

Announcements

- **Welcome Guests and Visitors.** We welcome you and hope your experience at the Divine Liturgy is edifying and spiritually nourishing. Please take a moment after the service to introduce yourself to our pastor, Father Kirill. You are invited to join us for lunch after the service. We would love to greet you and answer any questions.
- **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). You can pick up a pledge card at church or fill out your pledge online at our web site, holy-trinity.org.
- **Bookstore.** Our bookstore downstairs was restocked this week! Curl up with a *good* book or give one as a gift. We will be open after Sunday Liturgy and can easily open on request.
- **More Fellowship and Learning.** This Saturday, all are welcome to a class designed for inquirers and catechumens (but, hopefully, interesting for all!). The Women’s Group will meet after Great Vespers.
- **The Feast of the beloved Saint Nicholas** is on December 6. The celebration will take place at the Parish of St. Nicholas in San Anselmo (Vigil Dec. 5 at 7 PM, Liturgy Dec. 6 at 9:30 AM. All are invited to attend.

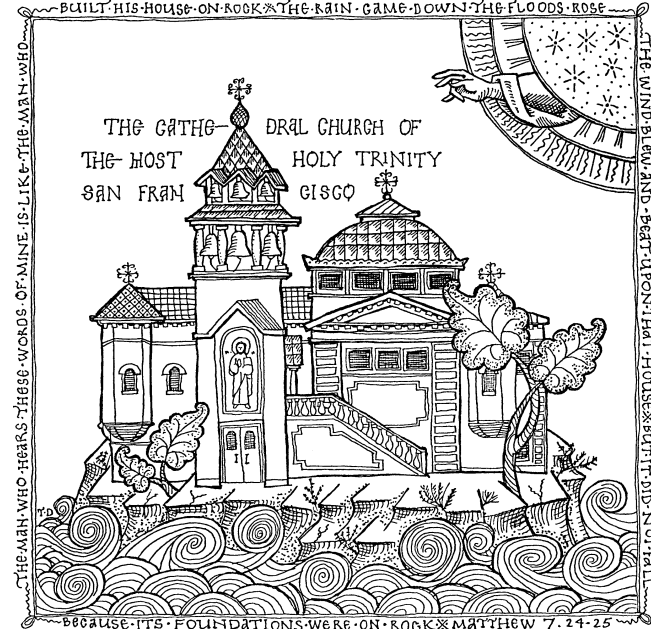
This Week at Holy Trinity

- Tue. Dec. 5:** 7:00 pm Festal Vigil at St. Nicholas Church, San Anselmo
- Wed. Dec. 6:** **St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Abp. of Myra in Lycia**
9:30 am Patronal Feast Day Divine Liturgy
at St. Nicholas Church, San Anselmo
6:00 pm Vespers (*here*)
- Sat. Dec. 9:** 4:30 pm Inquirer/Catechumen Class (*all welcome!*)
6:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
followed by Women’s Group gathering
Parking available at St. Brigid’s
- Sun. Dec. 10:** **27th Sunday After Pentecost. Martyr Menas.**
9:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour
and Church School (*all grades*)
Parking available Sunday morning at St. Brigid’s

Contact Fr. Kirill

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

Holy Trinity Cathedral



Sunday, December 3, 2023

Most Reverend Benjamin,
Archbishop of San Francisco and the West

Very Reverend Dr. Kirill Sokolov, Dean

1520 Green Street
San Francisco, California 94123
holy-trinity.org

Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of the West

We are delighted to be together with you in worshipping the Holy Trinity.
Welcome!

Today's Epistle

Ephesians 5:9-19

Today's Gospel

Luke 18:18-27

26th Sunday after Pentecost.

Holy Prophet Zephaniah

(635-605 B.C.).

Tone 1.

Today's Epistle Reading

Ephesians 5:9-19

Brethren: Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the light is in all goodness and righteousness and truth), and try to learn what is well pleasing to the Lord. Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for all that is made manifest is light. Therefore it is said, "Wake up from thy sleep, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."

See, therefore, that you walk with care, not as unwise, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, for in that is dissipation. But be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

Today's Gospel Reading

Luke 18:18-27

At that time, a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'"

And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth."

So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?"

But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

The Dating of Christmas

...December 25th as the date of the Christ's birth appears to owe nothing whatsoever to pagan influences upon the practice of the Church during or after Constantine's time. It is wholly unlikely to have been the actual date of Christ's birth, but it arose entirely from the efforts of early Latin Christians to determine the historical date of Christ's death. And the pagan feast which the Emperor Aurelian instituted on that date in the year 274 was not only an effort to use the winter solstice to make a political statement, but also almost certainly an attempt to give a pagan significance to a date already of importance to Roman Christians. The Christians, in turn, could at a later date re-appropriate the pagan "Birth of the Unconquered Sun" to refer, on the occasion of the birth of Christ, to the rising of the "Sun of Salvation" or the "Sun of Justice." —William J. Tighe, *Touchstone Magazine*

St Caesarius of Arles, On the Coming of Christ

Since the Lord's birthday is approaching, let us with Christ's help prepare ourselves for the nuptials and heavenly banquet by being clear of all dissipation and adorned with good works. Let us give alms to the poor, attend vigils more promptly, pray or chant the psalms standing in church; observe peace with all men, and recall to harmony those whom you know are at variance. If with the help of Christ you are willing to fulfill these things faithfully, you will be able to approach the Lord's altar in this life with an easy conscience and in the future life will happily arrive at eternal bliss.



Many Years!

Nameday:
Nicholas Sokolov
(Dec 6)

Birthday:
Matushka
Sophia Sokolov
(Dec 5)

Thank you!

We are incredibly grateful to all those who cooked and helped prepare hospitality at yesterday's retreat. Thank you!

Please join us downstairs for coffee and our fellowship meal! We look forward to meeting our guests and visitors.

Thanks to Elleni, Daria, and Dylan F. for organizing today's lunch!