

Russian Orthodox Church of the Resurrection of Christ

1201 Hathaway Lane NE
Minneapolis, MN 55432-5720
Phone: 763-574-1001 / Fax 763-574-7560
web site: www.skete.info/ email: russmch@att.net

Schedule for the Week of July 26 – August 1, 2009

Sunday Jul 26	First 6 Ecumen. Councils Свв отец бти Вселенских соборов
Friday Jul 31	6:30 PM VIGIL and Akathist for St. Seraphim of Sarov
Saturday Aug 1	St. Seraphim of Sarov Преп. Серафима Саровского 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия 5:30 PM Vigil
Sunday Aug 2	Prophet Elias / Пророка Илии 8:30 AM Confessions, Nocturns 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия

*Саровского, прознесенного в Храме Христа
Спасителя:*

-- Радуйся, православный русский народ! Из среды твоей Господь воздвиг сильного духом и великого угодника, твоего молитвенника и предстателя перед Богом. «Он нашего рода», -- вещала о старце Серафиме Пречистая Дева, являясь ему во дни жизни его на земле. Великою радостью звучат для нас эти слова Царицы Небесной, потому что и мы дерзновенно можем сказать о Серафиме: он нашего рода; он плоть от плоти нашей и кость от костей наших, но как возвеличил его Господь! Несметные толпы народа идут к нему, чтобы присутствовать на празднике его прославления, идет и Царь с Царицею, князьями, боярами, чтобы поклониться святым останкам духовного богатыря. И посылает Господь славы ради угодника Своего неисчетные милости чтущим память его: слепые видят, глухие слышат, хромы ходят, расслабленные восстают. В Серафимовские дни чувствуется, что мы ближе к Богу и к небу.

Uncovering of the Relics of Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov: (Celebrated July 19/August 1)

The glorification of St Seraphim of Sarov took place in 1903, seventy years after his repose. On July 3, 1903 Metropolitan Anthony of St Petersburg, assisted by Bishop Nazarius of Nizhni-Novgorod and Bishop Innocent of Tambov, transferred the saint's relics from their original burial place to the church of Sts Zosimus and Sabbatius. Tsar Nicholas II and Tsarina Alexandra provided a new cypress coffin to receive the relics. This cypress coffin was then placed inside an oak coffin and remained in the church until the day of the saint's glorification.

At noon on July 16, the first day of the festivities, Metropolitan Anthony offered a Memorial Service for the ever-memorable Hieromonk Seraphim in the Dormition Cathedral. Services also took place in the

Святыни батюшки Серафима

Кто из православных людей во всем мире не знает имени прп. Серафима Саровского? Кто не был или хотя бы не мечтал съездить в Дивеево и Саров? И сколь велик этот святой, если Сама Пресвятая Богородица посещала его 12 раз! В Троицком соборе Свято-Троицкого Серафимо-Дивеевского женского монастыря почивают мощи прп. Серафима. Бережно хранят в монастыре его мантию, епитрахиль, четки, лапотки, котелок, табурет, изготовленный старцем, крест-вериги. На вопрос о цели ношения вериг преподобный кротко отвечал: «Томлю томящего мя». И те, кто разумели в духовной жизни, догадывались, какая борьба смертной плоти и бессмертного духа совершалась в жизни подвижника. Более 160 лет хранилась и передавалась сестрами из рук в руки свеча, переданная св. Серафимом перед своей кончиной Прасковье Мелюковой с предсказанием о том, что этой свечой сестры встретят его в Дивеево. Слова преподобного сбылись в 1991 г. при перенесении его мощей.

*Из Слова епископа Парфения перед молебном в
день прославления преподобного Серафима*

monastery's other churches.

The next day Metropolitan Anthony and Bishop Nazarius served a Memorial Liturgy in the Dormition Cathedral. At 5:00 that afternoon, the bells of Sarov began to ring, announcing the arrival of Tsar Nicholas and his family. Metropolitan Anthony greeted them and then led them to the Dormition Cathedral for a Service of Thanksgiving.

The royal family attended the early Liturgy on July 18th and received the Holy Mysteries. Later that morning, the final Memorial Service for the repose of Hieromonk Seraphim's soul was offered in the Cathedral. These would be the last prayers offered for him as a departed servant of God. From that time forward, prayers would be addressed to him as a saint. At 6 P.M. the bells rang for Vigil, the first service with hymns honoring St Seraphim, and during which his relics would be exposed for public veneration.

At the time of the Litia during Vespers, the saint's coffin was carried from the church of Sts Zosimus and Sabbatius and into the Dormition Cathedral. Several people were healed of various illnesses during this procession. During Matins, as "Praise ye the Name of the Lord" was sung, the coffin was opened. After the Gospel, Metropolitan Anthony and the other hierarchs kissed the holy relics. They were followed by the royal family, the officiating clergy, and all the people in the cathedral.

On July 19, the saint's birthday, the late Liturgy began at 8 o'clock. At the Little Entrance, twelve Archimandrites lifted the coffin from the middle of the church, carried it around the altar, then placed it into a special shrine. The long awaited event was accompanied by numerous miraculous healings of the sick, who had gathered at Sarov in large numbers. More than 200,000 people came to Sarov from all across Russia.

The festivities at Sarov came to an end with the dedication of the first two churches to St Seraphim. The first church to be consecrated was over his monastic cell in Sarov. The second church was consecrated on July 22 at the Diveyevo convent.

In 1991, St Seraphim's relics were rediscovered after being hidden in a Soviet anti-religious museum for

seventy years. Widely esteemed in his lifetime, St Seraphim is one of the most beloved saints of the Orthodox Church.

Sayings from St. Seraphim:

... Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, because they have been bought at the price of the Son of God's blood. Let us show respect for our bodies by elevating them to communion with divine nature; let us eat and drink only to the extent necessary to support our lives and our strength. Up to now the affairs of our flesh have kept us away from God; let us at least begin to approach Him. Let us always keep in mind that our souls must strive towards God-like perfection, towards "acquisition of the Holy Spirit,"

... "We should love our neighbor no less than ourselves (cf. Lk. 10:27). But we should not do this in such a way that love for our neighbor goes outside the boundaries of moderation and diverts us from fulfillment of the first and chief commandment, namely, the love of God."

... "On the day of Pentecost our Lord solemnly sent down to the disciples in a tempestuous wind the Holy Spirit in the form of tongues of fire which alighted on each of them and entered within them and filled them with the fiery strength of divine grace which breathes bedewingly and acts gladdeningly in souls which partake of its power and operations (cf. Acts 2:1-4). And this same fire-infusing grace of the Holy Spirit which was given to us all, the faithful of Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, is sealed by the Sacrament of Chrismation on the chief parts of our body as appointed by the Holy Church, the eternal keeper of this grace. It is said: "The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit." On what do we put this seal if not on vessels containing some very precious treasure?"

... "Too great solicitude for worldly things is natural to an unbelieving and fainthearted man. And woe to us if we, in taking care for ourselves, do not confirm ourselves in our hope in God. Who takes care for ourselves in our hope in God, Who takes care for us! If we do not ascribe to Him the visible goods which we use in this present age, how can we expect from Him those goods which are promised in the future? Let us not be such faint believers, but rather let us 'seek first the Kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added' unto us, according to the word of the Savior (Mt. 6:33)."