

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH BEARING WOMEN

TIMOTHYY AND MAVRA, THE MARTYRS; PETER THE WONDERWORKER

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: *This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 6, verses 1 to 7:* In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "it is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πράξεων τῶν Ἀποστόλων τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 6, εἰς ἀφ. 1-7.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: *This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 15 Verses 43-47 – Chapter 16 Verses 1-8:* At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where he was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Ἡ σημερινή εὐαγγελική περικοπή ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον, κεφ. 15 εἰς ἀφ. 43-47, κεφ. 16 εἰς ἀφ. 1-8.

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.

Christ is risen from the dead. By death, He has conquered death. And, to those in the graves, He has granted life!

Χριστὸς ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι ζωὴν χαρισάμενος!

EVERYTHING IS ON HOLD: The present pandemic has put everything building related on hold. As you know, prior to our being sheltered in place, we were in the process of installing the final gates along Valencia Street and on our courtyard, as well as taking care of some leak and drainage issues. Meanwhile, the granite which will clad the Valencia Street walls has been fabricated, as have the stone which completes the fountain, and the final lobby doors. Work will resume as soon as it is safe to do so, so that we may open and operate the garage full-time and begin work on the interior. As a community, we've been through much, especially when we lost everything to the earthquake, back in 1989. But, we've bounced back. It wasn't easy, but we did it, because we have faith, we have hope, and we have unity. So, too, we will weather this pandemic and return what many are calling "the new normal," –i.e. a community where social distancing will become routine. But, our faith remains the same; our need for God remains the same. After all, it is for Him, in Him, and through Him that we continue to exist at all. Praise God for the Gift of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, through whose Resurrection we are given the faith and the vision to rebuild His Church. Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη! Christ is Risen!!

EXTENSION OF SHELTERING IN PLACE: Health Order No. C19-07c, which was issued April 29, 2020, extends the sheltering in place order for our area, through May 31, 2020. Accordingly, we will continue to provide church services for the foreseeable future by means of streaming. To access streaming of services from the Annunciation Cathedral or to view recordings of previous services, please visit www.annunciation.org/live-stream. We are grateful to the Parish Council, in particular our technology team consisting of **Peter Cazanis**, **John Lampros**, and **Tasso Mavroudis**, for setting up and maintaining our ability to stream the services. In this way, you, our brothers and sisters in Christ, are with us virtually. We are also grateful to **Christo Pappademos**, our Pastoral Assistant, for his on-point messages during this time, as well as to **Costas Haralambopoulos**, our Head Chanter, and **George Tsolias**, our Co-Chanter, for their moving rendering of the liturgical responses, as we are to **Father Stephen**. May God keep them and all of you safe during this pandemic, until the day when we will gather together, in real time, to glorify God and to receive His Body and Blood in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Meanwhile, we are grateful to all of you, our dedicated parishioners and friends, for your undaunted faith. Each week, your lighting of virtual candles (which we, in turn, light on your behalf in real time) gives us encouragement and hope. The lighting of virtual candles also provides the Cathedral with the means to meet its basic expenses during this unprecedented and disconcerting time in the life of our community. Your faith—your Resurrection faith—declares we will get through this crisis and that our community will remain strong and united, that we will begin our 100th year with renewed aspirations and dreams and, hopefully, as a better world and as better people.

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH: Our Metropolis, in concert with our Archdiocese and the Assembly of Bishops, will let us know when and under what conditions our churches will reopen. California, meanwhile, has unveiled a strategy for the resumption of activity, which will take place in stages. Reopening of churches comes under category 3 (of 4 categories) of the plan, which follows the opening of schools and other, similar venues. These are projected to reopen in July/August. It may well be that we will be able to reopen our church in September/October.

VOLUNTEERING/DONATING DURING THE PRESENT PANDEMIC: As noted in last Sunday's bulletin, we are not able to operate Community Kitchen (our feeding program to the hungry and the homeless) during the present pandemic nor will we be able to do so for the foreseeable future. You can still help make a difference. The San Francisco Food Bank, which supplies much of the food that we use to prepare meals for our Community Kitchen, has been especially hard hit by the pandemic. We invite you to visit the Food Bank's web site, <https://www.sfmfoodbank.org> or call the Food Bank at 415 282-1907 ext. 249, and offer to assist them in bagging and distributing groceries to the needy or by making a donation. You may also wish to donate to support the work of Raphael House. This is an Orthodox Christian shelter, located in the Tenderloin. One way you can help them during this crisis is through their Amazon [wish list](https://www.amazon.com/wish-list). To make a donation for their Covid-19 Emergency Relief Fund: <https://www.rafaelhouse.org/emergency-fund/>

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY CLASSES: These very popular classes are taking place on a weekly basis, remotely, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Alex Kozak. If you are new to the parish or you are considering being received into the Church through baptism and/or chrismation, as an adult, we invite you to speak with Alex about your wishes and the possibility of joining the Introduction to Orthodoxy class. Please contact him at orthodoxyagkozak@sneakemail.com.

THE CATHEDRAL OFFICE THESE DAYS: For your information, during the shelter in place order, the Cathedral office is open for essential work only (e.g. the processing of bulletins, documents and the like, bookkeeping and maintenance). All meetings, as Parish Council, Philoptochos, religious instruction, and youth are taking place remotely.



*“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.”*
