



# Holy Assumption Monastery Newsletter – October 2017

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Dear Friends of Holy Assumption Monastery,

Our choir director periodically reminds us of an important rule of ensemble singing – the right note at the wrong time is the wrong note. Musically, this makes eminent sense. A note that is slightly late or early decreases the cohesiveness of the ensemble – and the further off we are, the worse the result. To correct this state of affairs, we need to improve our own sense of timing, listen to each other, and WATCH THE DIRECTOR!

This principle applies to our daily interactions as well. Often our statements are true, but the timing is off. Maybe we were angry when we had our say, or maybe the other person just wasn't in a place where they could hear our (supposedly) constructive criticism. Thank God, this problem is fixable by the same means as the musical. If we humbly watch our own hearts, pay close and loving attention to the people around us, and KEEP OUR EYES ON CHRIST, we will become local expressions of the heavenly choir that sings the eternal praises of our God.

With love in Christ,

*Mother Melania  
and the community  
of Holy Assumption Monastery*

## ZOO UPDATE – Tin Tin Tin relocates (but not very far)

Rumor has it that Tin Tin Tin, faithful guardian of our koi, has abandoned his post! Horrified by such calumny, he has asked us to clear his good name. We are therefore happy to assure you that Tin Tin Tin is still on koi duty – he's just been assigned to a different post. The pedestal that had been his former position will soon be graced by an iconographic mural of Christ creating the world (including fish!). Meanwhile, Tin Tin Tin has been reassigned to the far side of the koi pond, where he continues his unsleeping vigilance. So, if any great blue herons happen to be reading this, be assured that Tin Tin Tin remains on the watch!



Dale and Yvonne Liid with the kiot Dale made for the mural - x marks the spot!



Umm, who remembers where we put the back?



And how are we going to get the whole thing all the way over there?!



You figure out how to get it there, and I promise to guard it!

## And even MORE news from the zoo

During the serious heat spell of last month, the outdoor critters needed help beating the high temperatures. The African Greys went indoors for a few days. Chiquito the rabbit and Pixley and Cha Cha the conures were not interested in coming indoors (i.e. Chiquito and Pixley refused to be caught, and Cha Cha would not leave Pixley). So, Chiquito got an ice block to snuggle up to, and the conures got frequent spritzes with a spray bottle.



Sunrise - Do I get the bed?

Unfortunately, Pixley, who DETESTS being spritzed, kept avoiding the spray and soon was in obvious distress from the heat. Enter Cha Cha to save the day! Cha Cha, who LOVES being spritzed, usually flies flamboyantly all over the aviary to catch the spray at the best angles. This time, though, she sat quietly next to Pixley, who grudgingly endured being spritzed since her best friend was sitting by her side. When Pixley was no longer overheated, Cha Cha flew away. No telling exactly what was going on in Cha Cha's little brain, but one thing is sure – she loves Pixley!



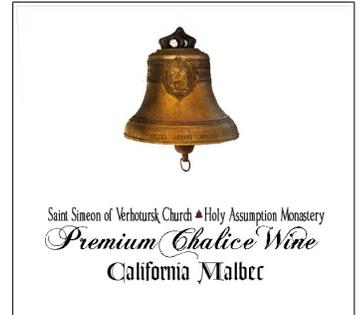
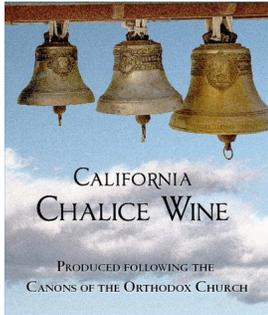
Posing for maximal cuteness.

## *Calistoga Orthodox Wines – alive and well*

We're very happy to report that Calistoga Orthodox Wines (COW) is alive and well! For about a year now, we've been working with our new winemakers, Tom Eddy and Jason Gerard, of Tom Eddy Winery. Over the past months, Tom and Jason have been teaching us more about the various aspects of the wine business, and we have begun to participate where we can. September 7 was a busy day in this regard. In the morning, four sisters and our friend Rachelle went to Split Rock Ranch in Ukiah, where the Malbec grapes for the 2017 vintage Kagor are currently ripening. There the sisters culled some clusters suffering from "grape shatter" (the failure of a grape cluster to develop completely) in order to ensure high quality of the wine. In the afternoon, a few of the sisters went to Tom Eddy Winery to observe the bottling of the newest release of our California Chalice Wine. One of the sisters even got to help label some cases of wine!

Speaking of labels, you will notice that our current California Chalice Wine has a new label featuring three of our monastery's bells. The 2015 Kagor, which will be bottled in March, will also feature one of the monastery's bells in order to express continuity between the two lines.

The new California chalice wine is available for \$10/bottle or \$105/case. The 2014 Kagor is still available at \$20/bottle or \$180/case. The 2015 vintage, coming in March 2018, will be \$20/bottle or \$200/case. For more information, see [calistogaorthodoxwine.com](http://calistogaorthodoxwine.com), email [orders@calistogaorthodoxwine.com](mailto:orders@calistogaorthodoxwine.com) or call 707-942-4658.



*Hard at work in the vineyard!*

*Which way did you say the labels go?*



### **HERE AND THERE**

It's festival time again! We are thankful to have been invited back to the festivals at St. Demetrios Church, Concord; Ss. Constantine and Helena Church, Vallejo; St. Nicholas Church, Saratoga; and Holy Dormition Church, Santa Rosa. And that's just September!

*St. Demetrios Church, Concord*

*Ss. Constantine and Helena Church, Vallejo*



*I feel somehow out of place!*

*Okay, you got it?*

*We DO have more to sell than honey.*

*Time out for photo op!*

*St. Nicholas Church, Saratoga*

*Holy Dormition Church, Santa Rosa*



*What did I just volunteer for?*

*No, we don't sell these, but they're awfully cute!*

*I don't know what all that stuff is, but it sure looks fun!*

*No festival is complete without music!*

**October 2017 Schedule for Holy Assumption Monastery & St. Simeon Church**

Monastery contact info – (707) 942-6244; email – [sisters@holyassumptionmonastery.com](mailto:sisters@holyassumptionmonastery.com);

website – <http://www.holyassumptionmonastery.com>

NOTE – All services are at the Monastery until necessary repairs are completed at St. Simeon Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy OR Typika	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 5:00pm Vigil
<b>8</b> 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy OR Typika	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6:00pm Vigil	<b>11</b> 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Apostle &amp; Deacon Philip</u>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 5:00pm Vigil
<b>15</b> 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy OR Typika	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:00pm Vigil	<b>18</b> 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Apostle &amp; Evangelist Luke</u>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 5:00pm Vigil
<b>22</b> 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:00pm Vigil	<b>25</b> 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Righteous Tabitha</u>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:00pm Vigil
<b>29</b> 11:00am Divine Liturgy at Macedonian Park	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>NOTE: Our schedule sometimes changes unexpectedly. Please check our website or the recorded message on our telephone for last minute changes.</b>			

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday November 4**  
**Incarnating Christ in the Midst of Our World**  
 led by **Abbot Tryphon** of All-Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA

**Fall Retreat—Saturday November 4, 2017**

# Incarnating Christ in the Midst of Our World

*led by*

Abbot Tryphon of All-Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA



**9:00 AM—Session 1**



**10:30 AM—Session 2**



**12:15 PM Akathist**



**1 pm Lunch**



**2pm—Session 3**

**HOLY ASSUMPTION  
MONASTERY**



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<http://holyassumptionmonastery.com>

No Fee—donations accepted

Call Soon—Space is limited

The Rt. Rev. Father Tryphon is abbot of the [All-Merciful Saviour Monastery](#) on Vashon Island, Washington. The Monastery is under the omophore of The Rt. Rev. Bishop Theodosy of Seattle, of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia. Situated in the heart of a beautiful forest, surrounded by the Salish Sea, the monastery is reached by ferry from either Seattle, or Tacoma, Washington.