

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint 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, αὐτὸς ἐστὶν 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 ἄνδρα 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 pages 323.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ: ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 11-17. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 322.

**Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Five (Plagal 1):**

Eternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation. As the faithful, we both praise and worship Him for, in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross, and death did He endure, and the dead He raised unto life though His all-glorious Resurrection.

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν· ὅτι ἠὐδόκησε σαρκὶ ἀνελεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείρει τοὺς τεθνεώτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

**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 meeting this morning and will also meet next Sunday, January 19.

**ADOPT A PAVER:** As of today, we have 87 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. Tentatively, the work is scheduled to take place February 7-9.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETS, ELECTS OFFICERS:** Following last Sunday's Divine Liturgy and the administration of the oath of office to the newly elected members of the Parish Council, the entire Parish Council met and elected officers for 2020. The officers are as follows: President: **Chris Kyriacou**; Vice-President: **Peter Cazanis**; Secretary: **Deno Konstantinidis**; Treasurer: **Jim Vorrises**; Assistant Treasurer: **Jim Rakos**. The Parish Council also named chairs of its various committees, as follows: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: **Paul Sogotis**; Stewardship: **Dean Nicolacakis**; Technology: **John Lampros**; Protocol: **Paul Sogotis**; Youth: **Andrew Miltiades**; School Relations (Millennium, Waldorf): **Deno Konstantinidis**; Buildings and Grounds: **Mike Sarikakis**; Capital Campaign: **Parish Council**; Construction: **Executive Committee**; Education Committee (Greek School, Sunday School, Religious Education: **Peter Cazanis**; Hall Management/Rentals: **Jim Vorrises & John Lampros**; City and State Relations (Assembly and other permits: Business License, Secretary of State filings, White Zone, Regulatory Matters): **Tasso Mavroudis**; Insurance: **Nick Svetcoff**. The Parish Council also signed disclosure policy statements and designated the third Sunday of every month (except for February: FDF; April: Pascha; and September: Food Festival) as Parish Council meeting dates. For the aforementioned three months, the Parish Council meetings will take place on the fourth Sunday.

<b>BASKETBALL GAMES TODAY:</b>	4 pm	GES	Holy Cross and Annunciation
	5 pm	BES	Holy Cross and Annunciation
	6 pm	BMS	Holy Cross and Annunciation

**CALLING EVERYBODY TO OUR 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY KICKOFF MEETING TODAY:** The meeting will take place in the conference room following today's 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 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, and our **Ladies Philoptochos** are Co-chairs of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations..

**CRAB FEED:** This sell out event, organized by our **Ladies Philoptochos**, will take place on Friday, January 24 (just 2 weeks away): Cocktail reception at 6 pm, followed by Dinner at 7 pm. The cost is \$65 per person. Please RSVP by January 15. The Crab Feed is the largest money making event organized by our Philoptochos and supports the various ministries of the Philoptochos.

**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. This session will take place today, following the Divine Liturgy.

**BASKETBALL PRACTICE THIS WEEK:** Basketball practice for Middle School will take this Wednesday, January 15. Grade School practice will take place this Thursday, January 16, 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). Otherwise, the seating is open. 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*.

**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. It needs to grant its approval so that we may take the final step—a hearing at our local Police Department. This will 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 sheet rock the other side of the upper lobby so as to satisfy the 1 hour fire rating requirement. We installed the sheet rock this past Tuesday. Now we are waiting for the gates and the doors to come in. It will be a great day when this is done and 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, 3200 years ago, in our own day we hear God speaking, telling 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 have it all. Don't sell yourselves short. You are accomplishing something extraordinary. For, 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 worshippers! May God remember you always, in His heavenly Kingdom.



*“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.”*