

# St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church

**June 22nd 2025**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA AND RUSSIA**

## Activities and Events this Week

Sunday 22 – Saturday 28	Church Camp	
• Saturday 28	Choir Rehearsal	10:30am
• Sunday 29	Hours	9:40am
	Divine Liturgy	10:00am

## Announcements

### **Scholarship in honor of Archbishop Benjamin Dinner**

The Parish Council of Holy Trinity Cathedral in San Francisco is seeking to endow a named scholarship for seminarians in honor of His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin, on the occasion of his retirement. He has been our Archpastor in the Diocese of the West since 2007 and has served the church for over 40 years, as choir director, deacon, presbyter, and finally bishop and archbishop. The goal is to raise \$25,000 for an endowed scholarship. No donation is too small. Please send your check to:

Holy Trinity Cathedral  
Memo: Abp Benjamin Scholarship  
1520 Green Street  
San Francisco CA 94123

### **New Church Phone Number**

**209-617-9389** – the new church number (message) has my phone number on it. No one except outsiders need to call the church. Everyone has my number and the number of anyone else in the community. If you don't please let me know!

### **Thriving Parish Project**

Next Sunday (June 29<sup>th</sup>) I am hoping the TPP committee can meet and begin compiling the results of the small discussion groups to come up with a plan to address improving “effective structures” characteristic for parish health. Once a plan is developed it will go to the parish council for review, editing and approval before we implement it parish wide.

**Bookstore News** – The new storage container is here – we will soon begin working on the bookstore which will be located in the former “storage” room.

### **Fort Ross Celebration – 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the repose of St. Tikhon**

Will take place on July 4<sup>th</sup> at Fort Ross CA – outside of San Francisco. It will be a huge celebration with dignitaries coming from all over the Orthodox Church in America. We have t-shirts, mugs, tote bags for sale to help commemorate the event.

### **Parish New Website**

We will be going live with our new website on Monday July 28<sup>th</sup>. Our old website and all emails will go off line while bring the new website on line. We will have new emails (including the priest! :) and a new way for the community to be up to date on all parish activities. We will inform you what you will need to do shortly before we go live!

### **Reflection**

“If thoughts take away our peace and assail us, know they are from Hell.” Such thoughts must be accepted. They must be banished immediately. We must struggle for our own good and strive for peace to take root in our souls – peace, joy, and Divine love. God wants all of His creation to have His Divine properties. We should also desire to become meek and humble, for only such radiates goodness and kindness...Such a person is never insulted even when you shout and scold him; you can even hit him and all he does is pity you for tormenting yourself so. There are very few such people on earth, but they are the reason why the sun still warms planet Earth and why God gives His blessing to go on living and to have everything we need in order to live. You see now why our thoughts need to change.

“As long as we bear grudges, as long as we dwell on how someone offended us, we will have no peace.” When we are at peace even animals, who not rational, how much more will our fellow man feel our good thoughts? Our thoughts create either harmony or disharmony in all of creation.

“Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives” The Life and Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica. St. Herman of Alaska Brotherhood Publishing. 2014