

St. Barbara Monastery – 15799 Ojai Road – Santa Paula, CA 93060
(805) 921-1563 – www.stbarbaramonastery.org



*The August Gathering of the Friends
of Saint Barbara Monastery*

Sunday, August 25th, 2013

4:00 pm Presentation:

Becoming Human Through Worship

Speaker: V. Rev. Paul Waisanen

Pastor of St. Herman Church, Oxnard, CA

5:00 pm Vespers

6:00 pm Potluck

DIRECTIONS TO THE MONASTERY

From Highway 101 – Exit Hwy 126 East at Ventura

Travel 11 miles east along Hwy 126 and exit 10th St/Hwy 150 at Santa Paula.

Turn left from the exit ramp and follow 10th St/Hwy 150 through Santa Paula.

Bear right at the fork in the road. This is Ojai Rd/Hwy 150.

Travel about 5 miles (1/4 mile past Thomas Aquinas College) to 15799 Ojai Road.

The monastery driveway is on the right just past our mailbox at Highway Marker 2830.

Drive across the bridge and follow the signs to the parking area.

From Highway 5 – Exit Hwy 126 West at Santa Clarita

Travel 27 miles to Santa Paula, and exit at 10th St/Hwy 150.

Turn right from the exit ramp and follow 10th St/Hwy 150 through Santa Paula.

Bear right at the fork in the road. This is Ojai Rd/Hwy 150. Continue as directed above.



Dear Friends of St. Barbara Monastery,

In view of the many setbacks and false starts that comprise the history of our effort to build thus far, we almost hesitate to announce that construction of our chapel has begun. But as you can see from the photo on our cover, earth moving equipment is at work on the property and the initial stages of construction are underway. When will the chapel be completed? We dare not even estimate! We do know that the contractor hopes to complete the shell in this calendar year.

One thing is certain: Construction of our chapel will be the focus of life at St. Barbara Monastery for months to come. We refuse to consider this an interruption or diversion of our monastic life, noisy and demanding of attention though it may be. After all, what is the purpose of having a proper church at the monastery? In the end, is it not to build up our inner temple, so to speak? Building the inner place of worship and building the physical one of bricks and mortar surely can and should go hand in hand. For one thing, we will be learning a lot—about building, about what a church is, about what *the Church* is. But most important of all is the continuing building up of our community as a living church.

We have loved the makeshift chapels we have had over the years—the potter’s workshop on Milpas Street in Santa Barbara, the house garage on Butte Drive in Goleta, and most recently the great room of our house looking East over the mountains above Santa Paula. But there are no adequate words to express our joyful anticipation at the prospect of gathering for prayers and especially the Divine Liturgy in a proper church. The consecrated space of a church built to be a church is something different.

A proper church building is a symbol of *the Church*, that is a place where the living Church in heaven and the living Church on earth come together. In its form, in the placing of objects, in its iconography and the very arrangement of that iconography within it, in the worship that takes place within this intentional sacred space, in everything to the smallest detail a church building proclaims that God is with us, that God has found us and we have found Him. What joy!

We ask that you join your prayers to ours that construction of this holy temple may proceed smoothly to completion.

Abbess Victoria
and the community
of St. Barbara Monastery

MONASTERY CHAPEL CONSTRUCTION BEGINS!



On August 6th, the Feast of the Transfiguration, we signed the contract for construction of our chapel with Anderson Construction, Inc., of Camarillo, CA. Heavy equipment started to roll across our bridge that same day and actual work—grading and compacting of the building site—began two days later on Thursday, August 8th. Completion of the weatherized shell is projected for the end of this year. For frequent updates, check our website at www.stbarbaramonastery.org.



LAVENDER HARVEST

Over the past month, with help from a number of our friends, we have harvested the lavender in our principal nearby lavender farm. We ahead of time and were thus produced from our quality. We are reluctant to bureaucratic maze necessary but the fact of the matter is pesticide free and free of (The deer that graze daily provide free organic some of our lavender oil in bookstore and on the internet with droppers. You can find it listed on our website along with lavender sachets and bundles of dried lavender at www.stbarbaramonastery.org.



had no idea what to expect gratified to hear that the oil lavender is of excellent travel the inevitable to have it certified organic, that our lavender is chemical fertilizers as well. between the lavender plants fertilizer.) We plan to sell bulk but most of it in our in small half-ounce bottles



SISTER PARASKEVA IS TONSURED

Sister Paraskeva is now Mother Paraskeva. She was tonsured to the rank of stavrophor by Archbishop Benjamin on July 29th with the same name but with a new patron saint. Instead of St. Paraskeva the Roman, her patron saint is now St. Paraskeva the New (feast day on October 14th).

NEW ECCLESIASTICAL TAILORING WORKSHOP OPENS

Fr. Dionisie and Fr. Nenil, the two monks attempting to establish a monastery in Southern California and whom we wrote about in the June issue of our newsletter, have opened an ecclesiastical sewing and tailoring business to support their endeavor. For expertly sewn custom vestments, clergy apparel and paraments for the church, please contact them by email (tailorneonil@gmail.com) or phone (313.608.4965).



Greek style priest's vestments

Russian style ryassa