

Announcements

- **Welcome Guests and Visitors.** Whether you are searching for a new church or just visiting, we welcome you and hope your experience at the Divine Liturgy will be edifying and spiritually nourishing. If you have a prayer request, are looking for more information about the Orthodox Christian faith, would like to join the parish, or would like to speak with Fr Kirill, we invite you to fill out a visitor information card and leave it at the candle desk. Please join us for lunch after the service. We would love to greet you and answer any questions.
- **College students and Orthodox Christian Fellowship.** Did you know that there is a ministry uniting all Orthodox Churches in our land in service of outreach to college students? Father Kirill serves as a chaplain at the OCF at University of San Francisco here in our own City. The first meeting is this Wednesday at noon.
- **Nativity of the Mother of God.** We honor, extol, and sing to the Holy Mother of our Lord, the Ever-Virgin Mary and Theotokos on her birthday, notably the first great feast of the Church liturgical year. She became the throne of God, the new Ark, prefigured by the old, the temple, showing us the way for us to become bearers of Christ. This year, we have the special opportunity to celebrate this important feast on a Sunday with Vigil on Saturday at 6 PM and Sunday at 10 AM. Come and enjoy the riches and delights of this birthday celebration!

This Week at Holy Trinity

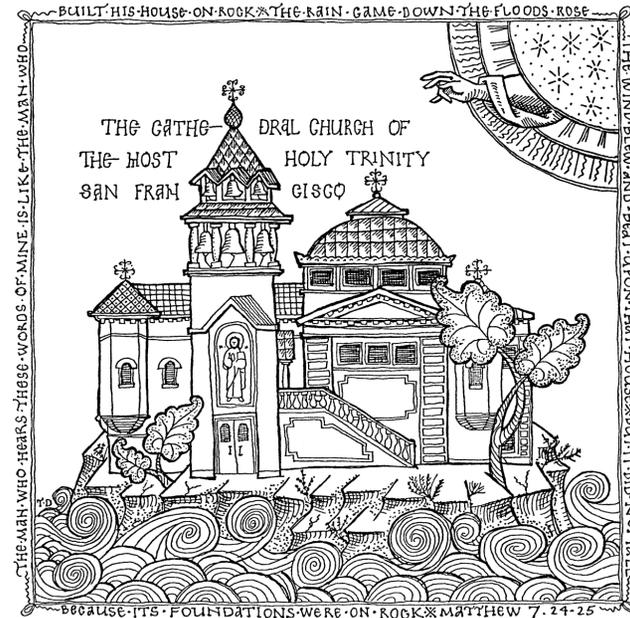
- Wed. Sep. 4:** 6:00 pm Vespers & Study Group
- Sat. Sep. 7:** 6:00 pm Festal Vigil for the Nativity of the Theotokos
- Sun. Sep. 8:** **The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady, Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary**
10:00 am Divine Liturgy followed immediately by blessing of students and teachers beginning school year
Afterwards: Fellowship Meal and Church School
Parking available Sunday at St. Brigid's

Visit holy-trinity.org for our complete monthly calendar.

Contact Fr. Kirill

Have a question or wish to talk?
FrKirill@holy-trinity.org • 415-673-8565

Holy Trinity Cathedral



Sunday, September 1, 2019

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

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Today's Gospel

Luke 4:16-22

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Church New Year (Indiction).

St. Simeon the Stylite (the

Elder) and his mother, Ven.

Martha (ca. 428). Tone 2

Today's Epistle

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Timothy my son, I urge first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings 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. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who wishes all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, Himself man, Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony to which was borne at the proper time. To this I have been appointed a preacher and an apostle (I speak the truth; I do not lie), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Today's Gospel

Luke 4:16-22

At that time, Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord'. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, 'This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears'. And all bore him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?'

Church New Year

We've completed our annual cycle of remembering, celebrating, and entering into God's plan for our salvation: the prophecies, His birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension, the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and the sacramental presence of His body, the Church. From a human perspective, we

can be tempted with frustration at times when moving from the end of something back to its beginning—doing it over again. Yet in the case of the liturgical year, we give thanks to God that we can once again joyfully celebrate His benevolence towards us. For in our finite state we need fresh starts, and this is one of them. From the culmination of Pascha, Ascension, Pentecost, and Transfiguration, we move back to the beginning events, the Nativity of the Mother of God and the Nativity of the Son of God Himself. We start this life-giving cycle over again, and the Holy Spirit, to the degree that we participate, further increases in us the sacramental realities that propel our salvation. God, who created and loves us, knows our human frailty and our need for renewal. Marriages have their anniversaries, children their birthdays, the departed their memorials, and the saints their feasts. These are milestones of progress and sources of motivation for us, seasons of opportunity as we spiral ever upward towards heaven. Notice that the last great feast of the closing year is the Dormition of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, while the first great feast of the New Year is her Nativity. Christ is the beginning and end of all things Christian. Yet the Theotokos is the chosen passage, the gate through which the incarnate Son entered into the world and opened the way of salvation for all mankind. Therefore her birth and death, that is her entire life, encapsulate the earthly life of Christ, as her womb mysteriously circumscribed Him. The Church celebrates this day by thanking God for the spiritual and material harvests of the past year, beseeching Him for fair weather, seasonable rains, and an abundant harvest of grace and physical well-being in the year to come. This is a good time for each of us to do the same. Take a moment during personal prayers, driving in the car alone, when the kids are napping, or at any other convenient time, and thank God for what the last year offered in both blessings and challenges. Happy New Year!

-Fr. Thaddaeus Hardenbrook, St. Lawrence Orthodox Church, Felton, CA



Many Years!

Wedding Anniversaries:
Felicia & Jason Dunham (Sep 6)

Namedays:
Amy Elizabeth Berry (Sep 5)

Birthdays:
Archpriest James Jorgenson (Sep 1)
Mary Flynn (Sep 2)
Sherman Tylawsky (Sep 2)
Misha Edel (Sep 7)

Thank You

Please join us downstairs for our fellowship meal.

Thanks to Matushka Sophia for preparing today's meal!