



HOLY ASSUMPTION MONASTERY



OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

SERVICES AT THE MONASTERY

I'm writing this in the waiting room of a Quest Diagnostics lab. I'm sitting here instead of waiting outside because a working man in jeans and a hoodie got up as soon as he saw me and offered me his seat with a silent wave of his hand.

Our thanks once again to the priests who kindly serve here at the monastery and to the bishops who bless them to do so.

Two thoughts spring to mind. First, clothes don't make the man. Second, there are still gentlemen in our world!



Fr. Michael Vladimirov



Fr. Constantine Efstathiu



Fr. Damian Kuolt

Obvious thoughts, maybe, but good reminders for the likes of me that a) it's way too easy to judge people on non-essentials and b) there are still lots of beautiful people out there.

So, I'm thankful for this kind gentleman (who left before I could get his name), for all the people who go about silently doing good, and for the God Who made them.

And, from now on, whenever I see a man in a hoodie, I will try to make a point of looking for the gentleman inside!

with love in Christ,
Mother Melania & the sisters

ZOO UPDATE - Adopted Member of the Zoo Crew?

Meet Oreo - or Oliver (as in "More, sir??") or McScratch (this one should be obvious!) or ...? We'll go with Oreo for the moment, as that is his actual name. Oreo lives a block or so away from the monastery, but he's been visiting for weeks now, and at least one or two sisters are lobbying for making him a card-carrying member of the zoo.



Don't stop me. I'm on a mission!



Yes, this is a flower bed. But it's mostly MY bed!!!

It remains to be seen whether he accepts the card. It also remains to see what name(s) he goes by here.

So, stay tuned! And next time you visit, tell him hi!

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sunday October 5 - 10 am Divine Liturgy or Typika

Sunday October 12, 19, and 26 - 10 am Divine Liturgy (October 12 & 26 still tentative)

Saturday October 18, St Luke the Evangelist - 9 am Divine Liturgy (with Bishop VASILY)

Thursday October 23, St James the Brother of the Lord - 9 am Divine Liturgy

For other services, please see our website

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Website: www.holyassumptionmonastery.com

MOTHER MELANIA'S BOOK UPDATE

Quiz Yourself on the Song of Songs (Song of Solomon) is now available on Amazon as a Kindle book through the end of October for \$0.99 or as a printed booklet from the monastery for \$4.00.

QUIZ YOURSELF ON THE SONG OF SONGS (THE SONG OF SOLOMON)

Quizzes from Easy-Peasy to Mega-Master



MOTHER MELANIA SALEM

Check out the October edition of [Mother Melania's Monthly Missive](#).

Classic Kids' Tales:

The Cat that Walked by Himself

In the time when Tame Animals were wild, the first Woman starts by taming the first Man. Then, she tames the Dog, the Horse, and the Cow. But, of course, she couldn't tame the Cat. Instead the Cat tricked her into giving him the perks of domestication without giving up being 'The Cat that Walked by Himself.'

That doesn't make a very good story, though. So, if you want to find out how the Cat got his comeuppance (sort of), join us and find out!

For a free copy of *The Cat that Walked by Himself*, click [here](#)

HERE & THERE

Prospora Baking with the Kids! Nativity of Christ Church, Novato September 21, 2025



Best Assignment Ever!

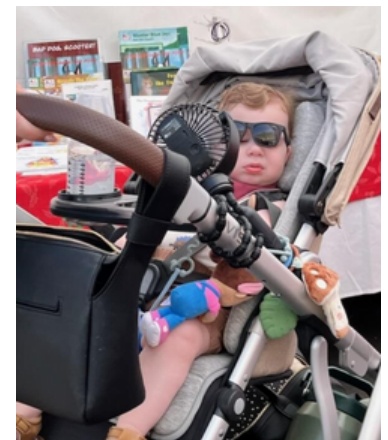


One of Innumerable
adorable pictures of cute kids!

St Anna Church, Roseville Greek Festival - September 6 & 7, 2025



Nice shades, Fr Stephen!



But MY shades are the best!

St George Cathedral, Daly City Mediterranean Festival - September 6 & 7, 2025



Now we just need customers!



Thanks, Fr John!