

The Diocese of the West
The Orthodox Church in America

St. Susanna Orthodox Church

May 2017

www.stsusanna.com



10825 Robinwood Lane*
Sonora, CA 95370 U.S.A.
209-288-2150

Pastor:

Fr. Joseph Ramos
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Subdeacon Nicolas Teshin
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Natalie Teshin
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*“Low-sunk life imagines itself weary of life, but it is death,
not life, it is weary of.”*

George MacDonald

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Christ is Risen!

And we have the opportunity to leave “death” behind us — and enter with Him into that life that has no end. As the light of the Paschal Season continues to shine all around us, we will join together to celebrate the Paschal Liturgy, both for the Mideast of Pentecost on May 10th and also for the Leavetaking of Pascha on May 24th. Then, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy of the Ascension of our Lord on May 25th, preceded by Great Vespers on the evening before.

Also, make every effort to attend the classes on Orthodox Spirituality being presented here in our parish, by Br. Andrew from St. Silouan’s Monastery, on the Wednesday evenings of April 26th, May 3rd and May 10th. This is also an excellent opportunity to share more about the Holy Orthodox Faith with those in our community. So be sure to invite someone to come along with you!

I will be attending a required clergy conference in Alhambra, CA from May 1–5. Also, along with Mat. Felicity, I will be flying to Boston on the weekend of May 19–21 as our son Seraphim will be graduating from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Seminary on Saturday, May 20 — and possibly ordained into the Holy Priesthood on Sunday, May 21. He has been appointed to serve as 2nd Priest at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Las Vegas, NV beginning June 1. This means our parish will have the blessing of Fr. Tom Renfree for Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 21.



Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, having become confident of the blessing. Verily, thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

Finally, we are in the process of renovating the residence that is part of our Church facility. Please check to see if there are ways that you can pitch in (i.e. painting, cleaning, etc.) to help us move this project along. Special thanks to all who have done so much already!

Fr. Joseph

By His glorious ascension, Christ has already spoken to our deepest longing and fulfilled our most fervent hope. He has taken us as He took the hand of Adam, as in the paschal icon of the descent into hades. He has raised us up with Himself, out of the grave of our own making, and ascended with us into the awesome and blessed presence of His Father. He has transported into the very presence of God our “intellect,” our spiritual perception of transcendent life and being. And in so doing, He has led us — even in the mundane affairs of our daily existence — into the joyful and healing state of “divine ecstasy.”

Archpriest John Breck

*Corner of Jamestown Rd.
& Robinwood Ln.
(2 blocks north of
Racetrack Rd.)

St. Susanna Orthodox Church

Presents

An Introduction to Eastern Orthodox Spirituality

A three-part lecture series given by
**Brother Andrew Rossi, of St. Silouan
Russian Orthodox Monastery**



Lecture One

The Heart of Prayer is Prayer of the Heart: Eastern Orthodox “Heart Spirituality” as the Way to Union with God

Lecture Two

Humility, the Cross and the Prayer of Jesus: Three Renunciations that Open the Door to the Kingdom of Heaven

Lecture Three

“We Shall See Him as He is”: Attaining the Unattainable through the Gift of Deifying Grace and the Vision of Divine Light

April 26th, May 3rd
and May 10th
at 6:00 p.m. at
St. Susanna Orthodox
Christian Church
10825 Robinwood Lane,
Sonora, CA 95370

Contact Fr. Joseph Ramos for
more information at
(209) 280-8376.

Hours Readings

May 7	Rdr Tikhon
May 14	Rdr Tikhon
May 21	Rdr Tikhon
May 28	Rdr Tikhon

Anyone who would like to read the Hours before liturgy, please contact Subdeacon Nicolas Teshin at 209-536-1625 to be added to the list or for more information.

MANY YEARS

Birthdays:

Michaela Campbell	May 12
John Reighard	May 13
Sasha Worth	May 14
Max Reighard	May 19

Namesdays:

Allen Gomes	May 8
Max Reighard	May 27

Anniversaries:

Sbdn. Nicolas & Rebecca Teshin	May 26
Leslie & Joe Hurst	May 28

St. Susanna Cleaning Schedule

*Blessed are those who love the beauty
of God's house*

Team 1—Week of May 7

Team 2—Week of May 21

Prayer List

PLEASE JOIN US IN GIVING THANKS TO GOD:

- For the skill and devotion of those beautifying our temple and gardens.
- For the beauty of the Mother Lode, and for the privilege we have been given to live here.
- That the Holy Mother of Jesus continues to care for the unborn.
- That many of our petitions are being answered.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR GOD'S HELP:

- For seasonal weather.
- “St. John, please intercede for us before God.
- For repose of the souls of our service men and women who have given their lives for people of foreign lands.
- To safeguard all the troops who remain in hostile lands.
- That many may come to Orthodoxy through our witness and example.
- To bless our monasteries and the men and women who dwell in them.
- For the growth of the monastery in Sonora.
- For the health of Fr. Ignatius.
- For health and strength for Anna.
- For health and strength for Anastasia.
- For health and healing for Natasha.
- For health and healing for Nina.
- For health and healing for Judy.
- For health of Metropolitan Hilarion.
- For health and healing for Andres.
- For health and healing for Violet.
- For health and healing for Lise.
- For health and healing for Loretta.

*To ask us to pray for you, your family, or friends,
please email Alex Teshin at alex@teshin.com
or call 209-536-9999.*

May 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6:00 pm FWO Orthodox Spirituality Class	4	5 5 WO	6 6:00 pm Great Vespers
Fr. Joseph at clergy retreat						
7 9:00am Paralytic Divine Liturgy (Acts. 9: 32-42 John 5:1-15) Council Meeting Potluck	8	9	10 9:00 am FWO Midfeast of Pentecost Divine Liturgy (Acts. 14: 6-18 John 7:14-30) 6:00 pm Orthodox Spirituality Class	11	12 WO	13 6:00 pm Great Vespers
14 9:00am Samaritan Woman Divine Liturgy (Acts. 11: 19-26, 29-30 John 4:5-42) Mother's Day	15	16	17 WO	18	19 WO	20 6:00 pm Readers Vespers
21 9:00am Blind Man Divine Liturgy w/Fr. Tom Renfree (Acts. 16: 16-34 John 9:1-38) Potluck	22	23	24 9:00 am WO Leavetaking of Pascha Divine Liturgy (Acts. 18: 22-28 John 12:36-47) 6:00 pm Great Vespers w/Litya for Ascension	25 9:00 am Ascension Divine Liturgy (Acts. 1: 1-12 Luke 24:36-53)	26 WO	27 6:00 pm Great Vespers
28 9:00am Fathers 1 st Ecumenical Council Divine Liturgy (Acts. 20: 16-18, 28-36 John 17:1-13)	29	30	31	Notes:		