

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 5, Verses 8-19: Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος: Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 5, ἐδάφ. 8-19.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, Chapter 14, Verses 16-24:

The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 14, ἐδάφ. 16-24.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: Today's Memorial Service or *mnemosynon* is being offered for the repose of the souls of Konstantinos Poulakidas the Priest (25 years), Presbytera Zafiroula Poulakidas (23 years), Harry *Aristedes* Manetas (40 years), and Georgia Manetas (34 years). May their memories be eternal! Αἰωνία αὐτῶν ἡ μνήμη!

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS TODAY: Today following Divine Liturgy we will be holding Parish Council Elections. If you are a parishioner in good standing and would like to vote, please pick up a ballot in the Narthex/Hallway area, fill it out, and turn it in to our ballot box. Thank you for your participation.

CHRISTMAS COFFEE HOUR TODAY: Philoptochos will be hosting a special Christmas coffee hour for us today following Divine Liturgy. Please enjoy the wonderful Christmas decorations and treats that our Ladies have worked so hard to set up. We hope you can join us!

ANNUAL ANNUNCIATION COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD: We will be sending out our annual Christmas card and encourage you all to support the Cathedral while sending out Christmas greetings to our community. The suggested donation is \$25, but please feel free to increase your family's contribution to help support our church. Members listed in last year's card, who participate this year, will be listed the same, unless otherwise communicated. If you are new to participating in our card, please include the names as you would like them to appear on a note (if sending in payment to the church) or in the memo line if paying online by PayPal. Please contact **Irene Kyriacou** at irenemkyriacou@gmail.com or **Kalliope Fousekis** at KalliopeF@aol.com with any questions or changes. Payments can be made on the church's donate page by clicking on the Christmas card link. Payments can also be mailed to the church office, Attention: Christmas Card 245 Valencia Street San Francisco, CA 94103. Please write "Christmas Card" in the memo line, if paying by check. **We must receive your payment by this week.** Thank you!

PHILOPTOCHOS VASILOPITA SALE: Ring in the New Year with a delicious traditional Vasilopita from our Ladies Philoptochos. Please visit our church website www.annunciation.org to order your own Vasilopita to cut and enjoy with your family. This is no better way to begin the new year. The vasilopites are \$20 each. Order yours today!

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.”