

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 1 Verses 10-14; Chapter 2 Verses 1-3.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 1, ἐδάφ. 10-14, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 1-3: Κατ' ἀρχάς, Κύριε, τὴν γῆν ἐθεμελίωσας, καὶ ἔργα τῶν χειρῶν σου εἰσὶν οἱ οὐρανοί· αὐτοὶ ἀπολοῦνται, σὺ δὲ διαμένεις· καὶ πάντες ὡς ἱμάτιον παλαιωθήσονται, καὶ ὡσεὶ περιβόλαιον ἐλίξεις αὐτούς, καὶ ἀλλαγήσονται· σὺ δὲ ὁ αὐτὸς εἶ, καὶ τὰ ἔτη σου οὐκ ἐκλείψουσιν. Πρὸς τίνα δὲ τῶν ἀγγέλων εἰρηκέν ποτε, Κάθου ἐκ δεξιῶν μου, ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἐχθρούς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου; Οὐχὶ πάντες εἰσὶν λειτουργικὰ πνεύματα, εἰς διακονίαν ἀποστελλόμενα διὰ τοὺς μέλλοντας κληρονομεῖν σωτηρίαν; Διὰ τοῦτο δεῖ περισσοτέρως ἡμᾶς προσέχειν τοῖς ἀκουσθεῖσιν, μήποτε παραρροῶμεν. Εἰ γὰρ ὁ δι' ἀγγέλων λαληθεὶς λόγος ἐγένετο βέβαιος, καὶ πᾶσα παράβασις καὶ παρακοή ἔλαβεν ἔνδικον μισθαποδοσίαν, πῶς ἡμεῖς ἐκφευξόμεθα τηλικαύτης ἀμελήσαντες σωτηρίας; Ἦτις, ἀρχὴν λαβοῦσα λαλεῖσθαι διὰ τοῦ κυρίου, ὑπὸ τῶν ἀκουσάντων εἰς ἡμᾶς ἐβεβαιώθη.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 2, Verses 1-12.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ: ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 1-12.

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.

ADOPT A PAVER: As of today, we have 92 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 also need to wait until the courtyard drainage issues are resolved. The company will work with us as expeditiously as possible to get the work done. Meanwhile, we need someone to head this committee, which will reach out to other parishes and fellow Orthodox, both in our parish, the Bay Area, and throughout our Metropolis, and invite their participation. Our goal is to have all 750 pavers "adopted."

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. The group is meeting today Sunday, March 15.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Our Parish Council will meet today, beginning at 12:30 pm

COMMUNITY KITCHEN "TO-GO" THIS TUESDAY: This Tuesday March 17, we will have our monthly Community Kitchen, however we will be changing its format in light of the Coronavirus. Instead of hosting a sit-down meal inside our gym as we usually do, this week we will simply prepare our to-go bags and place them outside the Cathedral front doors on a table for our patrons to pick up as they need.

THIRD SALUTATIONS THIS FRIDAY: On the first five Fridays of Great Lent, Salutations to the Virgin Mary are held in Orthodox churches. The origin of the service comes from 626 AD, when Constantinople was besieged by a the Avars. Patriarch Sergios led a procession around the city wall with an icon of the Theotokos, and the people prayed all night without sitting, hence the word *akathistos*. The City was spared. The service on the fifth Friday of Great Lent is known as the Akathist. Services on each of the Friday evenings begin at 7 pm

DEALING WITH THE CORONAVIRUS: Health officials advise hand washing is the most effective way of staving off this virus. We should also refrain from the normal ways we greet one another, through handshakes and hugs. It goes without saying that if someone is not feeling up to par, that person should stay at home. Meanwhile, the Greek School's Independence Day program this coming Saturday (in the hall) and Sunday (in the chapel) has been cancelled. We will be announcing other cancellations and modifications as needed. We earnestly pray for the abatement of this disease, as we take steps necessary to protect ourselves and one another. Ὑπεραγία Θεοτόκε, πρόσβευε ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν!

JV BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES: Yesterday all three of our teams participated in the playoff games down in San Jose. Today the Championship games will be played at the Ascension Cathedral in Oakland. The Girls Elementary School game will be at 2pm, Boys Elementary School is at 3:15pm and the Boys Middle School game is at 4:30pm. Good luck to all of our teams playing today! Go Annunciation!

BASKETBALL PRACTICE THIS WEEK: High School practice will take place this Tuesday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m., and Adult practice will take place this Thursday, March 19, beginning at 8:30 p.m.

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 have 196 2020 Stewards. We're about half-way there. We thank you for your support. A second mailing of cards went out this week. For your convenience, cards are also available at the *pangari*. For questions about Stewardship, please see our Stewardship chair, **Dean Nicolacakis**.

100th ANNIVERSARY MEETING: Next Sunday March 22nd we will have our second meeting to plan our 100th Anniversary Celebration! A major item of discussion will be finding a Chairperson to take charge of assembling and overseeing the production of a 100th Anniversary commemorative album. This way we can have a tangible keepsake to mark this milestone in our Cathedral history. Please contact **Father Stephen** fatherstephen@annunciation.org or **Christo Pappademos** christo.pappademos@annunciation.org if you or someone you know would be interested!

PARKING: Having passed our Final Fire and Electrical Inspections on, December 3, 2019, we are complying with additional requirements imposed by the Building Department, namely, an interior fire rated wall, the final lobby doors, the Valencia Street gates and the walkway from the lobby to Valencia Street, so that we can implement our Conditional Use Permit and operate the garage full-time. We are concurrently addressing drainage issues. As we go forward, let's stay positive and focused. Consider what you have accomplished so far! As with Moses, 3200 years ago, so 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 ἅγιασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*). (Exodus 25:8). All this requires vision, determination and faith. You have it all: keep reminding yourselves. You are accomplishing something extraordinary here, 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.”