

Announcements

- **Welcome Guests and Visitors.** Please join us for lunch today.
- **Adopt-a-Family.** This December, we are fundraising to purchase new holy icons and prayer books for the four families, parishioners of our mission in Chico, who lost their homes and possessions in the Camp Fire. There will be a basket today at the conclusion of the liturgy for your gift. After the fellowship meal, we will prepare these gifts. For questions about this charitable work, please speak with Matushka Sophia.
- **Nativity Flowers and Decorating.** On Sunday, December 23, join us after the fellowship meal for carols, cider, and flower decorating. Let's trim the church! All ages welcome!
- **Let us go to meet Him!** The divine services leading up to and including the Nativity of Christ and the Theophany are true gifts to and for us. Please open your heart to these gifts and experience them. If you have any questions about how to “keep” this holy time, please talk with Fr. Kirill.

The Nativity of Christ 2018

Wed. Dec 19: 6:00 pm Vespers for the Pre-Feast of Nativity.

Sat. Dec 22: 6:00 pm Vigil & Confessions.

Sun. Dec 23: 10:00 am Divine Liturgy followed by fellowship meal, Nativity flowers and decorating (see above).

6:00 pm Royal Hours for the Nativity of Christ.
Parking available Sunday at St. Brigid's.

Mon. Dec 24: 10:00 am Christmas Eve Vesperal Divine Liturgy.
6:00 pm Festal Vigil.

Tue. Dec 25: The Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
10:00 am Festal Divine Liturgy.

See the monthly calendar at holy-trinity.org for the full schedule.

Contact Fr. Kirill

Have a question or would like to chat?
FrKirill@holy-trinity.org • 415-673-8565

Holy Trinity Cathedral



Sunday, December 16, 2018

Most Reverend Benjamin,
Archbishop of San Francisco and the West

Very Reverend Dr. Kirill Sokolov, Dean

1520 Green Street
San Francisco, California
holy-trinity.org

Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of the West

Today's Epistle
Colossians 3:4-11
Today's Gospel
Luke 14:16-24

29th Sunday after Pentecost.
Sunday of the Holy Forefathers
(Ancestors) of Christ.
Tone 4.

Today's Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:4-11

When Christ our life shall appear, then you shall also appear with Him in glory. Therefore mortify your members which are upon the earth: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the children of disobedience. And you yourselves once walked in them when they were your life. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, abusive language and filthy talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

Today's Gospel Reading

Luke 14:16-24

The Lord said this parable, "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'"

Sunday of the Holy Forebears of Christ

At Great Vespers this Saturday [and then at Matins], we praise the glorious men from before and during the Old Covenant law. We honor Adam, Abel, Seth, Enoch, Noah, Melchizedek, Samson, Barak, Jephthah, Nathan, Eleazar, Josiah, Job, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Samuel, David, Solomon, Elijah, Elisha and all the prophets, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, "and all the rest," especially Daniel and the three holy youths, Zachariah, John the Baptist, and all those who proclaimed Christ. Likewise we sing praises to the holy women who were made "strong in the days of old by the might of Thy strength, O Lord: Hannah, Judith, Deborah, Huldah, Jael, Esther, Sarah, Miriam, Rachel, Rebecca, and Ruth." Orthodox Christians faithfully preserve the awareness of where we come from. We not only remember that we are from the dust of the earth, but we also remember those who have preceded us, and are joined to us, in holiness, and in faith, and in the spiritual struggle. History is chronological, but the Kingdom of God is ever-present, and we commune with all the righteous who were before us and await us. As brothers and sisters in Christ, they are our forefathers too! The days of preparation for receiving the Incarnation with joy and understanding are drawing to a close. We may come to church on the feast, but if we have not prepared our hearts, we will miss the fullness of the spiritual experience. Everything of value in life is worthy of preparation, and there is no greater event than the birth of the Son. Attend services, pray, read, be charitable, love your neighbor, and give gifts of love and devotion.

—Father Thaddaeus Hardenbrook



Many Years!

Namedays

Sarah Disney (Sunday of Forebears)
Anastasia Gaudreau (Dec 22)

Birthdays

Michael Jorgenson (Dec 21)

Thank You

Please join us downstairs for our fellowship meal! We look forward to meeting our guests and visitors. Thanks to Irina Angelina and John for preparing today's lunch.