



# ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



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JUNE-JULY 2019



## America has new Archbishop: Elpidophoros of Prousa

The Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate elected a new Archbishop of America on May 11. He is the former Metropolitan of Bursa, Elpidoforos. Until his election, His Eminence served as Abbott of the Monastery of the Holy Trinity at the Theological School of Halki. Annunciation parishioners may remember him when he came to San Francisco in 2004, as a Deacon, and served the Divine Liturgy with Father Stephen on the Saturday of Lazarus and with Metropolitan Anthony of blessed memory from Palm Sunday through Holy Pascha. Addressing him, following his election, His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew told our new Archbishop: "Distinguish yourself as an Archbishop of love, of peace, of humility, of unity. Axios!" We join in acclaiming, "Axios!" (Worthy!). The new Archbishop will be enthroned at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity on June 22.

*This Pascha, hundreds of worshipers filed into the unfinished Cathedral, where His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco read the Resurrection Gospel from St. Mark and acclaimed the Resurrection. It was an awesome feeling. After all these years since Loma Prieta claimed the old Cathedral, in 1989, the Greek Orthodox faith is rising, in the very heart of San Francisco. Since the earthquake, the donations of its parishioners made possible the rebuilding of the ancillary facilities, including classrooms, offices, a gymnasium, a kitchen, and meeting rooms. Now, their generosity is making possible the building of this magnificent, Byzantine sanctuary.*



*"Today is hung upon a cross, He who suspended the earth in the midst of the waters..."*

*Our 2019 Epitaphios. Magnificent in its simplicity. Adorned by flowers, carefully positioned by a team of volunteers, a testimony to their faith and dedication. The Epitaphios represents the burial of Jesus in a tomb hewn out of rock. (Actually, the outer structure is called the kouvoulion. The epitaphios is the cloth representing the burial, which is placed within the kouvoulion.) On the third day, the tomb was found empty. An angel (or angels) told the women: He is risen. He is not here. Go, tell the disciples. So begins the Christian movement, which is all about life, all about love, all about faith in God, all about service to one another. A movement that seeks to unite and to change the world.*





*"The noble Joseph, taking the body down from the cross..."*



*Weren't this year's Easter breads the best ever? And how about the koulourakia? All prepared by the loving hands of our Ladies Philoptochos. And, with the able assistance of Bobby, one of our Fathers of the Year, shown here with Milio and Vicky.*



# On May 11, 2019 the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate unanimously elected Metropolitan ELPIDOPHOROS of Bursa to be the Archbishop of America

Let us join together in welcoming Archbishop-elect Elpidophoros! **AXIOS!**

**H**is Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros (Lambriniadis) of America was born in 1967 in Bakirköy, Istanbul. He studied at the Department of Pastoral Theology at the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, graduating in 1991. In 1993, he completed postgraduate studies at the Philosophical School of the University of Bonn in Germany, submitting a dissertation entitled: “The Brothers Nicholas and John Mesarites.” He was ordained to the Diaconate in 1994 at the Patriarchal Cathedral and appointed Kodikographos (Scrivener) of the Holy and Sacred Synod.

In 1995, he was appointed Deputy Secretary of the Holy and Sacred Synod. From 1996-1997 he studied at the Theological School of St. John the Damascene in Balamand, Lebanon, where he advanced his knowledge of the Arabic language. In 2001, he presented a doctoral dissertation at the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki under the title: “Severus of Antioch and the Council of Chalcedon” and was proclaimed a Doctor of Theology. In 2004, he was invited to Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Boston, where he taught as Visiting Professor for a semester.

In March 2005, at the proposal of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, he was elevated by the Holy and Sacred Synod to the position of Chief Secretary and ordained to the priesthood by the Ecumenical Patriarch in the Patriarchal Cathedral. In 2009, he submitted two dissertations to the Theological School of Thessaloniki and was unanimously elected Assistant Professor of Symbolics, Inter-Orthodox Relations, and the Ecumenical Movement.



*Archbishop-elect Elpidophoros. Source: Ecumenical Patriarchate*

The dissertations are entitled: “The Synaxes of the Hierarchy of the Ecumenical Throne (1951-2004)” and “Luther’s Ninety-five Theses: Historical and Theological Aspects. Text - Translation - Commentary.”

In March 2011, he was elected Metropolitan of Bursa and in August of the same year was appointed Abbot of the Holy Patriarchal and Stavropegial Monastery of the Holy Trinity on the island of Halki. He has served as Orthodox Secretary of the Joint International Commission for the Theological Dialogue between the Orthodox Church and the Lutheran World Federation and member of the Patriarchal delegations to the General Assemblies of the Conference of European Churches and the World Council of Churches. He was the Secretary of the Pan-Orthodox Synods in Sofia (1998), Istanbul (2005), Geneva (2006), and Istanbul (2008). He has been a member of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches since 1996.



*"I love Paris in the spring time..."*

## Mother's Day Luncheon and Fashion Show

Saturday, May 11 was, truly, a very special day...magnifique! With almost 300 guests present, an outstanding luncheon and fashion show took place, under the aegis of our Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos, and the chairmanship of Irene Kyriacou. Led by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, the event was a fitting tribute to mothers of years past, present mothers, and future mothers and, of course, to our 2019 Mothers of the Year, Katherine Dermitzakis and Joanne Glafkides. Following are photos of our Mothers of the Year (shown here the next day, in church, with Metropolitan Nikitas, Father Stephen, Janis Petrou, Irene Kyriacou and Annettee Chiappari) and the fashion show.



*Haut couture!*





## Icon Painting Workshop

### Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral, San Francisco

Experience the unique spiritual world of the Byzantine Era through icon painting



June 17-22, 2019

### Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral San Francisco

Join us on this six day intensive course under the direction of visiting master iconographer and expert instructor Theodoros Papadopoulos from Greece. This Archangel Michael icon will "come alive" as he will guide you step by step, through the ancient techniques of Byzantine Iconography. Let us journey together, discovering anew, this traditional artistic expression of theology and spirituality often called the "meeting place of the Divine". Whether you are beginner or a professional, this workshop offers the opportunity to learn or refine your techniques.

Your tuition fee of \$685 includes most supplies including boards, pigments, brushes, etc.

Space is limited and early registration is suggested.

For enrollment and information, visit the website  
[www.theodoreicons.com/sf](http://www.theodoreicons.com/sf)

or contact the instructor Mr. Theodoros Papadopoulos at the email:  
[theodoreicons@gmail.com](mailto:theodoreicons@gmail.com)

## OIKOS News

We are pleased to announce the third Icon Painting Workshop to be held at the Cathedral. The workshop will take place June 17-22. This is a six-day intensive course, under the direction of master iconographer and teacher Theodoros Papadopoulos. This year, we will "write" the icon of Archangel Michael as we are guided step by step, through the ancient techniques of Byzantine iconography. This workshop is open to everyone. There is a tuition fee of \$685., which includes most supplies, as boards, pigments, brushes, etc. To enroll, please visit [www.theodoreicons.com/sf](http://www.theodoreicons.com/sf) or contact the instructor at his e mail, [theodoreicons@gmail.com](mailto:theodoreicons@gmail.com). In October of this year, Professor George Kordis will visit the Cathedral and speak to us on the topic of writing the icons for the Cathedral, when the interior is completed and, especially, the icon of the Annunciation, which has been featured, in various forms, on our community Christmas card in recent years. The iconography is a very special step in the completion of the Cathedral, as we will be praying before the icons and inspired by them in our liturgical worship for many generations to come. We have set a tentative date of October 20, 2019 as the date for Dr. Kordis' visit. Note, it coincides with the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Loma Prieta, the earthquake which claimed

the old Cathedral, back in 1989. Meanwhile we were honored to have Metropolitan Nikitas of the Dardanelles (director of PAOI, at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley), preside at the Great Vespers for the Feast of the Annunciation and celebrate the Divine Liturgy on the day of the Feast. At the conclusion, during the luncheon offered by the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos, His Eminence spoke to us about contemporary issues, as that of human trafficking, after which he fielded questions. We not only learned more about the issues, but were invited to think and, hopefully, to act creatively and prayerfully in addressing them. We would like to offer many more such opportunities for learning and spiritual growth. We invite you to participate in the work of OIKOS by assisting in the coordination of such enriching events and talks, as those noted above. We look forward to hearing from you. Please contact Dr. Katina Kostoulas, [katinakost@aol.com](mailto:katinakost@aol.com)





## Stewardship and You

It was Palm Sunday. Church was packed. Dean Nicolacakis, Chairman of the Cathedral's Stewardship Committee, addresses the congregation. Message: we are a family. A Church family. As such, we belong. We belong to Christ and to His Church. It's only natural that we would want to support the work of the Church, through time, talent, and resources. To find out more about supporting this vibrant Cathedral community, visit our web site, [www.annunciation.org](http://www.annunciation.org) or e mail Dean: [Dean.Nicolacakis@annunciation.org](mailto:Dean.Nicolacakis@annunciation.org)

*"Ever let mercy outweigh all else in you. Let our compassion be a mirror where we may see in ourselves that likeness and that true image which belong to the Divine nature and Divine essence. A heart hard and unmerciful will never be pure."*

—St. Isaac of Syria



## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS



*Some people said they were the best Easter breads ever! But, of course. Hand-made, by the best cooks ever! We are proud of our Philoptochos team. We thank them for their faith, their vision, and for their hard work.*



## Friend of Philoptochos Champagne Brunch

**Honoring  
Jimmy Sogotis  
Sunday, June 9th**  
(Following Divine Liturgy)  
Donation of \$20

*Proceeds to benefit  
Philoptochos Charities*

You are cordially invited to attend our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Friend of Philoptochos Award Presentation and Champagne Brunch on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> following the divine liturgy.



*see page 8*

from page 7

On this day, Philoptochos will proudly present this award to an individual who has supported our Philoptochos ministries. This recipient has the attributes of kindness, generosity, commitment, devotion and has demonstrated his belief in our Philoptochos mission. It is with heartfelt gratitude that this year we honor **Jimmy Sogotis** for his hard work and efforts to the National Philoptochos initiative of "Feeding the Hungry" through the Community Kitchen.



**Kids 'n' Cancer  
Camp Agape**



A Ministry of the  
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco  
Ladies Philoptochos Society

We are proud to announce that the San Francisco Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos donated \$5000 to Kids 'n' Cancer. It is because of your participation in events and fund-raising activities, membership pledges and contributions that we could give this amount to this most important and beloved ministry of the Metropolis. We thank you all for your support. Please read below information to learn more about Kids 'n' Cancer.

**Camp Agape** is a special place where families have the opportunity to enjoy four carefree summer days, away from the sights and sounds of doctors, laboratories, and hospitals, where they spend so much of their lives. Children and their families engage in hands-on group activities that provide a reprieve from their daily challenges. For children and their families, this is a truly a time to refresh, reflect and form lasting bonds with Philoptochos and new friends to share their journey with.

Kids 'n' Cancer/ Camp Agape is a Philoptochos ministry inspired by Father John Bakus and Bishop Anthony of the Metropolis of San Francisco. It began at the Saint Nicholas Ranch in Dunlap, California in 1989 and has expanded to camps in: Portland, Oregon, 1995; Ramona, California, 2005; and Mayer, Arizona, 2007. Camp Agape offers an *all-expense-paid* summer camp experience to hundreds of cancer-afflicted children and their families. The ministry also supports the Emilio Nares Foundation, which provides oncology transportation programs in San Diego and Orange counties.

biblical  
religious  
believe  
faith  
**Theology**  
God  
preach  
spirituality  
worship

## Introduction to Orthodoxy

### Introduction to Orthodoxy" Class Welcomes New Members to the Faith

The new Annunciation cathedral recalls the beauty and majesty of other churches more than a millennium old, such as Hagia Sophia in Constantinople. Those who have been fortunate enough to witness its construction know that, like those older churches, it is being built to last, and one can imagine it serving the needs of the faithful, God willing, centuries from now. The building is an impressive, outward sign of our community's conscious outreach to the city and the world. By building a sanctuary for God, we are simultaneously expressing a gesture of welcome to all future generations of Orthodox Christians.

Some of them will be born into our families, while others will marry into the faith. Still others will come to us simply because they are astounded by the beauty of our worship, the richness of our theological traditions, and our special emphasis on the mystery of our intimate encounter with God. Whether future parishioners are drawn into the fold by love for its members, for their resilient, ancient faith, or by a mixture of the two, we must continue to be prepared to accommodate incoming Orthodox Christians of every background.

The Cathedral's "Introduction to Orthodoxy" class aims to facilitate the spiritual journey of those considering joining our Church. We prepare adult inquirers for their baptisms and chrismations, and we explore the richness of our faith through discussion of Holy Scripture, the theology of the Church Fathers, and the lives of the Saints. The goal of the course is to provide people with acculturation in the Church prior to their becoming full members in it.

The class meets two times a week. The meetings take place in the Cathedral's conference room, locate on the second floor, adjacent the elevator. The times are 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Classes will resume September 15. They will also be held, in September, on September 29.





The Cappella Romana Vocal Ensemble recently performed “Venice in the East: Music from Renaissance Crete and Cyprus” at St. Ignatius Church. The following morning, some members of the group chanted the Orthros and the Divine Liturgy at the Annunciation Cathedral. Cappella Romana was founded in San Francisco in 1991, when Dr. Alexander Lingas, founder and Music Director, held a concert in San Francisco’s St. Ignatius Church to raise funds to rebuild the Annunciation Cathedral, which had been demolished as a result of the Loma Prieta Earthquake of 1989.

## alzheimer’s association® **Dementia Caregiver Support Group News**



While it may not show, in attendance, our parishioners and friends have taken note of the fact that a Dementia Caregiver Support Group is operating at the Cathedral. As the general population is aging, and as we are living longer and longer, we are all subject to the impact of cognitive issues. The Cathedral is pleased to partner with and host the Alzheimer’s Association monthly support group meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month from 11am-12:30pm. The group meets in the Cathedral’s conference room, which is located on the second floor, to right of the elevator. We encourage your attendance, as you encounter loved ones affected by memory loss. Meet others who are going through exactly what you are going through. There is no cost to attend, and the support you receive is not only helpful; it can also be life-changing. The June meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 4 and the July meeting will take place on July 2. For more information, please contact Heather Gray, Family Program Manager, at 1.800.272.3900 or email her at [hgray1@alz.org](mailto:hgray1@alz.org).



*During a recent visit to the Metropolis offices, His Excellency Ambassador Haris Lalacos also visited the new Cathedral and extended his best wishes and prayers for its completion. He is shown with His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, Ambassador Antonios Sgouropoulos, Counsel General of Greece, Mr. Fanis Economidis, and Father Stephen*

*“As Christians we are here to affirm the supreme value of direct sharing, of immediate encounter —not machine to machine, but person to person, face to face.”*

*—Bishop Kallistos  
[Ware] “The Mystery of  
the Human Person”*



## Community Kitchen

The Cathedral’s Community Kitchen, which began under the name “Soup Kitchen,” operates the third Tuesday of every month. The volunteer work involves food prep, cooking, hall setup, serving the meal and—so important—cleanup. We also have a food pantry, so a few awesome volunteers come early to bag up canned/non-perishable goods for our guests to take with them. Some volunteers arrive earlier, but the typical timeframe is 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Shown above are just some of our Young Adults, who spearhead the Community Kitchen ministry. Won’t you join them? Following each Community Kitchen, after cleanup, the Young Adults gather in the second-floor conference room for wine and cheese. They get to know one another better. They welcome new members. They address topical issues. And, of course, they plan for the following month’s Community Kitchen. In November, the Young Adults teamed up with the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos for a Thanksgiving feast! In December, an entire class of middle school kids joined our young parishioner and his parents and helped set up, serve, and clean up. This participation by our younger kids was very moving. In April, our GOYA, under the direction of Matia Kostakis, joined in with our Young Adults. This month, Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, June 18. In July, it will take place on Tuesday, July 16. Our guests count on us to provide them with a hot meal, and fellowship. May we, in turn, count on you? It is a commitment; it does take a few hours of your time. But, think about how much good you can do for others by showing up and volunteering for a couple of hours. Once again, that’s Tuesday, June 18 and Tuesday, July 16,, 5:30 p.m. for set up and 6:30 p.m. for serving. We look forward to your participation.

Meanwhile, Community Kitchen enjoys the support of our Ladies Philoptochos. Our women’s organization has taken on Community Kitchen as part of its local mission, underwriting the monthly Food Bank bills and additional purchased food products, as well as paper goods—table cloths, plates, plastic ware, cups, napkins, storage containers, baggies, foil, etc. In addition, Philoptochos recruits volunteers to assist the kitchen staff.



## 2019 Taste of Greece Food Festival September 20, 21 & 22

Once again, we welcome Mike Sarikakis, as co-chairman of this year's festival! That makes four co-chairs: Mike Spachis, Deno Konstantinidis Grace Koutoulas and Chris Kyriacou. A lot of volunteers are stepping up, this early in the planning, and this is a good thing. Meetings via telephone conferencing and in person have been taken place, and our Philoptochos women are in the process of developing a cooking schedule. The schedule will be posted on line as well as in the June/July Herald. To view it on line, go to [www.annunciation.org](http://www.annunciation.org) and scroll down to the bottom right, to the calendar on the Cathedral's web site. It's really about all the volunteers. That's what makes an undertaking like the festival a great success. Building on last year's success, as well as we are beginning to plan our 2019 Greek Food Festival.

The Festival is entirely managed and staffed by volunteers, which means we simply cannot pull this off without your input and participation. Energetic, friendly volunteers are needed for a variety of jobs. Opportunities abound: there's plenty for you to do. Won't you join us? We are even open to welcoming and/or training a new Chairperson and Co-Chairperson. For more information about how you can get involved, please contact Deno Konstantinidis, [denocom@hotmail.com](mailto:denocom@hotmail.com) or Grace Koutoulas, [gmkoutoulas@yahoo.com](mailto:gmkoutoulas@yahoo.com)

*"Everybody wants to change the world, but nobody thinks about changing himself."*

—Dostoevsky



## GOYA News Get Ready for Summer

Spots are quickly filing up for our Metropolis Summer Camp 2019. We would encourage your applying as soon as possible. Monthly payment plans are available, as this will help families spread out the cost for camp over the next 2 months. All payments are due in full by June 1, 2019. To register, a \$100 non-refundable deposit is required. To register, please visit our Summer Camp website: <http://gosfyouth.org/summer-camp/>. Fees and space availability is as follows:

### 2019 REGISTRATION FEES

\$550 Late Registration (February 1 – May 31)

### 2019 SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION UPDATE:

Staff Orientation Week: July 1 – 6

Session I: July 7 – 13 (51 spots available)\*

Session II: July 14 – 20 (51 spots available)\*

Session III: July 21 – 27 (76 spots available)\*

\*Campers are limited to registering for only one session of camp

### 2019 STAFF APPLICATIONS:

If you know of any young adults who would make a great summer camp counselor, please encourage them to apply here: <http://gosfyouth.org/summer-camp/#/staff-applications/>





## *Kudos to Graduates*

Following, is a preliminary listing of graduates. We ask you to review the list and to help us update our list for the June/July Herald. By update, we would like to know from what school the child is graduating and to which school the child will be going in September. We kindly ask that you forward this information to [fatherstephen@annunciation.org](mailto:fatherstephen@annunciation.org).

### **Primary School graduations and promotions:**

Ted Gikas  
Yianni Sarikakis  
Spiro Taptelis  
Alexia Thompson  
Stelios Vafiadis

### **Middle school graduates:**

Yiannis Eliopoulos  
Charlie Haginicols  
Kallie Lyberopoulos  
Victor Nicolacakis

### **High School graduates:**

Hari Manetas, graduating San Mateo High, attending College of San Mateo  
Panayioti Sogotis

### **College graduate**

Alexander Cocolos, graduating from Southern Methodist University, with a Master of Interactive technology, Level Design

Graduates not on the list? Please let us know, together with the schools from which they are graduating and the schools they will be attending in the fall. Please send the information to: [fatherstephen@annunciation.org](mailto:fatherstephen@annunciation.org)

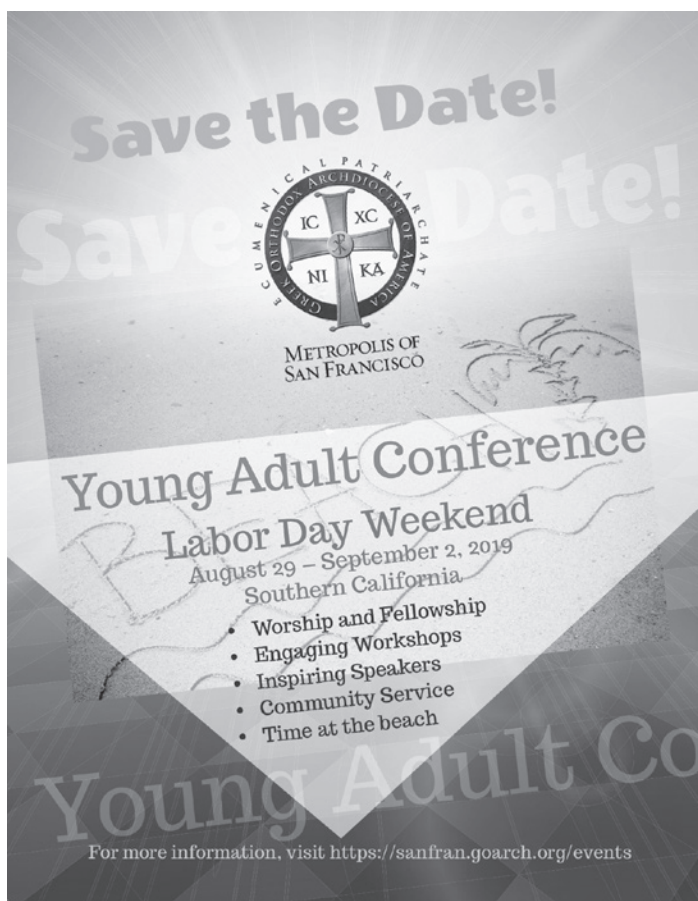


*One of the great things about living in San Francisco (call it a perk) is that our Young Adults have a home away from home--a spiritual home-- right in the heart of the City. Following each Community Kitchen, the third Tuesday of the month, young adults gather in the conference room for fellowship and discussion, typically over wine and cheese. It's a great way to connect, to network, to get to know people sharing similar spiritual journeys. Our Young Adults look forward to meeting you.*



*“Beauty will  
save the world.”*

—Dostoevsky



## Calling Young Adults 21+

### Apply to be on the YAL Conference Steering Committee

The Metropolis YAL Conference is a great way to share your time and talents as a young adult and emerging leader of the Church. You have the opportunity to be part of the planning team for this Conference and making it a spiritually uplifting, memorable, motivating and fun weekend!

Applications are being accepted for the Steering Committee and can be found [online](#) and must be submitted by March 1, 2019. All applicants must be 21 years of age by August 1, 2019. Volunteers are needed to work in a variety of areas including: Events, Finance, Communications and Marketing, Worship, Registration and more. Share your talents, gain valuable experience, and build up this powerful ministry!

For more information, please email [yalconf2019@gmail.com](mailto:yalconf2019@gmail.com).

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco | 415-753-3075

[metropolis@sanfran.goarch.org](mailto:metropolis@sanfran.goarch.org) | [www.sanfran.goarch.org](http://www.sanfran.goarch.org)

## Labor Day Weekend 2018

### Metropolis of San Francisco to host Young Adult League Conference

Labor Day Weekend 2019 in southern California is the place to be for young adults ages 18 - 35 at the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Young Adult League Conference. This event will offer a wide array of activities including engaging workshops, inspiring speakers, worship, fellowship, and a community service project. Mark your calendars for August 29 - September 2, 2019 because the YAL Conference is where you will want to be!

"I am excited that we are offering this opportunity for our young adults to come together for this weekend conference and participate in an uplifting program designed to both deepen their faith and cultivate friendships with other Greek Orthodox young professionals," remarked His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco. "There is a great need to expand our efforts in the area of Young Adult ministry, and this conference will be a catalyst for even more programs to come."

*"There is no greater love than that a man lays down his life for his neighbor. When you hear someone complaining and you struggle with yourself and do not answer him back with complaints; when you are hurt and bear it patiently, not looking for revenge; then you are laying down your life for your neighbor."*

— Abba Poemen



## Dance Group News

The Dance Board has purchased a block of tickets to the San Francisco Giants vs. LA Dodgers on Friday, September 27th at 7:15pm Oracle Park.

This is a special night as the Giants have designated this game Greek Heritage night! Let's show the Bay Area our Greek Pride at a Giants game.

Tickets are \$46 each in the bleacher section 137 and will include a special Giants Greek t-shirt. Additional information follows.

Following another successful Folk Dance Festival, our dance groups will take a long-needed rest. They will regroup and resume practice for next year's FDF, sometime in August. Dancers of all ages are encouraged to attend Sunday School on Sundays. Those registered to serve in the altar as acolytes are invited to do so in accordance with the schedule found elsewhere in this *Herald*. Should you wish information about joining our program, we invite you to contact Lea Lyberopoulos at [karthia808@yahoo.com](mailto:karthia808@yahoo.com).

Our groups, as presently composed, are as follows:

**To Mellon:** Pre-K-1st grade  
Directed by Irene Kyriacou and Katerina Sarikakis

**Revmata:** 2nd-5th grade  
Directed by Katerina Sarikakis, Trina Misthos and Eleni Taptelis

**Thisavri:** 5th-8th grade in  
Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou

**Spithes:** 9th -12th grade  
Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou

**Atithasi:** Young Adults  
Directed by Michael Garibaldi and Nicole Garibaldi

## Basketball News

Our 2019 Basketball Team, about to enter this year's playoffs, with 4 wins, 3 losses, as the present issue of the Herald went to press. Our Annunciation 1 adults team also went to the playoffs.





*Show your Greek Pride*  
**while you cheer on the San Francisco Giants! All Tickets Sold. But, Wait, We Bought another Block of Tickets.**

We wrote you and you responded. All tickets were sold out. However, we were able to block off another section for Greek Heritage Night at Oracle Park on September 27, 7:15 p.m. And, so, we are reprinting our appeal, inviting you to support our dance groups by joining us for a fun night cheering on our San Francisco Giants against the rival LA Dodgers on Friday, September 27th at 7:15pm at Oracle Park. This is a very special night as the Giants are hosting their first ever "Greek Heritage Night". Let's show the Bay Area our Greek Pride at a Giants game! Tickets are \$47 each, in the Bleacher Section 137. The cost of the ticket includes a special Giants Greek t-shirt. The sale of every ticket will contribute \$5 in support of our Annunciation dance groups.

If you are interested, please email Stephanie Thompson at [sotiria@gmail.com](mailto:sotiria@gmail.com). There are a limited number of tickets in our section of the bleachers for this special first-time event, so act fast and come join the fun!

*“ Love every man in spite of his falling into sin. Never mind the sins, but remember that the foundation of the man is the same - the image of God.”*  
 —St. John of Kronstadt

*Sunday School News*

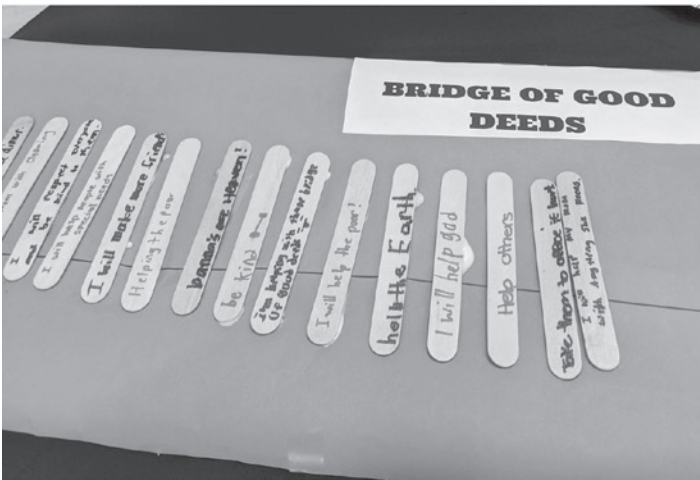
This year for TGI Pascha we both maintained tradition, and had fun celebrating Pascha and the meaning of Pascha with our youth on Holy Friday. The kids had a great time getting to see the church on a weekday morning in holy week. They got to participate as both angels and as altar boys in helping to take down Christ from the cross, as well as a rare tour behind the iconostasis into the altar area. During the TGI Pascha event they made crafts such as a tin foil wrapped foam cross that they could decorate in similar patterns to the ornate metal work crosses that we see coming from Greece. They also made a 'Bridge of Good Deeds' where they wrote down good things they have done to try to get back closer to God. And we explained how the death of Christ permanently bridged the gap between humanity and God that sin had caused. We then learned a little lesson from Mrs. Kalliope Fousekis, and also from Father Steven before we broke bread and had lunch together.

Next year we are looking forward to more wonder filled moments with the kids and some more parent volunteers for the event. We need both parent volunteers to help with crafts and lessons at the tables and other volunteers to help with food preparation and cleanup. Blessings to all as we finish up our school year, 2018-2019. Turn the page to see our class photo for this year, taken as usual, on Palm Sunday every year.

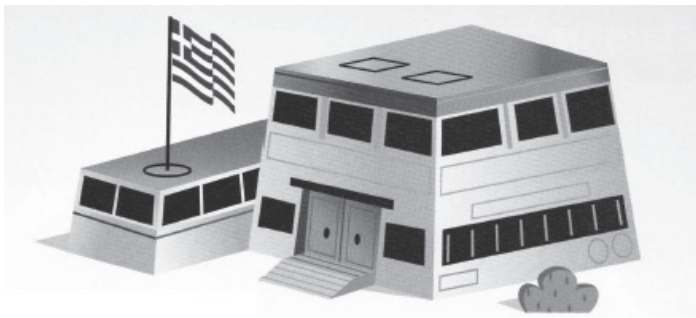
*“Lord, help us to maintain a reverent attitude towards nature, threatened from all sides today, in such a way that we may restore it completely to the condition of brother / sister and to its role of usefulness to all humankind for the glory of God the Creator.”*

– Franciscan prayer

*see next page for photos*







σχολείο, το σχολείο, ένα σχολείο,  
το μεγάλο σχολείο, το σχολείο μου

*Do you like our new Greek School logo? It was selected by our head of school, Shu Yeung. For those who need a translation, the above words spell: school, the school, a school, the large school, my school. Our last day of Greek School for the 2018-2019 school year is Saturday, June 8. Greek School starts up again on Saturday, September 7. For questions or to request additional information about our program, please reach out to Shu Yeung – shuh\_yeung@yahoo.com.*

## Greek School News

“Greek school had a very successful 2018-2019 school year with 36 children of all ages learning Greek. In the 2018-2019 school year, we also introduced a performing arts class where members of the Greek school participated in two plays. The performing arts class is an opportunity for students to learn the Greek language and culture through art and expression. The first play, which was performed on March 23 and 24 is titled To “Κρυφό Σχολειό” (the secret school). The “Secret School” refers to the 400 years when Greece was under the Ottoman occupation and where the children had to sneak out during the night, in spite of the dangers, to learn the Greek language. The Greek language was secretly taught in the local churches by the priests under candle light. The second play will be performed on June 1 and is titled “Οι Θεοί του Ολύμπου πάνε διακοπές” (the Olympian Gods go on holiday). This play teaches the children about mythology, by having them understand the character and role that each Olympian God played in the Pantheon of Gods in Ancient Greece, as well as giving them a glimpse into the history of Ancient Greece.

The last day of the school year will be Saturday, June 8 and then, we will take a summer break. Thank you so much to our dedicated teachers: Maria Panoutsopoulou, Ioanna Vlachou, Evagelia Spirakis, Elissavet Koukkou, Ioli Advani, Loukia Papadopoulou and Dimetra Armenakis!!!

The 2019-2020 school year will start on Saturday, September 7. In the new school year, we will also offer language classes for adults in a classroom setting. The schedule will be the same as the one for the children - Saturdays from 10 - 12:15 pm. If you are interested in Greek language classes for either children or for adults, please reach out to Shu Yeung at 415-518-8750 or shuh\_yeung@yahoo.com”



## Pangari Schedule

Serving on the pangari is a privilege, not only for Parish Council members, but for anyone who would like to be a part of the team of those who extend welcome to our services, especially for those who are visiting us from out of town and also people new to the community. The following teams, created so as to match up with their respective children, who will be serving in the altar on those days, consists of Parish Council members. Duties include the passing of the collection plate(s) and the seating of guests.

### Team #1

Deno Konstantinidis  
Philippos Athanasiades  
Christopher Kyriacou  
Dean Nicolacakis

### Team #2 (Second Sunday Please)

Paul Sogotis  
George Ambus  
Mike Sarikakis

### Team #3

Nicholas Rally  
Nicholas Svetcoff  
John Lampros

### Team #4

Manoli Nuris  
Peter Cazanis  
George Gavros

Peter Manetas, Nick Kontonis, Michael Bagatelos, Gus Vellis also serve at the pangari, on a regular basis. Philoptochos members and other members of the community are invited to participate, as well. Please speak to Dr. George Ambadiotakis, Ambus, Chair of our Pangari protocol committee, and indicate your willingness to be a part of the pangari team.

## Serving in the Altar

Serving in the altar is a wonderful way for our young people to participate in the worship of our church, and learn more about our faith. For the present school year, we are very pleased to announce the altar leaders program! This year, three of the older altar servers have taken on the responsibility of coordinating the groups during services each week. We hope to add several more to their ranks in the coming years!

If any families are interested in their boys joining an altar group, who are above the age of 10, feel free to contact **Father Stephen** at [fatherstephen@annunciation.org](mailto:fatherstephen@annunciation.org). Thank you also to **Nektarios McKnight** for guiding and instructing our altar servers each Sunday. As always, if anyone has any questions or suggestions, feel free to let us know. Thanks!



### Our altar schedule for June is as follows:

June 2 - Group 4	July 7 - Group 4
June 9 - Group 1	July 14 - Group 1
June 16 - Group 2	July 21 - Group 2
June 23 - Group 3	July 28 - Group 3

#### Our altar groups are as follow:

Group 1- Stelios Kyriacou, Kosta Lyberopoulos, Andrew Vellis, George Tsokas, Victor Nicolacakis, Justin Perez, Christian Kleinekorte

Group 2- Christopher Apostolos Percia, Panagiotis Sogotis, Yianni Sogotis, Steven Monolakis, Matheos Zarou, Andonis Ambus

Group 3- Steven Chiappari, Gianni Kefalas, Nicholas Shatara, Michael Kamenis, Vlasis Kyriacou, Thanos Kyriacou, Nathanael Shatara (Michael Kamenis, Group Leader)

Group 4- Nathan Tesfai, Bobby Kontonis, Hari Manetas, Alexander Kasolas, Matthew Nuris (Jonas Tesfai- Group Leader)

Don't see your name here? Would you like to join us? We would like you to. Report for altar duty any Sunday morning, prior to 10:30 a.m., and Nektarios will make the appropriate arrangements. Meanwhile, it is also imperative that you attend Sunday School. Ecclesiarch Nektarios notes: We have two Permanent Leaders in the Altar, and they are Nathan Tesfai and Michalis Kamenis. We anticipate a maximum of six additional servers in the Altar; any more than six will need to attend Sunday School. Altar servers are required to be vested and ready to serve by 10:30 a.m. Late comers will need to attend Sunday School if they cannot arrive early enough to serve.

Interested in forming a group of girl altar servers, beyond the Myrrh Bearer's (Angels) program that we have during Holy Week and Pascha? Please contact Evangelia Raptis-Zarou, [erz.raptiszarou@gmail.com](mailto:erz.raptiszarou@gmail.com)



## Sacraments and Services

### Baptisms

Marcus, son of Constantine and Natalie Virga Panagotacos, was baptized May 26. His sponsors are Angelo and Shelby Heropoulos.

### Funerals

John George Rally fell asleep in the Lord on April 23. He was buried April 30. He is survived by his wife, Mary, their children, George, Frances, Anne, and Aleck, their 9 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren.

Bessie Zahiralis fell asleep in the Lord on May 12. She was buried May 23. She is survived by her children, Anastasia, Christine and Demetrios, and five grandchildren, Christina, Andrew, Anastasia, Vasili and Calista.

*Aionia I Mnimi! Eternal Memory!*

# J U N E C A L E N D A R

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Last day of Sunday School, 9 am; Orthros 10:30 am; Divine Liturgy, 12:30 pm; Pavers Committee		Dementia Support Group, 11 am				Last day of Greek School
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Friend of Philoptochos, 9 am; Orthros, 10:30 am; Divine Liturgy						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Holy Pentecost, Fr. Tom Paris Celebrating, 9 am; Orthros, 10:30 am; Divine Liturgy		Community Kitchen, 6:30 pm				
	Icon Workshop - June 17th through 22nd					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
All Saints, Fr. Tom Paris Celebrating, 9 am; Orthros, 10:30 am; Divine Liturgy						
30						
The Holy Apostles, Fr. Tom Paris Celebrating, 9 am; Orthros, 10:30 am; Divine Liturgy						

# J U L Y C A L E N D A R

SUN	MONDAY	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Dementia Support Group, 11 am					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Fr. Constantine Efstathiu Celebrating, 9 am; Orthros, 10:30 am; Divine Liturgy						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Fr. Constantine Efstathiu Celebrating, 9 am; Orthros, 10:30 am; Divine Liturgy		Community Kitchen, 6:30 p.m				
21	<b>SUNDAY 28</b>					
Fr. Stephen Scott Celebrating, 9 am; Orthros, 10:30 am; Divine Liturgy	Fr. Stephen Kyriacou Celebrating, 9 am; Orthros, 10:30 am; Divine Liturgy					

UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF  
SAN FRANCISCO, THE ANNUNCIATION  
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL  
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Efharisto for another outstanding Mother's Day Luncheon and Fashion Show. See you all in "London" next year.