

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to Titus Chapter 3, Verse 8 – 15: Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke Chapter 8, Verses 5-15: The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

ELPIDA: Today we will be holding our second Elpida Day of the school year. Please allow our children to come forward first to receive Holy Communion so they may be dismissed for their classes. Our kids will enjoy a wonderful day of hands-on learning as they discover many significant aspects of the Faith all relevant to the month of October! We commend Elpida Director Mia Fanourgiakis and her Elpida Board on all their hard work to provide our youth with excellent learning opportunities for our Faith.

UPCOMING PARISH ASSEMBLY: We will be holding our fall Parish Assembly meeting on Sunday, November 19th following Divine Liturgy. All members in good standing are invited to attend and listen to presentations and participate in discussions. We look forward to welcoming you.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Our next Men's Fellowship gathering will take place on **Thursday, October 19**. The program begins with a brief prayer service in the chapel, followed by dinner and a spiritual discussion led by Metropolis Family Wellness Chair George Papageorge. The gatherings are open to all men ages 18 and up. If you would like to attend our next meeting please email Jim Rakos to RSVP at jim.rakos@annunciation.org

STEWARDSHIP: We invite you to prayerfully consider sharing the resources given to you by God by filling out our Stewardship card and pledge for 2023 today! Cards are available at the pangari and information wall. *"All things are possible to the one who believes in Christ."* Mark 9:23

PHILOPTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next board meeting will be on Sunday, October 22, 2023. All Philoptochos members are welcome to attend.

-Meet and Greet social gathering on Sunday, November 5, 2023 from 4pm-7pm at Unwine'd Lounge in West Portal. More details and cost to follow.

-Light the Path being held on Sunday November 19, 2023 at The Olympic Club in San Francisco

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY CLASSES: We provide classes over Zoom for people who are considering converting to Orthodox Christianity and for Orthodox people who want to refresh their knowledge of the faith. Please reach out to **Alex Kozak** at <https://agkozak.com/intro> to learn more.

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"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