

Beyond 50 Update

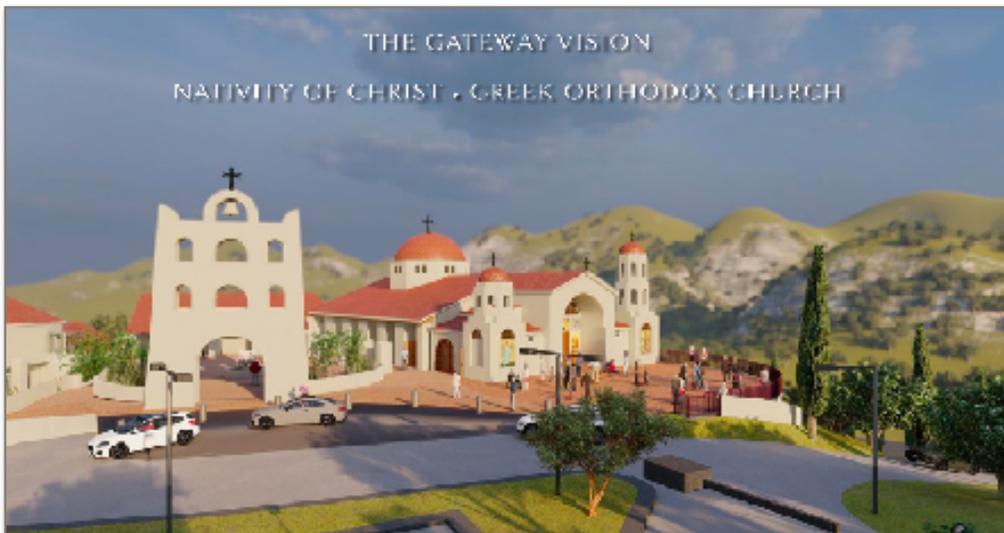
By now, most of us have likely noticed the sign at the bottom of our driveway that was erected in the beginning of the summer. The sign is an official notice to the public required by the City of Novato to inform our neighbors of our plans to make improvements to the property. The first public meeting took place on June 7th, when we participated in a Design Review Workshop at Novato City Hall and received tremendously enthusiastic feedback from the City's Design Review Commission (DRC).

With this feedback, we were anticipating official approval from the DRC at their August 2nd meeting. Unfortunately, the DRC did not have a quorum on August 2nd or on the following meeting date of August 16th. The next scheduled meeting with the DRC at City Hall is set for Wednesday, September 6th at 7 pm. If approved by the DRC, which we fully expect, the plans would then go to the Novato Planning Commission, and then finally to the City Council. Once approved by the City Council, Nativity will be able to submit its final plans for building permits.

Now that we are nearing the completion of the design review phase, it is our desire to receive final feedback from all of you! To that end, we



will be holding two parish-wide Design Review Workshops in the month of October. The first on Sunday, October 1st following Divine Liturgy (to be held in person) and the second on Thursday, October 5th (via Zoom). At each Workshop, members of the Beyond 50 Committee will be offering updates on our progress with the City of Novato, our projected total timeline, and presenting current designs on our large capital projects for parishioner feedback. After completion of the Workshops, our final step will be approval of the final plans at our Fall Parish Assembly, to be held on Sunday, October 15th.



With Parish support, we can submit our final plans for building permits, which will then allow us to more actively pursue contractors to receive bids and have a concrete understanding of pricing for fundraising purposes.

We look forward to hearing from our community at these Workshops so we can continue to pursue an exciting vision for the future of our Parish to connect, engage, and grow!

Beyond 50

Connect • Engage • Grow

Beyond 50 Goal: Expand and Increase Service to the Poor and Needy

On Sunday, August 20, during our Panaghia's Picnic, we honored and thanked Cheryl Messner for all her efforts to serve the poor and needy. Inspired by the goals of our Beyond 50 Plan, Cheryl Messner initiated the efforts of the Sack Meal Project. Through the funding and efforts of our parishioners, Nativity has given nearly 7,000 meals to St. Vincent De Paul in San Rafael since 2020. We are grateful to Elaine Chyrklund and Mary Kay Stratigos who will now be leading the Sack Meal Project beginning Saturday, 23 from 9 - 11 am.

We were all also blessed to welcome Cheryl's husband, Mark, to the Orthodox faith as he was chrismated in February of 2020.

Their involvement in the community has been a blessing and we pray that God continues to bless them as they soon move to Orange County. Thank you Cheryl and Mark!



NATIVITY OF CHRIST
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

BEYOND 50



SEPTEMBER SACK MEAL PROJECT

WHEN: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 from 9 am to 11 am

WHERE: NOC kitchen

SIGN UP LINK: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094AAA72FAAFF2-september>

Please come help us prepare 150 sack meals for the needy in our community. We will need 5 sandwich makers, 5 helpers to assemble the sack meals, and 2 volunteers to deliver the meals to St. Vincent De Paul Free Dining Room in downtown San Rafael. If you are not able to volunteer, but would like to contribute towards the meals, please send a check to the Church Office with a note that the donation is for **Sack Meals**. Thank you for your support. May we continue to pay our blessings forward and give glory to God through our service to those who are in need.

