

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

SUNDAY FOLLOWING THE UNIVERSAL ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

THE MARYRS TROPHIMOS, SABBATIOS & DORYMEDON

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians, Chapter 2, Verses 16-20: Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος: Πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 16-20.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Μαρκ, Chapter 8, Verses 34-38, Chapter 9, Verse 1: The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον, κεφ. 8, ἐδάφ. 34-38, κεφ. 9 ἐδάφ. 1.

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 καυχώμενοι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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.

WELCOME, YOUR EMINENCE: We are blessed today with the presence of His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco. His Eminence is presiding over today's Divine Liturgy (*horostasia*), as well as over the meeting of the Parish Council, to follow.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY: After 18 months, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Parish Council will hold its first in-person meeting, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Those who are vaccinated may join the meeting in-person, while those who are not vaccinated or who are otherwise unable to be present will join via GoogleMeet.

PHILOTOCHOS COFFEE HOUR: We thank our Ladies Philoptochos for sponsoring our coffee hour today. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship following today's Divine Liturgy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHRISTO: Christo is 31 years young today! We wish him many years, in good health, as he continues to serve the Lord and His Church.

GRAB & GO FESTIVAL: On Saturday September 25th and Sunday September 26th we will be holding our Grab & Go Festival, which will feature items such as gyros to go, as well as *pastitsio moussaka, spanakopites* and *tiropites* for "take and bake." You may also purchase our famous Philoptochos-baked *koulourakia*.. For more information contact Festival Chair Deno Konstantinidis at deno.konstantinidis@annunciation.org To pre-order items, visit <https://sfgreekfestival.square.site>

STEWARDSHIP AND YOU: The last 18 months have been challenging. Thankfully, we are recovering, 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 us 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*.

PAVER PROJECT UPDATE: To date, 100 pavers have been adopted and inscribed along the courtyard walk of honor. An additional 25 pavers have been adopted and are awaiting inscription. What a wonderful way to be a part of our ongoing efforts to complete the Cathedral. The donation is \$2,000 per paver (up to 3 lines, 25 letters and spaces per line). For your convenience, descriptive brochures are located just outside the narthex. Or, see Jim Vorrises (jim.vorrises@annunciation.org) or Dr. George Ambus, george.ambus@annunciation.org.

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*.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER FOR PHASE 2 HIRED. Recently, 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. 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.”