



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 · 415 864-8000 · FAX 415 431-5860 · WWW.ANNUNCIATION.ORG

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2020



GOYA! - see page 14

So what's new? The gates are new. They are now virtually complete, including the gate at the southwestern corner of the property, which opens electronically, granting access to the garage below. All of this is possible, thanks to your generous Stewardship.

Annunciation Cathedral Launches 2021 Stewardship Campaign: Campaign Begins November 15 and ends December 31

If Stewardship is anything, it's about looking after that which you cherish. Christian Stewardship is about looking after the Church, which has been entrusted to us by Jesus Christ. Christian Stewardship begins with your faith. It manifests itself in our giving of our time and talent. It's about caring. It's about involvement. It's also about money, the giving of our resources. Actually, it's about giving back to God that which God has given us. *Τά σά ἐκ τῶν σῶν, σοί προσφέρομεν, κατὰ πάντα καί διὰ πάντα*, is how the Divine Liturgy puts

it: *"we offer back to You }O God} that which is already yours. We do it on behalf of all, and for all."* Understood in this way, we become Stewards of God's grace, as we read in 1 Peter 4:10: *Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others as faithful Stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

Thanks to your faith, the Cathedral has been able to meet its budgetary expenses during this upending year of 2020. This says a lot about who we are as a faith community. It

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from front page

says a lot about our level of commitment, now and for the future. We now invite your continued support for 2021. To assist you, stewardship cards have been sent out to our Cathedral community. We ask you to kindly complete and return your card during our campaign, which goes from November 15 and ends December 31st. In doing so, you will notice a couple of things. For one, there is a check box asking you to identify your primary affiliation with the parish, if you wish to do so. This will help us better understand the various groups that make up the community, and what the primary reason is for your involvement. Also new this year is a checkbox asking whether you would like to continue your 2021 pledge into 2022. This means you will not have to fill another card in 2021 for 2022; your 2021 stewardship will automatically be rolled over in 2022. Let us at this time extend a special appeal to you who have children living with you who are 18 years of age and over. Please share with your children how important it is for them also to become Stewards of the parish. Encourage them to fill out their own card and send it in. The amount they give is not important as is the fact that they do so. We are relying on you to help us in this effort. And we thank you. We also thank those who are Stewards for 2020 and we are pleased to include their names in the honor roll of Stewards for the year. May God continue to bless and protect you and the members of your family.

Honor Roll of 2020 Stewards:

Aleck, Demetria
Aleck, Patricia
Allen, Maria & Andrew
Ambus, Anthony & Zetta
Ambus, Dr. Antonia
Ambus, Dr. George & Tessa
Armatas, Christina &
Konstantinos Polychronos
Arsinoos, Mariam
Arvanitidis, Athena & Nicholas
Arvantelis, Agapi
Asimakopoulos, Vasilios
Asimos, Chrisula
Athanasiaades, Philippos & Diala
Bagatelos, Karen
Bagatelos, Michael
Balakas, Helen & Rodney Evets
Balian, Annamaria & Robert
Balian, Nicholas M.
Banks, Bradly
Bardis, John & Kathleen
Barlas, Constantine
Bazgan, George
Bissas, Maria
Boutiette, Mary Ann
Bozionelos, Jim & Florika
Bratis, Denise P.
Bratis, Peter D.
Cardellini, Marie
Carter, Eleni Larissopoulos
Cazanis, Katerina & Peter
Charitou, Haralambos
Chechile, Cory & Demetra Farmas
Cheong, Bryan
Cocoles, Jim & Luba
Condon, Susan & Martin
Contos, Christopher
Cruz, John
Curd, Vivian & John
Cusulos, Nan
Dakis, Elli
Dalianes, Athan & Marguerite
Damalas, Alexander
Danielidis, Maria
Davies, Ethel
De-Simone, Giovanna
Decker, Christina
Dekaristos, Anastasia
Delis, Nicholas & Stephanie
Demakas, George D.
Demetry, Andrew
Dermitzakis, Katherine
Destein, Patricia
Dhawan, Anirudh & Brittany
Dhimitri, Anila
Dimitriou, Agnes

Drogitis, Joanne
Economides, Nicholas & Janine
Economopoulos, Nancy & Philip
Economou, Chris
Efstratis, Jenny & Greg
Eliopoulos, Annette & John
Eliopoulos, Louie
Eliopoulos, Peter John
Elite, Dr. Anthony
Fanourgiakis, Mike & Dimitra
Fisher, Gary & Dr. Alex Zaphiris
Fkiaras, Evgenia N
Fotinos, James F.
Fousekis, Vlasias and Kalliope
Fousekis, Shareen & Spiros
Fragakis, Charalambos & Marianthe
Franco, Michael & Sigrun
Franco, Helen
Galanis, Angelike
Garibaldi, David & Kathie
Garibaldi, Nicole & Michael
Gavallos, Victor D
Gazulis, Theodore & Christine
Georgatos, Nicko M. & Chrisoula
George, Sam (Deceased)
Georgiadis, John & Sophia
Gikas, Paul & Meltem
Glafkides, Constantine & Joanne
Glaros, Stanley
Grampas, Bonnie
Gumas, Alexander
Haginicols, Leo & Tiffany
Haralabopoulos, Peter
Haralambopoulos,
Constantine & Eleftheria
Haramis, Maria
Haras, Louis & Panagiota
Hernandez, Jose & Sofia Kleftogionne
Hillas, Patrick
Holloway, Vicki Eleni
Iovan, Diana A.
Janssens, Anthi & Hormoz L.
Johns, John & Christina
Kallas, Louise
Kalligeros, George
Kamenis, Steve & Eleni
Kanakis, Evangelia & Peter
Karasakalidis, Petros & Liza
Karas, Angelus
Karas, Bill
Karas, Chris
Karas, Eva
Karas, Joanna
Karas, Kathy
Karas, Tom & Eleni
Karsant, Dr. Constantine & Mina

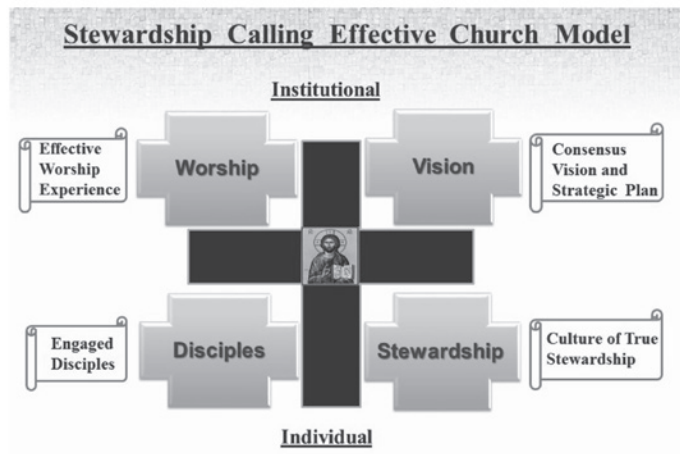
Kasaris, Mary
Kasolas, Michael & Stella Pantazis
Kastoras, Athanasios & Niki
Katsanis, Gari
Kavalaris, James & Joanne
Kenney, Danae & Knute
Keramari, Demitrios & Arhondo
King, Thomas
Kleinekorte, Richard & Alexis
Klobuchar, Michael & Georgette
Kokalis, Despina Nick
Konstantinidis, Deno C. & Bella
Kontonis, Andreas & Maria
Kontonis, Nick & Athena
Kontrafouris, Athanasios & Joyce
Kosaris, Paul & Irene
Kostakis, Stamatia
Kotsonis, Dr. Peter & Shu Yeung
Kottas, Angelos
Koulos, Leo Paul
Koulouris, Irene
Koupas, Evelyn
Kouropoulos, Georgia
Koutoulas, Dina
Koutoulas, Kosta F. & Grace
Koutoulas, Kosta P. & Stephani
Koutoulas, Panagiota
Koutoulas, Pete & Voula
Kozak, Alexandros & Erin
Kyriacou, Chris & Irene
Kyriacou, Rev. Stephen & Aliki
Lampros, Katherine T.
Lampros, John & Magda
Lawrence, Effie & Stephen
Lazarakis, Tom
Leventis, Angie & Theodore
Lewis, Joseph
Lingas, Elena O. & Zachary H Weiner
Lyberopoulos, Bob & Lea
Makras, Effie
Makras, Elaine
Makras, Sophie
Makras, Thalia
Makras, Victor & Farah
Mandanis, Christina & Greg
Manetas, Peter & Maria
Marpoulos, Cynthia
Mares, Kathryn & William
Markanton, Helen
Mathios, Anthony & Patricia
Mattis, George & Cleo
Mavrakakis, Mary
Mavroudis, Aglaia
Mavroudis, Tasso & Natalia
McBride, Katherine
McKnight, Nektarios L.

You Made it Happen. Let's Do it Again in 2021!

Melitas, Irene
Mellos, Faye & Michael Holland
Meyer, Beverly A.
Miltiades Andrew & Katy
Misthos, Michael & Christina
Morales, Robert
Morales, Helen
Moulas, Mrs. Vasiliki
Moulas, Vicky A.
Mountanos, Michael S. & Erika
Mourgos, George & Dena
Mouroufas, Tula
Nager, Perri
Nashawati, Bashar & Roud
Navarrette, Melina Kostourakis
Nicolas, Helen
Nicolas, Rita
Nobis, Eugenia
Novo, Dustin & Chrisoula Bissas
Nuris, Manoli
Nuris, Manuel & Teia
Nuris, Thomas & Liberty
Oetzel, Robert (James) & Pauline
Oliver, Christopher & Elena
Orologas, Maria
Ossipoff, Alexander & Lula
Panagiotopoulos, Anton & Sotiria
Panagiotopoulos, George
(Deceased) & Demetra
Panagiotopoulos, Jim and Erika
Panagiotopoulos, Magdalini
Panagiotopoulos, Antonio
Panagiotopoulos, Stephen
Panomitros, John & Helen
Pantages, Mr. & Mrs. Peter
Papadakis, Emanuel &
Maria Mavroforakis
Papadakis, Spiros & Georgia
Papadopoulos, Anastasios
Papageorge, Petros & Nicole
Papageorge, Tom & Joanna
Papageorgiou, Dr. Sophia
Papavasiliou, George & Lea
Papayannis, Pericles & Zoey
Papingu, Robert & Alma
Pappademos, Christo
Pappas, Voula
Paras, Demetra
Paras, Helen
Parashis, Marion
Patiris, Yiota
Patropulos, Joan
Pavlakos, Rose & Dominique Romero
Peters, Kenneth & Polymiti
Peterson, Mr. & Mrs. Robert
Petrou, Janis G.

Philliou, Jim & Patricia
Piccinini, Pamela
Polyzos, Maria & Jason
Pope, Agalia
Pope, Antoinette
Poulakidas, Dean
Poulakidas, Jennifer
Poulakidas, Sakee & Irene
Poulos, James & Despina
Prountzos, Jimmy & Georgia
Proutnzos, George & Pat
Rakos, Jim & Kelly
Rally, Nicholas & Patricia
Ramaglino, Irene & Robert
Ramos, Herbert & Maria
Rangaswami, M & K Desby
Rangaves, Mr. & Mrs. George
Razis, Harklia
Riedel, Dorothy
Saputo, Natasha
Sarantinos, Alexis
Sarikakis, Emilia
Sarikakis, Mike & Katerina
Shatara, Nader & Sawsan
Simotas, Demetrios & Kyriaki
Simotas, Jerry & Natalie
Siouris, Michele Y.
Skinas, Kosmas & Stavroula
Sogotis, James
Sogotis, Paul & Evangelia
Sogotis, Rose
Spirakis, Maria
Spona, Madeline E.
Stamatopoulos, Anna
Stathopoulos, Marios & Anastasia
Stathoudakis, Frosso
Stavrides, Marilena
Stephens, Peter C. & Barbara
Stratakis, Ari & Marcy
Svetcoff, Nicholas
Tamaras, Joy
Tamaresis, Dorothy
Taptelis, Tom & Helen
Tarlson, Nick G. & Mauna Arnzen
Tasso, Jimmy & Molly
Taylor, Edward (Deceased)
Thomas, James
Thompson, Stephanie & Jeff
Tombropoulos, Helen
Tonas, Basil & Mary
Truog, Mr. & Mrs. Michael
Tsagaris, Aphrodite
Tsagaris, Eleni
Tsagaris, Pauline & George
Tsiatis, Athanasios & Christina
Tsifourdaris, Spiros & Aristeia

Tsokas, Georgia
Vafiadis, Konstantinos & Stella
Vafiadis, Irene
Varanis, Terpsi
Vardakastanis, Bobby & Katerina
Vardakatsanis, Dimitri & Penelope
Vasilogiorgis, Foula
Vastardis, Rachel
Vavuris, James & Maria
Vellis, Aris
Vellis, Costas & Meena
Verreos, Adrienne
Vlahos, Cynthia
Vlahos, William & Julie
Vorrises, Angelo J.
Vorrises, Denis J. & Renee
Vorrises, Louise & James
Vorrises, Marie & Lukehart, Ryan
Vorrises, George & Mavra
Vorrises, Stephanie Louise
Vozaites, Antonios & Thalia
Vriheas, Loula
Vriheas, Theodora & Kurt Duecker
Weldezghi, Andy & Lula Musgun
Wertz, Robert & Tina
Wilhelmi, Sophia
Willson, Tyler & Yellena
Yannaghas, Mary
York, Bessie
Zapantis, John & Mary
Zarikos, Panagiotis & Angie
Zarou, Andrew & Evangelia
Zografos, Judi & Taso
Zografos, Sam
Zografos, Evanthis
Zoto, Sarah Beth



Lighting your Virtual Candles

Ever since the closing of our church for in-person worship, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, some nine months ago, we have been lighting your candles, in real time. Thanks to our Technology Team, a link has been placed on our web site, www.annunciation.org, which enables you to light your candles virtually, as well as to request prayers for loved ones. In turn, just prior to the reading of the Epistle, Father Stephen mentions those names and lights candles on your behalf. Please note, names are typically received when they are acknowledged, on Monday or Tuesday morning. Names are recited the following Sunday. If you want a particular name commemorated earlier, please call the Cathedral, 9 am to 1 pm, during the week, and speak with Father Stephen, or else e mail him: fatherstephen@annunciation.org. Secondly, due to the overwhelming support we have been receiving through the lighting of your virtual candles, donations under \$40 are being categorized as "Pangari," much the way donations placed in the collection basket prior to the pandemic. Donations of \$40 and above are posted to individual accounts. Going forward, effective January 1, we will begin posting donations of \$25 and above to individual accounts. We take this opportunity to thank you for your support by lighting virtual candles. Without festival and other event income during these last nine months, your lighting of virtual candles has been an important source of support for the parish. As noted above, only half of the parish budget of \$650,000 comes from Stewardship; the rest comes from sources as the lighting of virtual candles and special contributions. God bless you and thank you.



Kevin Dooling, shown applying a finish coat of paint to the new gates.



Directory

Our last directory of parishioners and friends of the Cathedral came out in 2016, some four years ago. A new one is scheduled to come out by the end of the year. The directory will list the Cathedral's Stewards and friends of the Cathedral, such as area Greek Orthodox churches, the Greek Consulate and the like, a useful, handy guide. Typically, the entries consist of a name and address, along with contact and email information that we have on file. This is what makes the directory useful. Some of our parishioners and friends may wish for their contact information to be withheld. And we respect this. We are asking, therefore, if a parishioner or friend of the Cathedral wishes to opt out, that parishioner or friend is asked to let us know, by December 1. Please notify Christo Pappademos, our Pastoral Assistant, Christo.pappademos@Annunciation.org.



Parish Council Elections

Every year, Parish Council elections are held. One year, eight members are elected. The following year, seven members are elected. This is done in order to ensure continuity. This year, however, due to COVID-19, it is impossible for us to hold elections. In order to do so, we would have to place names in nomination, and then to coordinate a Zoom meeting of all our parishioners. This, of course, will not be possible, if only because a number of our parishioners do not have computers or access to computers and, therefore, would not be able to participate, in addition to the fact that we do not possess e mails for a percentage of our parishioners and, therefore, would not be able to invite them to join a Zoom conference. Permission has been extended by the Archdiocese Clergy Laity, which was held in September, through our Metropolis, to forgo Parish Council elections this year and to hold them a year from now, when we things are expected to be back to normal. Accordingly, the Parish Council, as it is presently constituted, will remain for 2021. The Council is as follows: Rev. Stephen H. Kyriacou, Dean; S. Christopher Kyriacou, Esq., President; Peter Cazanis, Vice-President; Deno C. Konstantinidis, Secretary; James D. Vorrises, Treasurer; Jim Rakos, Assistant Treasurer; and Members: George Ambadiotakis Ambus, DDS; John Lampros; Tasso Mavroudis; Andrew Miltiades; Dean Nicolacakis; Manoli Nuris; Tom Nuris, Esq.; Mike Sarikakis; Paul Sogotis, Archon Orphanotrofos; Nicholas Svetcoff; and Nicholas J. Rally. In the event a member of the Council is unable to continue to serve and resigns, a vacancy will exist. The Parish Council, which meets monthly, remotely, will then fill the vacancy from among the remaining Cathedral parishioners who are in good standing. Among other things, "good standing" includes being current in one's Stewardship support.

*The Lord shall send Thee a
rod of strength out of Zion*

(Psalm 109:2)

Troparion of the Nativity: Tone 4:
*Thy Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone upon the world with the
light of knowledge. For, thereby,
they who adored the stars through
a star were taught to worship Thee,
the Sun of Righteousness, and to
know Thee the Dayspring from
on high. O Lord, Glory to Thee.*



Physically Distant; Spiritually Connected: 2020 Adbook

Every year, in connection with its Food Festival, the Cathedral publishes a program book or what has come to be known as the AdBook. As we could not hold a festival, we thought we should still put together the book, both because it brings much-needed revenue to the Cathedral for its operations, especially this year, when we have been negatively impacted by COVID-19, and also as a way of keeping us connected. Presbytera Aliko and Irene Kyriacou took the lead on the book, thanks to the theme provided by Maria Nicolacakis—Physically Distant; Spiritually Connected, the book is becoming a reality. First, we'd like to share with you that we set a goal of \$100,000 and, thanks to the tireless efforts of our committee and your generosity, we achieved our goal! This is huge for us, as it replaces, for the most part, the income we were counting on from the festival. It's been a financial lifeline to us, as our income, apart from our Stewardship support, and the lighting of virtual candles, has been upended. Expect to receive the Adbook within the next few weeks. See what you've accomplished? Go ahead, and give yourselves a pat on the back. Where there's a will, there's a way.



IOCC®

International Orthodox Christian Charities

Dear friends and IOCC supporters in Northern California,

We pray that you and your family are well. As this season of unprecedented challenges and change continues, we take comfort in our faith, which unites us and offers hope.

As a way to connect and thank you for your support, IOCC cordially invites you to our Remembering Home Virtual Event this Sunday, November 8th at 6pm. We will share the latest about IOCC's ongoing work around the world, including response to the explosion in Beirut, natural disasters across the US, and ongoing shifts in programming due to COVID-19.

Please click this link to register for this FREE event—it's open to everyone. www.iocc.org/rememberinghome
IOCC's work continues at home and abroad, and we are so thankful for our volunteers and supporters who help serve people in need.

P.S. If you aren't able to join us live on November 8th but still want to help, visit the above link to make a donation.

In Christ, Nick

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www.iocc.org www.actalliance.org

Kontakion of the Nativity: Tone 3:

Today the Virgin gives birth to Him who is above all being, and the earth offers a cave to Him whom no man can approach. Angels with shepherds give glory, and Magi journey with a star. For unto us is born a young Child, the pre-eternal God.



St. Photios National Shrine 2020 Essay Contest Remembering the American Philhellenes of the Greek War for Independence

Essay Contest in Remembrance of the Greek War for Independence

In honor of the 200th anniversary of the Greek War for Independence, which will be celebrated globally in 2021, the St. Photios National Shrine is proud to announce the theme for its annual essay contest, commemorating the great connection shared between the nations of Greece and the United States.

The quest for freedom is an underlying theme in the story of the first settlers who arrived in the New World and whose memory is honored at the St. Photios National Shrine.

This same yearning for freedom is what inspired the people of Greece to raise the banner of independence against the Ottoman Empire for their right to be free after 400 years of subjugation.

This independence movement-- the yearning for freedom, inspired numerous Americans to support the Greek cause, both at home in the United States and in Greece, where some even lost their lives fighting alongside Greek rebels during the War for Independence.

Known as the "American Philhellenes," these individuals contributed greatly to Greece's efforts and have left an indelible mark in the history of Greece-U.S. history and the relationship between the two nations.

Essay contest prize: \$1,000

The St. Photios National Shrine 2020 Essay Contest is made possible by the generosity of The Kathie D'Anna Charitable Trust.

Essay contest theme: Select **one** of the following "American Philhellenes" and write a historical essay about their unique contribution and significance to the Greek struggle for independence.

Samuel Gridley Howe | Congressman Daniel Webster | Congressman Henry Clay George Jarvis | Capt. Jonathan Miller | William Townshend Washington

Essay contest details:

Participants must be ages 13-19 Maximum word count: 1,000

A single essay will be selected as the winner by a committee **and will receive a \$1,000 prize**. All participants will receive a certificate.

The committee will also select certain essays that will be used in the Shrine's upcoming exhibition in 2021 that will feature the Greek Independence Bicentennial. Essays selected will also be shared in various national publications to further expand on the information about the important role these American philhellenes played in the Greek War for Independence. All essays become property of St. Photios Shrine and can be used for various publicity purposes, always with the byline of the author.

Submit essays **NO LATER THAN December 16, 2020** via email to: Polaxeni Maouris Hillier, Executive Director of St. Photios National Shrine at phillier@stphotios.com Winner will be announced January 4, 2021.



Working to Return to In-Person Sunday Worship

Nine months into the pandemic, the Cathedral's Reopening Task Force continues to work on reopening the Cathedral for in-person Sunday worship. To do so requires strict adherence to San Francisco's reopening guidelines, which currently limit in-person church gatherings to no more than 25 percent of capacity. We wish to acknowledge the Committee for its vigilance and to thank you for your patience all this months. Thanks to the work of our Technology Committee, we are able to stream the Sunday and other holy day services. Granted, this is not the same as being present in person. However, given the limitations posed by the City's health order, such as wearing of masks for the duration of the services, no communal recitations, as the Lord's prayer, and social distancing, we are thankful that we are able to communicate remotely; at least we retain the connection with our liturgical tradition. We recognize the present situation is an anomaly. Socially, we have been separated from our church. Classes and meetings are taking place remotely and this is not as it should be. However, safety is paramount. One day (some months from now, if not a year plus), this pandemic will be behind us. But, we cannot wait until then to just suddenly return to church life as we knew it before the pandemic. We will return slowly, and with the proper protocols in place. Nevertheless, we are taking steps to open to in-person worship, however limited, one step at a time. Meanwhile, we would like you to become familiar with our guidelines, for the day when we reopen. Please keep in mind, the text below is a draft; it is subject to change, depending upon the City and County's health

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Would you Like to Help Sponsor the Herald?

Once again, a parishioner wrote us recently with a thought--that of sponsoring the Herald. Much like the AdBook that we publish in connection with the annual Food Festival, individuals would make a donation to help defray the cost of producing and mailing the monthly Herald. In turn, the donor would be acknowledged by a business card size or other size ad, commensurate with the donation. To illustrate: it costs approximately \$1,000 a month to produce the Herald. An 8 ½ x 11" page can accommodate 8 cards. Divide \$1,000 by 8 and you have \$125 per sponsor. Give it some thought. If you would like to help underwrite the cost of printing the Herald, become a sponsor. For further information, please contact Christo at Christo.Pappademos@Annunciation.org.

orders. When the reopening date is decided upon, it will be announced: 1. In the Herald, 2. By means of a special mailing; 3. An e mail blast utilizing our list serve.

Parish Reopening Guidelines

After many months of being sheltered in place, through the grace of God, Annunciation Cathedral is reopening for worship.

Having received a green light from the City and County of San Francisco, we plan to open the doors of the Annunciation Cathedral to 40 people for in-person worship on {...} Forty people is the number of people we can accommodate in the chapel, based on 25% of total occupancy, and allowing for social distancing requirements.

Please be aware that the Cathedral will be adhering to strict social distancing protocols and face covering requirements, in accordance with City and County guidelines and our capacity for church services will be limited. In order to come to church, **you will need to make a reservation and fill out a health screening and informed consent form.** The reservation link can be found at www.annunciation.org/liturgyreservation. Once your reservation has been confirmed, you will be sent the informed consent form and health screening form. **YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND LITURGY UNLESS THE FORMS ARE RETURNED BY 1:00pm THE FRIDAY PRECEDING THE LITURGY.**

Note: if you are not able to place the reservation electronically, please call the Cathedral at (415) 864-8000, Monday-Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm.

Note: In order to give more people the opportunity to attend in-person worship, and until further notice, you may come to church every other Sunday.

Important Information

- Liturgy begins at 10 am, please arrive no later than 9:40 am to check in.
- Please note: If you or anyone in your household has cold or flu-like symptoms, or is generally not feeling well, please stay home and view the service online.
- If you are 65 or older and/or have immunocompromised conditions, we ask that you consider continuing attending Liturgy online.
- **Please bring a mask to church.** Everyone who attends Liturgy on-site must bring and wear a cloth or disposable face mask throughout the entirety of their stay, except for children under 2 years of age. If you arrive without a mask, we will give you a disposable mask.

What to expect when you arrive

- At the parking lot entrance and also in the garage, you will be met by volunteers, who will direct where you may self-park.
 - Note: valet services have been suspended during the pandemic.
- Exit the garage by using the staircase as directed. **Do not walk up the ramp.**
 - Upon exiting the foyer doorway, come up the walkway and enter the building. Those arriving by foot or who are being dropped off may enter the Valencia Street entrance (the usual entrance). The entrance is marked: ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL 245.
- Face mask/ coverings must be in place prior to entering
- When you check in, you will be asked a series of health-screening questions, in accordance with guidelines of the City Health Officer.
- After you have checked in, you will be escorted to your seat.
- If you need to use the restroom, please use the facilities closer to the Valencia Street entrance. Remember to wash your hands thoroughly and to use hand sanitizer, which may be found just outside the bathrooms and also in the narthex.

Once inside the chapel, you may light a virtual candle only. The priest will light your candle for you during the Epistle Reading. You may place your donation in the collection basket or you may make it electronically. Visit <https://www.annunciation.org/candle> to make a secure online donation via PayPal.

Do not kiss or touch the icons. It is appropriate, during the pandemic, to venerate icons simply by making the sign of the Cross and bowing your head.

- Additionally, refrain from hugging, handshaking, and any other physical contact, either with the priest or with your fellow congregants.
- No elbow or fist bumps.
- The Cry Room will not be open or available; there are changing stations in the bathrooms.
- Please refrain from speaking to or greeting one another.
- The chanters will recite the Creed and the Lord's prayer. You should not recite these or any other prayers or hymns out loud.
- You may bring your own book or tablet with you to follow the Liturgy, as there will be no prayer books on the seats. There will be no bulletins or handouts (weekly Sunday bulletins can be found at <https://www.annunciation.org/news/bulletins>)

- The chairs have been set up based on social distancing guidelines. **Please do not move them.**
 - We will make every effort to seat members of the same household together.
- Please note, our water fountains are out of service for the duration of the pandemic.

Holy Communion

- Holy communion will be administered to the safest extent possible:
 - During Holy Communion come down the middle aisle, standing at least 6 feet behind the person in front of you.
 - When you reach the altar, you may remove your mask momentarily to receive Holy Communion.
 - The priest will be wearing a mask and face shield while distributing Holy Communion.
 - When receiving Holy Communion, please open your mouth so that the Body and Blood may be dropped onto your tongue. Do not close your mouth until the spoon is removed, and do not lick the spoon.
 - Do not touch the red communion cloth or use it to wipe your mouth.
 - Antidoron will not be distributed following communion.
- While, at the end of the Liturgy, memorial services may be held, there is no offering of *kollyva*.
- When the Liturgy has ended, please exit the chapel using the double doors in the Narthex . Enter the courtyard and follow the path to the garage lobby, if you are returning to the garage, or to Valencia Street, if you are parked on the street.
- *Antidoron* will be distributed in separate plastic bags as everyone exits.
- There will be no passing of the collection plate.
- Until further notice, there is no coffee hour or social gatherings
- When baptisms and weddings resume, during the pandemic, the responsible parties must cover the costs to the Cathedral to have task force oversight and to adhere to the applicable protocols, as the wearing of face coverings and the practicing of social distancing.

We acknowledge these are difficult times. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding. Your safety is paramount.

Informed Consent for In-Person Attendance at Divine Liturgy at Annunciation Cathedral, 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA, during the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis

The United Greek Orthodox Community of San Francisco, The Annunciation (a/k/a Annunciation Cathedral), intends as best it can to follow all mandated Metropolitan safety protocols and county regulations for public worship services. However, the county medical officer has advised that public gatherings may nevertheless present an increased possibility of disease spread even if safety precautions are taken, and therefore he has asked us to inform you that your participation may increase the risk for yourself and for your family.

In particular, if you are over the age of 65 or have a chronic or underlying medical condition, a gathering increases your risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus, and may lead to serious illness that could even result in death. If you feel sick or are displaying COVID-19 symptoms, or if any of these symptoms are being experienced by someone in your household, you should stay home. The church cannot guarantee that there is no risk of infection for attendees.

[Insert checkbox] By clicking this box, you acknowledge that, by voluntarily entering the church facility, you understand these risks and agree to abide by all social distancing and safety protocols and to follow all other instructions that may be given, including the Parish Reopening Guidelines, and that you acknowledge the risks involved and that you will hold the Cathedral harmless, should you contact the virus as a result of your attendance at the Divine Liturgy. This information will be kept confidential to the extent the law allows.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone Number: _____

NOTE: A separate consent form must be completed by every person, age 18 or older, who will be attending the Divine Liturgy at the Annunciation Cathedral. For those under the age of 18, they must be accompanied by a Parent or Guardian who is consenting on their behalf, and their names must be noted on this form.



Father Stephen Appointed to “Senators for Orthodoxy and Hellenism”

Recently, Father Stephen received an appointment by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America to join a newly-established advisory committee of our Archdiocese entitled “Senators for Orthodoxy and Hellenism.” The stated aim of the committee will be to advise the Archbishop, the Holy Eparchial Synod and the Archdiocesan Council on various matters concerning our Archdiocese, as we commence the task of drafting a new Charter to meet the pastoral needs of our faithful. Members of the committee will attend the Archdiocesan Council’s regularly scheduled meetings. The inception of the work of the committee will take place in 2021 during the Apostolic visit to the U.S. of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew.

Philoptochos Announces Ornament Sale Fund Raiser

The Ladies Philoptochos are once again launching the sale of the S.F. Annunciation Cathedral’s ornament sale!

Christmas is a great time of year to purchase this momentum in honor of our Church and its future. It’s a perfect holiday gift as well as a donation to Philoptochos to help our Church.

Ornaments are on sale for \$30 for one and \$45 for two.

To place your order, please call Foula Vasilogiorgis at 1.800.378.7200, or email philoptochosornaments@gmail.com. To pay by check, make checks out to Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos and mail to 245 Valencia St, San Francisco, CA 94103, attn. Philoptochos Ornament. We also accept credit cards



Philoptochos News

over the phone. We will be mailing out all orders, so **orders MUST be received by December 18th** to guarantee delivery by December 25th.



Wildfire Relief Fund

In response to the recent wildfires in Northern California, the Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos is taking action! Along with our Cathedral community, Philoptochos is establishing a relief fund to provide assistance to those affected by the fires.

The Greek community's own Macedonian Park picnic grounds, a place for Greeks to gather in Calistoga to celebrate Easter, baptisms, weddings, the feast day of St. Demetrios, and more joyous occasions, was destroyed. Miraculously, St. Demetrios, the chapel on the grounds, was not damaged by the fires.

Please join us as we come together to help those in need. All proceeds will be directly distributed to the Northern California Fire Foundation, Macedonian Park relief, and other local charities supporting relief for wildfire victims.

To donate, please mail your check made payable to "Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos." In the memo of the check, please note "Wildfire Relief Fund." Please mail to Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Thank you for your support.



Macedonian Park, Calistoga, following the fire



Christmas Card, Church Calendars, Weekday Holy Day Schedule

As with everything else this year, COVID-19 has upended so many of the Cathedral's programs. One of these was to make it difficult for us to proceed with printing a Christmas card—a wonderful way to communicate with our parishioners and friends, in addition to being a fund raiser for the Cathedral. But, we are doing it: where there's a will, there's a way. We are grateful to Kalliope Fousekis, Annamarie Balian and, of course, to the late Annette Chiappari for being in the forefront of this effort. This year, Kalliope and Annamarie are being joined by Irene Kyriacou. If you wish to be included in this year's card, please do so in one of the following three ways: 1. Contact Kalliope at 650 245-8508 or Annamarie at 650 358-8809; 2. Visit our web site, www.annunciation.org/donate/2020ChristmasCard; or 3. Mail your check in the amount of \$25 per entry, payable to: Annunciation Cathedral (mark it "Christmas Card") and let us know how you wish to be listed on the card. Meanwhile, church calendars have been ordered from Vestal Publishing. These are expected to come in the latter part of November and will be mailed out in early December to the Cathedral's roughly 1,000 households. Meanwhile, the Divine Liturgy is being streamed every Sunday and on certain Holy Days, as announced. In November, they will be streamed on Saturday, November 21 (the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple) and in December, they will be streamed on Friday, December 25 (the Nativity of our Lord).

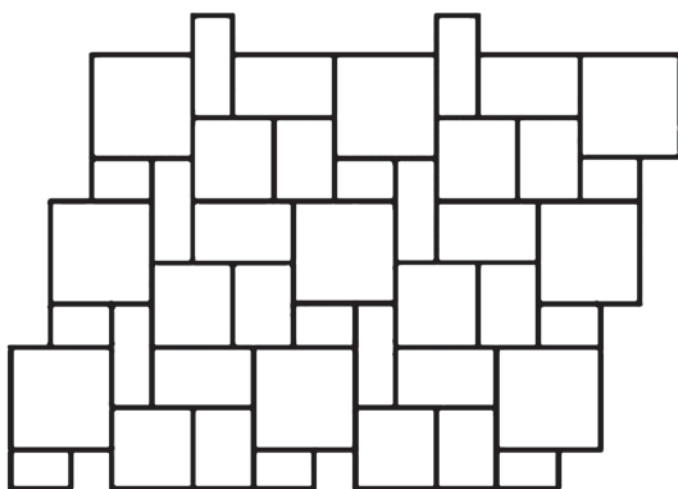
*The Lord said unto my Lord: Sit
Thou at My right hand, until I
make Thine enemies Thy footstool*

(Psalm 109:1)



Taso Zografos Named New UHAS President

As the present issue of the Herald went to press, we learned that Taso Zografos has been named the new President of the United Hellenic American Societies, an umbrella organization of the various fraternal and other Greek regional societies in the Bay Area. In accepting his appointment, Taso thanked James D. Vorrises, outgoing President, noting he is deeply honored to be entrusted with the privilege to serve in this capacity, and looks forward to working closely with everyone. Taso's first priority is to assemble a new UHAS Board, hoping to have more news in the coming weeks on plans to chart a path forward. Should anyone wish to contact him directly, he can be reached via e mail or by cell, 415 215-6113.

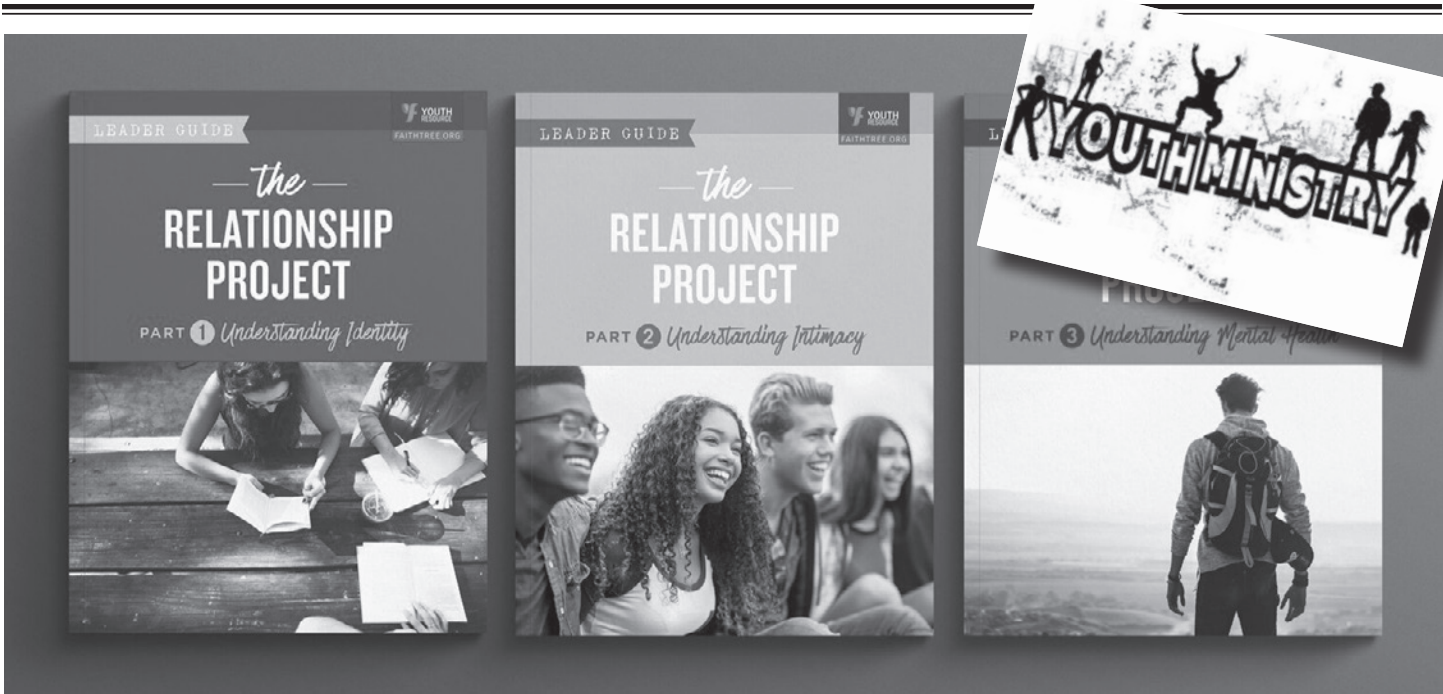


Paver Project Update

The good news is, we have sold 100 pavers. Of these, 44 have already been inscribed. Unfortunately, the color used is too light and the names are not easily readable. So, they are being redone. At the same time, the other 56 pavers are being inscribed. Arrangements were made for the work to be done on November 13. However, as this issue of the Herald was going to press, the company had to postpone its work, due to expected rain. In any case, the work is expected to be completed at the first opportunity, within the next few weeks. The "adoption" of 100 pavers, to date, is commendable, although we have far to go to meet our goal of having 750 pavers "adopted." Simply put, for a donation of \$2,000, a paver may be inscribed, up to three lines and up to 25 letters and spaces per line. This is not only a good fund raising tool; it's also a way of "connecting" with the rebuilding of the Cathedral. If you are interested in "adopting" a paver, please contact Tom Nuris, Chairman of our Capital Campaign: tom.nuris@annunciation.org.

Vespers Tropario (by Anatolios):

*What shall we offer Thee, O Christ, who for our sakes
hast appeared on earth as a man? Every creature made by
Thee offers Thee thanks. The angels offer Thee a hymn.
The heavens a star. The magi, gift. The shepherds, their
wonder. The earth, its cave. The wilderness, the manger.
And we offer Thee a Virgin Mother, O pre-eternal God,
have mercy upon us.*



The Relationship Project is an all-inclusive program that engages you and your teens in today's most needed conversations.

On behalf of the Metropolis of San Francisco, each parish has been gifted access to a great new program geared toward our teenagers. Our Cathedral will exercise the program through the facilitation of our wonderful parent volunteers Kelly Rakos, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou.

By exploring questions like *What is our true identity?*, *What does it mean to be a child of God?*, *What is the true meaning of intimacy?*, and *What does the Church say about good mental health?* this compelling group study allows you to lead your youth in discovering who they are in Christ. This program provides extensive support as you create a safe space for your teens to wrestle with the possible differences between what the world may suggest, versus what the Church teaches as truth.

Presented in an easy-to-use, visually stunning and highly engaging format: Teens will have fun connecting with you and each other as they learn the timeless wisdom and freedom that is found in the Orthodox Faith.

Composed of three connected parts, with multiple sequential teaching segments, *The Relationship Project* brings the teens in your youth program into an exciting exploration of how they were designed by God, and what that design means within their relationships.

By exploring all three Parts of *The Relationship Project*, your teens will discover who they are as children of God, how they were designed to be in relationship with others, with themselves, and ultimately with God.

**METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO
YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES**

**"ESSENTIAL CONVERSATIONS
FOR A LIFETIME OF LOVE"**



Join us and other couples in our Orthodox community for 1-hour virtual sessions twice a month, in a complimentary series featuring discussions from *Eight Dates* by John Gottman, Ph.D., designed to strengthen your commitment to one another and to God.



THURSDAYS AT 6:30PM PST

OCTOBER 15	NOVEMBER 12	DECEMBER 3	JANUARY 7	FEBRUARY 4
OCTOBER 29	NOVEMBER 19	DECEMBER 17	JANUARY 21	FEBRUARY 18

VISIT EITHER WEBSITE BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.gosfyouth.org
www.familywellnessministry.org



YOUTH &
YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRIES



Family Wellness Ministry



GOYA News: Matia Writes

Happy Sunday Everyone!

I just wanted to say a HUGE thank you to Evangelia and Paul for hosting yesterday. Their love and generosity is a blessing to us all. The backyard setting, disposables, spacious seating, and creative set up was the perfect way to be able to see each other given the times. I think we all needed something to look forward to after all disruption in our lives and getting to see our GOYA family was just the ticket. I guess it goes to show what a little creativity and love can do.

As Father once told me, where there is God, there is no fear, instead there is a life full of love... and that is exactly what these photos show. I'm so lucky to have all of you in my

life and my parents are extremely thankful for all of you as well. You've always made me feel so loved and for that I consider myself super fortunate.

I guess I'll need to come back before the holidays for another reason for us to get together. I will be sure to keep you all posted on my travels and life developments as well. Love to you all!

I spoke to some of you separately, but I made it back to Massachusetts on Sunday afternoon... 4,270 miles later. Here (below) is a map of my trip that I did over the course of one week: Sunday to Sunday:





Prior to her departure, Matia stopped by the Cathedral to light a candle and to give thanks. Father Stephen presented Matia with an icon of the Annunciation, crafted by the nuns at the Monastery of the Theotokos, the Living Spring, in Dunlap, CA. We wish Matia Godspeed and, when God wills, a safe return, grateful to her for all she has done for our youth.

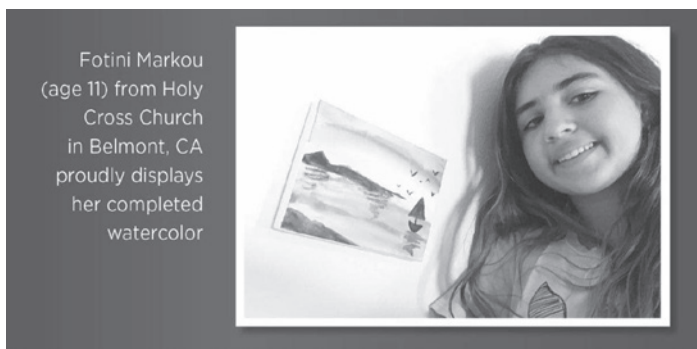


Madelyn Smith (age 12) and JW Smith (age 9) from Saint John the Baptist Church in Beaverton, OR show off the supplies to make their friendship bracelets and prayer ropes.

Metropolis Virtual Summer Camp Brings Immersive Camp Experience Home

Summer Camp has become a rite of passage for hundreds of youth each year who attend the Metropolis Camp at Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, CA. And even though COVID-19 prevented campers and counselors from experiencing camp in person, the spirit of Summer Camp resonated through a virtual experience for 140 youth that continued the 38-year legacy of this exceptional ministry.

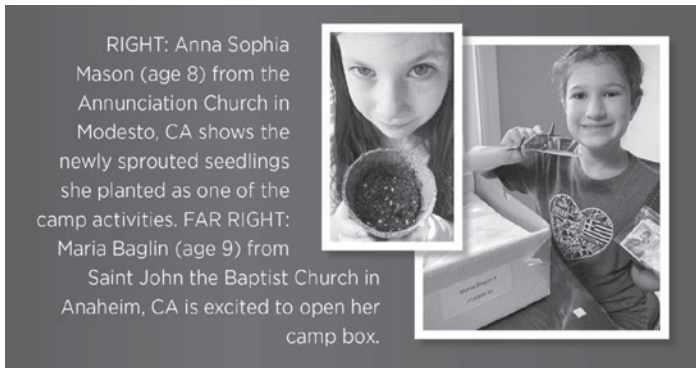
“A Summer Like No Other” emerged as a unique opportunity for youth to participate in a complimentary virtual three-week program that brought the Metropolis Summer Camp and Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center into their hearts and homes.



Fotini Markou (age 11) from Holy Cross Church in Belmont, CA proudly displays her completed watercolor

participants in this year’s Virtual Camp had an exceptional experience and it created a whole new venue to explore creativity in ministry,” remarked His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco. “While nothing can replace the interpersonal connections made at camp, our dedicated staff and volunteers rose to the challenge of the circumstances brought forth by the pandemic and made this a meaningful and memorable program for all the participants.”

To prepare for an immersive experience, each camper and staff member received a Camp Box full of supplies to enhance participation in various activities and some additional surprise gifts that embodied the spirit of camp and the fellowship that would be cultivated during this program.



RIGHT: Anna Sophia Mason (age 8) from the Annunciation Church in Modesto, CA shows the newly sprouted seedlings she planted as one of the camp activities. FAR RIGHT: Maria Baglin (age 9) from Saint John the Baptist Church in Anaheim, CA is excited to open her camp box.

Virtual Summer Camp was held on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays for three weeks, with two-hour sessions every morning and every evening. Each day began with prayer, with campers participating in the Orthros Service or the Akathist of Thanksgiving. Various activities followed including Orthodox Life sessions, Arts and Crafts, Faith and Culture, Gardening, Zoomba, and Cooking. Every evening session began with Vespers or Paraklesis to the Theotokos. Campers then shared in cabin devotional discussions, tested their knowledge at Trivia Night, showcased their star qualities at the Talent Show, and demonstrated their fancy footwork at the Virtual Dance. Campers also experienced virtual field trips to Hellenic College Holy/Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, MA, and to the Minkler Cash Store in Minkler, CA.



Philotimo Scholarship Competition Attention: Greek-American Students

Once again, The Washington OXI Day Foundation will offer college scholarships to five Greek-American students (Grades 6-12) who best describe the concept of *“philotimo.”* This year, on the occasion of the Foundation’s 10th anniversary, the total of the scholarship grants will be doubled from \$5,000 to \$10,000

- First Place: \$4,000 scholarship and an invitation to participate in the Foundation’s 10th Annual OXI Courage and Service Awards on October 28.
- Second Place: \$2,000 scholarship (awarded to two students)
- Third Place: \$1,000 scholarship (awarded to two students)

(see page 17 to apply)

PHILOTIMO SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION *(from page 16)*

To apply, students should:

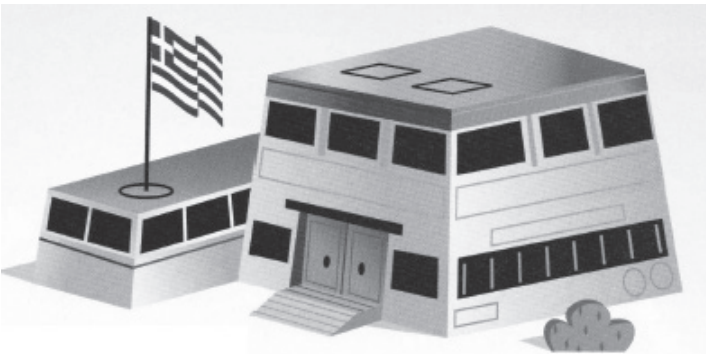
Watch the Foundation's video, 'The Greek Secret,' on the subject of philotimo at

www.oxidayfoundation.org/philotimo/the-greek-secret/

In 500 words, or less, answer one of the following questions: What does philotimo mean to you?

What are some extraordinary examples of philotimo that you have seen? What are some of the things you can do in your daily life to exhibit philotimo? How can philotimo improve your life?

Submit your answer to the Foundation via email at info@oxidayfoundation.org by Friday, October 10.



σχολείο, το σχολείο, ένα σχολείο,
το μεγάλο σχολείο, το σχολείο μου

Greek School News

Greek school continues to be held online every week and it has proven to be very successful. Our students of all ages are engaged and are eager to learn.

We have two updates from Greek School:

The Certificate of Attainment in Greek, or *Ellinomatheia* is the only certificate of proficiency in the Greek language that is offered and recognized by the Greek state. We are very proud that as our students progress through our language program, that most of them will attain these certificates.

Check out the annunciation.org's website to learn more about our Greek school program including the bios of our teachers.

Our teachers are all native Greek speakers and have extensive years of experience teaching. We keep our classes small, maximum of 8 students per class in order to spend as much time per child as possible. Classes meet on Saturdays virtually to start, please see our [latest news page](#) for details. Our tuition is only \$650 per school year which runs from September to June, and that includes the cost of books and supplies that will be used in the classroom.

Our Greek school offers multiple levels of classes, and even classes for adults.

Pre-K - Ages 4-5 (without any previous exposure to Greek), play based

Kindergarten - Ages 5-7, reading and writing the alphabet, introduction of words

Level 1- Ages 7-10, verbal and written comprehension, vocabulary, grammar

Level 2 - Ages 8-12, verbal and written comprehension, vocabulary, grammar

Level 3 - Ages 9 and up, verbal and written comprehension, vocabulary, grammar

Level 4 - Ages 10 and up, verbal and written comprehension, vocabulary, grammar

Preparatory - Classes that prepare students to take the exams A1, A2, B1 and B2 (Certificates of Attainment in Greek established in 1998 by the Greek Ministry of Education to confirm one's proficiency in Greek as a second language)

GOYA LOCK-IN

Join us for the Virtual Bay Area GOYA "Lock-In" on Friday, December 4 and Saturday, December 5! Get excited for a weekend of fun virtual gatherings, and a surprise "Take-Home Kit"! This is open to all 6th - 12th graders. Please register by Sunday, November 29th!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2020

7:00-8:30 PM via Zoom, VIRTUAL

-Akathist of Thanksgiving
-Cookie Decorating Contest

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2020

3:00-4:30 PM via Zoom, VIRTUAL

-Vespers for St. Nicholas
-Games - Family Feud or Among Us
-Discussion

WEBSITE WITH MORE INFORMATION: [CLICK HERE](#)

REGISTER: [CLICK HERE](#) It's completely FREE! When you register you will get access to the Zoom meetings and also be registered for a take-home kit for the retreat. Please register by Sunday, November 29th!

PICK UP YOUR "TAKE-HOME KIT":

Pick up your retreat kit at Ascension Cathedral in Oakland on Wednesday, December 2nd or Thursday, December 3rd from 3-5 PM. If you can't make it, just let Anna Teodosiadis or Fr. Nick Mueller know, and we will make arrangements for you.

SIGN UP TO HELP CHANT OR READ DURING THE SERVICES:

This is optional. You can just follow along, or sign up to help chant or read.

-Akathist of Thanksgiving (Friday, Dec 4) Sign up: [CLICK HERE](#)
-Vespers of St. Nicholas (Saturday, Dec 5) Sign up: [CLICK HERE](#)

QUESTIONS? PLEASE EMAIL:

Anna Teodosiadis: anna.t@cvresurrection.org

Fr. Nick Mueller: fnickm@groca.org

MAKE A DONATION:

We ask that you prayerfully consider a donation to your church. Thank you, be well and God bless you and your family.



BAY AREA GOYA

TO REGISTER GO HERE:
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/6JPI6JHAP26XBP7QA](https://forms.gle/6JPI6JHAP26XBP7QA)

Friday, December 4th
7 - 8:30 PM
Akathist of Thanksgiving
followed by a Cookie Decorating Contest

Saturday, December 5th
3 - 4:30 PM
Discussion and Games

Register and Pick Up
Your Retreat Kit at Church Dec.
2nd or Dec. 3rd!



Ἀπολυτίκον τῶν Χριστουγέννων:

Ἡ γέννησίς σου, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως. Ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς Δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινύσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε, δόξα σοι.



Announcing: Virtual Sunday School!

We are holding Sunday School virtually, which is being very well received by students and teachers alike. We are so happy that we are able to keep our young people connected to their church and their faith despite still being physically restricted from coming to the church. We would like to extend heartfelt gratitude to our teachers, among them, Kelly Rakos, Maria Allen, Christina Vasquez, Athena (Tina) Kontonis.

*The Lord said
unto Me: Thou
art My Son,
this day have I
begotten Thee
(Psalm 2:7)*

Sacraments and Services

FUNERALS

Philip Edward Chiappari, who fell asleep in the Lord on October 1, was buried October 8. He is survived by his children, Kathy and Virginia, James Chiappari and Christine Gatewood, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Catherine Samantha Makras King, who fell asleep in the Lord on October 10, was buried October 16. She is survived by her husband, Thomas, her children, Tommy, Lea and John, her mother, Thalia Makras, and her siblings, Elaine and Sophia Makras, Marie Giouzelis, and Peter Makras.

Toula Georgatos, who fell asleep in the Lord October 8, was buried October 18. She is survived by her son, Nicko Georgatos and his family, as well as by family in Wisconsin.

Markos Glimidakis, who fell asleep in the Lord November 6, was buried November 13. He is survived by his wife, Svitlana Tykhonova, his children, his parents, and three siblings.

Αιώνια ἡ μνήμη! Eternal Memory!

CONDOLENCES

The Cathedral extends condolences to Denise Yeilding and her family upon the recent falling asleep of her mother, Gloria Denise Asimos.

Condolences to Tula Mouroufas, upon the recent falling asleep in the Lord of her brother Louis (Leonidas) Vlahakis

Condolences to John and Kathleen Arnolfo upon he recent falling asleep in the Lord of John's wife and Kathleen's Mother, Effie (George) Arnolfo.

Αιώνια ἡ μνήμη! Eternal Memory!

UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF
SAN FRANCISCO, THE ANNUNCIATION
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL
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