

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 13, Verses 25-33: In those days, as John was finishing his course, he said, "What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie." Brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you that fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets which are read every sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning him. Though they could charge him with nothing deserving death, yet they asked Pilate to have him killed. And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead; and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος: Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων κεφ. 13, ἐδάφ. 25-33 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, Chapter 6, Verses 14-30: At that time, Herod the King heard about the fame of Jesus, for his name had become known. He said, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; because he had married her. For John said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and the leading men of Galilee. For when Herodias' daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will grant it." And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." And she went out, and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the baptizer." And she came in immediately with haste to the king, and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb. The apostles returned to Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον κεφ. 6, ἐδάφ. 14-30.

GRAB & GO FESTIVAL: On Saturday September 18th and Sunday September 19th we will be holding our Grab&Go Festival which will feature items such as gyros for hot food purchase, as well as pastitsio and moussaka for take and bake options. For more information contact Festival Chair **Deno Konstantinidis** at deno.konstantinidis@annunciation.org and to pre order items, visit <https://sfgreekfestival.square.site>

ANNUNCIATION IS FULLY OPEN FOR SERVICES, HOWEVER: Effective August 3 a mandatory mask order is in place. Masks are required to be worn by everyone, vaccinated and unvaccinated alike while on the premises, until further notice. If you are not vaccinated we urge you to be mindful of your own well-being and of others and get vaccinated.

STEWARDSHIP AND YOU: The last 17 months have been challenging, thankfully we are recovering, despite the most recent mask mandate and are engaged in the rebuilding of our parish life and its many ministries. It is of vital importance that you continue to pledge your support through stewardship. Let's match what we did last year in terms of level of support. If you need a stewardship card we will be happy to mail one to you. Cards are also available at the *pangari*.

GREEK SCHOOL AND SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES: All of our teachers and students are to be commended for overcoming the difficulties of this past year by holding classes virtually. Our Sunday School will resume (hopefully for in-person instruction) on Sunday September 26. Similarly, our Greek School will resume (again hopefully for in-person instruction) on Saturday September 11. Our Reopening Task Force is considering mandating that all children who participate in church programs must be vaccinated, as vaccines are available to them.

FESTIVAL 100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE ALBUM: Thank you for your enthusiastic response to this year's Festival Commemorative Album. As it is being printed in this our 100th year the book is expected to surpass the one which was printed in 2020. What a wonderful opportunity to feature photos and history of your family members and loved ones. While the deadline is Aug 15, we would like everyone to be included. If you require a contract we will be happy to mail one to you, they can also be found at the *pangari*.

YAL CONFERENCE: In Phoenix Sept 1- 3. The conference will take place at the JW Marriot Desert Ridge Resort. For more information visit: www.sanfran.goarch.org/YAL

YOUTH FAMILY BAY CRUISE: On Saturday September 11 all Cathedral youth and their families are invited to join us for a cruise of the San Francisco bay! We are planning for the 2pm departure time that day. We will be sailing with Blue and Gold Ferries, which sails from Pier 41. Group tickets will be about \$25. If you are interested in joining, please contact Christo at christo.pappademos@annunciation.org to make your reservation and for additional information. We hope you will be able to join us!

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER FOR PHASE 2 HIRED. This week, the Parish Council, acting on the recommendation of the Building Committee, hired Joel Josehart as construction manager to coordinate and oversee the completion of the interior of the new cathedral. We are in the process of interviewing contractors for the work. Joel will help us transition from contractors who built the exterior and bring to a conclusion some pending matters, as the garage. Meanwhile, the Capital Campaign Committee has resumed its task of raising the funds to complete the project, estimated at \$4 million. The Cathedral already has on hand the \$1.5 million bequest by the late Sam George as well as money from the paver project... 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."