

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021

THE TRIODION BEGINS: SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

TIMOTHY THE RIGHTEOUS; EUSTATHIOS OF ANTIOCH

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy, Chapter 3. Verses 10-15: TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Τιμόθεον Δευτέρας Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 3, ἐδάφ. 10-15.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, Chapter 18, Verses 10-14: The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 18, ἐδάφ. 10-14.

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

When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore, and Christ our God has risen from the dead, and granted to the world His great mercy.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου μαθήτριά, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχόμενοι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκέλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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>. Alex will extend an invite to the meetings, currently taking place via zoom.

TODAY'S MNEMOSYNA: Memorial services are being held today for the repose of the soul of our sister **Terpsi Varanis (Varanakis)**, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago, and for the repose of the soul of our sister **Aggeliki Kleftogianni**, who fell asleep in the Lord 1 year ago. Ἀωνία ἡ Μνήμη! Eternal Memory!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY: The Parish Council will meet, remotely, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2021 STEWARDSHIP: Most of our Stewards have already sent in your Stewardship pledge cards for 2021, and we thank you. Your names will appear in our Honor Roll Stewards, in a forthcoming *Herald*. Meanwhile, we ask you to reach out to your children, age 18 and above, so that they may also declare their support for the ministries of the Cathedral by submitting their own Stewardship pledge card. A 2021 stewardship pledge card may 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, and click on the appropriate link, or enter <https://annunciation.org/candle>

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP: Our reopening Task Force met on Thursday, virtually, to plan for our reopening for in-person worship. The Task Force is hoping we can safely reopen in March. We will make the announcement as soon as we have a date. 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 the continuation of our liturgical life, even in this way, possible.

PERMIT TO OPERATE THE GARAGE: Our permit to operate the garage has been signed. As of this writing, it is being presented to our local police station, along with a copy of our lease with Golden Gate Parking, which will manage the lot for us. In turn, the Mission Station will take the steps needed to acknowledge use of our lot in accordance with our conditional use permit. It's been a challenging process, but it's done. τῶ Θεῶ. We're looking forward to opening our lot for our own needs, as well as for public parking. This will

YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB: A month ago, we launched a virtual Young Adult Book Club in the interest of keeping our Young Adults connected during their time apart. The group meets the third Tuesday of every month and holds a discussion around a book which they have agreed to read. For the next meeting, we will be discussing C. S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*, letters 11-20. For more information, please contact **Andrew Miltiades** or **Christo Pappademos**. Andrew may be reached at Andrew..miltiades@annunciation.org. Christo may be reached at Christo.pappademos@annunciation.org.

OTHER YOUTH GET-TOGETHERS: We are pleased to inform you that various Youth Committees of the Parish Council met recently to schedule regular monthly meetings for our youth in each age group (includes Sunday School, Greek School, Dance, Athletics and Acolytes). One group or other will be meeting every week, for purposes of discussion or for activities. Our young teenage dance group kids met last week for a "family feud" night. We are intent upon keeping our youth connected and engaged during these challenging times.

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. Recently, the Architects have finalized the drawings, known as the bid set, for phase 2 (completion of the interior), for an estimated 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."