



10825 Robinwood Lane*
Sonora, CA 95370 U.S.A.
209-280-8376

Pastor:
Fr. Peter Runyon
(209) 536-8998
frpeterrunyon@gmail.com

SubDn. Nicolas Teshin
(209) 694-9243

Natalie Teshin
(209) 984-2199

“And it came about, when Moses was coming down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the testimony were in Moses’ hand as he was coming down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because of his speaking with Him. So when Aaron and all the sons of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to approach him.”

Exodus 34:29–30

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In many ways, we live in a deeply philosophical society. We discuss ideas and concepts, but we avoid speaking of real and tangible things. This approach has in many ways made its way into religion. We speak about God as if He were an idea, a theory, that we discuss and debate ad nauseum. We have ideas about God without having a real, intimate knowledge of Him.

As we approach the feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, we hear an account of God’s glory shining from His only begotten Son Jesus Christ. This glory is not some external aura or light, but it is the light of God’s very energy. It is the light of God shining from Christ to Peter, James, and John. The light they perceived was the divinity of God manifest in His energies.

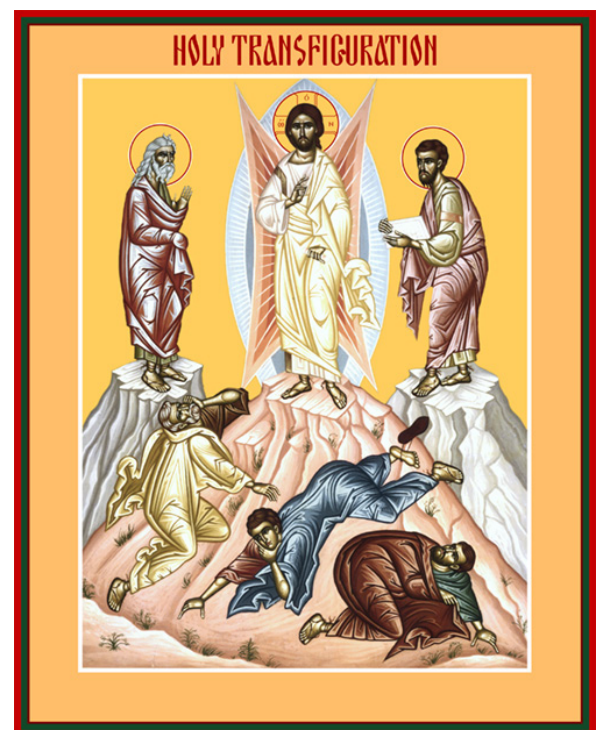
Their experience points back to Moses’ encounter with God on mount Sinai. Moses spoke with God, he communed directly with his Creator, and the glory of God shone through his face. The light that shone from Moses is the same light that Peter, James, and John perceived radiating from Christ. While Moses shone with light that came from his encounter with God, the light that came from Christ was His own light. Christ stood on the mountain as God and shone His light on the three disciples just as He did to Moses on mount Sinai.

We remember the Theophany of Christ which we celebrate on January 6th. We remember how as Christ emerged from the waters of the Jordan, that those present

heard the Father say, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” These same words were revealed to Peter, James, and John as Christ was transfigured on the mountain. It is no mistake then that we celebrate the Lord’s Transfiguration on the 6th day of August as it mirrors the 6th day of January. Theophany and Transfiguration both speak to the same reality: that Jesus Christ, the man from Galilee, is the incarnate Son of God.

And Christ did not come as an idea or abstract concept. The light that illumined Moses, James, John, and Peter is the personal light of God. Their encounter was personal, it spoke directly to them in the deep

(continued on page 2)



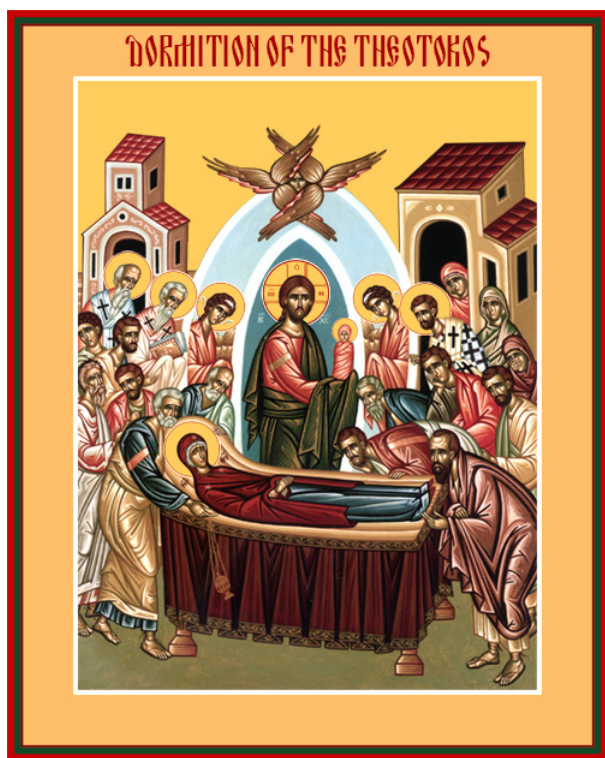
*Corner of Jamestown Rd.
& Robinwood Ln.
(2 blocks north of
Racetrack Rd.)

(continued from page 1)

heart. We are called to this same relationship with God. We are called to an intimate relationship where our contemplation is not of an idea but of a Person, Jesus Christ.

As the Church year comes to an end, let us use this time as an opportunity to draw closer to Jesus Christ. We do this through faith, continual prayer, studying of the Holy Scriptures, and attending the Divine Services. May our loving Lord Jesus Christ illumine us with His light, the same light that He illumined Moses, Peter, James, and John.

In Christ,
Fr. Peter



YARD SALE

Labor Day Weekend

Friday Sept. 2nd/Saturday Sept. 3rd

We are looking for good quality, used items to be donated.

Volunteers needed for set up, staffing the sale, and clean up.

Prayer List

PLEASE JOIN US IN GIVING THANKS TO GOD:

- For the skill and devotion of those beautifying our temple and gardens.
- For the beauty of the Mother Lode, and for the privilege we have been given to live here.
- That the Holy Mother of Jesus continues to care for the unborn.
- That many of our petitions are being answered.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR GOD'S HELP:

- For seasonal weather.
- "St. John, please intercede for us before God.
- For repose of the souls of our service men and women who have given their lives for people of foreign lands.
- To safeguard all the troops who remain in hostile lands.
- That many may come to Orthodoxy through our witness and example.
- To bless our monasteries and the men and women who dwell in them.
- For the growth of the monastery in Sonora.
- For the health of Fr. Ignatius.
- For the health of Fr. Maximus
- For health and strength for Anna.
- For health and healing for Natasha.
- For health and healing for Nina.
- For health and healing for Violet.
- For health and healing for Jeff.
- For health and healing for Xenia and Cheryl.
- For health and healing for Ron.
- For strength for Valerie and her family.
- For health for Irina.
- For Liturgical prayers for gravely ill Nina and Michael.

MANY YEARS

Birthdays:

Kasey Vitz	August 8
Rachel Reed	August 12
Elisa Antilla	August 15
Alex Teshin	August 24

Namesdays:

Natalie Teshin	August 26
Alex Teshin	August 30

Anniversaries:

Donna Elias	August 29
-------------	-----------

To ask us to pray for you, your family, or friends, and to remove someone from the list, please email Fr. Peter at frpeterrunyon@gmail.com or call (209) 536-8998.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 WO Beginning of the Dormition Fast	2	3 6:00 pm Bible Study	4	5 6:00 pm Great Vespers with Litya for Transfiguration	6 FWO 9:00 am Divine Liturgy for Transfiguration (2 Peter. 1:10-19 Matt. 17:1-9) 5:00 pm Spiritual Formation 6:00 pm Great Vespers	7 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 1:10-18 Matt. 14:14-22)
8	9 FWO	10 6:00 pm Bible Study	11	12	13 5:00 pm Spiritual Formation 6:00 pm Great Vespers	14 WO 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 3:9-17 Matt. 14:22-34) Council Meeting 6:00 pm Great Vespers w/Litya for the Dormition
15 9:00 am Divine Liturgy for the Dormition (Phil. 2:5-11 Luke. 10:38-42; 11:27-28)	16	17 6:00 pm Bible Study	18	19	20 5:00 pm Spiritual Formation 6:00 pm Great Vespers	21 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 4:9-16 Matt. 17:14-23)
22	23	24 6:00 pm Bible Study	25	26	27 5:00 pm Spiritual Formation 6:00 pm Great Vespers	28 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 9:2-12 Matt. 18:23-35)
29 STRICT FAST WO Beheading of St. John the Baptist	30	31 6:00 pm Bible Study				

