missouri. Father Dimitri has been assigned to be the Executive Director of Chrysostom Press, a small publishing house that translates into English Orthodox classic books and publishes them. Some of the titles are “St. Dimitry of Rostov’s Lives of the Saints” and “Blessed Theophylact’s Explanation of the Gospels.”

In addition, Father Dimitri has been transferred to the Eastern American Diocese of ROCOR and is now under the omophorion of Metropolitan Hilarion. The Metropolitan has attached Father Dimitri to the St. Innocent of Moscow ROCOR Mission in Nashville, Tennessee.

Matushka Larissa and their sons, Yevgraf and Vassily, have already moved to St. Louis. Seventeen-year-old Yevgraf and thirteen-year-old Vassily have been granted full academic merit scholarships at one of the best boys schools in the country. Father Dimitri’s mother, Irina Aleksandrovna, is recovering from a stroke at St. John Kronstadt Health Care Center and will be moved to a nursing home in St. Louis as soon as her health permits.

“I cherish the years I spent with Father Stefan at the Church of All Russian Saints,” says Father Dimitri. “Father Stefan was my Father Confessor when I was assigned to the Holy Virgin Cathedral in San

*continued...*

Francisco. Under his leadership, the Burlingame Church is a real Orthodox parish with a community of people who work well together and accept one another with love. The choir is one of the best in the United States. It is easy to pray when they are singing. Both choir members and those serving in the altar show a great deal of love for the services.”

“What I will miss greatly is praying weekly in Saint John’s cell at Tikhon Zadonsk Church in San Francisco,” he adds

Father Dimitri comes from a long line of priests that go back 200 years. His grandfather, Mitred Protopriest Yevgraf, was the dean of the Voliynskaya Region under the omophorion of Archbishop Anthony Khrapovitsky, who at that time, served in Kiev and Galicia. Two of his uncles were also priests, one being a Cossack priest.

Father Dimitri and his brother, Michael, grew up in New York City. Their father was a researcher in cardiology while their mother taught Russian at Columbia University for 35 years. The family were regular parishioners at the St. Seraphim Church on 108th Street in New York City. As a boy, little Dimitri served in the altar and was carefully taught by Father Alexander Kiselev and Father Platon Zakidaisky. Then, as a teenager in the late 1970s and 80s, he would drive his parents and Antonia Koulis to churches all over the East Coast so parishioners could venerate the icon “Strastnaya – the Weeping Icon of the Mother of God” which Antonia owned.

When Dimitri grew up, he worked for more than 20 years as a recording engineer and a music producer. Then for nine years, he ran his own production company. After a visit of the Kursk Root icon and a long conversation with a spiritual father, Dimitri realized it was time to dedicate his time and his life to God. His wife, Laura Pritchett, daughter of New York television and stage actors, was supportive.

Father Dimitri was ordained to the diaconate in 1999 at the Saint Nicholas Cathedral in Seattle, Washington by His Eminence Kyrill, at that time, Vicar Bishop of Seattle. Father Dimitri was invited to come to the Holy Virgin Cathedral in San Francisco where he sang on the cliros, served as a deacon and protodeacon, and traveled with Bishop Kyrill. In 2011, His Eminence Kyrill, now Archbishop of San Francisco and Western America, ordained Protodeacon Dimitri to the Holy Priesthood and assigned him to St. Herman’s Parish in Sunnyvale, California. Laura Pritchett became Matushka Larissa.

Despite living in the Midwest, Father Dimitri still plans to continue sending weekly emails to interested believers about the Orthodox Church and forwarding texts of Vespers and Divine Liturgies both in English and in Slavonic written in Russian letters. He welcomes new readers. To get on his mailing list, send an email to [Frdimitrij@gmail.com](mailto:Frdimitrij@gmail.com) ■

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

V. Rev. Mitred Archpriest Stefan Pavlenko, <b>Rector</b> (650) 430-9805	Andrei Roudenko <b>Choir Director</b> (650) 922-0250
Ivan Afanasiev, <b>Starosta</b> (650) 589-7617	Andrei Alexeeff (650) 787-2145
Alexei Baranoff, <b>Treasurer</b> (916) 799-0898	Dimitry Bobroff (408) 257-6918
Yura Misersky, <b>Secretary</b> (650) 579-2667	Oleg Bolshakoff (415) 759-8582
Matushka Tatiana Pavlenko, <b>Head Sister</b> (650) 430-9806	Alexander Loboda (650) 654-5447
	Andrei Maximow (650) 954-0764
	Marina Roudenko (650) 483-3412

# CHOIR NEWS - BETHANY COMMUNITY IN THE HOLY LAND

ANDREI ROUDENKO



During our recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land, members of our parish visited the Bethany Community of the Resurrection of Christ, where a boarding school for girls, (the Orthodox School of Bethany), was opened on Lazarus Saturday, 1937. The Community and School are under the protection of the Orthodox Monastery of St. Mary Magdalene, located in the Garden of Gethsemane. Bethany, where His friend Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary, lived was a place very dear to Christ. It was in Bethany that Jesus accomplished one of His greatest miracles, the resurrection of Lazarus, who had been dead for four days. This miracle is commemorated on Friday/Saturday of the last week of Great Lent.

The Orthodox School of Bethany is located in poverty-stricken “Area B” of the West Bank, where “law and order” is under exclusive administration of Fatah (formerly PLO) Palestinian Authority. Security, electricity and water are in limited supply; hostilities between rival Fatah clans, as well as ever-present animosity toward their Israeli neighbors, make this a perilous place to live in general, and an even more challenging place to operate a school for girls!



We saw with our own eyes that the school – students and staff – literally survive on prayers and donations. In His great mercy, the Lord, with generous support of many individuals, have enabled steady growth in enrollment, now up to 478 girls ranging in age from 4 to 17, many of whom have been rescued from horrible abusive conditions. They now pursue studies in Arabic and English languages, mathematics and natural sciences. Additionally, all students are required to study the Russian language starting in the

3rd grade. For further information on the School, visit [www.bethany-community.org](http://www.bethany-community.org)

One couldn't help but be moved by the heroic efforts of the School staff and be sympathetic to their plea for assistance. Currently, their most critical needs are a 9-passenger van in which to transport girls to medical and other facilities, and the repair of a roof that leaks badly, flooding the dormitory and classrooms. (Yes, there are torrential rains in winter in this part of the world!) *continued...*



Our choir is launching a program to help the School; we invite you to participate. During each even-numbered month, e.g., February, April, June, and so on, we will hold a donation drive. At the end of that month, we will send whatever funds are collected to the School. We intend to implement this via the Fund for Assistance to the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia (FFA), which has a reliable way of ensuring that all funds actually reach the School. Our objective is to provide on-going assistance.

How can you help? During our donation drives, write a check to the Church of All Russian Saints; indicate “Bethany School” in the memo section. (Depending on your individual situation, your donation may be tax-deductible.) If a cash donation is more convenient, that will also work; just specify that it’s for the Bethany School. Your check or cash may be given to Marina or Andrei Roudenko (choir), or to Alyosha Baranoff (Parish Treasurer). Your contributions will be deposited in a separate account from which the end-of-month transfer to FFA will be made, earmarked for the School. Your prayers and material support will unquestionably be greatly appreciated by the students and School staff. ■

## CHILDREN’S NUTCRACKER PERFORMANCES

Nina Baratova-Amato, niece of parishioner Marina Plissak and daughter of Nina Baratoff of Sacramento, is presenting the annual Nutcracker ballet, danced by her students from the Classical Ballet of California in Pacifica. Founder and director of the dance company since 1997, Nina teaches 150 students between the ages of three and adult. For this annual Nutcracker ballet, over 170 dancers will perform including volunteer members from the Russian community.

Many parishioners from the Burlingame Church take their children and grandchildren annually to the holiday extravaganza. This year, the Nutcracker performance will take place at Terra Nova High School Theater in Pacifica on December 16th and 17th at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20, \$15 and \$12 and may be purchased by calling 650-759-6438, or online at [www.classicalballetca.com](http://www.classicalballetca.com)

Nina’s husband, Greg Amato, formerly the Co-Director of the Classical Ballet of California, has recently been named the Artistic Director of Peninsula Ballet Theatre in San Mateo. His company will be producing their own Nutcracker at the Fox Theater in Redwood City also on December 16th and 17th. For more information, go to their website at [www.peninsulaballet.org/nutcracker](http://www.peninsulaballet.org/nutcracker)

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER + DECEMBER

**November 5** – Sisterhood Lunch

**November 6** (Monday) – Trapeza at the Holy Virgin Cathedral in honor of Archbishop Kyrill’s 25th anniversary of his consecration to the Episcopate. The Burlingame Sisterhood will be serving the head table.

**November 16** – Sisterhood Lunch

**December 3** – Sisterhood Lunch serving fish kotleti

**December 10** – Gingerbread Faire for Children

**Pelmeni-Making Sessions**

None in November

December 19

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

# CELEBRATING FR. SERGEI'S SAINT'S DAY



*Protodeacon Sergei serves Divine Liturgy with Father Stefan on the Feast Day of Saint Sergius of Radonezh.*



*Father Stefan sings "Many Years" louder than all the attendees.*



*Father Sergei is genuinely touched by the number of Sisters who co-hosted the lunch.*



*Father Sergei enjoys his lunch with Father Stefan and Xenia Maximov.*

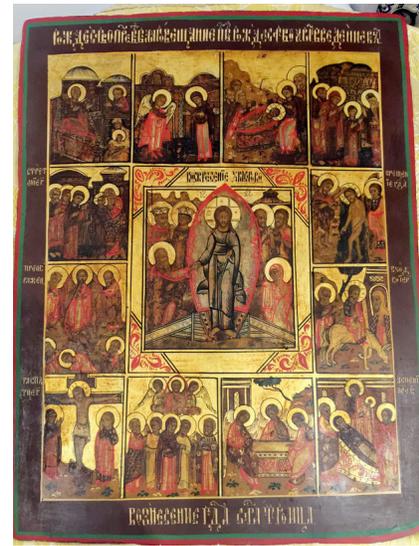


*The Church Hall was filled with well-wishers for Father Sergei's Namesday.*

# THANK YOU LUNCH



*Father Stefan and Matushka Tatiana host a lunch, thanking parishioners for subsidizing the cost of their Pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Bishop Nikolai of Manhattan.*



*In gratitude for the trip, Father Stefan and Matushka Tatianna present the Holy Resurrection Icon with 12 Major Feasts to the Parish.*

# CHOIR CONCERT



*On October 29, the Burlingame Church Choir, under the direction of Andrei Roudenko, presented a Concert of Sacred Works, dedicated to the memory of reposed choir member, Konstantin Senchukov.*



*Attending the concert were Father Dimitri, Father Stefan, parishioners, and family members of K. Senchukov.*



*The Sacred Works were composed by various composers, including Bortniansky, Rachmaninoff, and Tchaikovsky.*



*The 32 member choir sang a total of 14 hymns, many with familiar melodies.*

# CHOIR CONCERT RECEPTION



*Helena Iceman, daughter of the reposed Konstantin Senchukov, attended the concert with her husband, Paul. She was touched that her father was memorialized so lovingly.*



*Congratulating Andrei Roudenko with an outstanding concert are Walter Stamirowski, left, and Vova Krassovsky, choir director of the Holy Virgin Cathedral. Walter Stamirowski occasionally leads the Burlingame Church Choir when Andrei Roudenko is out of town.*



*With the help of the Sisterhood, parents from the Parish Russian School hosted the reception after the concert.*

## 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/>

## DENTIST

# SALES DIRECTORY

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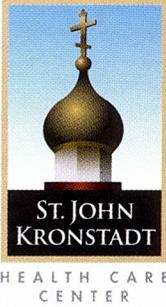
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See the schedule of services on the Church website:

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

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We welcome your suggestions on the type of articles you would like to see in the Parish Newsletter. Send your ideas to Ludmilla Bobroff at [Ludmillaa@aol.com](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 - JANUARY 2018**