



Holy Assumption Monastery Newsletter – August 2019

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Dear Friends of Holy Assumption Monastery,

He that endures to the end shall be saved. These words of our Lord especially resonate with us since our dear Mother Anna went to the Lord at the age of 93 on July 13. Most people think of her engaging smile, her love of nature, and her indomitable spirit (if we had a dollar for every time she volunteered to climb a ladder, use a scythe, etc., we'd be independently wealthy 😊!). Yet, Mother Anna was in constant pain for years. She wasn't perfect, and her pain sometimes got the better of her and her temper. But she never stopped struggling, and sooner or later, her love of God and of the people around her always won out. So much so, that even the people closest to her could sometimes forget how much pain she was in.

In the end, Mother Anna won and the pain lost. When she died, her face was beautiful and she looked 30 years younger. Then we realized – for the the first time ever, we were seeing her face without pain. And while only God knows the end of each of us, we are confident that Mother Anna is in the land of the living where sickness, sorrow, and sighing are fled away. May we also fight the good fight until the end so that we may all stand together before our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

with love in Christ,

*Mother Melania
and the community
of Holy Assumption Monastery*



Don't worry, Mother Anna. Anytime you have dessert you don't want to eat, I'm glad to help!



Come, brethren, let us give a last kiss to the dead, rendering thanks unto God ...



Looking upon my grave, remember me with love and beseech Christ that He establish my soul with the righteous.



M. Anna & M. Juliana at St. Barbara Monastery when they were young and spry!

ZOO UPDATE – Meet the Neighbors!

You may remember our neighbor Sophie the Basset Hound, who would sometimes show up in our newsletter (in addition to regularly showing up at the monastery, in the street, and all around Calistoga 😊). She is no longer with us, sadly, but Jim and Joan can't seem to be long without a basset hound. So, it wasn't long until – much to our delight – Emma came to live with them. A little while ago, though, Emma developed a cancerous growth, and Jim and Joan decided some solace was needed (for themselves AND Emma). Enter Molly – the adorable basset puppy. A bundle of wriggly fun and love, Molly has done her job perfectly, and Emma has become a new dog. Here's hoping for the best and may we have two basset neighbors for a very long time (or, who knows, perhaps we can persuade Jim and Joan to make it three!)



Molly - I think I'll just plant myself here and take a nap.



No, this isn't a poor picture. Emma has X-ray vision!



Then

COMING UP – Our 10th Anniversary!

October 22 will mark the 10th anniversary of our arrival in Calistoga. We are in the planning stages of events to thank our friends and, most importantly, to thank God for a blessed 10 years. Stay tuned for details!



Now

HERE & THERE

Lavender Harvest 2019

Our friends from St. Seraphim Cathedral (Santa Rosa) and St. Nicholas Church (San Anselmo) made this year's lavender harvest a joy and a success! Thanks so much! Looking forward to next year!



Start them young.



Hey, everyone. Photo break!



Okay, back to work!



Biblical Garden

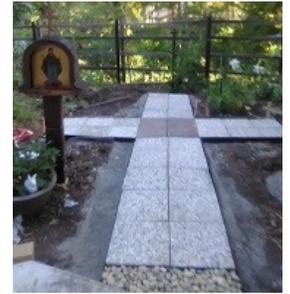
Bit by bit, we're moving forward with our Biblical Garden. Once all the sidewalk work is finished, we'll be putting in the irrigation system and the rest of the plants. Stay tuned!



Do we get to put our initials in the concrete?



Getting there



Ahhhh! Beautiful!



Have Bookstore, Will Travel (or not)

At St. Seraphim Cathedral on their Feast Day, July 19

On the Home Front



Father, is there another table we can use?



We want cookies!



Can Cookie Monster come back to Norway with us?

August 2019 Schedule for Holy Assumption Monastery & St. Simeon Church

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

Website – www.holyassumptionmonastery.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Procession of the Holy Cross</u>	2	3 5:00pm Vigil
4 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy	5 6:00pm Vigil	6 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Transfiguration</u>	7	8	9	10 5:00pm Vigil
11 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy	12	13	14 5:00pm Vigil followed by Lenten meal	15 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>DORMITION</u> (Monastery's Altar Feast)	16 6:00pm Lamentations Vigil	17 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>3rd Day of Dormition</u> 5:00pm Vigil
18 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy	19	20	21	22	23	24 5:00pm Vigil
25 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy	26	27	28 6:00pm Vigil	29 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Beheading of St. John the Baptist</u>	30	31 5:00pm Vigil

Our schedule sometimes changes unexpectedly. Please check our website or the recorded message on our telephone for last minute changes.