

**EPISTLE READING:** This morning's Apostolic reading is from St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 4, Verses 7-13. It is found in our Books on Page 155.

**Ὁ Απόστολος, Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 7-13:** Ἀδελφοί, ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ ἡμῶν ἐδόθη ἡ χάρις κατὰ τὸ μέτρον τῆς δωρεᾶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Διὸ λέγει, Ἀναβάς εἰς ὕψος ἠχμαλώτευσεν αἰχμαλωσίαν, καὶ ἔδωκεν δόματα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις. Τὸ δέ, Ἀνέβη, τί ἐστὶν εἰ μὴ ὅτι καὶ κατέβη πρῶτον εἰς τὰ κατώτερα μέρη τῆς γῆς; Ὁ καταβάς, αὐτός ἐστιν καὶ ὁ ἀναβάς ὑπεράνω πάντων τῶν οὐρανῶν, ἵνα πληρώσῃ τὰ πάντα. Καὶ αὐτὸς ἔδωκεν τοὺς μὲν ἀποστόλους, τοὺς δὲ προφήτας, τοὺς δὲ εὐαγγελιστάς, τοὺς δὲ ποιμένας καὶ διδασκάλους, πρὸς τὸν καταρτισμὸν τῶν ἁγίων, εἰς ἔργον διακονίας, εἰς οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ σώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ· μέχρι καταστήσωμεν οἱ πάντες εἰς τὴν ἐνότητα τῆς πίστεως καὶ τῆς ἐπιγνώσεως τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, εἰς ἀνδρα τέλειον, εἰς μέτρον ἡλικίας τοῦ πληρώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, Chapter 4, Verses 12-17. It is found in our Books, on Page 323.

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ, ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον Ἀγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 12-17. Εὕρσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 322.**

**Today's *Apolytikon* (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Eight (Plagal Four):**

Descending from on high, O merciful Lord, for us did You endure three days in the tomb, that we may be released from the passions of this world, You who are our Resurrection and our Life, Lord, glory to You.

Ἐξ ὕψους κατηλθες, ὁ Εὐσπλαχνος, ταφήν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃς τῶν παθῶν, ἡ Ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε, δόξα σοι.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SPANISH:** Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo; danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día; perdona nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; no nos dejes caer en la tentación, y líbranos del Mal.

**INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY:** This class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodoxy and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey. It is also open to people who are already Orthodox and who would like to deepen their understanding of their faith. We explore Christian theology and practice by reading selections from Scripture, the Church Fathers, the lives of the Saints, and other texts representative of the Orthodox worldview. These readings are the starting point for our discussions, which aim at clarifying doctrine and worship and helping us to discover (or rediscover) why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact **Alexandros Kozák** at [orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com](mailto:orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com). Note: The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month. It meets in the second-floor conference room, beginning at 9 a.m. In January, the class will meet January 13 and January 27. Note that, due to the illness of Ted Leventis, Alexandros will assist at the Chanters' Stand. He invites his students to join him. It is an opportunity for them to observe and learn the order of the Orthros service.

**TODAY'S MNEMOSYNON:** Memorial prayers are offered this morning for the repose of the soul of our brother **James Dakis**, who fell asleep in the Lord one year ago. *Aionia I Mnimi!* Eternal Memory!

**40 DAY BLESSING:** This morning we welcome 40 day old **Tony**, son of **Tony Selianitis III** and his wife, **Scarlett**.

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN:** The Cathedral's feeding program, a ministry of our Young Adults, will take place this Tuesday, April 15, beginning with set-up, at 5:30 p.m., and followed by service to as many as 100 guests, at 6:30 p.m. Afterwards, our Young Adults will gather in the Conference Room for wine and cheese, and discussion. This program is only as viable as the dedication of its volunteers. We invite you to come and offer to do whatever you can do to help.

**DANCE PRACTICE:** Dance practice will take place today, beginning at 12 noon, and also on Saturday, January 19, beginning at 10:00 a.m. **ELEMENTARY/ MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL:** Basketball Practice will take place this week on Wednesday, January 16 and on Thursday, January 17, beginning at 7 p.m.

**CHURCH SERVICES THIS WEEK:** This Thursday, January 17 is the Feast of St. Anthony the Great. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated, beginning at 10 a.m. Θεία Λειτουργία τη Πέμπτη, 17 Ιανουαρίου...Αντωνίου του Μεγάλου. Η Θεία Λειτουργία θα αρχίσει στις 10 το πρωί.

**PARKING:** Golden State Parking, the valet company, parks our cars on Sunday mornings. For this service, we've been paying \$5, essentially to cover the cost of the attendants. Meanwhile, we have signed a 6-month trial agreement with the valet company so that, as soon as it obtains the necessary permits, it can operate the parking weekdays, as well. We anticipate this service will begin February 1. When it does, we will no longer be paying to park when we come to church for Sunday services.

**SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH THROUGH STEWARDSHIP:** Please make your support for 2019 a priority, by completing and returning your 2019 Stewardship pledge card, if you have not already done so. We can't thank you enough for your continued support, nor can we stress how important your participation is, as a member of the Annunciation Cathedral family. Your Stewardship support makes possible the very existence of this parish, and its ability to offer Liturgical services, educational, & philanthropic programs. We are encouraged by the return, so far, of your 2019 Stewardship Pledge Cards, and we thank you. A list of 2019 stewards is planned for the next issue of the *Herald*.

**PARISH COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2019:** Following last week's oath of office, the entire Parish Council convened and elected officers for 2019. They are: **President: S. Christopher Kyriacou, Esq.**; Vice-President: **Dean Nicolacakis**; Secretary: **Deno Konstantinidis**; Treasurer: **Philippos Athanasiades**; Assistant Treasurer: **James D. Vorrises**. The Parish Council also made Committee assignments, as part of its overall strategic plan. We look forward to working with the Parish Council, as it works for the growth and well-being of our community.

**CRAB FEED:** Our Crab Feed, sponsored by our Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos, will take place Friday, January 25. Please RSVP, using the reservation forms found in the *Herald* and also at the pangari.

**WHAT NEXT?** As you can see, we're winding down Phase 1 of construction. We have a little way to go, however, in order to complete the fountain, the gates along Valencia Street, the exterior doors, etc. This takes time, especially in this challenging building climate and, of course, money. In order to complete these tasks and begin working on Phase 2 (the interior), we will need to embark upon a renewed Capital Campaign. (More about this in the New Year). Let's stay positive and focused. Consider what you have accomplished so far. As with Moses, we hear God speaking to us: *"Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you."* (from the Septuagint: *Καὶ ποιήσεις μοι ἅγίασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*). (Exodus 25:8). Building also takes vision, determination and faith. You are doing something extraordinary: you are building His sanctuary, a sacred space, right the heart of one of the world's premier cities. Here, the Orthodox Christian faith is poised to proclaim the Gospel message of salvation to a whole new generation of worshipers!



*"The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified."*