

## Announcements

- **Welcome Guests and Visitors.** Please introduce yourself to our pastor, Father Kirill. He is always happy to check in or discuss the faith!
- **Preparing your pledge.** It is the time of year when we prayerfully make our annual pledge, offering our “first fruits” to God. “Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7). This year we are adding the ability give securely online. You can find the link at our web site, holy-trinity.org.
- **Calendars.** 2021 wall calendars with the lectionary of readings for the year are available at the candle desk. Our bookstore is also available after liturgy if you need a good book for these long winter nights!
- **Church School Today.** Our parish children and youth continue to meet regularly by Zoom. We are grateful to God for their wonderful teachers who are leading them in sacred study. Middle and High School students meet today at 1:00; Kindergarteners-4<sup>th</sup> Graders meet at 3:00.

## This Week at Holy Trinity

If you would like to be part of one of our live-streamed services, please fill out the form on our website; you will receive a confirmation e-mail from Fr. Kirill.

- Tue. Dec. 15:** 7:00 pm Prayer, Scripture, and Conversation Zoom
- Wed. Dec. 16:** Church open Wednesday-Saturday 5-7PM for private prayer  
6:00 pm Vespers  
7:00 pm Parish Council Zoom
- Thu. Dec. 17:** 9:00 am Divine Liturgy – Holy Prophet Daniel
- Sat. Dec. 19:** [No Saturday Liturgy this week]  
6:00 pm Great Vespers
- Sun. Dec. 20:** **Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ**  
8:00 am Divine Liturgy  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy  
(Parking available Sunday morning at St. Brigid's)

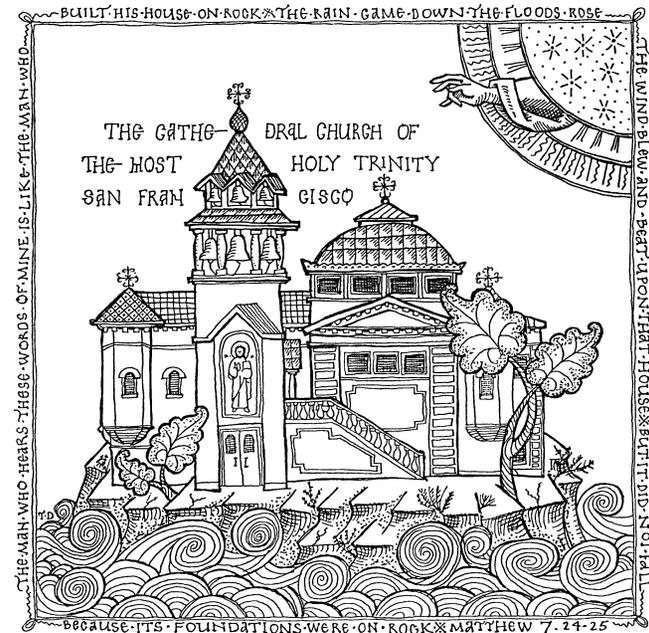
Links for Zoom sessions are sent out by e-mail. Live-stream links:

<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, December 13, 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](http://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.

## Epistle Readings

Colossians 3:4-11

## Gospel Readings

Luke 14:16-24

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of the Forefathers

Rest of Venerable Herman  
of Alaska, Wonderworker of All  
America (1837)

Tone 2

## 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.'"

## St. Herman - Nurturer of Orphans and Lover of Solitude

Father Herman was a simple monk without much formal education. He came from the merchant class in Russia, but we do not know his original name. As is usual, he adopted a new name when he took vows as a monk.

Perhaps especially poignant for us at this time of pandemic, Father Herman was known for caring for the native people of Kodiak, Alaska, and its environs when they were faced with a horrific smallpox outbreak brought by hunters from Russia. Meaningfully, he created an orphanage and raised the Aleutian children of Spruce Island who were bereft of parents after the epidemic.

Also relevant for us at a time when we are frequently alone, is that Father Herman lived for many years as a hermit. He loved solitude and the beauty of nature. In solitude, his character deepened. Asked if he ever got lonely in the forest, the Saint replied, "No, I am not alone; God is there as he is everywhere, and the Holy Angels are there. How can I be lonely?"

Many miracles and accurate predictions were told by him. He also wrote wisely when occasion demanded he put pen to paper. Father Herman once wrote to a skeptic about faith: "Like a sick man who will do anything to get well, we should seek every means to rid ourselves of whatever keeps us from God." He concluded, "I hope that you, with your sharpness of intellect and your ardent wish for joy in Heaven, may discover the path to Holy Truth, not only for yourself but for others." Holy Father Herman, pray to God for us!



## Many Years!

**Anniversary of Diaconate**  
Bishop Tikhon (Dec 19)

**Namedays on this Sunday**  
Sarah Disney  
Bruce Joseph Oberon-Levoff  
Enrique Elijah Gavidia

**Birthdays**  
Eva Monova (Dec 16)  
Belen (Tatiana) Pickering (Dec 18)  
Irina Angelina Walker (Dec 18)

## Reopening News

We are following all safety protocols during this difficult time. Capacity is strictly limited for our live-streamed services. If you would like to be part of a service, please fill out the form on our website. You will receive a confirmation from Fr. Kirill. Questions are very welcome!

Confessions may be heard by appointment as we prepare for the Lord's Nativity.