

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019

FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT: SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

ALEXIOS THE MAN OF GOD; THEOSTERIKIOS THE CONFESSOR

EPISTLE READING: This morning's Apostolic reading is from St. Paul's first letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 11, Verses 24-26; 32-40. It is found in our books on pages 138-139.

Ὁ Απόστολος, Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Πρώτης Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 11, ἐδάφ. 24-26; 32-40: Ἀδελφοί, πίστει Μαυῦσης μέγας γενόμενος ἠρνήσατο λέγεσθαι υἱὸς θυγατρὸς Φαραῶ, μᾶλλον ἐλόμενος συγκακουχεῖσθαι τῷ λαῷ τοῦ θεοῦ ἢ πρόσκαιρον ἔχειν ἁμαρτίας ἀπόλαυσιν· μείζονα πλοῦτον ἠγησάμενος τῶν Αἰγύπτου θησαυρῶν τὸν ὄνειδισμόν τοῦ Χριστοῦ· ἀπέβλεπεν γὰρ εἰς τὴν μισθοποδοσίαν. Καὶ τί ἐτι λέγω; Ἐπιλείπει γὰρ με διηγούμενον ὁ χρόνος περὶ Γεδεών, Βαράκ τε καὶ Σαμψὼν καὶ Ἰεφθάε, Δαυὶδ τε καὶ Σαμουὴλ καὶ τῶν προφητῶν· οἱ διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰργάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβησαν δύναμιν πυρός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίρας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυροὶ ἐν πολέμῳ, παρεμβολὰς ἔκλιναν ἀλλοτρίων. Ἐλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκροὺς αὐτῶν· ἄλλοι δὲ ἐτυμπανίσθησαν, οὐ προσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, ἵνα κρείττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν· ἔτεροι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστιγῶν πείραν ἔλαβον, ἐτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς· ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπρίσθησαν, ἐπειράσθησαν, ἐν φόνῳ μαχαίρας ἀπέθανον· περιήλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέρμασιν, ὑστεροῦμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι· ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἄξιος ὁ κόσμος· ἐν ἐρημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὄρεσιν καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὄραις τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὗτοι πάντες, μαρτυρηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως, οὐκ ἐκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρείττον τὴν προβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωρὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσιν.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 1, Verses 43-52. It is found in our Books, on pages 289-291.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ, ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην Ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 1, ἐδάφ. 43-52. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 288-290.

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone One:

The stone that had been sealed before your tomb by the Jews, and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred Body, O Savior, the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ, glory unto your Kingdom, glory to your Dispensation, O You who alone love mankind.

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντον σου Σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι, Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου, Χριστέ· δόξα τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου· δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

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. This month, the class will meet next on Sunday, March 24.

COUNTING DOWN TO MARCH 25th: March 25th marks the day when "the word became flesh" (John 1:14). It is the Name Day of this Cathedral parish. It is also Greek Independence Day. We will hold a series of celebrations, beginning Friday, March 22, with the **Second Salutations, at 7 p.m.** We continue on Saturday, March 23, with a **Building Fund benefit concert, at 4 p.m.**, followed by a champagne reception (see the announcement below). On Sunday, March 24, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, the Cathedral's **Greek School will offer its Independence Day program**, which will include a play entitled *To Krifo Scholio* (the Secret School). The evening of **March 24, Great Vespers will be celebrated at 7 p.m.**, presided over by **Metropolitan Nikitas**. Following Vespers, a dinner will take place, the offering of **Angelo Koutoulas**. On **Monday, March 25, Metropolitan Nikitas will celebrate the Divine Liturgy**, which will begin at 10:15 a.m., and which will be preceded by Orthros, at 9 a.m. Following the Divine Liturgy, a **luncheon will take place, for which the donation is \$20. The proceeds will benefit the ministries of the Cathedral Philoptochos**. During the luncheon, His Eminence will address us on *how the Church responds to contemporary issues, including human trafficking and child slavery, including "creative" approaches in addressing these issues*. Do plan on attending the luncheon on March 25.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY: The Parish Council meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will take place in the conference room.

SUNDAY STREETS: Valencia Street was closed to automobile traffic last Sunday, March 10. Parishioners were able to access our parking, for church services. We thank the organizers of Sunday Streets for their cooperation and assistance. The next Sunday Streets in the Mission will take place Sunday, July 7.

SERVICES THIS WEEK: The service of Salutations (Second Stasis) will take place this Friday, March 22, as noted above, beginning at 7 p.m.

CHURCH BASKETBALL: Championship games for elementary and middle school teams will take place today, at the Ascension Cathedral, Oakland, beginning at 2:30 p.m. Meanwhile, adult practice will take place this week on Thursday, March 21 (and Thursdays thereafter), at 7 p.m. Adult practice will take place in our Korinthias Gym. Meanwhile, **High School** practice takes place Thursdays at Jefferson High School Gymnasium, located at 6996 Mission Street, Daly City. 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: This coming 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>.

SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH THROUGH STEWARDSHIP: We thank you for making your 2019 Stewardship support a priority. Your support makes possible the very existence of this parish, and its ability to offer Liturgical services, educational, & philanthropic programs. We have thanked all 2019 Stewards (as of February 15) in the *March Herald*.

100th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE BOOK: For further information about your participation and that of your family, please contact Jim Loukas, jim@loukas.com.

PARKING: We have signed a 6-month trial agreement with Golden State Parking so that, as soon as it obtains the necessary permits, it can operate our parking component. All permits but one have been obtained. We anticipate the permit by the fire department will be obtained as soon as the fire sprinklers and the hydrant have become operational, hopefully this week. Meanwhile, we've signed a contract with Albert Electric, to finalize the electrical work, finish the lobbies and install the necessary doors. However, we will need to install the final gates in order to satisfy the "clear path of travel" requirements, which includes the final inspection of the elevator. We've decided to embark upon a renewed Capital Campaign. Our goal is to raise \$1 million in 2019. As we go forward, 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: *Και ποιήσεις μοι ἁγίασμα, και 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."