



*I am the vine
you are the branches.*

John 15:5

The Grapevine

A NEWSLETTER OF ST. LAWRENCE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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*Ss. Cosmas and Damian
November 1/14*

CALENDAR

- Nov. 11** 6 p.m. Parish Teaching
- Nov. 14** 6 p.m. Graveside Memorial for Fr. John Hardenbrook
- Nov. 15** Nativity Fast Begins
7 p.m. Vespers followed by **Annual Parish Meeting**
- Nov. 17** 9 a.m. Parish Workday

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Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday, November 15, after Vespers (7 p.m.)

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." Proverbs 29:18

Come one and all, old and young! This is our once-a-year opportunity to get the "Amen!" of the entire community on the function and activities of our board of trustees, our management and progress of finances and facilities, long-term planning and physical development of our property, and the continuation of our various ministry areas. All parishioners 18 years and older, come and give your thumbs-up to the work being done.

GIVE THE GIFT OF PLANNING

When it comes to aging, death, and inheritance, the worse plan we can have is no plan, and the worse communication we can have is no communication. On November 11, at 6 p.m., in the church upper room, a presentation will be made introducing the themes of Orthodox Christian financial stewardship, estate / inheritance planning, long-term health care, and end of life directives. Morbid as these themes may seem to the average American, these discussions in fact bring healing, security, and peace to those of Faith. Are you a "baby-boomer"? Are your parents aging? Not really a planner? Insecure without a plan? Come and see! What you will discover is that discussing these topics in advance is a blessing for everyone.

For the younger families wanting to attend babysitting will be provided, but **please call the church office ahead of time** so we have enough sitters.

FROM THE PARISH



ACADEMY CORNER

Nov. 12	No School - Veterans Day
Nov. 21 - 23	No School - Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 26	2:45 p.m. Youth Choir

Drive for Schools Thank You

Drive for Schools 2018 has officially ended. A HUGE thank you to everyone who supported our school by purchasing a ticket through the Drive for Schools fund-raiser! We were able to raise over \$9000 through your generosity and could not feel more blessed.

HOMILIES ONLINE!

An easy way to prepare for Sundays and feast days throughout the year is to listen to the previous year's homily at www.slocc.com/audio. Take a listen!

What Does "Stewardship" Mean?

The exercise of Stewardship for an Orthodox Christian is the process of placing all of Creation in its proper perspective. It is the process of establishing the correct set of priorities in a life that is Christ-centered, Spirit-filled, and moving toward the Kingdom of Heaven. Once we dedicate ourselves to this, all earthly necessities will be provided. God does not ask us to take such a journey without providing us what we need for the journey. Stewardship is not a financial issue – it is a Spiritual one.

"Our money is the Lord's, however we may have gathered it."
– Saint John Chrysostom

This is the very basis of Christian stewardship. Everything we possess—our time, our talents, and our treasures ["money," material possessions]—are gifts from God and, as such, they ultimately belong to Him. They are given to us by Him; we, in turn, are called to be good stewards of His gifts. A 'steward' is a manager. Hence, a Christian steward wisely manages God's gifts.

"He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?" – Jesus Christ

"Grant us your own peace and your own love, O Lord our God, for you have given all things to us." - Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

"For each of us He gave His life, the equivalent for all. From us He demands the same all in return, for one another. If we owe our lives to the brethren, and have made such a mutual compact with the Savior, why should we go on hoarding and shutting up worldly goods, which are alien to us and transitory."
- Saint Clement

"Sin is a destructive act born from the lie that we are free to do what we want with what is our own. Sin is not a wrong or bad use of human freedom and choice. It is rather an act born of the falsehood that we are free in the first place to be and to do what we choose." – Father Thomas Hopko

"We need to always check our fundamental attitude in the way we deal with our lives in this physical world. It is not ours, it is God's. Everything else will flow in its order when we have this perspective." – Father John Hardenbrook

"Tithing tells us specifically what to do with 10% of God's money. In financial planning, Christians figure out what to do with the other 90% of God's money. You see, it's all His money! He gives us everything and we are responsible with what we do with the everything that He has given us." – Dave Ramsey

PERSON TO PERSON

FROM THE PARISH

Annual Parish Meeting

Please set aside the evening of Thursday, November 15, for our annual parish meeting. The meeting will begin after Vespers at approximately 7:45 p.m. Our parish's financial transparency and accountability to its members gains closure each year at this meeting, so please come and give your "Amen!" Each ministry area will present a financial report and we will elect board members to serve for the next three years.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Decorating for Nativity Season

We again have the opportunity to enter into the Nativity season with the community around us. Come help out for a few hours Saturday, November 17, at 9 a.m., as we decorate the church grounds with a myriad of Christmas lights, and tackle several other projects. Bring your ladders, staple guns, rakes and muscle and join us for a fun day of decorating the property. This year we will be removing the old canopy next to the the patio in prperation for the new Arbor that will be built. So come, lend a hand, and fellowship—as always, many hands make light work.

THANKS & CONGRATS

Dear Friends,

My daughters surprised me again! Of course they counted on my naiveness and a few fortunate distractions to pull it off. But, no matter, it worked, and I was surprised! Thank you, my dear friends, and Laurie and Anna for all of your help. I'm happy that so many of you stayed after church to celebrate with us. And, thank you for all those thoughtful notes on Fr. Luke's card; what a treasure! Best of all, it was on the Feast Day of our Protectress, the Mother of God! I love you all, Wendell.



The Vicariate for Palestinian & Jordanian Orthodox Communities in America Monthly Schedule Sheet — November 2018 Very Rev. Fr. Damaskinos Alazrai Archimandrite of the Ecumenical Throne

Sunday, Nov. 10	Pastoral Visit	Theotokos "Joy of All Who Sorrow" & St. John Maximovich Orthodox Mission 11002 N. Saguaro Blvd, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268	All Day
Sunday, Nov. 11	Translation of the Relics of St. George In Lydda	All Saints of North America Orthodox Church 9502 West Hutton Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351	9 a.m.
Sunday, Nov. 16	Translation Of the Relics of Great Martyr St. George In Lydda	Saint George Orthodox Cathedral 1617 Southgate Ave. Daly City, CA 94015	6:30 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 18	Divine Liturgy	St. Stephen Orthodox Church 11055 Hirschfeld Way, Rancho Cordova, CA	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 25	Divine Liturgy	The Orthodox Church of the Annunciation 2525 Etiwanda Ave., San Bernardino 92410	10 a.m.
Sunday, Nov. 28	Compline for the Beginning of the Nativity Fast & Spiritual Lecture	The Orthodox Church of the Annunciation 2525 Etiwanda Ave., San Bernardino 92410	10 a.m.

NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES

Giving Thanksgiving

The scene on distribution days at Valley Churches United Missions in Ben Lomond is one of long lines of those who have come to receive bags of food filled with all they will need to prepare a nourishing holiday meal: a food voucher to purchase perishables and canned goods collected by local businesses, stores, churches, and schools. Joy and relief are seen on their faces.

You can help make this possible. There are flyers in your box with a list of suggestions for filling a grocery bag for families who are struggling to make ends meet. You may place your filled bag in the narthex or deliver it to VCUM, 9400 Highway 9, Ben Lomond, or Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce, 216B Mt. Hermon Rd.

Room For Rent

Dn. Paul Trigg will have an upstairs room to rent available in November. If you know of someone who needs a room please call him for details: 336-8912.

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

On Almsgiving

"He who gives alms in imitation of God does not discriminate between the wicked and the virtuous, the just and the unjust, when providing for men's bodily needs. He gives equally to all according to their need, even though he prefers the virtuous man to the bad man because of the integrity of his intention."

– Saint Maximos the Confessor

SHOP THE ABBOT'S!

New This Week

- ✦ Dressers
- ✦ Bookcases
- ✦ Juiceman Jr., box
- ✦ Walkers/crutches
- ✦ Sleeping/nap bags
- ✦ Dessert dishes set
- ✦ Olympia typewriter
- ✦ Personal trampoline
- ✦ Popsicle sticks, pack
- ✦ Helmets, big selection
- ✦ Wooden sled, LL Bean
- ✦ Raised toilet seat, box
- ✦ Wooden salad bowl set
- ✦ Lighted make-up mirror
- ✦ Raiser drawers for laundry
- ✦ Singer Simple sewing machine
- ✦ Christmas decor: gift bags, candles/holders,



SAINT LAWRENCE

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Return Service Requested

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Fri. Nov. 9 (Oct. 27)	<i>No Services</i>
Sat. Nov. 10 (Oct. 28)	7 p.m. Great Vespers
Sun. Nov. 11 (Oct. 29)	7:30 a.m. Matins 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Mon. Nov. 12 (Oct. 30)	<i>No Services</i>
Tues. Nov. 13 (Oct. 31)	<i>No Services</i>
Wed. Nov. 14 (1)	6 p.m. Memorial 7 p.m. Vespers
Thur. Nov. 15 (2)	6 a.m. Divine Liturgy 7 p.m. Vespers

SCRIPTURE READINGS

For Sunday, November 11 (Oct. 29)
Ephesians 2:14-22
Luke 8:41-56

BIRTHDAYS

Christine Beck	November 9
Corinne Kaemmerling	November 9
Andrew Pflueger	November 10
Xenia Stevens	November 14
Stephanie Spungin	November 15

ANNIVERSARIES

Jeff & Julia Albro
Married 30 years, November 12

MEMORY ETERNAL

11/14/2014 Hieromonk John
Hardenbrook

CLEANING TEAM

November 10 Susan M., Maria D.,
Tia G., Pres. Susan, Molly K.

CONTACT THE GRAPEVINE

E-mail: newsletter@slocc.com
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Submissions by e-mail are preferable!

Deadline for announcements: Tuesday noon for Friday's issue

Please specify how long you want the
announcement to run. Default is 2 weeks.