

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

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|------------------------------|-----------|
| Abducted Bishops Paul & John | John |
| Hieroschemamonk Ambrose | Vivian |
| Archpriest Eugene | Jung Sook |
| Priest James | Thomas |
| Priest John | Randall |
| Reader Aleksei | Don |
| Monk Philaret | Norma |
| Matushka Priscilla | James |
| Elizabeth • Marie | Eileen |
| Marie • Virginia • Thomas | |
| John • Luke • Katherine | |

Catechumens: Andrew, David,
Michael, Sergio, Rachel,
Jennifer, and Rebecca

The repose and salvation of –

Archpriest Vadim (May 16)

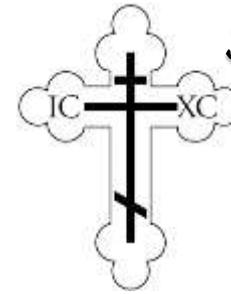
Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.

Sunday, July 15, 2:00 PM – Wedding!

**Saturday, July 28, 5:30 PM – Great
Vespers & Confession**

Sunday, July 29 – Parish Council

*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, June 24, 2018



Nativity of the Holy Forerunner & Baptist John



Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM – Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day
Other services as announced

Priest Alexander Vallens, *Rector*

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Deacon John Manutes, *Attached*

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The Nativity of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John

The Gospel (Luke. 1: 5) relates that the righteous parents of Saint John the Baptist, the Priest Zachariah and Elizabeth (September 5), lived in the ancient city of Hebron. They reached old age without having children, since Elizabeth was barren. Once, Saint Zachariah was serving in the Temple at Jerusalem and saw the Archangel Gabriel, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. He predicted that Saint Zachariah would father a son, who would announce the Savior, the Messiah, awaited by the Old Testament Church. Zachariah was troubled, and fear fell upon him. He had doubts that in old age it was possible to have a son, and he asked for a sign. It was given to him, and it was also a chastisement for his unbelief. Zachariah was struck speechless until the time of the fulfillment of the archangel's words.

Saint Elizabeth came to be with child, and fearing derision at being pregnant so late in life, she kept it secret for five months. Then her relative, the Virgin Mary, came to share with her Her own joy. Elizabeth, "filled with the Holy Spirit," was the first to greet the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God. Saint John leaped in his mother's womb at the visit of the Most Holy Virgin Mary and the Son of God incarnate within her.

Soon Saint Elizabeth gave birth to a son, and all the relatives and acquaintances rejoiced together with her. On the eighth day, in accordance with the Law of Moses, he was circumcised and was called John. Everyone was amazed, since no one in the family had this name. When they asked Saint Zachariah about this, he motioned for a tablet and wrote on it: "His name is John." Immediately his tongue was loosed, and Saint Zachariah glorified God. He also prophesied about the Coming into the world of the Messiah, and of his own son John, the Forerunner of the Lord (Luke. 1: 68-79).

After the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ and the worship of the shepherds and the Magi, wicked king Herod gave orders to kill all male infants. Hearing about this, Saint Elizabeth fled into the wilderness and hid in a cave. Saint Zachariah was at Jerusalem performing his priestly service in the Temple. Herod sent soldiers to him to find out the abode of the infant John and his mother. Zachariah answered that their whereabouts were unknown to him, and he was killed in the Temple. Elizabeth continued to live in the wilderness with her son and she died there. The child John, protected by an angel, dwelt in the wilderness until the time when he came preaching repentance, and was accounted worthy to baptize the Lord.

Also this week: *Virginmartyr Febronia of Nisibis (June 25); St David of Thessalonica (June 26); St. Joanna the Myrrbearer (June 27); Translation of the Relics of the Holy and Wonderworking Unmercenaries Cyrus and John (June 28); HOLY GLORIOUS AND ALL-PRAISED LEADERS OF THE APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL (JUNE 29); SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY, GLORIOUS, AND ALL-PRAISED TWELVE APOSTLES (June 30).*

*** APOSTLES' FAST all this week; wine and oil allowed on Tuesday and Thursday; fish, wine, and oil allowed on Friday; no fasting on Saturday ***

Epistles: Romans 6:18-23 (Sunday) / Romans 13:11-14:4 (Forerunner)

Gospels: Matthew 8:5-13 (Sunday) / Luke 1:5-25, 57-68, 76, 80 (Forerunner)

Troparion – Tone 3 (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice! /
Let the earth be glad! /
For the Lord has *shown* strength with his arm! /
He has trampled down death by death! /
He has become the first-born of the dead! /
He has delivered us from the *depths* of hades, /
And has granted to the world ///
Great mercy!

Troparion – Tone 4 (Forerunner)

O Prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ, /
Although we cannot praise thee worthily, /
We honor thee in love at thy nativity, /
For by it thou hast ended thy father's silence and thy mother's barrenness, ///
Proclaiming to the world the incarnation of the Son of God!

Kontakion – Tone 3 (Resurrection)

On this day Thou didst rise from the *tomb*, O Merciful One, /
Leading us from the gates of death. /
On this day Adam exults as *Eve* rejoices; /
With the prophets and patriarchs ///
They unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Kontakion – Tone 3 (Forerunner)

Today she who once before was barren /
Now giveth birth to the Forerunner of Christ. /
He is the fulfillment of every prophecy, /
For as the prophets proclaimed, once he laid his hands upon Him in the Jordan ///
He would be revealed as the prophet, herald and forerunner of the Word of God.