



PARISH LEAFLET

Holy Virgin Mary
Russian Orthodox Cathedral

650 Micheltorena Street
Tel. (323) 661-7000

Los Angeles, CA 90026
Website: hvmla.org



July 2017

SS Peter and Paul

№664

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.

The Mystery of Spiritual Relationships

- **What is the most difficult for you in spiritual relationships and what is the most gratifying?**

- The hardest thing in spiritual relationships is that my soul is not the Place of God. This is how the elders differed from such confessors as me: they viewed a man's soul; by the grace of God, they *saw* it. And they gave bits of advice that were healing specifically for this person. This is what pain brings to me, but in no way is it disappointment, but pain, because I see great opportunities for my soul in the spiritual relationship, and it is spiritual relationship that brings me immense satisfaction in and of itself. Sometimes I see how advice - not mine, but that received from someone else - benefits another person. It is an enormous delight! It is a real joy when bits of advice received by you from the holy fathers and the elders have a healing effect on the souls of your spiritual children!

- **Is this the mystery of spiritual relationships?**

- The mystery of spiritual relationships is truly mystery. Since we call it so, it means that we cannot penetrate it with our mind. I noticed, especially in the first 10 to 15 years of my priesthood, that when a person had spiritual relationships with me, my heart, not so much accommodated him, but was kin to this man. Immediately a kind of a thread formed, and I was even more worried for these people rather than for those who were not and are not my spiritual children. Look, the apostle Paul says, "Husband and wife shall become one flesh. This mystery is profound." I would say this is the mystery. But how can one explain it? No one can explain that.

The Lord ingrains some special love for this person and special care for him or her into the father confessor's heart, into his soul. More love and care than for others. And, of course, I am deeply convinced, he discovers much more about his spiritual children than about other people.

- **Let's sum up our conversation. When a person comes to church, he or she must deal with such spiritual guidance, which presupposes obedience, because it is difficult to explore independently one's spiritual life. But, if such relations do not develop, this process should not be forced, and should be guided by the writings of the holy fathers.**

- Yes, that's right. Well, after all, one should have a "temporary" confessor anyway. Sometimes we can face certain issues that we cannot understand, and then it would be more appropriate to consult with a priest in order not to get lost in your own soul.

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

PARISH LIFE:

Important dates:

July 12th - SS. Peter and Paul (Jul. calendar)

August 6th - OUR LORD'S TRANSFIGURATION (Gr. calendar)

August 13th - Dodger Dog Day

August 15th - DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS (Greg. calendar)

August 22-24th - Master class with V. Gorbik

August 19th - OUR LORD'S TRANSFIGURATION (Jul. calendar)

August 28th - DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS (Jul. calendar)

From the Desk of Fr. Nazari.

Dear brothers and sisters,

From the bottom of my heart I would like to greet you on the occasion of the past holidays of Ascension of Our Lord and the Feast of Holy Pentecost. Once again I would like to cordially greet the members of the Sisterhood on the occasion of their holiday and to thank them for their work, especially in preparing and decorating the Temple for the Feast of the Holy Trinity.

Since the last issue of our Parish Leaflet (monthly bulletin), our parish has experienced a great loss, our long-standing parishioner and Starosta Leonid Gregory passed away into life eternal. Memory eternal to him!

On June 11th, at our monthly parish council meeting, I, as a Rector of Holy Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Cathedral, with the blessing of His Eminence Benjamin, Archbishop of San Francisco and the West, appointed Mrs. Alla Bobrov to temporarily assume the responsibilities of our parish Starosta. I ask your prayers for me, Mrs. Bobrov, and all Parish Council members, and also I ask you to provide us with all possible assistance in maintaining and developing our parish, especially when our parish is living through such a great loss.

As you know, Leonid was Starosta for more than 30 years, and he could solve many problems, especially maintenance issues, without help. Now your help will be extremely needed and much appreciated. I thank you for it in advance.

Speaking about help, I, as rector, all clergy, and our parish council are doing everything we can for development and growth of our parish. Lectures are organized, conversations are conducted (individual and general). I try to visit and communicate with as many parishioners and visitors as possible. Our fundraising committee organizes concerts, lunches, fairs, festivals, auctions. Our Parish council strives to do everything possible in order to be as that good servant from the Gospel who wisely used God-given talents for the growth of the Church of Christ. Glory to God for all of this! But to our regret, all our labours are not enough at the moment, and therefore we appeal to

you for your help and assistance.

I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that, although our financial situation is much better this year than it was the years before, we still experience an annual deficit, up to date it is over \$41,000.00. What does it mean? It means that even our skeleton operating expenses are much higher than our income and we are forced to make up the difference by drawing down from our very humble savings that are coming to an end.

I appeal to you with a great request: we need to balance the budget of our parish and try to finish our fiscal year without any deficit. It is difficult for one person, but it is absolutely possible, if all of us and each of us donate to our parish a little more than what we are offering today. So let me explain why we need these funds. We need these funds to cover the cost of electricity, water, gas, employee salaries, office expenses, the Internet, telephone, and many other things that are necessary for the everyday life and mission of our parish. As I mentioned before, our savings that were so generously donated by previous generations of our parishioners are coming to an end. If we value the heritage, the vision of the future and the mission that we inherited from our fathers and grandfathers, the Orthodox Christians of the previous generations in this parish, we must do our best to secure not only today's life and work of our parish, but, taking the example of previous generations, try to secure its future.

Dear brothers and sisters, dear parishioners and friends of our historical parish, the future of our parish is in our hands. If each of us does not support our church today, be it financially, be it through your God-given talents, or your time and hard work, our children and grandchildren and thousands of newly converted Orthodox Christians may lose the opportunity to pray in this precious pearl of Orthodoxy in the North American continent - Holy Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Cathedral in Los Angeles.

I hope for your generosity today. Generations of Orthodox Christians will thank and pray for you as we pray for all those founders, builders, donors and beautifiers of this God-beloved parish community for many years to come.

God Save You All!

Archpriest Nazari Polataiko

Starosta report

Thank you Fr. Nazari and members of the Parish Council to putting your trust in me. It is not easy for me to step into this position. Dear parishioners, I will be counting on your continuous help and support. Fr Nazari in great details described our needs and challenges. I would like to draw your attention to our future. Thanks be to God with the present basic resources our Parish has a lot of activities and events, much more is needed. We must focus on our youth and we need to make our

parish the most desirable place to be and to worship. If you have any questions, ideas, proposals, please talk to me.

Alla Bobrova

From the Treasurer

Dear parishioners,
Father Nazari and our warden, Alla Bobrov, have both indicated our need to make the effort to support our church financially. As indicated by Father Nazari, our current YTD loss which includes financial obligations yet to be paid is \$41,602. We all love our church, please continue to give as you can to ensure its future.

Thank you,
Margaret Dascalu

Sisterhood News

Sisterhood celebrated its Patronal Feast on the Holy Spirit Day with a molieben followed by a lovely dinner in the Parish Hall. It was well attended and enjoyed by all who came. We welcomed three new members in the last few months, Ekaterina Solovskaja, Marina Burgmeier, and Hope Chrisjohn. We are always glad to have more ladies join us in our work to aid the Cathedral.

We purchased a new freezer for the kitchen in the Parish Hall to replace the old one that stopped working.

Irene Gregory

Thank you to everyone who sent me their kind thoughts and best wishes after the passing of my beloved Leo. Also big thanks to those who donated to Holy Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Cathedral in his memory. I appreciate the support you have shown me through this difficult time in my life. Holy Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Cathedral and the parishioners have been part of our family for many decades and I am grateful to have so many friends. God bless you.

Irene Gregory

Fundraising Committee

Our April fundraiser Tchaikovsky Concert and Silent Auction was a great success! Musical performances were enjoyed by all, at auction tables our volunteers were working hard and the results were very good, we raised over \$10,000. Thank you to everyone for participating at this event and for giving your talents and time for the benefit of our beloved Parish.

DODGER DOG DAY!

August 13th after the Divine Liturgy. Raffle - Dodger tickets and reserved parking for the game on Saturday August 26th. It's our annual fundraiser please come and help to support our Parish.

Kiosk-bookstore

Have you visited the Kiosk lately? We have all been very busy with a full cycle of liturgical services these past few months, which have been very nourishing spiritually, and

now that the time of Pentecost has come, the pace begins to change.

Aahhhh! Summertime! Time to take a breather. Time to find a "good read" and then find a cool comfy spot to read! Now the spiritual momentum that we gathered through Great Lent and Paschaltide needs to continue. There is no "vacation" from spiritual nourishment and spiritual growth. Our Kiosk Bookstore is full of books that are on sale for every level and need and age for you to consider.

In addition to the books on sale, I have gone through the shelves and pulled out about twenty titles from contemporary elders on living the spiritual life in our rather hectic and stressful times. Please do drop by and take a look. There is something for everyone. As always, I invite you to Come and See!

Sister Elizabeth

Saturday school

Registration for the new school year will be held on August 19th, 26th and September 2nd. The first school day, September 9th, starts with a prayer at the beginning of the school year and a general parental meeting in the church Parish Hall. Welcome to our school!

Head of Studies, Irina Usova

L.O.V.E.S. will be holding a raffle in August. Please keep an eye out in your mail for tickets. We have some very nice items for the raffle.

Thank you for your support.
God Bless

Marina Burgmeier, President

SUMMER CAMP

It is with much disappointment that I inform you summer camp has been cancelled for this year. I just received a message from Fr. Michael Anderson that he must cancel camp. I want to thank everyone for their interest in camp. Thank you to those who supported our fundraiser and those who filed applications to attend camp. Hope to see you next year. God Bless.

Marina Burgmeier, Coordinator

Charity Committee

I wish to thank everyone for their generous contributions for the homeless in providing hygenic materials. All items were successfully distributed to the homeless under the Sunset bridge. May God bless each person who contributed. Our next monthly collection will go to St. Herman's seminary in Kodiak, Alaska. Please give generously. Thanks and God bless.

*Reader George Abuelkhair
Chairman*

<u>BAPTISMS:</u>	Camille Tatiana Aubry	May 10 th
	Daniel Shishakin	May 10 th

MARRIAGES: Jeffery Flowers and Christina Ajalat.....May 19th
 David Martinez and Yuliya Martinez..... June 10th
Many years!

FUNERALS: Leonid GregoryMay 13th
 Vladimir Worotko May 22nd

Memory eternal!

Prayer Request list:

Irene 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 and CENTENNIAL Fund Contributions**

Barp and Worotko families in memory of Vladimir Worotko	2,000
Anonymous for the restoration of Triptych	1,500
Irene Gregory in memory of Leonid Gregory.....	1,000
Mike Dendrinis in memory of Elena and Gene Dendrinis and Lubov Remak	200
Igor and Tatiana Timokhovich in memory of Leonid Gregory	100
Ann Brown in memory of Helen, Serge and Irena Pappadato.....	100
Anonymous for good health of Irene Gregory and in memory of Leonid Gregory	100
Frank Nemceff in memory of Leonid Gregory.....	100
Zinaida Shalygin in memory of Leonid Gregory	100
Barbara Garbinski in memory of Leonid Gregory.....	100
Marian Hall in memory of Leonid Gregory.....	100
Maria Kaljakin in memory of her parents Nikolay and Claudia	100
Caroline and Paul Howard in memory of Vladimir Worotko.....	100
Mark and Gay Buschmann in memory of Leonid Gregory	95
Greg and Julia Keating in memory of Leonid Gregory	95
4 anonymous donations in memory of Vladimir Worotko	65
Anonymous in memory of Vladimir Worotko.....	50
Irene Gregory in memory of Vladimir Worotko.....	50
John and Janice Davis in memory of Vladimir Worotko.....	50
Carol Harrow in memory of Leonid Gregory	50

JULY 2017

1	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	4 th Sunday after Pentecost Ap. Jude (Julian calendar) Placing of Robe of Holy Theotokos at Blacherne (Gregorian calendar)
2	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	
4	Tue	7:00 pm	Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos “Rescuer of the Perishing”	
7	Fr	10:00 am	Liturgy	Nativity of St. John Baptist (Julian calendar)

8	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	5 th Sunday after Pentecost Ven. David of Salonica (Julian calendar) Pancratius of Taormina (Gregorian calendar)
9	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	
11	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; guest speaker</i>	
12	Wed	10:00 am	Liturgy	SS. PETER AND PAUL (Julian calendar)
15	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	6 th Sunday after Pentecost Martyr Hyacinth (Julian calendar) Martyr Athenogenes (Gregorian calendar)
16	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	
18	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 SergeLiberovsky</i>	
22	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	7 th Sunday after Pentecost Anthony of Kiev Cave (Julian calendar) Martyr Trophimus (Gregorian calendar)
23	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	
25	Tue	7:00 pm	Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos "Rescuer of the Perishing"	
28	Fr	10:00 am	Liturgy	Isapostle St. Vladimir the Great (Julian calendar)
29	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	8 th Sunday after Pentecost Gr. Martyr Marina (Julian calendar) Ap. Silas, Silvanus (Gregorian calendar)
30	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	

AUGUST 2017

<i>Dormition Fast: (August 1-15th Greg. calendar) (August 14-28th Jul. calendar)</i>				
1	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; Bible Study with Reader George Abuelkhair, Lecture 9th</i>	
2	Wed	10:00 am	Liturgy	Holy Prophet Elias (Julian calendar)
5	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil and blessing of fruit	9 th Sunday after Pentecost OUR LORD's TRANSFIGURATION (Gregorian calendar)
6	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy and blessing of fruit	
8	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;</i>	
9	Wed	10:00 am	Liturgy	Great Martyr St. Panteleimon (Julian calendar)
12	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	10 th Sunday after Pentecost Righteous Eudocimus (Julian calendar) St. Tikhon of Zadonsk (Gregorian calendar)
13	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy <i>Dodger Dog Day</i>	
14	Mon	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Liturgy and water blessing Vigil	Procession of Holy Cross; Maccabean martyrs (Julian calendar)

15	Tue	10:00 am 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Liturgy Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos “Rescuer of the Perishing” <i>Meeting of the youth and young adult group FORUM; guest speaker</i>	DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS (Greg. calendar)
19	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	11th Sunday after Pentecost Ven. Dometius (Julian calendar) Prophet Samuel (Gregorian calendar)
20	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	
22	Tue	7:00 pm	<i>Master Class with Vladimir Gorbik</i> Akathist before the icon of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos “Rescuer of the Perishing”	
23	Wed		<i>Master Class with Vladimir Gorbik</i>	
24	Thu	8:00 am	Liturgy (choir directed by V. Gorbik)	Martyr Euplus of Catania (Julian calendar) Martyr Cosmas (Gregorian calendar)
26	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	12th Sunday after Pentecost Prophet Micah (Julian calendar) Ven. Poemen the Great (Gregorian calendar)
27	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	
28	Mon	10:00 am	Liturgy	DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS (Julian calendar)
29	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; iconography presentation by Fr. Nazari</i>	

**PLEASE CHECK SCHEDULE
ON OUR WEBSITE
WWW.HVMLA.ORG**

Look forward to the concert of Ganna Sorbat dedicated to the music of G. Gershwin on September 24th.

See more information in the next issue of the bulletin.

24 сентября в приходском зале состоится концерт Ганны Сорбат, посвященный музыке Г. Гершвина. Подробности в следующем номере Приходского Листка.