

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2019

TRIODION (SECOND SUNDAY): SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

THE FIRST AND THE SECOND FINDING OF THE HEAD OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

EPISTLE READING: This morning's Apostolic reading is from St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 4, Verses 6-15. It is found in our books on pages 113-114.

Ὁ Απόστολος, Πρὸς Κορινθίους Δευτέρως Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 3, ἐδάφ. 10-15:
Ἀδελφοί, ὁ θεὸς ὁ εἰπὼν ἐκ σκότους φῶς λάμψαι, ὃς ἔλαμψεν ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ἡμῶν πρὸς φωτισμὸν τῆς γνώσεως τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν προσώπῳ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ἐχομεν δὲ τὸν θησαυρὸν τοῦτον ἐν ὄστρακίνοις σκευέσιν, ἵνα ἡ ὑπερβολὴ τῆς δυνάμεως ἡ τοῦ θεοῦ, καὶ μὴ ἐξ ἡμῶν· ἐν παντὶ θλιβόμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐ στενοχωρούμενοι· ἀπορούμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐξαπορούμενοι· διωκόμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐγκαταλειπόμενοι· καταβαλλόμενοι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀπολλύμενοι· πάντοτε τὴν νέκρωσιν τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματι περιφέροντες, ἵνα καὶ ἡ ζωὴ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματι ἡμῶν φανερωθῇ. Αἰεὶ γὰρ ἡμεῖς οἱ ζῶντες εἰς θάνατον παραδιδόμεθα διὰ Ἰησοῦν, ἵνα καὶ ἡ ζωὴ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ φανερωθῇ ἐν τῇ θνητῇ σαρκὶ ἡμῶν. Ὡστε ὁ μὲν θάνατος ἐν ἡμῖν ἐνεργεῖται, ἡ δὲ ζωὴ ἐν ὑμῖν. Ἐχοντες δὲ τὸ αὐτὸ πνεῦμα τῆς πίστεως, κατὰ τὸ γεγραμμένον, Ἐπίστευσα, διὸ ἐλάλησα, καὶ ἡμεῖς πιστεύομεν, διὸ καὶ λαλοῦμεν· εἰδότες ὅτι ὁ ἐγείρας τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἡμᾶς διὰ Ἰησοῦ ἐγερεῖ, καὶ παραστήσει σὺν ὑμῖν. Τὰ γὰρ πάντα δι' ὑμᾶς, ἵνα ἡ χάρις πλεονάσῃ διὰ τῶν πλειόνων τὴν εὐχαριστίαν περισσεύσῃ εἰς τὴν δόξαν τοῦ θεοῦ.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 15, Verses 11-32. It is found in our Books, on pages 277-281.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ, ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λοθκᾶν Ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 15, ἐδάφ. 11-32. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 276-280.

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Six (Plagal 2):

When the angelic powers appeared at your tomb, those who guarded You became as though dead. And, standing by your sepulcher was Mary, seeking your pure and sacred body. You did vanquish Hades and, uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the Virgin bestowing the gift of life. From the dead You arose, O Lord: we give glory to You.

Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνημῆμά σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου Σῶμα. Ἐσκόλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωὴν. Ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, 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. 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. The class will meet next on Sunday, March 10 and on Sunday, March 24, at 9 a.m.

KUDOS TO OUR DANCE GROUPS: Congratulations to our groups for their outstanding participation at this year's FDF. **Revmata**, in the primary category, won the Costume Award and also took first place in the dancing competition! **Thisavri**, which competed in the advanced junior category, took Third Place. **Spithes**, in the intermediate category, won: 1. Choral 3rd place for Division 1 (among all the groups that competed in that division), 2. Costume Award 3. Choral Award, and 4. and 2nd place in the dance competition. That's probably an FDF record. It certainly is an Annunciation record. Meanwhile, our youngest group, **To Mellon**, performed on Saturday in the non-competitive category. The awards will be presented in church, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. Directors, we cannot thank you enough for mentoring our young people: **Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, Katerina Misthos, Lea Papavasiliou, Katerina Sarikakis, and Eleni Taptelis.**

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: The Parish Council will meet today, beginning at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will take place in the Cathedral's conference room.

BASKETBALL GAMES TODAY: Boys Middle School Annunciation and St. Gregory 2 will play today at 2:30 pm; Boys Elementary School Annunciation and Holy Cross will play today at 3:30 pm.

CHURCH BASKETBALL: Elementary and Middle School basketball practice will take place this week on Wednesday, February 27 and on Thursday, February 28, both at 7 p.m. Practice will take place in our Korinthias Gym. Meanwhile, **High School** basketball is practicing Thursdays at Jefferson High School Gymnasium, which is located at 6996 Mission Street, Daly City. Since most of the boys participating live on the Peninsula, the Daly City location is more easily accessible. For further information about the high school basketball program, please contact coaches Tom Nuris at (650) 520-6963/ tomnuris@gmail.com or Nick Kontonis at (415) 706-1545/ nickkontonis@gmail.com.

CONCERT TO BENEFIT THE BUILDING FUND: On Saturday, March 23, beginning at 4 p.m., a concert of sacred and also folk music will be held in our chapel. Directed by **Tikey Zes**, the concert will feature singers from throughout the Bay Area and will feature music by **Theodore Bogdanos, Steve Cardiasmenos, Frank Desby** and **Tikey Zes**. Champagne reception to follow. Additional information, please see **Nick Tarlson**, nick@tarlson.com. Tickets may also be obtained online: <https://annunciationfundraiser.bpt.me>.

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 soon.

SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH THROUGH STEWARDSHIP: Please make your Stewardship support for 2019 a priority. We thank you for your continued support. As members of the Annunciation Cathedral family, your participation is important. Your support makes possible the very existence of this parish, and its ability to offer Liturgical services, educational, & philanthropic programs. We will thank all 2019 Stewards in the March *Herald*.

100th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE BOOK: **Jim Loukas**, who heads the Greek Historical Society of the SF Bay Area, is heading this project. Jim was on hand two Sundays ago to answer your questions about the inclusion of your family in this keepsake publication. He will be around from time to time, for this purpose. Meanwhile, please refer to your *Herald* for periodic updates. Jim may be contacted at: jim@loukas.com.

WINDING DOWN: 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. 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 ἁγίασμα, 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 worshippers!



"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."