



PARISH LEAFLET

Holy Virgin Mary
Russian Orthodox Cathedral

650 Micheltorena Street
Tel. (323) 666-4977

Los Angeles, CA 90026
Website: hvmla.org

THE MEETING OF OUR LORD 2017



February 2017

№660

Spiritual Father: how to search, why do you need one, and what to do if you do not have one.

How obligatory is the decision to become a spiritual child, does it leave us free? Which attitude towards the confessor is wrong? What to do if you do not have a spiritual father yet? Is it possible to have a "confessor by correspondence"? What if a husband and his wife have different spiritual fathers? Is it possible to change one confessor for another? What makes relationships between spiritual father and his spiritual child special? Here we are discussing these and other topics with an experienced pastor.

My lifetime obedience

- How did you meet your spiritual father?

- Unfortunately, at that time, the priests paid very little attention to the youth, because in Soviet times it was dangerous to start a dialogue with young people. Yet not being baptized (I was baptized in half a year after the trip), I arrived in the Pskov Monastery of the Caves and met with Father Savva. I do not even remember meeting Father John, though he was there and I met with him. And a year later I returned to Pechora. And one day Father Savva, knowing that I was involved in a literary work, offered me to edit his book. And he inserted a prayer for a spiritual father in the book. I asked: "Do you want me to become your spiritual child?" He said: "If you want, I can accept you." I knew he was a special person ... I was very vain, and therefore to have such a spiritual father was very prestigious to me. I did not yet understand what is spiritual relationship!

So I asked Father Savva to be my spiritual father. And I do not regret it! I thank God that some time, not a very long time though, but he was guiding me and he outlined the important point in my future path of a spiritual life.

- Could you give an example?

- After my first, general, confession he told me: "I will bless you with obedience for the rest of your life, which may seem difficult to you, do not judge people." I somehow tried to execute it, and indeed, it is a lifetime obedience. And this is the way to love.

- How did Father John become your spiritual father?

- Several times I turned to father Savva, and at the same time I started to develop good relationship with father John. When I had a confession with Father Sava, he said: "Bless" or "Do not bless" - and did not explain anything. Father John never contradicted Father Savva, their point of view, of course, coincided, but Father John was explaining all the details, why it is such and such. And it turned out to be much closer to me than just "bless", "do not bless." So gradually I "relocated" to Father John and became his spiritual child.

To be continued...

*Faith, "FOMA in Ukraine", September 2016.
(With the editor's changes)*

Fold and tear off

Coupon for blessing house / apartment

Талон для освящения дома

Full name: _____

имя

Address: _____

адрес

Telephone: _____

PARISH LIFE:

Important dates:

February 2nd – **THE MEETING OF OUR LORD**

February 5th – PARISH FEAST DAY: THE MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS “RESCUER OF THE PERISHING”

February 12th - **Summer Camp Fundraiser**

February 19th - **Sisterhood Blini Luncheon (Parish Maslenitsa)**

February 26th - **L.O.V.E.S. Blini Luncheon**

March 5th – PAN ORTHODOX CELEBRATION HOSTED BY ARCHBISHOP BENJAMIN (SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY)

March 25th – ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS (GREGORIAN CALENDAR)

From the Desk of Fr. Nazari.

Dear brothers and sisters,

Nativity celebrations are over, we had our Annual Parish meeting and with God's help we started a new year. I hope that all of you had a chance to see my annual report (which you can find on our parish website www.hvmla.org) As you see our last year was full of various services and parish projects and events, the result is that our fiscal year ended better than we expected.

I really hope that next year will be also full of interesting events, blessed visits and divine services. I hope that the number of our members will only increase thanks to your prayers and hard work, our parish will grow not only quantitatively but also qualitatively, and we will continue to share our rich spiritual heritage, bringing the light of Christ into the world. Thank you so much for your prayers and your help.

I want to draw your attention to some of the events that will be held in February and March. On February 4th and 5th we are celebrating our Parish Feast day, our Ruling Hierarch Archbishop Benjamin is coming with a pastoral visit. On these days I'm asking you to come to pray and celebrate our parish feast day together.

On February 12th we are having our Summer Camp fundraising dinner.

On February 19th we are inviting you to our Parish Maslenitsa (see. the attached flyer).

On February 27th we are entering in a blessed period of Great Lent. It will be filled with divine services and I'm looking forward to seeing you during Lenten services.

But for now we still continue to bless homes and apartments. As in the past, you may leave a message at the candle stand and set the time when I will be able to bless your house or apartment. This would give you the opportunity not only to bless your houses, but also to spend some time with me personally.

God bless you!

E-mail: fnazaripolataiko@gmail.com

Mobile: 1 (818) 213-7176

Archpriest Nazari Polataiko.

Theophany Home Blessings. A coupon has been placed in this bulletin so that our parishioners can inform the Rector in advance of their desire to have their houses blessed with the Jordan Water, as is a yearly custom. Fr. Nazari will contact those who submit requests to the parish office and make the arrangements for a visit.

Sisterhood News.

Thank you to all who came out and helped clean the Church for Nativity.

One request concerning the candle stands. When putting candles into the holders, please don't melt the bottoms before inserting them. It is very difficult to remove the wax that has hardened. The stands have various size inserts that are appropriate to hold all the candles that are sold. This part of the cleaning was hard and tedious. The volunteers did an excellent job. The Cathedral sparkled due to your effort.

Everyone who donated food for the Feast, compote, "kutya", cookies, and beverages, is also thanked. Your generosity is always appreciated.

Irene Gregory

Kiosk-Bookstore

The Kiosk still has several calendars for sale, both the St. Tikhon Calendar, which has beautiful prints of icons from Mount Sinai on each page, and the OCA Church of the Saviour in San Francisco, with excerpts from the writings of the ever-memorable Bishop John Shakovskoy on each page. That calendar is in both Russian and English, and is Bi-Calendar can be used to follow both the Old and New Style dates. We also still have, as of this writing, some Pocket Planners, which fit into purse or pocket to carry with you.

We have a few new titles in stock, and a few more will be coming, as the Pre-Lenten season is when Orthodox publishers put out their new releases.

We continue our inventory reduction sale, with a couple hundred books reduced in price, as we need to reduce the size of our inventory in anticipation of moving the location of the kiosk sometime this year.

We have put most of our large coffee table size books on iconography on sale as well as some icons.

We have two large, beautiful hand written icons of the Mother of God with hand crafted rizas (gilded silver metal coverings) which have been brought to us from Ukraine, which are available for sale. These are one of a kind icons. These could make very special gifts for a memorable occasion for a family heirloom, or to give in memory of a loved one to be placed in a church.

We have new gold and silver crosses in stock, and a very large inventory of children's books. I will be putting out Lenten books by the time this bulletin reaches you. The time of the Triodion begins soon-Feb. 5th is the Sunday of the Publi-

can and the Pharisee. Our Parish Patronal Feast day is also on that date.

The Kiosk is full! As always, I invite you to Come and See!

Sister Elizabeth

Saturday school

Russian Saturday School Administration would like to thank all who participated in the preparation and conduct of the Nativity feast.

Beginning January 14th the second school semester starts. We wish all our students and their parents success and good ratings. We look forward to our fruitful cooperation, all your initiatives and proposals will be appreciated. Thanks to all.

Head of Studies, Irina Usova

Sunday School.

Dear parents and families,
Sunday School classes will meet in February on 2/12 and 2/26. Classes in March will take place on 3/12 and 3/19. Thank you, as always, for your prayers and support.

Marie McEntire, Coordinator

L.O.V.E.S will hold its annual blini lunch on Feb.26th after liturgy. Please come and enjoy the good food and support a good cause.

God bless.

Marina Burgmeier, President

<u>BAPTISMS:</u> Svitlana Poputnikova	December 22
Beverley Chrisjohn	December 24
Olivia Olimpiada Svetlichnaya	January 17

Many years!

<u>MARRIAGES:</u> Igor and Eva Krashennikov	January 7
Vladimir Chistoprudov and Anastasia Komarova	January 15

Many years!

<u>FUNERALS:</u> Serafima Mirkina	December 19
Iraida Burdina	December 18
Nina Plautin	December 27
Mikhail Skorikov	January 18

Memory eternal

Prayer Request list:

Leonid Gregory, Chris Plourde
Marina Dobis (in need of a donor kidney)
Mary Kokayko, Alexander, Maria,
Elena, Theodore, Ann Brown

The Parish Council Would Like to Thank the Following Persons for their BUILDING Fund Contributions

Elena and Slava Pollack	2,000
Anonymous in memory of Nina Plautin.....	267
Jerome W. Wilsen for good health of Anastasia and Angelina.....	100
Gai and Tamara Krupenkin in memory of Nina Plautin	100
Alla Bobrov in memory of Nina Plautin	100
Dr James and Irina Gibbons in memory of Mrs Gibbons parents	100
Dr James and Irina Gibbons in memory of Nina Plautin	100
Liana Vertelkina in memory of Nina Plautin	100

Donald and Marina Burgmeier in memory of Nina Plautin	50
Irene and Leo Gregory in memory of Nina Plautin.....	50
Sisterhood in memory of Nina Plautin	50

FEBRUARY 2017

1	Wed	7:00 pm	Vigil	THE MEETING OF OUR LORD
2	Thu	10:00 am	Liturgy	
4	Sat	5:00 pm	HIERARCHIAL VIGIL	PARISH FEAST DAY: ICON OF THE MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS “RESCUER OF THE PERISHING” SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE
5	Sun	10:00 am	HIERARCHIAL DIVINE LITURGY	
<i>Fast-Free week – there is no fast during the week including Wednesday and Friday.</i>				
6	Mon	10:00 am	Liturgy	Ven. Xenia of St. Petersburg
7	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos “Rescuer of the Perishing” <i>Meeting of the youth and young adult group FORUM; choir practice with Sergei Liberovsky</i>	
11	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
12	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy <i>Summer Camp Fundraiser</i>	SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON
14	Tue	7.00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos “Rescuer of the Perishing” <i>Meeting of the youth and young adult group FORUM; presentation by Archimandrite Kirill (Govorun)</i>	
18	Sat	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Liturgy and general panikhida Vigil	Soul Saturday
19	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy <i>Sisterhood Blini Luncheon</i>	MEATFARE (LAST JUDGEMENT) SUNDAY
21	Tue	7.00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos “Rescuer of the Perishing” <i>Meeting of the youth and young adult group FORUM; Reader George Abuelkhair “Bible study” Lecture 5</i>	
25	Sat	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Liturgy Vigil	Holy Ascetic Fathers; “Iveron” Icon of The Holy Theotokos
26	Sun	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Liturgy Vespers of Forgiveness <i>L.O.V.E.S. Blini Luncheon</i>	CHEESEFARE (FORGIVENESS) SUNDAY
<i>Beginning of the Great Lent</i>				
27	Mon	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Gt. Lenten Hrs., Vespers Compline and Great Canon	Clean Monday
28	Tue	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Gt. Lenten Hrs., Vespers Compline and Great Canon	Clean Tuesday

MARCH 2017

1	Wed	10:00am 7:00pm	Gt. Lenten Hrs. and Presanctified Liturgy Compline & Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	Clean Wednesday
2	Thu	10:00am 7:00pm	Gt. Lenten Hrs., Vespers Compline & Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	Clean Thursday
3	Fr	6:00pm	Hrs./Lit. of Presanctified Gifts	Clean Friday
4	Sat	10:00am 5:00pm	Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Vigil	St. Theodore the Recruit
5	Sun	10:00am 5:00 pm	Liturgy of St. Basil the Great Vespers of Sunday of Orthodoxy	1st Sunday of Great Lent: SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY PAN ORTHODOX CELEBRATION HOSTED BY ARCHBISHOP BENJAMIN
7	Tue	7:00pm 8:00pm	Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos "Rescuer of the Perishing" <i>Meeting of the youth and young adult group FORUM</i>	
8	Wed	10:00am	Hrs./Lit. of Presanctified Gifts	Hieromartyr Polycarp (Julian calendar) St. Theophylactus (Gregorian calendar)
10	Fr	6:00pm	Hrs./Lit. of Presanctified Gifts	St. Tarasius (Julian calendar) St. Cyprian and Dionysius (Gregorian calendar)
11	Sat	5:00pm	Vigil	
12	Sun	10:00am	Liturgy of St. Basil the Great	2nd Sunday of Great Lent: ST. GREGORY PALAMAS
14	Tue	7:00pm 8:00pm	Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos "Rescuer of the Perishing" <i>Meeting of the youth and young adult group FORUM</i>	
15	Wed	10:00am	Hrs./Lit. of Presanctified Gifts	Hieromartyr Theodotus (Julian calendar) Martyr Agapius (Gregorian calendar)
17	Fr	6:00pm	Hrs./Lit. of Presanctified Gifts	Ven. Gerasimus of Jordan (Julian calendar) Ven. Alexis (Gregorian calendar)
18	Sat	5:00pm	Vigil	
19	Sun	10:00am	Liturgy of St. Basil the Great	3 rd Sunday of Great Lent: VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
21	Tue	7:00pm 8:00pm	Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos "Rescuer of the Perishing" <i>Meeting of the youth and young adult group FORUM; choir practice with Sergei Liberovsky</i>	
22	Wed	6:00pm	Lit. of Presanctified Gifts	40 Martyrs of Sebaste (Julian calendar) Martyr Basil (Gregorian calendar)
24	Fr	7:00pm	Vigil	ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS (GREGORIAN CALENDAR)
25	Sat	10:00am 5:00pm	Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Vigil	
26	Sun	10:00am	Liturgy of St. Basil the Great	4 th Sunday of Great Lent: St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)
28	Tue	7:00pm 8:00pm	Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos "Rescuer of the Perishing" <i>Meeting of the youth and young adult group FORUM; presentation on iconography by Fr. Nazari</i>	
29	Wed	7:00pm	Matins and Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	
30	Thu	7:00pm	Matins with the Akathist to Theotokos	
31	Fr	6:00pm	Hrs./Lit. of Presanctified Gifts	St. Cyril of Jerusalem (Julian calendar) St. Innocent (Gregorian calendar)