

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

MIRACLE OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AT COLOSSAE

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 16, Verses 13-24:

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Κορινθίους Πρώτης Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 16, ἐδάφ. 13-24.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, Chapter 21, Verses 33-42:

The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον, κεφ. 21, ἐδάφ. 33-42.

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· Ἐσκόλευται 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.

TODAY'S MNEMOSYNON: Memorial prayers are being offered today for the repose of the soul of our sister **Margarita Papasomas**, who fell asleep in the Lord 6 years ago, and also for the repose of the soul of our sister **Toula Caloyanides**, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago. **Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη! Eternal memory!**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 IS THE BIRTH OF THE THEOTOKOS: There are, as we know, feasts that have to do with our Lord. These are called *despotikes eortes*. They are followed, in number and in importance, by feasts dedicated to the Virgin Mary. These are called *theomitorikes eortes*, or feasts having to do with the Mother of God. One of these is the feast celebrating her birth, on September 8. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated, and streamed, on Tuesday, September 8, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

LIGHT A VIRTUAL CANDLE: Thank you for lighting a virtual candle every Sunday, thus keeping hope alive. Whether you donate \$1 or \$1,000, your gift is one of faith. It helps keep the Cathedral solvent during this universal upheaval. More importantly, it connects us to Him who is the Light of the World (John 8:12) and reminds us of our calling to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). Keep on lighting your virtual candles! To do so, please visit our web site, www.annunciation.org, and click on the appropriate link, or enter <https://annunciation.org/candle>

GREEK SCHOOL, SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES TO BEGIN REMOTELY: Due to the pandemic, Greek School classes and Sunday School classes will take place remotely, until further notice. Greek School began on September 5, at 10 am, while Sunday School classes begin will begin next Sunday, September 13, following the Liturgy. Login information may be found in the *Herald*, as well as on the Cathedral's web site, www.annunciation.org. A fee is charged for Greek School (Greek School teachers are paid); there is no charge for Sunday School. To enroll your child in Sunday School for the 20/21 school year, please complete [this form](#) for each child. For additional information, and to learn more about how the teachings will be structured, please visit the [Sunday School information page](#) on the Cathedral's website

FESTIVAL COMMEMORATIVE BOOK: Although we will not be able to hold our Food Festival in September, we will be publishing a Program Book. Entitled *Physically Distant; Spiritually Connected*, the book is being printed in this, our 99th year as a community, which we are also celebrating. In addition to your ads and sponsorship pages, the book will also contain a **directory of the parishioners and friends of the Cathedral**. We invite you to be creative: instead of the usual "best wishes for a successful festival," consider a photo or two of your being sheltered in place during this COVID-19 pandemic, along with a narrative of how you're coping, how you continue to maintain your connections with one another. Contracts have been mailed out. We invite your participation and thank you for your continued support. Additional info and web links to an online form and online payment (PayPal) can be found here: <https://www.annunciation.org/2020-festival-book>. The due date is September 15.

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH: Seven months into the pandemic, San Francisco's directive is still in place, namely that "religious gatherings and ceremonies" may take place "outdoors only (up to 12 people), with face coverings and social distancing." This means that Annunciation Cathedral may not open yet, as we had planned, with up to 40 congregants (25% of capacity, based on social distancing requirements). Meanwhile, we invite you to continue to participate in the Sunday services and special weekday services (as for example, August 15), remotely, through streaming. We are, of course, saddened that we may not open up for in-person worship, for the time being. However, the safety of our people is paramount. Let us continue to pray for one another in these challenging times, and let us stay safe.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR CHURCH REOPENING: When we resume in-person worship, we will need to have between seven (7) and ten (10) volunteers on hand each time the church is open to monitor the parking garage, greet and check in, ask health questions, usher, and provide general oversight. Are you able and are you willing to assist? If the answer is yes, please let us know, so that we can compile a master list of our volunteer pool and begin training. Please click on <https://www.annunciation.org/reopening-volunteer>. We look forward to hearing from you.

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 orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com.

THINGS BEGINNING TO MOVE: The present pandemic has put everything building-related on hold but, now, things are beginning to move again. The granite which along the Valencia Street walls and the stone cap have been installed. The roofing and drainage issues are being addressed as we write this. The gate people came out this week. We're now waiting for the lobby doors. As soon as we finish this and get our certificate of occupancy for the garage, we can open the garage to self-park. This is necessary if we are to open up the church, as the valet can guide us where to park, but can no longer park our cars for us. 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 to a so called "new normal," – i.e. a community where we may do things a little differently, but with the same strong faith in God. 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 whom we are given the faith and the vision to rebuild His Church.



“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.”