

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's First Letter to the Galatians, Chapter 6, Verses 11-18:** Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

**Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 6, ἐδάφ. 11-18.**

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 3, Verses 13-17:** The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην, κεφ. 3, ἐδάφ. 13-17.**

**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 ἠδόκησε σαρκὶ ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγειρῆαι 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 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.

**TODAY'S MNEMOSYNON:** Memorial prayers are being offered today for the repose of the soul of our brother Stanley Cocolos, who fell asleep in the Lord 1 year ago. Αἰώνια ἡ μνήμη! Eternal memory!

**TOMORROW, SEPTEMBER 14, IS THE UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS:** It is a day of fasting and prayer as it commemorates the finding of the True Cross in the fourth century and its recovery and elevation two centuries later. The Divine Liturgy will be streamed, beginning at 10 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 keeps 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](http://www.annunciation.org), and click on the appropriate link, or enter <https://annunciation.org/candle>

**GREEK SCHOOL, SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN REMOTELY:** Due to the pandemic, Greek School classes and Sunday School classes are taking place remotely, until further notice. Greek School began on September 5, at 10 am, while Sunday School classes begin today, following the Liturgy. Login information may be found in the *Herald*, as well as on the Cathedral's web site, [www.annunciation.org](http://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 are not 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 99<sup>th</sup> year as a community. In addition to your ads and sponsorship pages, the book will contain a **directory of the parishioners and friends of the Cathedral**. 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, and/or a narrative of how you're coping, how you continue to maintain your connections with one another. We are half way towards achieving our goal; help us make it 100%. 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. We have recently learned the City has a goal of permitting in-person attendance for up to 25 people, within the next few weeks. However, in order to open, even in this limited way, we need to obtain our certificate of occupancy for the garage so that you may self-park. We expect this will happen within the next few weeks. Meanwhile, we invite you to continue to participate in the Sunday services and special weekday services (as for example, tomorrow, September 14), remotely, through streaming. We are, of course, saddened that we have not been able to open up for in-person worship, all this time. 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.

**THINGS BEGINNING TO MOVE:** The present pandemic has put everything building-related on hold but, now, things are moving. Granite along the Valencia Street walls and the stone cap have been installed. The roofing and drainage issues have been addressed. The gates are now virtually complete. The lobby doors have been installed. We are now waiting for Stonecraft to install the remaining pavers. This will be followed by the final inspection of the elevator. As soon as we do this, we will obtain our certificate of occupancy for the garage, so 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."*