



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 · 415 864-8000 · FAX 415 431-5860 · WWW.ANNUNCIATION.ORG

FEBRUARY 2020



First 100th anniversary meeting. Many more to follow.

100th Anniversary Committee Meets, Lays Plans for Centennial Celebrations

On Sunday, January 12 we officially began planning our 100th Anniversary celebrations with our first Committee meeting! The meeting was headed by Father Stephen and our Chairperson, Archon Orphanotrophos Paul Sogotis. Archon Sogotis laid out a wonderful plan and vision for an entire three-day weekend filled with events to mark our historic 100-year celebration. Some twenty parishioners gathered with enthusiasm to brainstorm ways to maximize the impact

of this fundraising opportunity for the Cathedral. The Ladies' Philoptochos will collectively be co-chairing this event as they are the heart of our Cathedral.

All are invited to join us during our next Committee meeting on Sunday, March 22. This is a very exciting event in our community's history.

see page 2 for more

Greek Heritage Night: Giannis and the Milwaukee Bucks vs the Warriors



see page 11 for more



The above photograph was taken nearly 100 years ago, in the grand ballroom of San Francisco's Fairmont Hotel. It was taken on May 17, 1921. At this banquet, the Cathedral was created.

from front page

Also, as a point of emphasis we are hoping to assemble a wonderful commemorative album filled with photos and the histories of families that have been a part of our community, whether for many decades or in recent years. But, in order to create something like this, we will need a chairperson savvy in project management and graphic design. If this sounds like something you or someone you know

would be interested in and willing to take on, please contact Father Stephen, Paul Sogotis, or Christo Pappademos. We are excited to hear from you! This album will be a timeless keepsake from the 100th, however it will not come together unless we have someone willing to take control and oversee its creation. So please, spread the word!

Simeon received in his embrace the Word uncircumscribed and supreme in being, who is borne on high in glory upon heavenly thrones. And he cried out, 'Now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, O Savior, salvation and delight of the faithful.' Small Vespers of Ypapanti, – Tone One



We strive for accuracy in regard to our Stewardship program. However, sometimes a name is left off inadvertently. It may well be that the omission was due to a mail delay. These are the names we have received and accounted for as of January 20, 2020. If you have submitted your stewardship pledge but do not see your name below, it is likely we received it after the compilation of this month's Herald.

Stewardship 2020: With 160 Stewards so far, we're 40% of the Way There!

Aleck, Demetria
 Aleck, Patricia
 Allen, Maria & Andrew
 Armatas, Christina
 Arsinoos, Mariam
 Arvanitidis, Athena & Nicholas
 Arvantelis, Agapi
 Asimakopoulos, Vasilios
 Athanasiades, Philip & Diala
 Bagatelos, Karen
 Bagatelos, Michael
 Balian, Nicholas M.
 Barlas, Constantine
 Bazgan, George
 Boutiette, Andrew & Mary Anne
 Bozionelos, Jim & Florika
 Cardellini, Marie
 Carter, Eleni
 Chechile, Cory & Dimitra
 Cocolos, Jim & Luba
 Contos, Christopher
 Cruz, John
 Curd, John & Vivian
 Cusulos, Nan
 Dalianes, Athen & Marguerite
 Danielidis, Maria
 Davies, Ethel
 Delis, Nicholas & Stephanie
 Demakas, George D.

Destein, Patricia
 Dhimitri, Anila Ioanna
 Doukas, Steve
 Economou, Chris
 Efstratis, Jenny & Greg
 Eliopoulos, Annette & John
 Elite, Dr. Anthony
 Fkiaras, Evgenia N
 Fotenos, James
 Fousekis, Shareen & Spiros
 Fousekis, Vlasis and Kalliope
 Fragakis, Marianthe & Charalabos
 Franco, Helen
 Galanis, Angelike
 Georgatos, Nicko M. & Chrisoula
 George, Sam
 Gikas, Paul & Meltem
 Glaros, Stanley
 Grampsas, Bonnie
 Glafkides, Constantine & Joanne
 Haralabopoulos, Peter
 Haralambopoulos, Constantine & Eleftheria
 Haras, Louis & Panagiota
 Janssens, Anthi
 Kasaris, Mary
 Katsanis, Gari

Kavalaris, James & Joanne
 Kenney, Danae & Knute
 Klobouchar, Michael & Georgette
 Kontrafouris, Athanasios & Joyce
 Kosaris, Paul & Irene
 Kostakis, Stamatia
 Kotsonis, Dr. Peter & Shu Yeung
 Kouropoulos, Georgia
 Koutoulas, Kosta F. & Grace
 Koutoulas, Kosta & Stephanie
 Koutoulas, Panayiota
 Koutoulas, Pete & Voula
 Kozak, Alexandros & Erin
 Kyriacou, Chris & Irene
 Kyriacou, Rev. Stephen & Alik
 Lampros, John & Magda
 Lawrence, Effie & Stephen
 Lingas, Elena O. & Zachary H Weiner
 Makras, Effie
 Makras, Elaine
 Makras, Sophie
 Makras, Thalia Makras, Victor & Farah
 Mandanis, Christina & Greg
 Marcopulos, Cynthia
 Markanton, Helen
 Mathios, Anthony & Patricia
 Mattis, George & Cleo
 Mellos, Fotini (Faye) & Michael Hollalnd
 Meyer, Beverly Brown
 Miltiades Andrew & Katy
 Misthos, Michael & Christina
 Morales, Helen
 Morales, John
 Moulas, Vicky A.
 Nashawati, Bashar & Roud
 Nicolas, Helen
 Novo, Dustin & Chrisoula
 Nuris, Thomas & Liberty
 Ossipoff, Alexander & Lula
 Panagiotopoulos, Anton & Sotiria
 Panagiotopoulos, Jim & Erika
 Papadakis, Spiros
 Papingu, Robert & Alma
 Paras, Demetra
 Paras, Helen
 Parashis, Marion
 Patiris, Yiota
 Patropoulos, Joan
 Petrou, Janis G.
 Philliou, Jim
 Piccinini, Pamela
 Pope, Agalia

Pope, Antoinette
 Poulakidas, Irene & Sakee
 Poulos, James & Despina
 Proutnzos, George & Pat
 Rakos, Jim & Kelly
 Rally, Nicholas & Patty
 Ramos, Herbert & Maria
 Simotas, Mr. & Mrs. Jerry
 Sarikakis, Emilia
 Siouris, Michele Y.
 Sogotis, James
 Sogotis, Rose
 Spirakis, Maria
 Spona, Madeline E.
 Stamatopoulos, Anna
 Stathopoulos, Marios & Anastasia
 Stephens, Peter C.
 Stratakis, Ari & Marcy
 Tamaras, Joy
 Tamaresis, Dorothy
 Tarlson, Nick G. & Mauna
 Tasso, James, Jr.
 Taylor, Edward
 Thomas, James
 Thompson, Stephanie & Jeff
 Tombropoulos, Helen
 Tonas, Basil & Mary
 Tsagaris, Afrodite
 Tsagaris, Eleni
 Tsifourdaris, Spiros & Aristeia
 Vafiadis, Mr. & Mrs.
 Konstantinos
 Varanis, Terpsi
 Vardakastanis, Dimitri & Penny
 Vasilogiorgis, Foula
 Vellis, Aris
 Vellis, Costas & Meena
 Verreos, Adrienne
 Vlahos, Cynthia
 Vlahos, George
 Vorrises, Angelo J.
 Vorrises, Denis J. & Renee
 Vorrises, George & Loula
 Vorrises, Louise & James
 Vorrises, Marie & Lukehart, Ryan
 Vorrises, Stephanie Louise
 Vozaites, Antonios & Thalia
 Vriheas, Loula
 Weldezhghi, Andy & Lula Musgun
 Yannaghas, Mary
 York, Bessie
 Zapantis, Mary
 Zografos, Taso



The 2020 Metropolis Philoptochos Board recently received its oath of office at our Annunciation Cathedral. Twenty-one ladies came from all over the Metropolis to our Cathedral for an all-day meeting. Here they are moments after taking their oath, shown with his Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos and Metropolis Philoptochos President Jeannie Ranglas.



Philoptochos News

On Christmas Day we had the blessing of celebrating the Divine Liturgy with His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos. Afterwards, our Philoptochos Ladies kindly hosted a delightful Christmas luncheon. Pictured here is our President Janice Petrou welcoming His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos:





Recent Updates:

During mid-January workers came to install sheetrock in the elevator lobby as required by the Fire Department to create a safe fire exit. This was one of the final steps left required to open up our garage for business. Now, all that remains is for the steel company to arrive and install the necessary gates and doors. Once this happens we will be all set to go with our garage at last!



Water Leaks:

As many of you may have noticed during Light The Path luncheon in December, there has been significant leakage in the new Cathedral building as well as our parking garage when there are heavy rains. The builders are scheduled to come out to assess the draining situation beneath the pavers to solve this problem as effectively as possible. In the meantime, our Parish Council has placed preventative sand bags at the base of the doors to prevent rain water from flowing into the Cathedral. This will avert any excess of water from getting into the Cathedral and garage until the builders come to officially fix this problem.



Χαῖρε, κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε παρθένε, ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, φωτίζων τοὺς ἐν σκότει. Εὐφραίνου καὶ σύ, πρεσβύτα δίκαιε, δεξάμενος ἐν ἀγκάλαις τὸν ἐλευθερωτὴν τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν χαριζόμενον ἡμῖν καὶ τὴν ἀνάστασιν. – Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ὑπαπαντῆς. Ἦχος Α΄.

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 month. The meetings take place in the Cathedral's conference room, located on the second floor, adjacent the elevator. The times are 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Classes will take place on Sunday, February 16 and Sunday, February 23.

alzheimer's  association®



Dementia Caregiver Support Group News

Our Dementia Caregiver Support Group has been growing in numbers. This means it addresses a need. The need for caregivers to receive support in caring for their loved ones. 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 invite 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 January meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 4. For more information, please contact Heather Gray, Family Program Manager, at 1.800.272.3900 or email her at hgray1@alz.org.

*Lord, now lettest Thou
Thy servant depart I
peace according to Thy
word: for mine eyes
have seen Thy salvation*

(Luke 2:29-30)



The Cathedral's Young Adults were joined in December by members of Castro Valley's Resurrection Church. They, along with parishioners of Orinda's St. John's Antiochian Orthodox Church, in concert with FOCUS, prepared gift bags for our guests. The gift bags included hygiene items, blankets, and other items. Shown above, some of our volunteers, with His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos.

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. Following this month's Community Kitchen, a regrouping meeting will take place, followed by the usual wine and cheese get-together.

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.

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. Community Kitchen recently received a grant from AT&T. We are grateful for the support, as it is another encouraging affirmation of the good work that is being done to combat hunger, isolation and, indirectly, homelessness.

In February Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, February 18, 5:30 p.m. for set up and 6:30 p.m. for serving. We look forward to your participation.



Members of Annunciation Cathedral's GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America) prepare to-go bags at the December Community Kitchen. Some 130 guests were served a hot meal.



Parish Council Elects 2020 Officers; Makes Committee Appointments

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: 100th 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.



Youth Bible Study:

This time of year, a large majority of our youth are busy preparing and practicing to go down and compete at FDF. However, once FDF season dies down we are excited to announce the beginning of a new Youth Ministry here at the Annunciation Cathedral: Youth Bible Study. While kids have access to sports and all kind of recreational opportunities through school and extra-curricular activities, the Church can offer them something different. The Church can offer them spiritual guidance applicable in their own lives, no matter their ages.

Christo Pappademos will be hosting a Youth Bible Study for kids in grade school, middle school, and high school. If you would like your child to participate in this program, please send Christo an email at:

christo.pappademos@annunciation.org



Summer Camp At St. Nicholas

It's only February, and already we're looking at Summer Camp at St. Nicholas. The camping program there has become very popular in recent years, whereby registration for 2020 opened on January 1! So, while early, we would encourage you to go on line as soon as possible. The web site is: www.gosfyouth.org.

We know that family budgets are very limited and summer camp sells out very quickly, so we wanted to give you all the opportunity to register now by securing your spot with a \$100 deposit. After you pay the deposit, you can set up monthly payments through CampDoc to pay the balance through June 1, 2020. This allows you to have 5 full months to spread out the cost. **Please note that ALL PAYMENTS must be paid in full by June 1, otherwise you risk cancellation.**

2020 SUMMER CAMP DATES

Staff Orientation Week: July 6 - 11

Session I: July 12 - 18

Session II: July 19 - 25

Session III: July 26 - Aug 1

PRICE

\$550 Normal Registration (January 1 – January 31)

\$575 Late Registration (February 1 – May 31)

Online registration and more info available at www.gosfyouth.org

2020 REFUND POLICY

First, we would like to encourage you to email us to request to switch to another session (if space is available) so your child can have the experience of summer camp. However, we understand that things come up and you may need to cancel all together. To do so, please email us with this information at jduterte@sanfran.goarch.org

Cancellations before June 1, 2020 - You will receive all money paid EXCEPT for the \$100 non-refundable deposit

Cancellations June 1 - June 30, 2020 - You will receive a 50% refund

Cancellations July 1, 2020 or later - No refund unless it is a medical reason* (must have written explanation from Doctor).

***Medical reason for cancellation:**

We understand that medical issues may arise over the summer or just as your child is set to attend camp. Please email us as soon as possible to inform us of your need to cancel. We will ask that you submit a written explanation from your child's physician. If you child is sick and there is time and room, we will work with you to switch your camper to a later session. If your camper is unable to attend a later session, but still able to send us a written explanation from your Doctor, a 50% refund will be issued.

O Christ our God, who hast been pleased to rest this day in the arms of the Elder as upon the chariot of the cherubim, from the tyranny of the passions now deliver us who sing Thy praises, and save our souls. Doxastikon of the Feast, Sung at the conclusion of Orthros

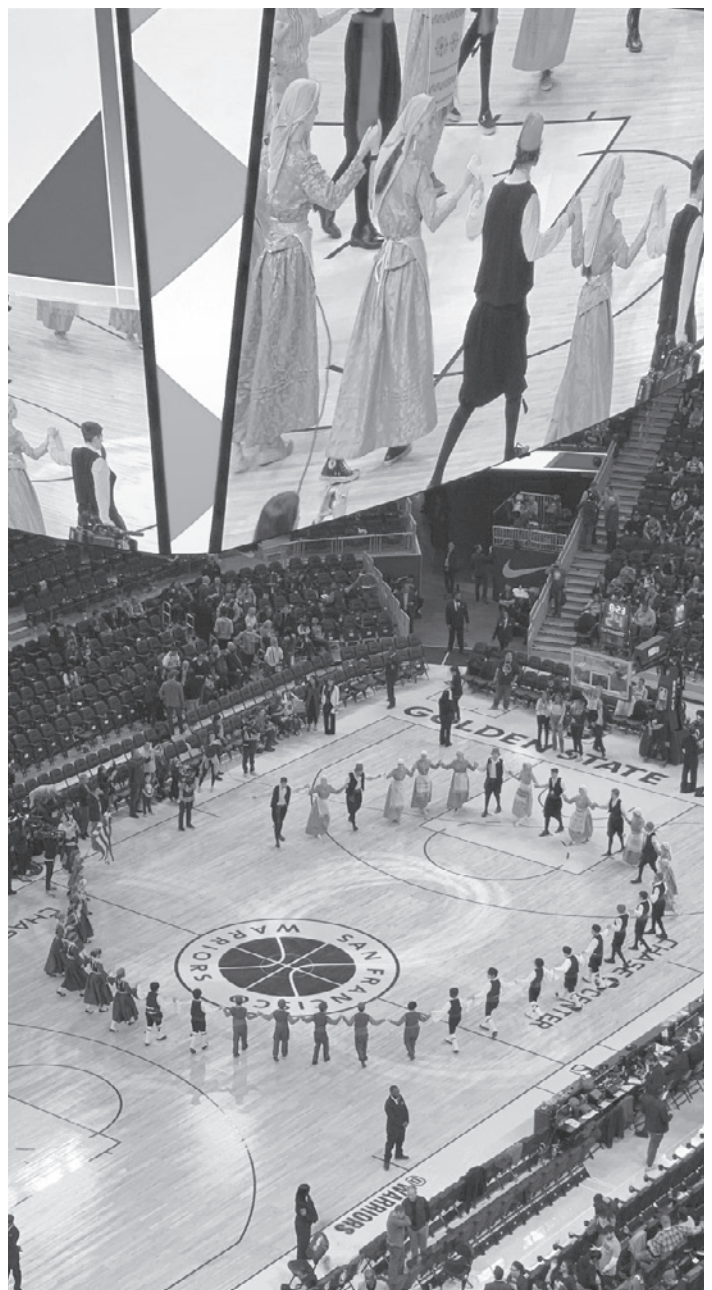


Dance Groups Gearing Up to Perform at FDF

Annunciation's dance groups will be performing at the annual Metropolis Folk Dance Festival. This year's festival February 14th-18th in Ontario, California. Annunciation Cathedral will be represented by our four dance groups – To Mellon, Revmata, Thisavri, and Spithes.

To Mellon, which translates to "The Future", is our Kindergarten to 2nd grader dance group, 5-8 years old. To Mellon will be participating as an exhibition group with 16 dancers going down to Southern California! This is their 4th year participating in FDF as an exhibition group. At FDF 2020, they will be ready and old enough to compete! They have been hard at work these last several months learning new dances from Northern Thrace.

Revmata, "Currents," is our award winning elementary age dance group, 3rd-5th graders. They have been competing for the past two years at FDF. This year, Revmata will be performing dances from the region of Epirus. They will be incorporating songs and traditions of Epirus in their two suites accompanied by live music, wearing brand new costumes ordered from Greece. They are excited to see their fellow dance groups perform and have the experience of unity that FDF brings to them!



Greek Heritage Night: Giannis and the Milwaukee Bucks vs the Warriors

On Wednesday January 8th at the new Chase Center in San Francisco, our dance program stole the show and performed as the halftime show during Greek Heritage Night at the Milwaukee Bucks vs Golden State Warriors game! We were the first church dance group to perform live on the court during a Greek Heritage night in the Bay Area.

Even NBA superstar, last season's MVP, the pride of Greece Giannis Antetokounmpo enjoyed seeing our kids out there dancing. "It was awesome, I had the chance during the half to see them dancing and hear the greek music



playing. It was nice, it's always nice to have Greek fans supporting the Bucks and supporting me and my brother [Thanasis]."

-Giannis.

The kids were met with a loud applause from the entire stadium when they finished their set of dances. It was a very proud night for our kids, their directors, and the entire Annunciation Cathedral Community. Μπράβο παιδιά!!



BASKETBALL:
Games at Annunaiiton:
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

3:00 GES ANNUNCIATION
RESURRECTION
4:00 BMS HOLY CROSS
RESURRECTION
5:00 GES ST. NICHOLAS
HOLY CROSS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23
@ ANNUNCIATION
2:00 GES ST. GREGORY
ANNUNCIATION
3:00 BES ANNUNCIATION
ST. NICHOLAS
4:00 GES ST. NICHOLAS
RESURRECTION

5:00 BMS ANNUNCIATION
RESURRECTION

SUNDAY, MARCH 1
@ ANNUNCIATION
2:30 GES HOLY CROSS
ANNUNCIATION
3:30 BMS HOLY CROSS
ANNUNCIATION
4:30 BES ASCENSION
ANNUNCIATION
(to be rescheduled)

SUNDAY, MARCH 8
@ ANNUNCIATION
2:30 BMS ANNUNCIATION
ST. GREGORY
3:30 GES ANNUNCIATION
ASCENSION

PLAYOFFS - SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH @ ST. NICHOLAS
CHAMPIONSHIPS - SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH @ ASCENSION





Sunday School News

A big heart felt thank you to all of our participants in last month's Annunciation Sunday School Christmas Pageant! Thank you to all the parents for bringing your children, thank you teachers for shepherding, leading and teaching the children, and thank you volunteers for helping to organize and serve at our delicious post pageant luncheon. (A special shout out goes to Kosta Weiner for being our youngest server and mastering the art of serving french toast with tongs). It was a lovely, festive afternoon enjoyed by all.

We started the New Year by continuing what has become an Annunciation Sunday School tradition: a lesson about the three hierarchs, St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian and St. John Chrysostom, followed by the cutting of a Vasilopita specially made for the Sunday school students by teacher Maria Allen. We cut a piece for Jesus Christ and Saint Basil, then cut pieces for everyone present. This year Nicole Klobuchar was the lucky recipient of the coin. Congratulations! Thank you teacher Maria, for making this lovely tradition possible.

The recently resurrected high school class (see what I did there?) spent time enjoying each others company and discussing the weekly gospel reading (Matthew 4:12-17) about the beginning of Jesus' ministry. They were especially drawn to "the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And those who lived in the land where death casts its shadow, a light has shined." We contemplated what it must have been like for those who knew Jesus, and what it means to know him now. In the upcoming weeks we will explore the themes of gratitude, worthiness, doubt and spreading God's love, all based on the gospel readings of the day. I am so grateful to have the opportunity to spend time with these wonderful students. Their weekly insights and strong faith both surprise and delight, and I continually find myself learning from them. I look forward to embarking on the journey of Great and Holy Lent together beginning March 1st! - Kelly Rakos





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.



Greek School News

After a two-week break for the Christmas holiday, we resumed classes on Saturday, January 4, 2020. Students are busy learning the Greek language and culture.

We offer three different classes, all taught on Saturday mornings:

- Greek language for children
- Performing arts class for children which includes culture and language
- Greek language for adults

*Hail, O Theotokos Virgin
full of grace: for from thee
has shone forth the Sun
of Righteousness, Christ
our God, giving light to
those in darkness. Be glad
also, thou righteous Elder,
for thou hast received in
thine arms the Deliverer
of our souls, who bestows
upon us resurrection.
Apolytikion of the Feast*

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!

After Liturgy on Sunday, January 12 we held had a brief Altar Boy Training Session led by Christo Pappademos for all of our existing Altar Boys as well as new Altar Boy recruits. We went over how to serve a Hierarchical Liturgy in anticipation of the visit of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros and we also went over the basics of serving a standard Divine Liturgy. Our Altar boys showed great knowledge of our services during the training and also displayed great enthusiasm for serving in the Holy Altar. We should be proud of our dedicated team of Altar Boys! If your son would like to serve in the Altar please contact christo.pappademos@annunciation.org



Our altar schedule for February is as follows:

- February 2 - Group 1
- February 9 - Group 2
- February 16 - Group 3
- February 23 - Group 4

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 Bearers (Angels) program that we have during Holy Week and Pascha? Please contact Evangelia Raptis-Zarou, erz.raptiszarou@gmail.com



Sacraments and services

Funerals

Joan Marina Peoponis Rinde, who fell asleep in the Lord on December 18, was buried December 27. She is survived by her husband, Lloyd Rinde, her sister, Dena, brother, Constantine, and many other family members.

Condolences to George Gavros and his family on the recent (in September) falling asleep in the Lord of his mother, Eleni.

Aionia I Mnimi! Eternal Memory!

F E B R U A R Y C A L E N D A R

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
						Greek School 10 am
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am		Dementia Support Group 11 am	Church Basketball 7 pm	Church Basketball 7 pm		Greek School 10 am
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Ypapanti: Messinian Artoklasia Triodion Begins						
				Folk Dance Festival Feb. 13 through 17		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Orthros 9 am Introduction to Orthodoxy 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Folk Dance Festival Feb. 13 through 17		Community Kitchen, 6:30 pm Young Adults 8 pm	Church Basketball 7 pm	Church Basketball 7 pm		Greek School 10 am Saturday of Souls: Cemetery Chapel, Fr. Stephen Celebrating 10 am
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Orthros 9 am Introduction to Orthodoxy 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Parish Council 12:30 pm			Church Basketball 7 pm	Church Basketball 7 pm		Greek School 10 am 2nd Saturday of Souls: Cathedral, 10 am
	Metropolis Clergy Laity, St. Nicholas Ranch; Feb. 24-25					

UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF
SAN FRANCISCO, THE ANNUNCIATION
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL
245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-2320

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
PERMIT NO. 1734



Sunday, January 26, 2020 was a most historic day in the life of the Annunciation Cathedral, where Archbishop Elpidophoros of America celebrated the Divine Liturgy for the first time as Archbishop. The Divine Liturgy was attended by hundreds and hundreds of faithful, most of whom attended a luncheon following the Liturgy. Shown above is His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America signing the steel of the yet-to-be-completed Cathedral, challenging the community to complete the interior and consecrate it to the glory of God in 2021, to coincide with the Cathedral's 100th anniversary. Additional photos will appear in the March 2020 Herald.