

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XIX

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18 June / 1 July 2018

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Tone 4*)

Commemoration of the Holy Martyr Leontius

SERVICES THIS WEEK

5th SUNDAY after PENTECOST (*Tone 4*)

Martyr Leontius of Phoenicia

Saturday, 30 June (17 June, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 1 July (18 June, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Coffee Hour

ST JOHN OF SAN FRANCISCO

Sunday, 1 July (18 June, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Monday, 2 July (19 June, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

NATIVITY OF THE FORERUNNER

Friday, 6 July (23 June, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Saturday, 7 July (24 June, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

6th SUNDAY after PENTECOST (*Tone 5*)

Afterfeast of Nativity of St John; VM Febronia

Saturday, 7 July (24 June, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 8 July (25 June, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Coffee Hour



SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK Week of 1 July

<i>Su</i>	5th Sunday after Pentecost	
	<i>5th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §113 (24:12-35)</i>	
	Rom. §103 (10:1-10)	Matt. §28 (8:28-9:1)
6TH WEEK after PENTECOST		
<i>M</i>	Rom. §121 (16:17-24)	Matt. §51 (13:10-23)
<i>Tu</i>	1 Cor. §122 (1:1-9)	Matt. §52 (13:24-30)
<i>W</i>	1 Cor. §127 (2:9-3:8)	Matt. §53 (13:31-36a)
<i>Th</i>	1 Cor. §129 (3:18-23)	Matt. §54 (13:36b-43)
<i>F</i>	1 Cor. §130a (4:5-8)	Matt. §55 (13:44-54a)
<i>Sa</i>	Nativity of St John the Baptist	
	<i>Vespers Paramia: (1) Genesis 17:15-17, 19; 18:11-14; 21:1-8 • (2) Judges 13:2-8, 13-14, 17-18, 21 • (3) Isaiah 40:1-3, 9; 41:17-18, 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1</i>	
	<i>Matins Gospel: Luke §3 (1:24-25, 57-68, 76, 80)</i>	
	Rom. §112 (13:11b-14:4)	Luke §1 (1:1-25, 57-68, 76, 80)
<i>Sa</i>	Rom. §100 (9:1-5)	Matt. §32 (9:18-26)
<i>Su</i>	6th Sunday after Pentecost	
	<i>6th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §114 (24:36-53)</i>	
	Rom. §110 (12:6-14)	Matt. §29 (9:1-8)



FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK Week of 1 July

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
<i>Sunday</i>	1 July (18 June, o.s.)	Martyr Leontius Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Monday</i>	2 July (19 June, o.s.)	Apostle Jude; St John of Shanghai Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Tuesday</i>	3 July (20 June, o.s.)	Hieromartyr Methodius Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Wednesday</i>	4 July (21 June, o.s.)	Martyr Julian of Tarsus Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Thursday</i>	5 July (22 June, o.s.)	Hieromartyr Eusebius of Samosata Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Friday</i>	6 July (23 June, o.s.)	‘Vladimir’ Icon of the Theotokos Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Saturday</i>	7 July (24 June, o.s.)	Nativity of St John the Baptist Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Sunday</i>	8 July (25 June, o.s.)	Martyr Febronia Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are in the midst of the **Apostles Fast**, which began on the Monday after All Saints' Sunday and continues until the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul on 12 July (n.s.). We eat no animal products (meat, meat products, eggs, and dairy products) throughout the forty days. The general rules for this period are as follows: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays are normal fast days; on Tuesdays and Thursdays, wine and oil are permitted; and on Saturdays and Sundays we may eat fish, wine, and oil. But since greater Saints' Days frequently brings a further mitigation of the fast from the general rules, it is important to consult an annual Orthodox calendar to find the correct fasting regimen for a particular weekday.

St John of Shanghai and San Francisco reposed on the Feast of the Holy Apostle Jude on 2 July (19 June, o.s.) 1966. We all know St John Maximovich to be a great Wonderworker of our time. There is great love for him throughout the Orthodox world. In many places in the Russian Church Abroad, the Church that St John served as a Hierarch during his earthly life, his feast day is celebrated on the Saturday nearest the date of his repose, so as not to eclipse the Feast of the Apostle Jude each year, and doubtless also to enable a greater number of the faithful to attend the Liturgy for St John on non-work day. In other places, the Feast of St John is not transferred, but kept on the actual date of his repose, which is certainly the more usual Orthodox practice when it comes to liturgical observances. In our parish, we do not transfer the Feast. The Vigil Service will be served at St Elizabeth's Church at 6 o'clock on the evening of Sunday, 1 July and the Divine Liturgy at 9:30 on the morning of Monday, 2 July.

The Feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist (24 June / 7 July), though not one of the Twelve Great Feasts, is nonetheless a very important Holy Day in the Church Calendar. Nearly every Orthodox parish has services on this Feast Day. It commemorates the birth of the Saviour's Forerunner, of whom our Lord said, 'Verily I say unto you, among them that are born of women, there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist....' (St Matthew 11:11) St John the Baptist's holy birth was miraculous. His parents, Ss Zacharias and Elisabeth, were advanced in age when the Archangel Gabriel announced that Elisabeth would bear a son, though she had been barren. And this came to pass as the Archangel had foretold.

Concerning Confession and Holy Communion: Those who have been to Confession in the past two weeks may receive Holy Communion on the Feasts of St John of San Francisco and the Nativity of St John the Baptist, provided that no serious sin has been committed which would require another Confession and that the other usual preparations for Holy Communion are observed (i.e. attendance of the Vigil Service the evening before Holy Communion, reading the Pre-Communion Prayers, and the forgiveness of others). Likewise, those who have been to Confession for the Feast of St John of San Francisco may receive Holy Communion at the Sunday and Festal Liturgies through the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul under the same conditions.

Our Parish's Patronal Feast, honouring our heavenly Intercessor, St Elizabeth the New-Martyr, is on Wednesday, 18 July (5 July, o.s.). The Vigil Service will be served at 6 PM on Tuesday, July 17th, and the Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM on the Feast Day itself. Please reserve these dates so you can attend services for our Parish Feast Day.

We will have a Festal Meal on St Elizabeth's Day. We are hoping that each family in the Parish will contribute by donating funds and/or providing dishes that the Sisterhood has planned to serve at the meal. Monetary donations may be placed in the collection basket, marked 'Feast Day Meal.' If you are able to help with providing a dish, please speak to Matushka Faith.

The Ladies of the Parish (and others who are interested) will have a brief meeting at coffee hour this Sunday and next to plan the particulars for our festal meal following the Divine Liturgy on St Elizabeth's Day.

A word on summer attire: Although it may be warm in the summer, we should continue to observe modesty and dignity in church. Men should wear long trousers and not shorts. It is not proper to attend church services in casual attire such as tee shirts and sneakers. At all times of the year women should wear skirts or dresses, not pants, and the skirts should be at least at knee length. Even in summer, women should have their heads covered, and should have sleeves (even if short) and not straps over their shoulders. This is a matter of respect for the House of God, and for the clear directives of the Holy Scriptures and of Church teaching. Fashion and personal preference should be subordinate to these.

Summertime is vacation time, but there is no vacation from God or our Orthodox Christian Faith. The summer season brings many pleasures and opportunities to relax and enjoy ourselves. However, as Orthodox Christians we must always bear in mind the Lord's commandment to remember the Lord's Day and to keep it holy. We sin when we absent ourselves from church for no compelling reason other than our own indolence. When we travel, we are not released from the commandment to worship on Sundays. Therefore, when we are making our travel plans, we should look up in advance the Orthodox parishes in the vicinity of our destinations, and make a point of attending the Divine Services on Saturday evenings, Sunday mornings, and the Great Feasts of the Church. (Going to a non-Orthodox place of worship does not fulfill our duty to go to church on these days.) If we find ourselves in a place where there is no Orthodox Church nearby, we should still mark the time from sunset on Saturday evening to sunset on Sunday evening as a time of prayer and private worship. We should therefore bring our Bible (at least the New Testament) and our Prayer Book with us on vacation, and read the appointed prayers, Epistle and Gospel as a family. We should pray together, and out loud, at the usual times of the church services – after supper on Saturday night, and before lunch on Sunday morning.

