

**Russian Orthodox Church of the
Resurrection of Christ**

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Schedule for the Week of July 26 – August 1, 2015

Sunday Jul 26	Holy Fathers 1st 6 Ecumen. Councils Свв. отец 6-ти Вслен. Соборов
Monday Jul 27	St. Vladimir 6:30 PM Vigil
Tuesday Jul 28	St. Vladimir 9:00 AM 1000-yrs of St. Vladimir
Friday Jul 31	St. Seraphim of Sarov / Бдение – Преп. Серафима Саровского 6:30 PM Vigil with Akathist
Saturday Aug 1	St. Seraphim of Sarov / Преп. Серафима Саровского 8:30 AM Blessing of Water 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия 5:30 PM Vigil for Sunday
Sunday Aug 2	Prophet Elias / Прор. Или 8:15 AM Nocturns, Confessions 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия

Reminder Upcoming Feastday

St. Seraphim of Sarov

Friday July 31 –

6:30 PM Vigil and Akathist

Saturday August 1

8:30 AM Blessing of Water

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия



Праздник Прп. Серафима Саровского

В ПЯТНИЦУ 31 ИЮЛЯ

6:30 ЧАСОВ ВЕЧЕРА

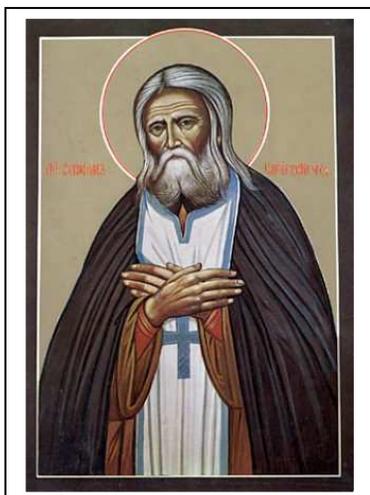
ВСЕНОЩНАЯ С АКАФИСТОМ

В СУББОТУ 1-ГО АВГУСТА

8:30 УТРА ВОДОСВЯТИЕ

9:00 УТРА БОЖЕСТВЕННАЯ
ЛИТУРГИЯ

**Обретение мощей
преп. Серафима Саровского**



Духовный путь преподобного Серафима отмечен большой скромностью, присущей русским святым. Тайна живого молитвенного общения определяет духовное наследие преподобного Серафима, но он

оставил Церкви еще одно богатство – краткие, но прекрасные наставления, записанные отчасти им самим, а отчасти слышавшими их.

“Нет хуже греха и ничего нет ужаснее и пагубнее духа уныния”, - говорил святой Серафим. Он сам светился радостью духовной, и этой тихой, мирной радостью он с избытком наполнял сердца окружающих, приветствуя их словами: “Радость моя! Христос воскрес!”

Всякое жизненное бремя становилось легким вблизи подвижника, и множество скорбящих и ищущих Бога людей постоянно толпилось около его келлии и пустыньки, желая приобщиться благодати, изливающейся от угодника Божия.

На глазах всех подтверждалась истина, высказанная самим святым в великом ангельском призыве: “Стяжи мир, о вокруг тебя спасутся тысячи”. Эта заповедь и стяжании мира возводит к учению о стяжании Святого Духа, но и сама по себе является важнейшей ступенью на пути духовного возрастания. Преподобный Серафим, опытно прошедший всю древнюю православную науку

аскетического подвига, провидел, каким будет духовное делание грядущих поколений и учила искать мир душевный и никого не осуждать: “Кто в миром устроении ходит, тот как бы лжицею черпает духовные дары”.

“Для сохранения мира душевного... всячески должно избегать осуждения других... Чтобы избавиться от осуждения, должно внимать себе, ни от кого не принимать построенных мыслей... В молитвах внимай, себе” – советовал подвижник, -- т.е. ум собери и соедини с душею.



Saint Seraphim was born Prochoros Moshnin in the world, to a merchant family living in Kursk. At the age of 10 he fell seriously ill. In a dream during his illness he saw the Mother of God, who promised to heal him. Several days later a procession with the miracle-working Kursk icon of Theotokos changed its usual route due to bad weather and was passing by the house of the Moshnins. After Seraphim's mother took him to kiss the icon, he started to get better very quickly. While young, Seraphim had to help his parents in their store, but he was not interested in trade. Young Seraphim liked to read the Lives of Saints, to go to church and to pray in seclusion.

At the age of 18 Seraphim decided resolutely to become a monk. His mother blessed him with a big copper cross, which he wore over his clothes for the rest of his life. He was accepted as a novice to the Sarov monastery.

From the very first day of his life at the monastery, Seraphim ate very little only once a day. He abstained from food completely on Wednesdays and Fridays. Having asked for a blessing from his elder instructor, he started going to the forest for prayers and meditation in seclusion. Soon he fell ill again and had to stay in bed from time to time. Again he was healed by the Mother of God, who appeared in his dream accompanied by several saints. Pointing at the Venerable Seraphim, She said to Apostle John the Theologian, "This one is of our kinship." Then She touched his side with Her staff and healed him. He took monastic vows in 1786 (at the age of 27).

He was given the name Seraphim, and soon he was ordained a deacon. He proved to be as good as his name by his ardent praying. He spent all of his time in the temple, resting very rarely. Among such prayers, services and work in the name of God, Seraphim was blessed by the vision of angels participating in sermons and singing. During the Liturgy on Great Thursday he had a vision of the Lord Jesus Christ incarnate in human flesh as He was entering the temple together with Angelic Hosts and blessing those in prayer. Venerable

Seraphim was so impressed by the vision that he could not speak for a long time.

In 1793 Venerable Seraphim was elevated to hieromonk, after which he daily served and partook of the Holy Mysteries for a year. Then Saint Seraphim began to go to a "far wilderness," which was a desolate place in a forest 5 miles away from the Sarov monastery. Bears, hares, wolves, foxes and other wild animals would come to the hut of the ascetic. Matrona Pleshcheyeva, an elderly nun from the Diveyev monastery, saw Saint Seraphim feeding a wild bear from his hands, relating that "especially remarkable was the face of the great elder. It was as cheerful and bright as an angel's countenance."

While living in the wilderness Venerable Seraphim once was attacked and almost killed by a band of robbers. He was physically very strong and had an axe in his hands at the moment, but he did not defend himself. In response to their demanding money and threatening him, he put the axe to the ground, crossed his arms on his chest and gave himself up to the bandits. They started beating him with the head of his own axe. Blood came streaming from his mouth and ears, and he lost consciousness. Then they beat him with a billet, stamped and kicked him, and dragged him on the ground. They stopped torturing him only when they thought he was dead. The only treasure the robbers could find in his hermitage was the Icon of the Mother of God, in front of which he always prayed. When after some time the robbers were caught and indicted, the venerable Seraphim spoke in their defense. After this assault he remained hunched over for the rest of his life.

After a particular vision of the Mother of God closer to the end of his life, the Venerable Seraphim assumed the task of being an elder.

St. Seraphim would say, "Cheerfulness is not a sin. Joy drives away fatigue, and fatigue brings despondency, and there is nothing worse than despondency." Once he said to a monk, "Oh, if you only could know what joy and what sweetness is granted to the souls of the righteous in heaven, you should agree to bear all misfortunes, persecution and slander with gratitude. If this very cell would be full of maggots eating our flesh during all the days of our life here on earth, we should agree to it gladly with the only purpose of deserving the heavenly joy that our God has prepared for those who love Him."