

Announcements

- **Welcome Guests and Visitors!** Please join us for lunch today.
- **Our Christmas Gift – Charity Project.** Every year, during the Nativity Fast, we have a special charity project. Next Sunday, the 22nd, we will assemble emergency hygiene kits for distribution through IOCC. A collection will be held today and next Sunday to help buy supplies.
- **Nativity Flowers and Decorating.** On Monday, December 23, we will gather at 9:00 am to decorate for the Feast. Let's trim the church!
- **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 us 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.

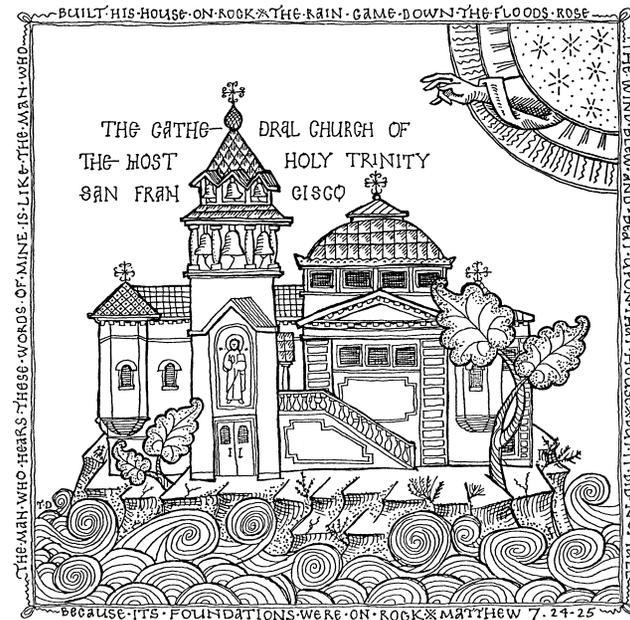
The Nativity of Christ 2019

- Wed. Dec. 18:** 6:00 pm Vespers followed by Christmas Movie Night: “A Christmas Carol” (1951 starring Alastair Sim)
- Fri. Dec. 20:** **Prefeast of the Nativity of Christ begins**
6:00 pm Nativity Prefeast Vespers & Confessions
- Sat. Dec. 21:** 6:00 pm Vigil & Confessions
- Sun. Dec. 22:** 9:00 am Baptism of Amber Thekla Rewis
10:00 am Divine Liturgy followed by fellowship meal and our annual “Christmas Gift” charity project
Parking available Sunday at St. Brigid's
- Mon. Dec. 23:** 9:00 am Flowers and Decorating
6:00 pm Royal Hours for the Nativity of Christ
Parking available Monday at St. Brigid's
- Tue. Dec. 24:** **Eve of the Nativity of Christ**
10:00 am Vespers and Divine Liturgy
6:00 pm Festal Vigil
Parking available both services Christmas Eve at St. Brigid's
- Wed. Dec. 25:** **The Nativity of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ**
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Parking available Christmas Morning at St. Brigid's

Contact Fr. Kirill

Question? Want to sit down to talk? Or be on the email list?
FrKirill@holy-trinity.org • 415-673-8565

Holy Trinity Cathedral



Sunday, December 15, 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
Colossians 3:4-11
Today's Gospel
Luke 14:16-24

26th Sunday after Pentecost.
Sunday of the Forebears of Christ.
Tone 1.

Today's Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:4-11

Brethren: 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 certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.'"

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!

Anniversary of Diaconate

Bishop Tikhon (Dec 19)

Namedays on this Sunday

Sarah Disney

Bruce Joseph Oberon-Levoff

Enrique Elijah Gavidia

Birthdays

Belen (Tatiana) Pickering (Dec 18)

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 Catherine M. and the Kavtaradze family for preparing today's lunch.