I have mentioned this before but feel it is important for Orthodox Christians to be knowledgeable about the rubrics, or set of rules, of the Orthodox Church Services.

Our Church Services proceed on what could be called cycles. There is a Daily Cycle, a Weekly Cycle and a Yearly Cycle. The Yearly Cycle is actually a combination of Daily Remembrances on specific days interspersed with holy days which fall on movable dates according to the date of Easter/Pascha.

Let’s start with the Daily Cycle. It has nine major services which start in the evening and proceed through the night and into the day. The cycle begins with the Ninth Hour (3 p.m.), then Vespers, Compline (Povecheriye), Midnight Office, Matins, First Hour, Third Hour, Sixth Hour, and concludes with the Divine Liturgy.

Additional services are celebrated on particular days, such as on Great Compline (Velikoe Povecheriye), on Christmas, Epiphany and during Great Lent. For convenience, parishes combine Vespers, Matins and First Hour for the evening service and Third Hour, Sixth Hour, and Divine Liturgy in the mornings. Other services of the Daily Cycle are served during Great Lent or only in Monastic Communities.

The Weekly Cycle has a specific remembrance for each day of the week. Sunday the First Day is called the “Day of The Lord”. In most Orthodox Languages, it is also known as the Day of the Resurrection (in Russian: Voskreseniye). Monday is dedicated to the Holy Bodyless Powers of the Angelic Hosts. Tuesdays honor Saint John, the Holy Forerunner, Friend, Relative and Baptizer of the Lord. On Wednesdays, the Orthodox Church remembers the betrayal of Christ by Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve Apostles. That day is usually a fasting day.

On Thursdays, the church commemorates the Holy Apostles and Saint Nicholas. Besides Saint John the Baptist, Saint Nicholas is the only individual Saint remembered in the Weekly Cycle. On Fridays, the Church remembers the suffering of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as well as His death on the Cross. This, too, is almost always a Fasting Day.

Saturday services commemorate all the Saints and especially the Holy Theotokos who has special prayers dedicated to her every single
day. On this day, the dead are also singled out for special commemoration. Saturday is called the Sabbath (Subotta) in most Orthodox Languages and is the Day of Rest. Because of this, Friday evening through Sunday evening services take on a more festive nature. During the Lenten Season, fasting is almost always lighter during Saturdays and Sundays. Sunday is both the First Day of the Week and the mystical “Eighth Day”, the pre-image of the Eternal Kingdom of God.

The Weekly Cycle also observes a collection of services revolving around Eight Tones. This means eight sets of melodies are assigned to different parts of the services. Starting on the first Sunday after Pentecost, the First Tone is sung for the week, followed by the Second Tone during the second week, and so on. After the Eighth week, the tones repeat and continue to do so throughout the year.

We will save a description of the Yearly Cycles for a future time.

THEOLOGICAL QUESTION FOR FATHER STEFAN

SHOULD WE PERSONALLY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF NON-BELIEVERS?

In the fabric of the Orthodox Church Services is a constant prayer for the whole world, especially for the country and the city in which Orthodox Faithful reside and for members of its Government. This is based on the Biblical call for the People of God to pray for those in authority. In 1 Timothy 2:1, Apostle Paul admonishes, “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.”

From this is understood that we can and should pray for everyone, Orthodox Christians or not. Those in authority during the time of Apostle Paul were Pagans. However, the Orthodox Church reserves the Liturgical Commemoration strictly for Orthodox Christians. The Liturgical Commemoration is when particles are taken from the commemorative breads for the living and for the dead, then immersed into the Precious Blood in the Chalice at the end of the Divine Liturgy. Other prayers and commemorations may include non-Orthodox and unbaptized individuals.

Holy Hierarch and Luminary Saint John of Shanghai and San Francisco told the Faithful who were concerned about their reposed non-Orthodox relatives and friends to take note of the Commemorative Requiem Vigils that were appointed by the Orthodox Church, especially the Sabbath Saturday before the Feast of the Holy Pentecost and the Bended Knee Prayers at Vespers. On that day, the Orthodox Church prays for all the dead.

Of course, during our private prayers we can and should pray for non-Orthodox Christian relatives and friends. Our Lord Jesus Christ says to pray for one another. He also reminds us that “He is the God of the Living not the dead.” Mark 12:27.

Currently a Celebration of Life wake has become popular in the United States regardless of whether the deceased had a religious burial service or not. Our Orthodox Burial Service and Pominki (Remembrance Meal) are in a very significant way a Celebration of Life for the Orthodox Church emphasizes the fact that life does not end with physical death but continues on to eternity. Sharing a meal is something Christians did together from Apostolic Times and is an expression of love and a means to share the Lord’s bounties with those who may be in need. When someone suffers the loss of a relative and loved one, it is proper to give them support and fellowship during the grieving period.

How our Pominki differs from the currently popular Celebration of Life is that the modern wake ignores the passing of the deceased from one existence to another. The modern wake attempts to point out the “happy times” without facing the spiritual reality of our responsibilities before God and each other for an examined and God-pleasing life.
Earlier this year, we learned that Konstantin Konstantinovich Senchukov, also known as Conny Sench and affectionately called Дядя Костя (Uncle Kostya) by members of his choir family, reposed in the Lord on June 19, 2017, less than a week shy of his 94th birthday. A multifaceted person, known, loved and respected throughout the Russian community, he left a legacy of commitment and dedication to our parish and choir, serving as an example to young and old on what it means to be a team player.

Дядя Костя was “old school” in his approach to church choir singing – always striving to do his best, rarely missing a choir rehearsal, a regular contributor to our Всенощная (Vigil) services and always among the first to be in place, enthusiastically awaiting the first Аминь (Amen) of a Sunday and weekday Liturgy. He had an inspirational twinkle in his eye that would shine brightly when we sang a particularly prayerful arrangement, when choir members gathered for rehearsals and services. Дядя Костя had a special place in his heart for young singers, expressing both joy and gratitude for their maintaining the choral tradition that was such an important part of his life. Despite graduating to sing in the choir of Angels in Heaven, Дядя Костя’s presence continues to be felt at rehearsals and services, and likely always will be felt.

Our choir’s upcoming concert on Sunday, October 29, 2017, will be dedicated to Дядя Костя’s memory, and will feature both legacy works and several selections that have never been sung before in Burlingame or even our Diocese. Дядя Костя loved the traditional legacy arrangements that he sang throughout seven-plus decades of his life, but even at his advanced age, with youthful exuberance, he loved to sing new works, saying (with a wink!) “teaching an old dog new tricks!” Our program seeks to reflect his love for new and old, and praising the Lord in song.
If you glance into the Church Hall on a Sunday morning, chances are you’ll see Luba Gauschieldt spreading tablecloths, preparing coffee, or helping the kitchen crew with last minute details. It’s also highly probable that Luba had already worked four hours the night before, doing prep work for the Sunday luncheon.

This dedicated parishioner is one of 25 women who helps Head Sister Matushka Tatiana Pavlenko prepare, serve, and clean up after fundraisers which are held in the Church Hall approximately twice a month. Ten of those 25 women are very active, volunteering for almost every meal, while the rest help out on major feast days or when special dishes need to be prepared in advance.

“I don’t consider myself much of a cook,” admits Luba. “Matushka Tatiana is the one who creates most of the menus and we follow her instructions. However, when the ladies make suggestions, she goes along with our ideas. The group is very cohesive. We get along well with one another.”

Besides preparing food, Luba is also the treasurer of the Sisterhood, organizes the once-a-month pelmeni-making sessions, and is the go-to person for information and advice on hosting a Coffee Hour. She became active in the Sisterhood in 1988 when she, husband Vladimir, and their daughter Elena, moved to Belmont from San Francisco. After she retired from her job in 2001 and Vladimir reposed in 2006, Luba started dedicating all of her free time to the Church. Some years, there would be plenty of help, she says. Other years, not so much. The highest number of ladies active in the Sisterhood that she can recall was 41. That happened in the early 2000s.

Luba’s love for the Church of All Russian Saints, however, extends beyond the kitchen. She was born in Harbin, China to Gleb Ivanovich and Valentina Ivanovna Guliaev. Her grandparents from both sides of the family were from Perm, Russia. Luba’s grandfather, Father Ivan Guliaev was a priest in Perm during the Russian Revolution. Worried about the fate of his wife and their three sons, Father Ivan moved his family to China and settled in Harbin. Luba’s grandparents from her mother’s side arrived at the same time.

Life in Harbin was pleasant with thousands of Russian immigrants populating the city. After their son Gleb Ivanovich grew up, he married Valentina Ivanovna. They had two children, first Luba, then three years later, Nikolai. Soon after the wedding, Gleb Ivanovich became a deacon and served the Russian Orthodox Church his entire life. Luba credits her parents and both sets of grandparents for giving her a deep love for the Church.

Then in 1944-45, the tide turned and the Soviet army marched into Harbin. With old fears returning in full force, the three-generation Suslov-Guliaev family moved to Australia even though Luba’s grand uncle, who immigrated to the United States in 1922, kept writing about his wonderful life in America.
In Australia, Father Deacon Gleb served at the Cabramatta Church with Father Rostislav Gan. Life became wonderful again. The family lived there for eight years. Luba grew up and had a serious boyfriend. Nevertheless, the grand uncle in America kept insisting they come to California.

Finally, Luba’s grandfather from her mother’s side, Ivan Suslov, became convinced his brother was right. A better life was waiting for them in America! After visas were granted, the plan was for twenty-one year old Luba and her parents to go to America in September while the grandparents and brother Nikolai would follow in October. The first part of the plan was fulfilled. Luba and her parents arrived in San Francisco in September 1965. But then tragedy struck. Ivan Suzlov, who wanted to immigrate more than anyone else, suffered a fatal stroke in Australia before their departure. With great sadness, the grandmother and Nikolai left without him for their new homeland.

In San Francisco, Father Deacon Gleb met with Father Nikolai Kolchev and served with him at the Church of Our Lady of Kazan. After a few years, Archbishop Anthony (Medvedev) of San Francisco elevated Father Deacon to protodeacon and presented him with a kamilavka (headwear awarded to clergy).

Meanwhile, young Luba was getting acquainted with the large Russian-speaking community in San Francisco. She attended a Christmas party at the home of Tania Medovshikova (now Ionoff). Also in attendance was her future husband, Vladimir Gaushieldt. Luba was impressed not only with their similar family histories but with the fact that he was as smitten with the music of Elvis Presley as she was!

The couple married in 1967 at the Holy Virgin Cathedral with Father John Shachneff officiating. A few years later, daughter Elena was born. For most of his life, Vladimir worked for PG&E while Luba was a loan officer first for the Russian American Credit Union, then the Chronicle Credit Union.

Meanwhile, daughter Lena was growing up, attending Presentation High School plus going three times a week to Saints Cyril and Methodius High School at the Holy Virgin Cathedral. Lena was one of the few graduates who completed an 11th year of schooling just to please Archbishop Anthony.

The teenager went on to receive her bachelor’s degree from San Francisco State University while working part-time at Wells Fargo Bank. She enjoyed her job so much that after graduation, she decided to remain at the bank. Now, 25 years later, she is the Service Manager at the Menlo Park Branch of Wells Fargo.

Like her mother, Lena enjoys traveling, cooking, music, and photography. Lena’s photographs appear frequently in our Newsletter. Also like her mother, she enjoys working with the Sisterhood and the Parish Council, having been a member of the Church Audit Committee for three years.

“I’m happy to see the next generation of ladies filling the ranks of the Sisterhood now,” says Luba. “Regardless of our ages and how long we have lived in the U.S., we all receive a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction working for the benefit of our Church.”
School bells are ringing once again for the start of the 65th year of the Parish Russian School at the Church of All Russian Saints. Both the school and the church came into existence simultaneously in 1952. Enrollment for classes starts on Tuesday, September 12 at 4:30 p.m. in the Church Hall. Children between the ages of four and sixteen are welcome to attend. Following registration, classes will start that afternoon and be held every Tuesday from 4:30 to 7:20 p.m. School fees are $90 per month for one child and $135 for two children or more.

The Parish Russian School with 13 grades, including two Kindergarten classes, three Elementary School classes, and eight High School classes, has approximately 40 students and ten teachers. While the majority of classes are taught exclusively in Russian, several are taught bilingually in both Russian and English for students who are not fluent in the Russian language.

All students who complete 13 years of schooling graduate with knowledge of the Russian language, literature, history, and Orthodoxy. Except for Saints Cyril & Methodius High School at the Holy Virgin Cathedral in San Francisco, the Burlingame Parish Russian School is the only language school in the San Francisco Bay Area that teaches Russian Orthodoxy.

Because our school is geared toward Russian-speaking Orthodox children, we encourage them to attend church services as often as possible. Classes begin and end with prayers. After registration on September 12, Father Stefan will serve a Moleben, praying for a productive school year. The school encourages students, parents and teachers to take confession and communion together for Nativity and Pascha/Easter.

As students’ comfort level grows, boys often become altar servers, girls start singing in the choir, and parents start volunteering at school events as well as church luncheons and receptions. Becoming active is especially helpful to recent immigrants since it provides an introduction into the Russian-American Orthodox community. The Russian School even offers instructions to adults on the Russian language, literature, history and Russian Orthodoxy upon request.

Besides weekly classroom instruction, the Russian School holds a Yolka Christmas party in celebration of the Nativity. In 2018, Yolka will be held on Sunday, January 14 after Divine Liturgy in the Church Hall.

“Akt” (graduation) will be held at the end of May, marking the completion of the school year and honoring students who have excelled.

In addition, school children from our Parish Russian School assist elderly visitors from nursing homes when they attend services during Bright Week held after Pascha/Easter. Our children also perform in early May at the Russian Center during the Day of the Russian Child and collect donations for needy Russian children. In summer, many sign up for a two week camp sponsored by Saint George Pathfinders, a Russian Scouts organization for boys and girls.

We hope to welcome your child to our Parish Russian School this year. For more information, click on http://www.dorogadomoj.com/g17kal.html.
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/

THANK YOU TO
Ludmila and Boris Doktorov
FOR GRACIOUSLY SPONSORING THE PRINTING COST OF THIS ISSUE IN MEMORY OF THEIR SON, ALEXANDER, AND LUDMILA’S MOTHER, VALENTINA.

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

BAPTISED

APRIL 2017
Alexandra DeVincenzi
Valerie Frolov
Cornelius Hootman
Michael Shikin

MAY 2017
Ivanna Grytsina
Angelina Gusev
Emilia Gusev
Ioann Gusev
Mathew Marutov
Victoria Hsu

JUNE 2017
Constantine
Alekseyenko
Taisia Atroschenko
Michaela Bazinet
Ioan Pascua

JULY 2017
Michael Bazinet
Ludmila Gattenberger
Alexandra Gurau
Veronika Laziuk
Mathew Lyzlov
Izaiah Chetner- Oliverdia

MARRIED

APRIL 2017
None

MAY 2017
Marina Wiant and
Cornelius Hootman

JUNE 2017
None

JULY 2017
None

REPOSED IN THE LORD

APRIL 2017
George Rajeff

MAY 2017
Olga Bondar
Tatiana Granizo

JUNE 2017
Irina Savostin-Asling
Konstantine Senchukoff
Elisey Sokolik

JULY 2017
Irene Barrese

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Published with the blessing of His Eminence Kyrill, Archbishop of San Francisco and Western America, Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia.
Along with Archbishop Kyrill, Father Stefan, Archpriest Peter Perekrestov, Protodeacon Peter Karakozov, and Father Dimitrij Jakimowicz serve Divine Liturgy in celebration of the Feast of All Russian Saints.

On the main table are the decorative bread baked by Matushka Tatiana Pavlenko and her embroidered cloth which reads “Eis Polla Eti Despot.” This is an acclamation for God to preserve the health of the hierarch for many years.

Father Stefan celebrates his birthday by blowing out the candles on the cake baked by Matushka Tatiana.

Almost all parishioners, choir members, altar servers and clergy circle the Church during the procession.

Parishioners present a gigantic signed card to Father Stefan, plus a check to cover the cost of the pilgrimage to the Holy Land for both Father Stefan and Matushka Tatiana.
SUMMERTIME EVENTS

In Memory of Annushka Markevich

Xenia Drobot, center in the blue dress, flew from Jordanville, New York to host a Coffee Hour in commemoration of the one year anniversary of her dear friend, Annushka Markevich. Among the guests present at the luncheon are, left to right, Deborah Lorenz, Vera Williams, widower Nicolai Markevich, Xenia Drobot, Alena Rucci, and son Andrei Markevich. Father Stefan is seated. Donations were sent to Jerusalem.

In Memory of Ira Shegoleff

The Ira Shegoleff family hosts a Coffee Hour in commemoration of the one year anniversary of the repose of their beloved mother, wife and grandmother. Honoring her memory are, back row left to right, nephew-in-law Greg Larson, niece and goddaughter Olga Stotzky, niece and goddaughter Anna Stotzky, son-in-law John Ferarri, daughter Natalie Ferarri, son-in-law Brian Crossfield, grandson-in-law Peter Tachis, and granddaughter Larissa Tachis. Front row, left to right, are husband Alex Shegoleff, Father Stefan, daughter Vera Crossfield, and great granddaughter Adalyn Tachis, sitting on grandmother’s lap.

Long-time friends of Aggie Miroshnichenko attend her memorial Coffee Hour hosted by her husband, Alexander Nikolaevich Miroshnichenko. Aggie reposed in 2005. Standing in the back row are Ludmilla Bobroff, Father Dimitri Jakimowicz, A.N. Miroshnichenko and Dmitri Bobroff. In the front row are Nikolai Koretsky, Aleksei Baranoff and Tania Baranoff.

With the help of the Sisterhood, Father Stefan surprises Matushka with a 46th wedding anniversary celebration. Matushka shows off the anniversary cake to her grandchildren, Stefanchik and Melania Maximow, while Father Stefan, Sonia Shoomiloff and Father Deacon Sergei look on.
UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER + OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER 10
Luncheon hosted by Father Stefan and Matushka Tatiana to thank parishioners for generously picking up the cost of their Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

SEPTEMBER 12
Registration and Beginning of Classes for the Parish Russian School.

SEPTEMBER 17
Luncheon.

OCTOBER 8
Luncheon celebrating Father Sergei’s Namesday.

OCTOBER 29
Luncheon.

OCTOBER 29
Choir Concert in memory of Konstantin Konstantinovich Senchukov.

COFFEE HOURS
If you would like to host a coffee hour, please sign up on the blackboard in the Church Hall.

PELMI-MAKING SESSIONS
September 28 and October 26
If you can help, come to the Church Hall anytime between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Call Luba Gauschiedt for more information.

MORE SUMMER EVENTS

During the Bethlehem Breakfast held after Divine Liturgy on August 20, Father Stefan, Marina and Andrei Roudenko, and Vladimir Baranoff answer questions about their recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land. More information on the pilgrimage will be presented at the September 10 Coffee Hour and in the November/December Newsletter.

Parishioners bring baskets of fruit to Church in celebration of the Feast of the Transfiguration.

Father Stefan serves Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Transfiguration, wearing a new epitrachelion purchased by Matushka Tatiana in the Holy Land.

Father Stefan blesses every basket of fruit with holy water.
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. Cost is $25. Deadline for submitting cards and sending checks (made out to Church of All Russian Saints) is October 1st.
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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 or telephone (408) 257-6918. Please write Parish Newsletter in the Subject Line. Deadline is one month prior to publication.
Next Newsletter - NOVEMBER 2017