

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

SAINT NICHOLAS, THE WONDERWORKER
STCA

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 13, Verses 17-21: Brethren, obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you. Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 13, ἐδάφ. 17-21.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, Chapter 13, Verses 10-17: At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν κεφ. 13, ἐδάφ. 10-17.

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone One:

The stone that had been sealed before your tomb by the Jews, and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred Body, O Savior, the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ, glory unto your Kingdom, glory to your Dispensation, O You who alone love mankind.

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 <https://agkozak.com/intro>

TODAY'S MNEMOSYNON: Memorial prayers are being offered for the repose of the soul of our sister **Georgia Lampros Dalikas**, who fell asleep in the Lord 5 years ago. Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη! Eternal memory!

2021 STEWARDSHIP DRIVE UNDERWAY: Stewardship is about **involvement**. It's also about **money**: Stewardship is all about giving back to God that which God has given us. 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 for 2020. We now invite your support for 2021. Stewardship cards have been sent out to our Cathedral community. Please complete and return your card by December 31st. A couple of new features this year. One is a check box asking you to identify your primary affiliation with the parish. This will help us better understand the various groups that make up the community. Another is a checkbox asking whether you would like to continue your 2021 pledge into 2022. A 2021 stewardship pledge card can be downloaded at <https://annunciation.org/pledge-card>.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD: Thank you for your enthusiastic response to our Annunciation Christmas card appeal! The donation is \$25 per line. To pay on line, visit our web site: www.annunciation.org/donate/2020ChristmasCard. You may also send a check, payable to Annunciation Cathedral, and mail it to 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94103-2320. For changes or questions, please contact Annamaria Blaian (Baliana@aol.com) or Kalliope Fousekis (KalliopeF@aol.com), or call Kalliope at 650 591-5409. Help us get the word out to your family and friends in the community, so that everyone may be included. In order to be included in the card, **we must receive your payment by December 10**. We wish you and your family members health and happiness during this holy season.

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). To light your virtual candles, please visit our web site, www.annunciation.org, and click on the appropriate link, or enter <https://annunciation.org/candle>

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP: As San Francisco is currently in the purple tier, churches are closed to in-person worship. It is still our goal to open as soon as it is safe to do so. Meanwhile, we invite you to continue to participate in the Sunday services and special weekday services, remotely, through streaming. Thank God for our Technology team, who are making this possible.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR CHURCH REOPENING: We thank Eleni Carter and Rada Nashawati (Paximadis) for offering to serve as volunteers, in addition to the members of our Parish Council. If you would like to join them, please click on <https://www.annunciation.org/reopening-volunteer>.

OUR ADOPT A PAVER PROJECT: The good news is all 100 pavers that have been "adopted" have been inscribed. The "walkway of honor" is quite a site, creating a special place in our courtyard.

CORRECTION: Please refer to the November-December Herald, d Philoptochos Section. The correct phone number to call Foula Vasilogiorgis to order a Christmas ornament is: 415 378-7200. You may also email her at Philoptochosornaments@gmail.com. Thank you for your support of the philanthropic efforts of Philoptochos.

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. Stonecraft has put in the remaining pavers. We are only waiting for the final inspection of the elevator. As soon as this is done, we will obtain our certificate of occupancy for the garage, so we can open the garage to self-park. Opening the garage 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."