

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020

FATHERS OF THE 7th ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

THE APOSTLE PHILIP, THE DEACON; THEOPHANES THE CONFESSOR

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter

to Titus, Chapter 3, Verses 8-15: Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Τίτον Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 3, ἐδάφ. 8-15.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, Chapter 8, Verses 8-15:

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν κεφ. 8, ἐδάφ. 8-15.

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. Please contact him at orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com

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, REMOTELY (FOR THE TIME BEING): 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 began on September 13, at 11 a.m. Both schools have a record number of students attending! Kudos to all. 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. Do avail yourselves of the opportunity to be a part of our cultural and catechetical programs. Remain connected with our Faith and our heritage and, above all, *fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith* (Letter to the Hebrews, 12:2).

FESTIVAL COMMEMORATIVE BOOK: Thank you all for participating in this year's AdBook. Entitled *Physically Distant; Spiritually Connected*, the book is being printed in this, our 99th year as a community. A **directory of the parishioners and friends of the Cathedral** is also being compiled. Your support has made these efforts a success!

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP, ON NOVEMBER 1: After 7 months of our church being closed, the City is allowing in-person attendance for up to 25% of capacity, with social distancing and other requirements. For us, this means in-person worship with up to 40 persons, wearing masks at all times, etc. Our Reopening Taskforce met on Tuesday and finalized our reopening guidelines. These guidelines are being mailed out to our parishioners and friends. They are also available on line, at www.annunciation.org. The guidelines describe the procedure for registration and other requirements. We plan to reopen for in-person worship on **November 1, 2020**. Meanwhile, we invite you to continue to participate in the Sunday services and special weekday services, remotely, through streaming.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR CHURCH REOPENING: As we resume in-person worship, we will need to have about seven (7) 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>.

OUR ADOPT A PAVER PROJECT: The good news is that we're up to 100 pavers. Of these, 44 have been inscribed. These will be redone, in a darker color, to make them easier to read, at the same time that the remaining 56 pavers are inscribed. More good news is that the company doing the inscription is ready when we are. We expect this work will be taking place beginning November 9.

PHILOTOCHOS ZOOM CALL: Our Ladies Philotochos met last week and adopted a fire relief strategy, along with other philanthropic projects. A General Meeting is planned for some time during the next few weeks.

JOY ZOOM CALL: Calling all grade school and middle school aged kids to participate in a Zoom reunion. Christo and Father Stephen will host a brief discussion for virtual *parea*, to keep our kids connected. We're looking at Saturday, October 24, at noon. Be on the lookout for an email from Christo.

Parish Council Meeting Next Sunday: The Parish Council will meet next Sunday, October 18, at 12:30 p.m.

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."