



HOLY ASSUMPTION MONASTERY

APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER



Dear Friends,

Recently, as I was driving down highway 5, I found myself behind an Amazon truck, which was emblazoned with the words "Contents may cause happiness." It's a cute message. But my track record for happiness based on things I buy is pretty abysmal. At best, I'm pleased with the purchase - maybe even enough to write a kind review!

Still, THINGS don't bring happiness - God does. Or to put it another way, material things may bring happiness, but that's not the same thing as true joy. Only through Christ do we attain true joy, and that involves taking up our crosses and following Him. So, as we finish our Lenten journey to Pascha, let's see take up our crosses again out of love for the One Who journeyed to the Cross so that we might be resurrected with Him!

with love in Christ,
Mother Melania & the sisters

ZOO UPDATE - Three Isn't Always a Crowd

Petie and Sunrise have come so far over the years! Starting out with a 'frosty' relationship, they now coexist amicably in the cage on the deck (it doesn't hurt that they both love the extra attention that involves).

What can be better than two chummy African Greys? THREE chummy African Greys, obviously. Enter our old friend Pearl and her owner attendant Rachelle. Okay, Pearl and the boys aren't quite CHUMMY yet, but they're all at least politely interested! Stay tuned!



*Hey, guys! How many parrots does it take to change a light bulb?
Three: One to read the instructions, one to ignore them, and one to repeat.
'Step one: Insert bulb, ' until everyone runs away screaming!*

APRIL CALENDAR

Sundays Apr 6 & 13 - 10 am Divine Liturgy (No Divine Liturgy at monastery on Apr 27)

Presanctified Liturgies - 10am Thursday Apr 3; 5pm Wednesday Apr 9

Lazarus Saturday - 9am Divine Liturgy

HOLY WEEK: Presanctified Liturgy Holy Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday - 11am

Holy Thursday - Vesperal Liturgy - 11am

Holy Friday - Lamentations Matins - 6pm

Holy Saturday - Vesperal Liturgy - 11am; Paschal Nocturnes - 11:30 pm

PASCHA - Paschal Matins and Divine Liturgy - 12am; Agape Vespers - 11am

Bright Monday - 7am Paschal Matins and Divine Liturgy

For other services, please see our website

1519 Washington St., Calistoga, CA 94515

Phone: (707) 942-6244; Email: sisters@holyassumptionmonastery.com

Website: www.holyassumptionmonastery.com

Mother Melania's Book Update

Quiz Yourself on the Book of II Maccabees is now available on Amazon as a Kindle book through the end of April for \$0.99 or as a printed booklet from the monastery for \$4.00.

QUIZ YOURSELF ON II MACCABEES

Quizzes from Easy-Peasy to Mega-Master



MOTHER MELANIA SALEM

Check out the April edition of Mother Melania's Monthly Missive.

Classic Kids' Tales: The Elephant's Child

Before elephants had trunks, there was an elephant child with an endless parade of 'satiabile curiosities.' This was the cause of numerous spankings from his annoyed relatives. Finally, he asks the question 'What does the Crocodile have for dinner?' How does he find out? What does this have to do with how elephants got trunks? Join us and find out!

For a free copy of *The Elephant's Child*, [click here](#).

Pictures of Lent

Forgiveness Sunday



Fr Aris
Metrakos

*Asking
forgiveness*



Presanctified Liturgy - Clean Wednesday



Fr Michael
Vladimirov

*Taste and see
that the LORD is good!*



Triumph of Orthodoxy Sunday



Fr. Nicholas
Carr

*Procession
of the Cross*



Sunday of the Cross



Fr. Constantine Efstathiou &
Fr. John Christianson

*Glory, O Lord, to Thy
precious Cross!*



Annunciation



Fr. Edward
Henderson

*Rejoice, O
unwedded Bride!*

