



What to Expect at Metropolis Clergy-Laity Assembly

March 4 – 5, 2019

The Metropolis of San Francisco is blessed to have Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center as the location for our annual Clergy-Laity Assembly. This year will be the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Ranch. In the early years, it was a group of young adults who held the first rustic retreats, created a worship space in the upstairs of an old horse barn, and erected a cross on the hill. Today many of those young adults are either clergy or lay leaders serving in our Metropolis.

One unique feature about the Ranch is the adjacent Monastery of the Theotokos, the Life-Giving Spring. This monastic community of over 25 sisters is under the direction of Gerontissa Markella. The Monastery is a short walk up the hill from the Ranch. We will worship at the Monastery for Vespers on Monday evening, and for Divine Liturgy on Tuesday morning.

What to Wear

During the Clergy-Laity Assembly, most lay attendees are comfortable in “business casual.” When attending services at the Monastery, please wear modest clothing, including long sleeve shirts and long pants for men, and women should wear long skirts and headscarves. Closed-toe shoes are also advised.

Because the weather can be unpredictable, we recommend wearing layers, as it may get warm during the day, but cool down substantially in the evening.

Connectivity

The Ranch does offer Wi-Fi throughout the facilities. Mobile phone service is available for Verizon customers; other carriers are not as reliable, or have no signal at all.

Accommodations

The majority of our attendees, both clergy and laity, will be housed in the Ranch’s dormitory buildings, which have both heating and air conditioning. Each dorm room will have 8 – 10 guests, and shares a large bathroom with one other dorm room.

Remember to Pack:

- Personal toiletries and clothing
- Monastery attire
- Warm layers
- Shower shoes
- Ear plugs

Provided:

- Towels, linens, blankets, and pillows
- Water, coffee, hot water, and tea bags are available at all hours in the Dining Hall

Where is the Ranch?

The physical address for Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center is: 38526 Dunlap Road, Squaw Valley, CA 93675. Use this address for GPS purposes and you may even want to use this zip code to check out the weather forecast closer to the Assembly. For mailing purposes, the address of the Ranch is: P.O. Box 400, Dunlap, CA 93621.

Questions?

For information or assistance with your participation in the Assembly, please call the Metropolis Office at 415-753-3075 or email metropolis@sanfran.goarch.org.