



Holy Assumption Monastery Newsletter – February 2019

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Dear Friends of Holy Assumption Monastery,

Recently, several of us who have been trying to walk more regularly have gotten pedometers. Of course, the pedometers are very helpful in showing us just how far we have walked that day. Surprisingly, though, the pedometers have changed how we view our day. Previously, if we forgot some article that we needed, we would be tempted to grumble about having to retrace our steps to retrieve it. Now, we just think, “Oh, good. More steps!” And if somebody asked us to go get something, that was even more of a temptation to grumble. Now, it’s just more steps ☺.

Of course, the lesson extends beyond physical steps. Every day is full of situations that seem inconvenient to us, but that’s because our goal is wrong. The goal is not to get through life with a minimum of effort. It is to love God and neighbor and thus attain to the Kingdom of Heaven. So, every ‘inconvenience’ is an opportunity to take one more step in the right direction. Life gives us many such opportunities. May we, through God’s grace, embrace the opportunities and take plenty of steps towards God every day!

with love in Christ,

*Mother Melania
and the community
of Holy Assumption Monastery*



ZOO UPDATE – NOT ONE GUEST, BUT TWO!

We often have guests staying with us, but usually just humans. At the moment, though, our guests include two dogs – Chewy and Daizy (not to be confused with Daisy the yellow lab). Daizy and her brother Chewy are Chihuahua/Corgi mixes. We’re happy to report that they don’t bear out the stereotype of the heel-biting small dog. They’re sweet little dogs that we’re all enjoying very much – all the humans, that is. The cats haven’t met them yet. We’ll have to let you know how THAT goes!

Whatever happened, we didn’t do it! Honest!!



HERE & THERE

At St. Seraphim Cathedral for their Feast Day



We’ll be right back ...

An excursion to Armstrong Redwood State Reserve



*This would make a
great monastic cell!*



*Nuns can be tree
huggers, too!*



*There's tall, and
then there's TALL!*

THEOPHANY 2019

Glory to God for another beautiful Theophany. Fr. Vladimir Morozov celebrated the Divine Liturgy with us on Saturday January 5 and performed the indoor blessing of the waters. That evening, Fr. John Takahashi served the Theophany vigil at the Monastery and, on Sunday, served Divine Liturgy. Then, in the pouring rain, Fr. John performed the outdoor blessing of the water and blessed the whole Monastery. Thanks, Fr. John, for service above and beyond the call of duty!



Theophany Eve Liturgy



Indoor Blessing of the Water



Let every breath praise the Lord



Breaking the fast together



When Thou, O Lord, was baptized in the Jordan ...



Theophany Liturgy



Outdoor Blessing of the Water



Blessing the Monastery - Neither rain nor snow ...



WORK PARTY

On Saturday, January 26, we had the blessing of a visit from the youth group from St. Nicholas Antiochian Church, San Francisco. After a tour of the monastery and an engaging question and answer session, they helped us with several tasks around the monastery. The main task they helped with was re-graveling a path in the back of the monastery that had become mostly mud. They also helped in the garden and some other tasks. It was a lovely day, and we are looking forward to their next visit!



We can get this done in no time!



Two hours later – See, we told you!



So many decisions, so little time



Wait! Just one more picture, please!

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

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>All services are at the monastery until repairs are complete at St. Simeon Church.</i>					1 6pm Vigil	2 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Meeting of the Lord</u> 5pm Vigil
3 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy	4	5	6	7	8	9 5pm Vigil
10 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy	11	12	13 6pm Vigil	14 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Ven. Auxentius & St. Cyril, Teacher of the Slavs</u>	15	16 5pm Vigil
17 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy	18	19 6pm Vigil	20 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Leo, Bishop of Catania & Agathon, Pope of Rome</u>	21	22	23 5pm Vigil
24 9:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy	25	26 6pm Vigil	27 8:40am Hours/ Divine Liturgy <u>Ven. Procopius & St. Raphael of Brooklyn</u>	28	NOTE: Our schedule sometimes changes unexpectedly. Please check our website or the recorded message on our phone for last minute changes.	

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday March 9 Retreat

Seeking First the Kingdom: Our Lord's Teaching from the Sermon on the Mount

Conducted by Fr. Ian MacKinnon and Fr. Timothy Winegar

Lenten Retreat—Saturday March 9, 2019

Seeking First the Kingdom...Our Lord's Teaching from the Sermon on the Mount.

Conducted by Fr. Ian MacKinnon and Fr. Timothy Winegar

SEEK YE FIRST
the kingdom of God,
and his righteousness;
AND ALL THESE THINGS
shall be added unto you.

- Matthew 6: 33



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://holypassumptionmonastery.com>

No Fee—donations accepted

Call Soon—Space is limited

Fr. Ian MacKinnon is the pastor emeritus of Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church in Sacramento, and Father Timothy Winegar is the current pastor of the same church.