



10825 Robinwood Lane*
Sonora, CA 95370 U.S.A.
209-280-8376

Pastor:
Fr. Joseph Ramos
(209) 280-8376
jandmramos@msn.com

Subdeacon Nicolas Teshin
(209) 743-7544

Natalie Teshin
(209) 984-2199

Open to me the doors of repentance, O Life-giver. For my spirit rises early to pray towards Thy holy temple, bearing the temple of my body all defiled. But in Thy compassion, purify me by the loving kindness of Thy mercy.

Troparion, tone 8

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

How blessed we are!

This month we will be entering Great Lent as we set our sights on the glorious celebration of the Pascha of our Lord.

To orient us in this direction, we will begin with Forgiveness Vespers on Sunday, Feb. 18th, directly following our Coffee Hour. To offer and receive forgiveness is one of the most fundamental aspects of the Christian life. We should all make a concerted effort to be present for this communal effort of entering into Great Lent and the true meaning of Pascha.



Also that week, we will be offering the beautiful Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evening. Then, that Sunday night, February 25th, the Great Vespers of the Sunday of Orthodoxy will be hosted by our sister Church, St. Gabriel's, in Angels Camp.

We will also be offering the services of the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy every Wednesday evening of Lent. For two of those services

we will be joining with our brothers and sisters from St. Gabriel's. On Wednesday, February 28th, they will host us at their church in Angels Camp, and then on Wednesday, March 7th, we will host them at our church.

Let us pray for God's continued blessings on our Church family—and for His grace to accompany us throughout this beautiful season in the life of the Church.

Fr. Joseph

* * * * *

“No one can live without sin; few know how to repent in such a way that their sins are washed away as white as snow; but there is one thing which we can all do. When we can neither avoid sin nor truly repent, we can then bear the burden of sin; bear it patiently, bear it with pain, bear it without doing anything to avoid the pain and the agony of it; bear it as one would bear a cross but not Christ's Cross; not the cross of true discipleship; but the cross of the thief who was crucified next to Christ at the Crucifixion... So, if we can, in all the ways we can, let us avoid sin in all its forms...



(continued on page 2)

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

(continued from page 1)

...Let us truly repent; let us turn away from our past in a heroic determined act; but if we can do neither of these things, let us carry humbly and patiently all the pain, all the agony, and all the consequences of our sin. All this will be accounted for us one day by the Lord . . . Let us therefore accept the pain as a redeeming pain even if we cannot offer it as pain pure of stain.”

(Met. Anthony Bloom's Homily on the Cross)

*You can listen to the complete Podcast on this homily by the late Protospesbyter Thomas Hopko on Ancient Faith Radio:

http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/hopko/met_anthony_blooms_homily_on_the_cross

REMINDER: "Souper Bowl" Sunday
Please bring cans of soup this Sunday, February 4th, to donate to our local homeless shelter.



When I walk into an Orthodox Church... one is immediately aware that one has stepped into the presence of what St. Paul would call the whole family in heaven and earth. You have stepped into the precincts of heaven!

(Thomas Howard)

izquotes.com

St. Susanna Cleaning Schedule

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

Team 1—Week of February 4th

Team 2—Week of February 18th

Hours Readings

Anyone who would like to read the Hours before liturgy, please contact Subdeacon Tikhon at 209-728-5596 or boodt76@aol.com to be added to the list or for more information.

MANY YEARS

Birthdays:

Natasha Koshelkova	February 4
Nikolai Teshin	February 11
Kailyn Vaughan	February 11
Cole Campbell	February 13
Frederic Everly	February 23
Fred Everly	February 27
Laura Vaughan	February 28

Namesdays:

Jessica Cooper	February 1
Felicity Ramos	February 1
Sue Sidney	February 6
Patsy Gonzalez	February 11
Leslie Hurst	February 11
Mason Vitz	February 18

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 the health of Br. Andrew.
- For health and strength for Anna.
- For health and healing for Natasha.
- For health and healing for Nina.
- For health and healing for Violet.
- For Marie for healing brain cancer.
- For Connie for healing breast cancer and comfort for her family who also just lost their uncle.

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

February 2018						
◀ January						March ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 NO FAST 6:00 pm Great Vespers w/Litya for Meeting of Christ in the Temple	2 NO FAST Meeting of Christ in the Temple (No Service)	3 6:00 pm Great Vespers
4 9:00 am Prodigal Son Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 6:12-20 and Luke 15:11-32) Potluck Luncheon Council Meeting	5	6	7 (No Bible Study)	8	9	10 6:00 pm Great Vespers
Fr. Joseph gone to Mission Deanery Retreat						
11 9:00 am MEATFARE Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 8:8-9:2 and Matt. 25:31-46)	12 MEAT FAST	13 MEAT FAST	14 MEAT FAST 6:00 pm Last Bible Study with Daily Vespers Before Lent	15 MEAT FAST	16 MEAT FAST	17 MEAT FAST 6:00 pm Great Vespers
18 MEAT FAST 9:00 am CHEESEFARE Divine Liturgy (Rom. 13:11-14:4 and Matt. 6:14-21) Potluck Luncheon Forgiveness Vespers after coffee hour	19 6:00 pm Beginning of Great Lent – 1st part of Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	20 6:00 pm 2nd part of Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	21 6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy (Gen. 1:24-2:3 Proverbs 2:1-22) Soup Supper	22 6:00 pm Conclusion of the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	23	24 6:00 pm WO Great Vespers
25 9:00 am WO Sunday of Orthodoxy (Heb. 11:24-26,32- 12:2 John 1:43-51) 5:00 pm Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers @ St. Gabriel's in Angels Camp	26	27	28 6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy @ St. Gabriel's in Angels Camp (Gen. 4:16-26 Proverbs 5:15-6:3)			