

DECEMBER 3, 2023

BULLETIN – 26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ChurchOffice@ssppaoc.org ♦ (831) 336-2228 ♦ Office hours: 9 am–1 pm, Mon.–Thurs.

Father's office hours: 9 am–3 pm, Mon.–Thurs. or by appt. ♦ (805) 708-6066 ♦ frchristopherdillon@gmail.com

Bulletin Submissions Deadline – 10 am Wed. ♦ church website: <https://ssppaoc.org>

Ss Peter & Paul Mission: preserve, practice, and proclaim the Gospel of our Lord, God, & Savior Jesus Christ in order to glorify God in the parish and wider community.

This Week @ Ss. Peter & Paul–December 4-10, 2023

12/4 Mon 6:30 pm – Adult Choir rehearsal
12/5 Tues 7:00 am – Readers Orthros
12/6 Wed 6:00 pm – Vespers
12/7 Thu 6:00 am – Men's Reading Group
12/9 Sat 8:00 am – Men's Breakfast & Workday
6:00 pm – Great Vespers & Compline
12/10 Sun 8:20 am – Orthros
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy – 27th Sunday after Pentecost
10:20 am – Church School
Adult Choir rehearsal

Looking ahead—

December 12 Morning Divine Lit., Peter the Aleut
St. Lucia Bread Baking
Great Vespers w/St. Lucia procession
December 17 Adult Choir Rehearsal
December 20 Morning Divine Lit., St. Ignatius
Parish Council
December 22 Royal Hours w/Typica
December 24 10:00 pm Festal Orthros & Divine Liturgy for Nativity
December 25 Nativity
December 27 Morning Divine Lit., St. Stephen
Paraklesis
December 31 Youth Choir practice
Community Dinner

CAMPUS INSPECTION TOUR TODAY

Amy and Faith Swagerty will lead a tour of the church grounds during coffee hour. Please take the tour so you can help decide on what improvements need to be made on the church property. Fr. Christopher will email a survey for you to fill out. Thank you for your participation.

Many Years – Birthday	
Nicole Hofschneider	December 4
Many Years – Anniversary	
John & Jan Ivancovich	December 3
Ric & Eunkyung Otte	December 7

ST. NICHOLAS FEAST IN SAN FRANCISCO & NATIVITY MUSICAL CELEBRATION

St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church at 5200 Diamond Heights Blvd. in San Francisco invites us to celebrate their feast day with them and enjoy a Nativity Carol from the Sons of Antioch choir.

- * Dec. 6, 10:00 am - Orthros
- * Dec. 6, 11:00 am - Divine Liturgy followed by agape meal
- * Dec. 8, 6:00 pm - Nativity Carol music presentation by the Sons of Antioch choir

St. Nicholas Celebration
*Carol Singing * St. Nicholas Story*
*St. Nicholas visit * Light refreshments*
5:30 pm in the barn – Tonight

GOOD WORKS FOR THE NATIVITY SEASON

- ** IOCC-donations of money
- ** Valley Churches United Missions Canned Food Drive-donations of food
- ** FFHP Alms Boxes-donations of spare change
- ** Saints Peter & Paul-donations for flowers, icons, candles, Building Fund

BIG SUR SUMMER CAMPING REGISTRATION

Registration for the church Big Sur camping trip is approaching! This year's trip will be June 17-21, 2024, which means you need to **reserve camping spots on December 18**. Contact Kh. Claire for any questions about registration.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to attend the breakfast on Saturday, December 9 at 8:00 am followed by a two-hour workday on church grounds. There will be fake sausage, real oatmeal, fellowship, and work!

ADVENT RETREAT AT PROPHET ELIAS

Prophet Elias Greek Orthodox Church in Santa Cruz at 223 Church Street will have an Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 9 led by Archpriest John Takahashi, Emeritus Dean of Holy Trinity Cathedral in San Francisco (O.C.A.). The subject is "Discover the Genesis of Our Life." Register at 9:30 am, first lecture and discussion at 10:00 am, lunch at 12:00 pm, second lecture and discussion at 1:00 pm, closing prayer at 3:00 pm. Suggested donation of \$20. Seating is limited. **RSVP by Monday, December 4 to (831) 429-6500.**

BULLETIN BOARD POSTS

Be sure to check the bulletin board in the parish hall for news from our parish as well as the greater Orthodox world. And remember to check with the Church Office before posting anything to the bulletin board.

CALENDAR ITEMS

If you have anything you would like to put on the church calendar, including Trisagion prayers, contact Dn. Anthony at frdnranthony@gmail.com.

NATIVITY FAST

The Nativity Fast is divided into two periods. The first period is November 15–December 19 when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed with katalysis (allowance) for wine and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and for fish, wine and oil on Saturdays and Sundays. The second period is December 20–24 when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed with katalysis for wine and oil only on Saturday and Sunday.

LOST & FOUND

If you have misplaced something on the church grounds, look in the box below the church mailboxes in the parish hall. If the item is small, like sunglasses, check with the church office. Pick up soon or it will be gone.

TRAVELING MERCIES & ANNOINTING WITH OIL

If you plan to travel or are ill, please request a blessing or anointing with oil before travel and at the beginning of your illness.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Please contact the church office with the names of the sick and hospitalized of the parish so they may receive pastoral care.

SINGING & READING TOGETHER

In our congregational singing and recitation of prayers, please follow those who bear the responsibility of leading the sacred music and prayers, not creating an echo, speeding up, or lagging behind.

Reflections on the Morning Prayer of St. Philaret of Moscow

"O Lord, grant me to meet the coming day in peace. Help me in all things to rely upon Your holy will. In every hour of the day, reveal Your will to me. Bless my dealings with all who surround me. Teach me to treat all that comes to me throughout the day with peace of soul and with firm conviction that Your will governs all. In all my deeds and words, guide my thoughts and feelings. In unforeseen events, let me not forget that all are sent by You. Teach me to act firmly and wisely, without embittering and embarrassing others. Give me strength to bear the fatigue of the coming day with all that it shall bring. **Direct my will, teach me to pray, pray You Yourself in me. Amen.**"

In humility we acknowledge that neither our will or even our words are perfect. So we ask God, align my will with yours, bless me, and set me aright. St. Paul instructs us regarding prayer, Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words." (Rom. 8:6) We are given the prayers of the church as an example and template. The saints have prayed these words in this way for centuries guided by the Holy Spirit and have produced holy fruit. So when we enter into the prayers and services of the Church, our hearts are guided and instructed in holiness to bear fruit with the Saints.