

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...**

*The health and salvation of –*

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	Pauline
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Ann
Archpriest Eugene	Stefan
Archpriest Michael	John
Priest Kyrill & family	Vivian
Priest James	Jung Sook
Priest John	Thomas
Reader Aleksei	Cheyenne
Reader Sergei	Nancy
Monk Philaret	Randall
Matushka Mary	Rose
Matushka Mary Sara	Don
Marie	Norma
John • Euphrosynos	James
Virginia • Thomas	
John • Luke	
Catechumen Rebecca	
Catechumen Jennifer	

*The repose and salvation of –*

Dzulietta (Sept. 19)

*Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.*

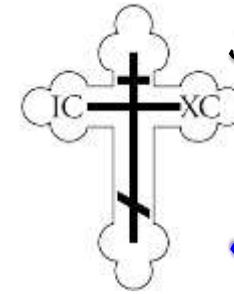
**Next Sunday, October 8 – Parish Council**

**Sunday, October 15 – Church school**

*Father Alexander will be in the Holy Land, October 9 - 19*

**SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, October 28 – Feed My Starving Children**

*A mission parish under the omophorion of His Eminence Benjamin,  
Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West,  
Orthodox Church in America*



ST TIKHON ORTHODOX  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**Sunday, October 1, 2017**

The Protection of Our Most-Lady the  
Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary



*Remaining foundations of the original Church of the Panagia at Blachernae  
(Constantinople/Istanbul, Turkey), with the “new,” 19<sup>th</sup>-century church in the background*

Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck

Wednesdays 6:30 PM – Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day

Other services as announced

Rev. Alexander Vallens, *Rector*

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## The Protection of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary

This miraculous appearance of the Mother of God occurred in the mid-Tenth Century in Constantinople, in the Blachernae church where her robe, veil, and part of her belt were preserved after being transferred from Palestine in the Fifth Century.

On Sunday, October 1, during the All-Night Vigil when the church was overflowing with those at prayer, the Fool-for-Christ Saint Andrew, at the fourth hour, lifted up his eyes towards the heavens and beheld our most Holy Lady Theotokos coming through the air, resplendent with heavenly light and surrounded by an assembly of the Saints. Saint John the Baptist and the holy Apostle John the Theologian accompanied the Queen of Heaven. On bended knees the Most Holy Virgin tearfully prayed for Christians for a long time. Then, coming near the bishop's throne, she continued her prayer.

After completing her prayer she took her veil in her hands – gleaming “more than the rays of the sun” – and spread it over the people praying in church, protecting them from enemies both visible and invisible. Saint Andrew gazed trembling at the miraculous vision and he asked his disciple, the blessed Epiphanius standing beside him, “Do you see, brother, the Holy Theotokos, praying for all the world?” Epiphanius answered, “I do see, holy Father, and I am in awe.”

The Ever-Blessed Mother of God implored the Lord Jesus Christ to accept the prayers of all the people calling on His Most Holy Name, and to respond speedily to her intercession, “O Heavenly King, accept all those who pray to Thee and call on my name for help. Do not let them go away from my icon unheard.”

Saints Andrew and Epiphanius were worthy to see the Mother of God at prayer, and “for a long time observed the Protecting Veil spread over the people and shining with flashes of glory. As long as the Most Holy Theotokos was there, the Protecting Veil was also visible, but with her departure it also became invisible. After taking it with her, she left behind the grace of her visitation.”

**Also this week:** Hieromartyr Cyprian and Virgin Martyr Justina; Bl. Andrew, Fool-for-Christ, at Constantinople (October 2); Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite, Bp. of Athens, and with him Martyrs Rusticus the Presbyter and Eleutherius the Deacon (October 3); Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bp of Athens (October 4); Martyr Charitina of Amisus (October 5); HOLY AND GLORIOUS APOSTLE THOMAS; GLORIFICATION OF ST INNOCENT, METROPOLITAN OF MOSCOW, ENLIGHTENER OF THE ALEUTS, AND APOSTLE TO AMERICA (October 6); Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus (October 7).

*\* Regular fasting this week; fish, wine, and oil allowed on Friday \**

**Epistles:** II Corinthians 6:16-7:1 (Sunday)/ Hebrews 9:1-7 (Theotokos)

**Gospels:** Luke 6:31-36 (Sunday) / Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 (Theotokos)

### Troparion – Tone 8 (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend from on *high*, O Merciful One! /  
Thou didst accept the *three*-day burial to free us from our sufferings! ///  
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: glory to Thee!

### Troparion – Tone 4 (Theotokos)

O Mother of God, sheltered by thy coming, /  
We faithful people today keep feast in joy /  
And beholding thy most-pure image /  
Moved to the depths of our hearts, we say: /  
Protect us with thy precious veil /  
And deliver us from every ill ///  
By entreating Christ thy Son and our God to save our souls.

### Kontakion – Tone 8 (Resurrection)

By rising from the *tomb*, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. /  
Eve exults in *Thy* Resurrection, ///  
And the world celebrates Thy Rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

### Kontakion – Tone 3 (Theotokos)

Today the Virgin stands *forth* in the Church /  
And invisibly with the choirs of saints prays to God for us; /  
The hierarchs bow down *with* the angels, /  
The apostles and the prophets rejoice. ///  
For the Mother of God prays to the eternal God for us.