Dorogiye druzyia!

This Saturday/Sunday the Church commemorates the translation of the relics (perenoseniye moshchey) of Saint Peter, Metropolitan of Moscow and All Russia.

REMINDER: there will not be services in Burlingame this weekend or next weekend. Services in Burlingame will resume on the weekend of Saturday/Sunday, 19/20-AUG.

A brief summary about the translation of the relics of Saint Peter, Metropolitan of Moscow and All Russia, is provided below.

I wish you and your loved ones a safe and happy Labor Day weekend.

**** TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF SAINT PETER, METROPOLITAN OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA

Saint Peter, Metropolitan of Moscow, died on December 21, 1326. The first transfer of his relics was on July 1, 1472, (n.s.) and a feastday was established. The second transfer of the relics of Saint Peter was after the consecration of the Dormition Cathedral, rebuilt on August 24, 1479, (n.s.) and the July 1 feastday was replaced.

There was a feastday of the appearance of the relics of Saint Peter (August 4) upon the occasion of an appearance to the wife of Ivan the Terrible (1533-1584), the Tsaritsa Anastasia (1547-1560). Saint Peter appeared to Tsaritsa Anastasia and would permit no one to open his grave. He commanded the grave to be sealed and a feastday established.

Three epistles of Saint Peter are preserved. The first was to priests with an exhortation to pursue their pastoral service worthily, and to tend their spiritual children with zeal. It concluded with an account of Church law concerning widowed priests, and intended to protect them from reproach and temptation. He advised them to settle in a monastery, and for their children to be enrolled in a monastery school for upbringing and instruction. In the second missive, the saint urged priests to be true pastors and not hirelings, and to be concerned about the strengthening of themselves with Christian and pastoral virtues. In the third letter, Saint Peter again exhorts priests concerning their pastoral obligations, and he urges laypeople to fulfill the commandments of Christ.

Prominent in church-state affairs, there was good reason even for his contemporaries to compare Saint Peter with Saints Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom. The principal effort of Saint Peter was in the struggle for an unified Russian state and the blessing of Moscow as the unifier of the Russian land.