



Holy Virgin Mary
Russian Orthodox Cathedral
650 Micheltorena Street * Los Angeles, CA 90026
Tel. (323) 666-4977 * Website: hvmla.org

July - August 2016

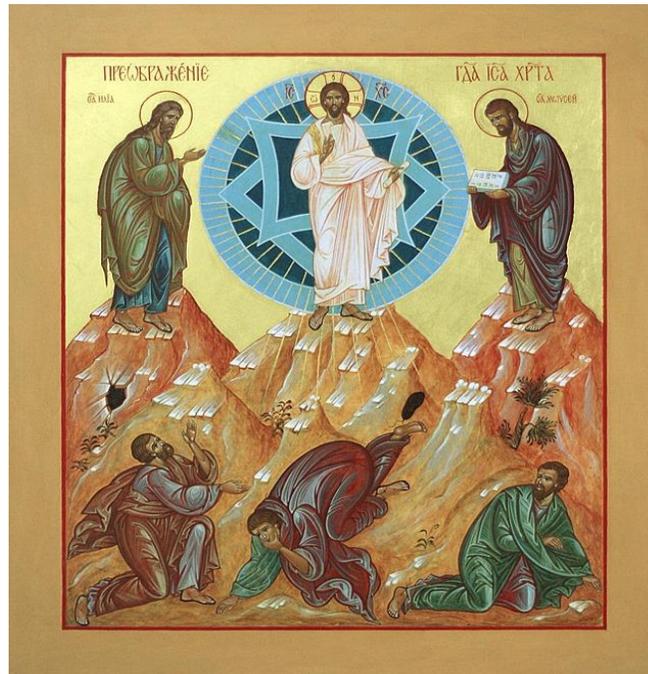
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Our Lord's Transfiguration

The accounts of the synoptics (Mark 9:2-9; Matthew 17:1-9; Luke 9:27-36) shows us the Apostles, Peter, James and John who become in their lifetimes witness, of the "Power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ", "eye witnesses of His Majesty" (2 Peter 1:16-18).

What is it that the three disciples were able to contemplate, when they saw the face of Christ "shine as the sun" and His raiment "white as the light" when a "bright cloud overshadowed them" (Matthew 17:2-5): According to St. Gregory of Nazianzus this light was the Divinity manifested to the disciples on the mountain. St. John Damascene speaking of this "splendor of the Divine nature", of this "a-temporal glory of God the Son" observes that the comparison made by the Evangelists with the light of the sun remains quite inadequate, for uncreated reality cannot be expressed by a created image. The matter in question, then, is the vision of God and it is evident why, from St. Irenaeus of Lyon to St. Philaret of Moscow, the theme of the Transfiguration of Christ has never ceased to feed the thought of the Fathers and theologians of the Church.

St. Gregory Palamas, in defending the traditional teaching against the attacks of certain rationalist theologians, full value to the importance of Christian dogma and spirituality he said, "not according to His energy." The light, which is neither material nor spiritual, of the created, it is the "ineffable nature in three hypostases". Transfiguration had no beginning and no end; it is imperishable and unchangeable, although it was contemplated by the disciples of the Lord Spirit."



Christ appeared to the dis-

"servant", but in the "form of God", as an Hypostasis of the Trinity Who, in His Incarnation, remains inseparable from His Divine nature, which is common to the Father and the Holy Spirit. The manifestation of the Divinity of Christ is then, at the same time, a theophany of the Trinity: "The Father ... by His voice bore witness to His beloved Son; the Holy Spirit, shining with Him in the bright cloud, indicated that the Son possesses with the Father the light, which is one like all that belongs to Their richness."

The kontakion of the feast (Tone 7), summing up the teaching of the Fathers, tells us that the Divine Glory of Christ was manifested to the disciples "according to their capacity", so that later, when they should see their Master crucified, they should be able to understand that the Passion of Him, Who is "in truth the splendor of the Father", could only be voluntary.

The Gospel gives two accounts of the Transfiguration. According to the version in Mark and Matthew, the Apostles fell after having heard the voice of the Father and seen the bright cloud. According to Luke—they awoke from their sleep and saw the glory of the Christ. This latter version is to be found, for example, in the fresco of Toqale, in Cappadocia (IXth-Xth century), where the Apostles are represented seated. The two versions were to be fused together in the commentary of St. John Chrysostom: one will see in the "sleep" (St. Luke) the stupefaction produced by the vision. It is in this sense that Nicolas Mesarites (XIIth century) describes the mosaic of the Transfiguration in the Church of the Holy Apostles at Constantinople.

The attitudes of the Apostles vary. But, starting with the XIth century, St. Peter will always be represented kneeling, supported on his left hand, and raising his right hand to protect himself from the light (or to make a gesture accompanying the words that he addresses to Christ). St. John (always in the centre) falls, turning his back to the light. St. James flees before the light or falls backwards. In the XIIIth century, icons are more frequently met, which aim to accentuate the expressive attitudes of the Apostles: they fall precipitately from the rugged summit, overwhelmed by the vision. This iconographic type became general in the XIVth century, at the time

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of the controversy over the Light of Tabor: the intention was to underline, in iconography, the uncreated character of the Light of the Transfiguration. It is this that we see in the icon reproduced here (Russian, XVth century): St. Peter has fallen on his knees; so has St. John; St. James has fallen on his back, still looking at Christ, but protecting his eyes with his hand. Christ transfigured is represented standing on the summit of the mountain, speaking with Moses and Elias. His raiment is shining white. The geometrical figure (in our icon it is a hexagon) inscribed in the circle of the mandorla, must represent the "bright cloud" which revealed the transcendent source of the Divine energies. The three rays pointed down upon the apostles are an indication that the action in the Transfiguration is Trinitarian (we often see this symbol in other icons, such as the Annunciation, the Theophany, and others). Moses (on the right) in our icon is holding a book; generally it is the tables of the Decalogue-Elias (on the left) is an old man with long hair. St. John Chrysostom gives several reasons to explain the presence of Moses and Elias at the moment of the Transfiguration.

1. they represent the law and the prophets;
2. both had had a secret vision of God, one on Mt. Sinai, the other on Carmel;
3. Moses represents the dead, while Elias, taken up to heaven on a chariot of fire, represents the living. This last interpretation has been emphasized above all in liturgical texts, and has sometimes found expression in iconography: thus at Nereditza, on an image of the XVIth or XVIIth century, an angel is drawing Moses from the tomb, another is making Elias emerge from a cloud. This insistence is comprehensible; it underlines the eschatological character of the Transfiguration. Christ appears as the Lord of the quick and the dead, coming in the glory of the future age. The Transfiguration was "an anticipation of His glorious second Coming", says St. Basil: the moment, which opened a perspective of eternity in time.

PARISH LIFE:

Important dates:

July 4-9th – Summer Camp

August 6th - OUR LORD'S TRANSFIGURATION

August 15th – DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

August 27th – Saturday School open day

September 1st – Church New Year

September 8th – NATIVITY OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

September 10th – Saturday School new 2016-2017 school year

September 14th – UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-CREATING CROSS

September 30th – Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos

From the Desk of Fr. Nazari.

Dear brothers and sisters!

Once again, I would to take this opportunity and to greet you on the occasion of the Feast of the Pentecost and Holy Spirit Day.

As you can see time is flying by and here we are with you at the end of June. Before you know it, we will start a new church and school year on September 1st.

Dear parishioners and friends of our church, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that beginning September we will start to serve general moleben and panikhida services for the health and blessed memory of our members and their relatives. According to our parish practice, panikhida will be served the first Sunday of each month, and moleben - the last Sunday of each month after Divine Liturgy.

In addition, twice a month on Thursdays at 7pm there will

be moleben to All Holy and Blessed, Glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary for the health of our parishioners, welfare of our families, peace around the world, for blessing in our work good beginning.

Moleben will be followed by conversations. There will be a box placed in the church where you can put notes with your questions or topics that you would like to discuss.

I want to draw your attention to the fact that Akathist on Tuesdays at 7pm is a regular parish service and everybody is welcome to attend and to pray to the icon of Holy Virgin Mary "Rescuer of the Perishing".

Dear brothers and sisters, there is a saying that young people are our future; I will tell you more, young people are not only our future but first of all our present. Our Christian vocation is to hand over our faith, strengthen our Orthodox traditions and cultivate love for our Holy Church in the hearts of the younger generation. For this purpose, we have included a special survey (see attachment in yellow) in this issue of the Parish Leaflet. Please answer these questions and return the survey to the church office. This will help us a lot to prepare educational programs for our Parish Saturday and Sunday schools and to plan youth activities for the next year.

We look forward to your development and growth assistance to our Holy Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Church in Los Angeles.

God bless you.

Archpriest Nazari Polataiko.

From the Treasurer:

Dear Parishioners,

Please continue to make your contribution and financial support to our parish, especially during the coming summer months when you might be away. We are close to taking credit cards, you can also give through PayPal on the parish website (www.hvmla.org).

Please continue to keep the Church, your fellow parishioners and the clergy in your prayers.

Margaret Dascalu

Sisterhood News.

Please note, *during the month of July, the Sisterhood will not be serving lunch after Liturgy.* Many of our ladies who prepare the meals will be out of town for summer vacation. Instead, we will have Pot Luck luncheons. Parishioners are urged to bring dishes each Sunday. All donated proceeds will be going to the Church. Coffee and tea will be made.

You may choose to bring main dishes, vegetables, salads, or desserts enough to serve 12 people.

In the month of August the Sisterhood will provide a minimum menu and in September we will again serve a full meal including Borscht or other soups along with a main dish and sides, plus dessert. Your cooperation is desired.

We are getting bids to update part of the Parish Hall kitchen. Hopefully the work can be done during the summer months. We are also planning to purchase a new larger refrigerator.

Our long awaited blue vestments for the altar servers have arrived.

We invite all ladies of the Parish to join our Sisterhood. Dues are \$25.00 a year.

Irene Gregory

Starosta Report

We are planning to have a work party on one Saturday in July and one in August starting at 10:00 am to approximately 2:00 pm. Not sure of the dates, but we will post the work party schedule for July in the Parish Hall. Work will consist of mostly gardening, painting, minor repairs, etc.

Please let Leo Gregory (Starosta) know if you plan to attend. Your help will be appreciated.

We will provide light snacks.

Leo Gregory

Fundraising Committee

Dodgers Dog Game!

July 3st, 2016 after Divine Liturgy luncheon and raffle. A fundraiser to benefit our Parish. See enclosed flyer.

Ways and means committee

Saturday school

Next school year registration will begin on Saturday, August 20th and will be held on Saturdays, August 20th, August 27th and September 3rd in the school building from 10am to 3pm.

There will be an open day on Saturday, August 27th, where parents, students, and everyone can get acquainted with the school curriculum, to communicate with teachers. In addition, you can take a tour of our church and learn about the history of the parish and to get acquainted with the parish. Guests will be offered tea and cakes.

The new 2016-2017 school year will begin on Saturday, September 10th. After the prayer at the beginning of the new school year, which begins at 10am in the church, in the parish hall to hold a general parent meeting. Students will learn in this day in operation from 10:00am to 2:45pm.

Dear parishioners, we would like to ask you for financial assistance on the repair of two classrooms in the school building. We will be grateful to all your support.

Head of Studies, Irina Usova

Sunday School.

The Sunday School completed its term on June 12. We are eagerly looking forward to our next term, when we anticipate adding an upper elementary school class and a middle school class, with God's blessing. We are searching for adults who are willing to teach two Sundays every month. If you are interested, please contact Marie McEntire at Lmcentir@gmail.com, Fr. Nazari, or the church office.

Marie McEntire, Coordinator

Summer Camp

Applications are no longer being taken as summer camp is July 4- 9.

Please read the packing list so appropriate clothing for camp is brought. Also bring water bottles and sun screen.

See you there for fun!

Marina Burgmeier, Camp Coordinator

L.O.V.E.S.

We will be holding a raffle on August 21, 2016 after liturgy. Please look for tickets in the mail. We hope we can count on your continued support so that we can assist our elderly and sick orthodox parishioners.

Marina Burgmeier, President

<u>BAPTISMS:</u> Victoria Usova.....	May 28
Angelina Usova	May 28
Gabriel Friedman.....	June 17

Many years!

FUNERALS: Martemian Zyablitsev.....March 16
 Lubov Kozlova.....May 27

Memory eternal

Prayer Request list:

Tatiana Simakova (in need of a donor kidney)
 Marina Dobis (in need of a donor kidney)
 Christopher Apostal, Mary Kokayko, Alexander
 Maria, Elena, Theodore, Ann Brown

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

Leonid and Irene Gregory for Special Projects.....	500
Galina Tokmakoff for Special Projects.....	400
Irene Novoa in memory of Katherine Oleva.....	200
Eugene Noskoff in memory of Paul, Claudia, Gennady Moisejev	100
Anonymous for health of Boris Shalygin	50
Klavdia Tikhomirova for Special Projects.....	30
Alla Bobrov for good health of Boris Shalygin	25
Tatiana Timohovichfor good health of Boris Shalygin	25

JULY 2016

2	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
3	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	2 nd week after Pentecost All Saints of North America and Russia
5	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	
9	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
10	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	Ven. Anthony Kiev Cave
12	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	
15	Fr	10:00 am	Liturgy	Isapostle St. Vladimir
16	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
17	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	Great Martyr Marina, St. Lazarus relics
19	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	
20	Wed	10:00 am	Liturgy	Holy Prophet Elias
23	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
24	Sun	10:00 pm	Liturgy	Martyrs Boris and Gleb Great Martyr Christina
26	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	
27	Wed	10:00 am	Liturgy	Great Martyr Panteleimon
30	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	App. Silas and Silvanus (70); Martyr John the Warrior
31	Sun	10:00 am	Liturgy	Righteous Eudocimus

AUGUST 2016

Dormition Fast: (August 1 - 15)

1	Mon	10:00 am	Liturgy and water blessing	Procession of Holy Cross; Maccabean martyrs <i>Beginning of the Dormition Fast</i>
2	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos; <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	
5	Fr	7:00 pm	Vigil and blessing of fruit	OUR LORD'S TRANSFIGURATION
6	Sat	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Liturgy and blessing of fruit Vigil	
7	<u>Sun</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>	Liturgy	Martyr Dometius of Persia Relics of St Metrophanes Wonderworker Nicanor
9	Tue	10:00 am 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Liturgy Akathist to Theotokos; <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	Ven Herman of Alaska; St. Apostle Matthias
13	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
14	<u>Sun</u>	<u>10:00 am</u> <u>5:00 pm</u>	Liturgy Vigil	DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THE- OTOKOS
15	Mon	10:00 am	Liturgy	
16	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos; <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	
20	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
21	<u>Sun</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>	Liturgy	Apostle Thaddeus (70); Venerable Abramius
23	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos; <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	
27	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
28	<u>Sun</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>	Liturgy	Ven. Moses the Ethiopian
29	Mon	10:00 am	Liturgy	Beheading of St. John the Baptist
30	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos; <i>Meeting of FORUM; Iconography Presentation by Father Nazari</i>	

SEPTEMBER 2016

1	Thu	10:00 am	Liturgy	Church New Year Ven. Simeon the Stylite
3	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
4	<u>Sun</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>	Liturgy and general Panikhida	Hieromartyr Babylas; Holy Prophet Moses; Relics of St. Joasaph
6	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos; <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	
7	Wed	7:00 pm	Vigil	NATIVITY OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY
8	Thu	10:00 am	Liturgy	
10	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
11	<u>Sun</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>	Liturgy	St. Theodora of Alexandria; Relics of Sergius and Herman
13	Tue	7:00 pm	Vigil	UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-CREATING CROSS
14	Wed	10:00 am	Liturgy	
15	Thu	7:00 pm	Moleben to Theotokos followed by discussion	
17	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
18	<u>Sun</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>	Liturgy	St. Eumenes of Gortyna; Martyr Ariadne; Martyrs Sophia and Irene
20	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos; <i>Meeting of FORUM</i>	
24	Sat	5:00 pm	Vigil	
25	<u>Sun</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>	Liturgy and general Moleben	Ven. Sergius of Radonezh (repose)
27	Tue	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Akathist to Theotokos; <i>Meeting of FORUM; Iconography Presentation by Father Nazari</i>	
29	Thu	7:00 pm	Moleben to Theotokos followed by discussion	
30	Fr	7:00 pm	Vigil	Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos

