

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Second Letter to the Galatians, Chapter 4, Verses 5-8. It is found in our books on page 154.

**Ὁ Απόστολος, Πρὸς Τιμόθεον Δευτέρως Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 5-8:**  
Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, νῆφε ἐν πᾶσιν, κακοπάθησον, ἔργον ποιήσον εὐαγγελιστοῦ, τὴν διακονίαν σου πληροφορήσον. Ἐγὼ γὰρ ἤδη σπένδομαι, καὶ ὁ καιρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀναλύσεως ἐφέστηκεν. Τὸν ἀγῶνα τὸν καλὸν ἠγωνίσαι, τὸν δρόμον τετέλεκα, τὴν πίστιν τετήρηκα· λοιπόν, ἀπόκειται μοι ὁ τῆς δικαιοσύνης στέφανος, ὃν ἀποδώσει μοι ὁ κύριος ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, ὁ δίκαιος κριτῆς· οὐ μόνον δὲ ἐμοί, ἀλλὰ καὶ πᾶσιν τοῖς ἠγαπηκόσιν τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν αὐτοῦ.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 1, Verses 1-8. It is found in our books on pages 319-321.

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ:** ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 1, ἐδάφ. 1-8. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 318-320.

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

When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore, and Christ our God has risen from the dead, and granted to the world His great mercy.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου μαθήτριά, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμενοι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**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 group will meet Sunday, January 12 and also Sunday, January 19.

**ADOPT A PAVER:** As of today, we have 82 pavers "adopted." We are trying to schedule the inscription of the new pavers and a re-do of the old ones over a weekend when no rain is expected, as the paint cannot adhere to wet surfaces. We hope to have the work done before the Archbishop's visit on January 26.

**PARISH VASILOPITA/PARISH COUNCIL OATH OF OFFICE/ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS:** Immediately following today's Divine Liturgy, you are invited to participate in the Parish Vasilopita, which will take place in the community center. As it is the Eve of Theophany, and a day of fasting, we will forgo the usual brunch. Instead, Philoptochos is hosting a simple coffee hour, affording us the opportunity to cut the parish Vasilopita and also to cut our individual Vasilopitas, table by table.

Meanwhile, the oath of office will be administered to those who were elected to serve on the Parish Council for 2020-2021. They are: **Deno Konstantinidis, Anastasios (Tasso) Mavroudis, Andrew Miltiades, Thomas Nuris, Jim Rakos, Mike Sarikakis, Paul Sogotis, Nicholas Svetcoff, and James D. Vorrises.** Following the Vasilopita cutting, the newly elected members and those elected last year will convene to elect officers for 2020.

**SERVICES THIS WEEK:** Tomorrow, January 6, we celebrate Holy Theophany (also known as Epiphany). We remember the Baptism of Christ. Orthros will be celebrated at 9 a.m., followed by the Blessing of the Waters and the Divine Liturgy. For your convenience, our parking lot will be open. On Tuesday, January 7, we remember St. John the Baptist. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated beginning at 10 a.m.

**CALLING ALL ALTAR SERVERS:** In anticipation of the arrival of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros, we will be having a brief Altar Boy Training Session for all of our existing Altar Boys as well as any new Altar Boy recruits. We will go over how to serve a Hierarchal Liturgy as well as the basics of serving a standard Divine Liturgy. The training will be led by **Christo Pappademos** and will take place directly following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, January 12th. Please feel free to email Christo if your son would like to serve in the Altar: [christo.pappademos@annunciation.org](mailto:christo.pappademos@annunciation.org)

**BASKETBALL PRACTICE THIS WEEK:** Basketball practice for Middle School will take this Wednesday, January 8. Grade School practice will take place this Thursday, January 9, both practices at 7 pm.

**ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS TO VISIT CATHEDRAL JAN. 26:** His Eminence **Archbishop Elpidophoros** of America is coming Sunday, January 26th 2020 for his first visit to our Annunciation Cathedral. A luncheon will follow the 10 am Divine Liturgy (notice the time change for this Liturgy only). As this luncheon is informal, the seating will be open: guests may sit wherever there is room. To ensure that you are seated with your *parea*, the best thing is for you to buy a table (\$300 for a table of 10) and arrange to have whomever you wish seated with you. In this case, your table will be reserved for you, with your name on it. In order to know for how many to prepare, reservations are a must. We cannot accept walk-ins the day of the luncheon. **Angelo Koutoulas** of Chick 'N Coop will be preparing the luncheon.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Your support makes possible the very existence of this parish, and its ability to offer Liturgical services, educational, & philanthropic programs. Let's meet our goal of 400 Stewardship pledges for 2020. As of today, we're about half way there. Have you sent in your 2020 Stewardship? Cards are available at the *pangari*.

**100th ANNIVERSARY:** In 2021, the Cathedral turns 100. We are excited to share with you that our 100th Year Gala Banquet will take place, in 2021, in the grand ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, in the same place where the original banquet took place to celebrate the creation of the Cathedral 100 years ago! Please mark your calendars.

**CALLING ALL 100th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE TO A MEETING:** The meeting will take place in the conference room next Sunday, January 12, 2020, following the Divine Liturgy. We will review a proposal and further define the scope of events to appropriately celebrate this milestone in the life of our community. We are pleased to inform you that **Archon Paul Sogotis** is General Chairman of the 100th anniversary celebrations, and our **Ladies Philoptochos** will serve as Co-chairs.

**PARKING:** At long last! Our Final Fire and Electrical Inspections took place Tuesday, December 3. We passed inspection! However, the holdup is in the Building Department, which has been asked to grant its approval so that we may take the final step—a hearing at our local Police Department to allow us to begin running our lot per our Conditional Use Permit agreement. The Building Department is insisting we get the final doors and gates installed and also to sheet rock the other side of the upper lobby so as to satisfy the 1 hour fire rating requirement. Meanwhile, the upper and lower elevator lobbies have been carpeted, as have the stairs from the garage leading up to the narthex. Any day now, we are waiting for the new Valencia Street gates and the lobby doors. It will be a great day when we finally get the ok for the parking, so that we can go on to address completion of the interior. As we go forward, let's stay positive and focused. Consider what you have accomplished so far! As with Moses, then, in our day 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 great sacred space, right the heart of one of the world's premier cities. Here, our 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."*