

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy, Chapter 1, Verses 15-17:** Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory to the ages of ages. Amen.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Τιμόθεον Πρώτης Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 1, ἐδάφ. 15-17.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, Chapter 18, Verses 35-43:** At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν κεφ. 18, ἐδάφ. 35-43.

**Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Eight (Plagal Four):**

Descending from on high, O merciful Lord, for us did You endure three days in the tomb, that we may be released from the passions of this world, You who are our Resurrection and our Life, Lord, glory to You.

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες, ὁ Εὐσπλαχνος, ταφήν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσης τῶν παθῶν, ἡ Ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε, δόξα σοι.

**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 MEMORIAL SERVICES:** Memorial prayers are being offered today for the repose of the soul of our brother **Robert Bender**, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago, and for the repose of the soul of our sister **Louise Bender**, who fell asleep in the Lord 4 years ago. Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη! Eternal Memory!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2021 STEWARDSHIP:** As of today, we are half way toward reaching our goal for 2021. Let us make 2021 a banner year for Stewardship. Please forward your 2021 Stewardship pledge card, if you have not already done so. We also ask for your assistance in encouraging your children, age 18 and above, to also declare their support for the ministries of the Cathedral by submitting their own Stewardship pledge card. A 2021 stewardship pledge card can be downloaded at <https://annunciation.org/pledge-card>.

**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](http://www.annunciation.org), and click on the appropriate link, or enter <https://annunciation.org/candle>

**PHILOPTOCHOS CRAB FEED:** Each year, the Philoptochos holds a Crab Feed about this time of the year. The event, attended by as many as 600 people, is not only popular (it boasts the best Dungeness Crab anywhere); it also provides some \$16,000 in net proceeds, which fund the Philoptochos' various philanthropic ministries. In addition to supporting over 15 nationally established ministries, such as heart disease awareness, camps for sick children, and the like, the Philoptochos has been helping people who are in dire financial straits, especially during this time of COVID-19, and also helping support the Cathedral's feeding program, known as Community Kitchen. Because there is no Crab Feed this year, the Philoptochos is asking for donations. Let's raise \$16,000 for Philoptochos. A donation of \$50, \$65 (the donation for the Crab Feed), or \$100 will be very much appreciated. Checks may be made payable to: Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos and mailed to: 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

**REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP:** As San Francisco is currently under the Stay at Home order, 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.

**CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY FOR THE GARAGE:** We had hoped we would have picked up our permit from the Building Department by now, but it's not signed yet. Once it is signed, we will present it to our local police station, along with a copy of our lease with Golden Gate Parking, which will manage the lot for us. It's been a challenging role. One of these days it will happen, at long last!

**YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB:** This past Tuesday we launched a virtual Young Adult Book Club in the interest of keeping our Young Adults connected during their time apart. A book club gives us the opportunity to learn more about our faith and one another as we will be meeting for regular virtual discussions. This project is being developed by **Andrew Miltiades** and **Christo Pappademos**. Please contact them for more information. Andrew may be reached at [Andrew.miltiades@annunciation.org](mailto:Andrew.miltiades@annunciation.org). Christo may be reached at [Christo.pappademos@annunciation.org](mailto:Christo.pappademos@annunciation.org).

## THE PANDEMIC HAS SLOWED US DOWN BUT NOT STOPPED

**US.** The pandemic has slowed down everything building-related. Nevertheless, things are moving along. 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 are in. Stonecraft is laying the remaining pavers. Meanwhile, our permit for use of the garage has been issued but not yet signed. This week, the Architects have finalized the drawings, known as the bid set, for phase 2 (completion of the interior), at a cost of \$3.8 million.... 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."*