



# HOLY ASSUMPTION MONASTERY

## CHRISTMAS 2024 - YEAR IN REVIEW



### 2024 Liturgical Life

We are deeply thankful for the clergy who have graciously made it possible for us to celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Great Feasts and on most Sundays.



*Theophany -  
Fr Anthony Roeber*



*Meeting of the Lord -  
Fr Stephen Howell*



*Triumph of Orthodoxy -  
Fr Michael Vladimiriou*



*Dedicating the Cross from  
the "Green Church"-  
Fr Lawrence Margitich*



*Annunciation -  
Fr Edward Henderson*



*Pascha -  
Fr John Takahashi*



*Midfeast -  
Fr Constantine Efstathiou*



*Ascension -  
Dn Vasilios Callas &  
Fr Aris Metrakos*



*Transfiguration -  
Fr Nicholas Carr*



*Dormition Vigil -  
Dn John Dibs &  
Fr Philip Halliwell*



*Dormition -  
Archbishop Benjamin &  
His Clergy*



*Panakhida for parishioners  
Irene & Galina  
Fr Ian McKinnon*

### Property Development

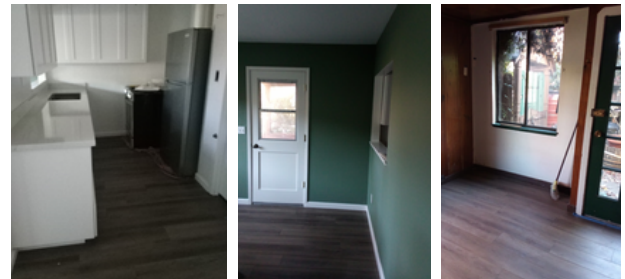
We are currently in the midst of a \$50,000 matching grant fundraiser to repay the construction loan for the new St Nicholas House, which we completed in 2024. We are well on track to pay back the entire loan when it comes due in February 2028.



*Our beautiful new St Nicholas House*

**TO DONATE -**  
go to [holyassumptionmonastery.com](http://holyassumptionmonastery.com)  
and scroll to the bottom.

We are also making extensive repairs to St. Barbara House to serve as a guest house for pilgrims and/or visiting clergy. We hope to have it ready in January 2025!



*Our in-the-process of becoming beautiful St Barbara House!*

Last but not least, we now have a beautiful new aviary/gazebo. To see Sunrise and Petie in their new quarters, please turn the page!



*Yuri the Master Builder and his Aviary Masterpiece!*

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## 15 Years in Calistoga

October 23 was our 15-year anniversary in Calistoga!



Now



Then

## Casket for Matushka Olga Michael

We received the great honor of providing a new casket for Matushka Olga Michael prior to her glorification. Below is Mother Macrina with the lid, which is wood-burned with an image of Matushka Olga. Holy Matushka Olga, pray to God for us!



## Zoo View

As you've probably guessed, the Zoo Update is by far the most popular part of our newsletter! So, of course, we had to do justice to all our critters in our year-in-review.

Sadly, we lost two of our birds - Bubbles the Parakeet in April and Shannon the Conure in November. Because Shannon and Pixley were a bonded pair, our friends from Mickaboo Companion Bird Rescue took Pixley back to fostering until she bonds with another bird. If she bonds with a high-need bird, they will need to stay with an experienced fosterer. Otherwise, we will have Pixley and friend back in their gorgeous new aviary. In the meantime, Petie and Sunrise are enjoying their new aviary and are continuing their (fairly) amicable relationship.



Bubbles in all her beauty



Shannon & Pixley - two peas in a pod



Petie & Sunrise in new digs - Yes, we're friends, but we hate to admit it!

The koi continue to enchant the children - and adults, too!



No, we aren't fishing for compliments - we really are lovely!

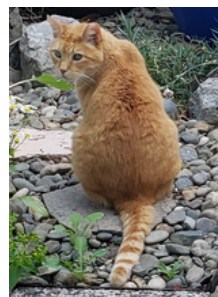
And the cats? Well, they are cats!



Frisco - sometimes I feel boxed in



Goolya - Undignified? Certainly not!



Simba - Yes???



Philly - Snug as a bug in a rug