

Announcements

- **Welcome Guests and Visitors.** We are delighted to have you join us at our service today in worshipping the Holy Trinity. Please take a moment after the service to introduce yourself to our pastor, Father Kirill.
- **Support Local Businesses!** Let's do our part as we "reopen safely together." There are a lot of great places near the Cathedral, including the Matterhorn Morning Bakery a few doors down on Van Ness. They're open till noon on Saturdays and Sundays and feature freshly baked pastries (and coffee!).
- **Church School.** A special longer church school is held every few weeks via Zoom. Our next sessions will be next Sunday, the 11th.

This Week at Holy Trinity

Please be alert to changes to our service schedule and procedures for attending. Thank you for checking your email and our web site especially before services.

Tue. Oct. 6: Church open Tuesday-Saturday 5-7PM for private prayer
7:00 pm Prayer, Scripture, and Conversation Zoom

Wed. Oct. 7: 6:00 pm Vespers

Sat. Oct. 10: 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
Parking available Saturday morning at St. Brigid's

6:00 pm Great Vespers
Parking at St. Brigid's only by request

Sun. Oct. 11: 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Parking available at St. Brigid's
1:00 Church School (5-12) Zoom
3:00 Church School (K-4) Zoom

Links for Zoom sessions are sent out by e-mail at the beginning of the week.

Live-streamed services (Saturday evening and Sunday morning):

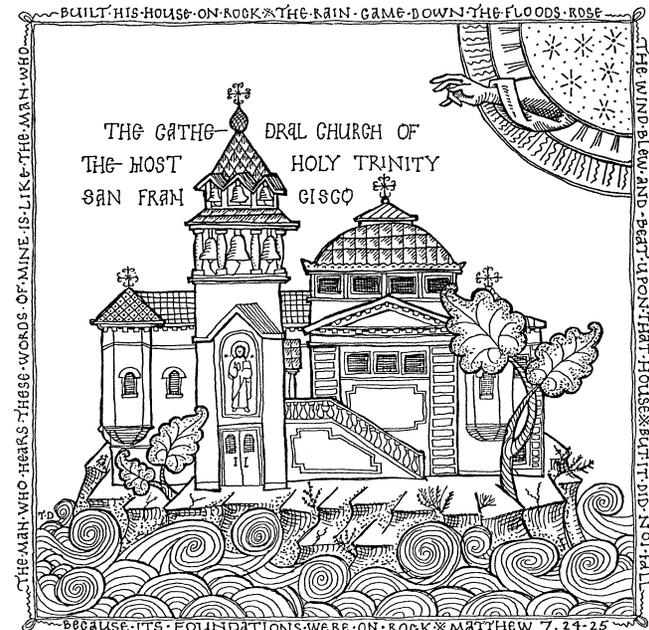
<https://www.youtube.com/HolyTrinityOrthodoxCathedralSanFrancisco>

<https://www.facebook.com/holytrinitycathedral>

Contact Fr. Kirill

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

Holy Trinity Cathedral



Sunday, October 4, 2020

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

We are delighted to have you join us in worshipping the Holy Trinity. Please follow all signs and instructions from greeters. Wear face coverings, maintain physical distance, and engage in proper personal hygiene.

Today's Epistle Reading
2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1
Today's Gospel Reading
Luke 6:31-36

17th Sunday after Pentecost
Hieromartyr Hierotheus,
Bishop of Athens (1st c.)
Tone 8

Today's Epistle Reading
2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

Brethren: you are the temple of the living God. As God has said, "I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Wherefore, "come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; and I will welcome you, and will be a Father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of the flesh and of the spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Today's Gospel Reading
Luke 6:31-36

The Lord said: just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

How did the first Christians respond?

While it doesn't make our current moment less worrying, pandemics are nothing new in the fallen creation. The first pandemic in the Christian era was the "Antonine Plague" of 165-180, perhaps smallpox, which ravaged the Roman Empire and caused more than five million deaths. Soon after, in 249, the so-called "Plague of Cyprian" broke out, amidst an already chaotic time in the Empire and lasted until well into 271. At its peak, it caused 5,000 deaths per day in Rome alone and set off the political anarchy of the 3rd century.

According to St. Dionysius of Alexandria, the plague was a providential *schooling and testing of Christians*. And their response was up to the test. He writes that "most of our brother Christians showed unbounded love and

loyalty, never sparing themselves and thinking only of one another" and of non-Christians, too!

Let's *reflect*: has the pandemic of our time been, for us Christians, a schooling and testing? What have we learned?

On Bells and Their Ringing

We are grateful for the opportunity to ring and hear our consecrated church bells more frequently. On great feasts, the bells remind us of heavenly blessedness; on saint's days they tell us of the unending rest of the holy dwellers in heaven; during Passion Week they remind us of our reconciliation with God through Christ the Savior; and during Bright Week they announce the victory of life over death and the eternal unending joy of the life to come in the Kingdom of Christ. The bell informs us of the passing of the hour, along with reminders of eternity, when "there should be time no longer" (Rev. 10:6).

We believe that something changes when we ring the bells. The prayers for the blessing of bells include a petition that "by the voice of the bell's ringing all destructive things of the air may be appeased, calmed, and cease to be." Let us pray to the Lord!

Announcing the glory of the name of Christ, ringing out day and night, the pealing of bells reminds us of the words of Almighty God, spoken through the Prophet Isaiah: "I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, who shall never hold their peace day or night, (making) mention of the Lord." (Is. 62:6).

The sound of a single church bell is solemn and sublime, while the pealing of several bells more or less in concert is even more majestic sounding. The mighty peal of bells has an effect on our interior sensibilities, awakening our souls from spiritual sleep.



Many Years!

**Anniversary of
Priest's Ordination:**

Bishop Tikhon

Archpriest John
Takahashi
(Oct 10)

Reopening News

We are opening our Cathedral for private prayer from 5-7 PM or by appointment Tue-Sat this week.

Our services are officially open to the public! As we move into a new phase of reopening, it will be incredibly important for all of us to thank God and follow all safety procedures. Please do read Father's e-mails and fill out the registration/pre-screen before coming. Questions are very welcome; please reach out: frkirill@holy-trinity.org