

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL

# HERALD



OCTOBER 2023

245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 • (415) 864-8000 • WWW.ANNUNCIATION.ORG



## San Francisco Greek Food Festival an ALL Time Success!

The 2023 San Francisco Greek Food Festival was a record-breaking success both in terms of revenue and attendance! We thank the hard work and dedication of our Festival Chairs and Committee, generous donors, committed volunteers, and, of course, the many who at-

tended our event, for this amazing achievement!

For over seven decades, our church community has come together in faith, fellowship, and Greek *philotimo* to produce this beloved annual

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### October Schedule of Services

#### Sunday, October 1

Second Sunday of Luke,  
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

#### Sunday, October 8

Third Sunday of Luke  
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

#### Sunday, October 15

Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council  
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

#### Sunday, October 22

Sixth Sunday of Luke  
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

#### Thursday, October 26

Feast Day of Saint Dimitrios  
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

#### Sunday, October 29

Seventh Sunday of Luke  
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

# Greek Food Festival continued

event. Even though the Food Festival is the largest fundraiser for our church, it is indeed more than that. The Festival is an extension of ourselves and an invitation to the broader community to come to our home on Valencia Street in celebration of our Greek culture and faith.

The Festival is an admirable intergenerational volunteer effort that starts months before the actual event and requires

countless hours of planning, prepping, cleaning, coordinating, ordering, baking, cooking, setting up. And then during the weekend of the Festival itself, it is three days of non-stop work! Our annual event truly encapsulates the best of who we are. With that, we celebrate all we accomplished this year and look forward to surpassing our record achievements in the coming year!







# Annunciation Cathedral Greek Food Festival Committee 2023

## Chairpersons:

Grace Koutoulas  
Deno Konstantinidis  
Mike Spachis

## Volunteer Coordinator:

Denise Yeilding

## Food Managers:

**Front of House:** Pat Hillas

**Back of House:** Evange DeKaristos  
Jack Spachis

**Taverna:** Nick Svetcoff & Mike Sarikakis

**Gyros:** Chris Contos

**Pastries:** Jan Petrou/Philoptochos

**Loukamades Booth:** Erika

Roberts & Evgenia Fkiara

**Loukamades Production:**

**Finance:** Nick Rally & Phillipe Athanasiades

**Raffle:** Marilena Stravrides

**Icons/Books:** Denise Yeilding

**Vendors:** Foula Vasilogiorgis

**Donations:** Dean Nicolakakis

**Marketing Chair:** Irene Melitas

**Social Media:** Allyson Montgomery

**PR:** Maria Nicolakakis

**Procurement:** Grace Koutoulas

**Permits:** Jim Rakos

**Parking:** Paul Sogotis

## Donations

Donations fuel the festival, and every single dollar and in-kind donation makes a meaningful impact! We express our gratitude to these individuals for their gracious contributions.

*(Donor list as of the cut-off date for publication. Any additional names will be included in next month's Herald. If this list contains any errors, please contact the church office and the corrections will be reflected in next month's publication.)*

Patricia Aleck & Demetria Aleck  
Christina Armatas  
Michael Bagatelos  
Peter Bagatelos  
Mary Chicos  
Commerce Holding Company (Greek Orthodox Memorial Park)  
Duggan's Serra Mortuary  
Evvia Estiatorio  
Mike & Mia Fanourgiakis  
George & Sophia Fonti  
Gus's Community Market (The Vardakastanis Family)  
Leo & Tiffany Haginicols  
Panagiota Haras  
James & Joanne Kavalaris  
Kokkari Estiatorio  
Paul & Irene Kosaris  
Kostas Petrakos Films  
Kosta, Grace, Panayiota & Isabella Koutoulas  
Father Stephen & Presvytera Aliko Kyriacou Family  
George & Judy Marcus  
Sophie Makras  
Michael & Christina Misthos  
Robert & Helen Morales  
Vaso Moulas  
Dean & Maria Nicolacakis  
Nick Nicklas  
Alexander & Lula Ossipoff  
John & Helen Panomitros  
Dr. Sophia Papageorgiou  
Pete's Bar-B-Que  
Lester & Chrisoula Pezo  
Dean Poulakidas  
Andrew & Evangelia Zarou  
Raymond's Sourdough Bread (The Ofiesh Family)  
Emily Sarikakis  
Mike & Katerina Sarikakis  
Sequoia Produce Sales (The Teri & George Panagiotopoulos Family)  
Archon Paul, Eva, Panayioti, & Yianni Sogotis  
Mike & Vicky Spachis  
Mario & Anastasia Stathopoulos  
Marilena Stavrides  
The Chick-N-Coop  
Christi Tsiplakos  
Irene Vafiades  
George Vlahos  
Loula Vriheas

# Volunteers

The Festival is a 100% volunteer effort! We express our gratitude to these individuals who dedicated their time and energy to make our Festival a great event. Their Time and talent makes our festival a success! It takes a village.

*Thank you so very much!!*

Name:	Bella Konstantinidis	Gus Johansen	Meena Vellis
John Lampros	Maria Bissas	Georgia Vardakastanis	Vivian Curd
Antigone Skoulas	Vasso Moulas	Thalia Benetatos	Jan Petrou
Denise Yeilding	Leda Kourita	Ellen Callas	Liberty Nuris
Christos Mastrokyriakos	Kostas Nikoloudakis	Andi Esteves	Maria Manetis
Marilena Stavrides	Panos Bakos	Andrew Esteves	Maria Bran
Christos Kolias	Katerina Ziotopoulou	Gabby Gonzales	Despina Poulos
Mia Fanourgiakis	Ariadni Travararou	Evangelia Raptis-Zarou	Maria Vavuris
Pauline Oetzel	Alexanros Panotopoulos	Andrew Zarou	Rose Sogotis
Zack Montgomery	Kyriakos Attouni	Matheos Zarou	Vicki Holloway
Allyson Montgomery	Chrisoula Pezo	Stella Kasolas	Eleni Pappas
Alkinoos Strongylos	Lester Pezo	Kevin Yeilding	Pat Aleck
Grace Koutoulas	Nico Pezo	Katie Yeilding	Dusty Spiliotis
Pat Hillas	Brittany Henderson	Socrates Demetriades	Paul Van Wambeke
Deno Konstantinidis	Paul Gikas	Theo Deligiorgis	David Dermatzakis
Chris Kyriacou	Ted Gikas	Patty Rally	Tony Kutoulas
Evange Dekaristos	Milten Gikas	Janine Economides	Anastasia Rakos
Shu Yeung	Emily Sarikakis	Mike Economides	Nico Manetis
Mike Sarikakis	Katerina Sarikakis	Mariam Arsinoos	A Rakos
Jim Rakos	Mike Kasolis	Irene Kyriakou	Tina Kontonis
Eleni Taptelis	Nick Svetcoff	Vlassis Kyriacou	Maria Nicolakakis
Mike Spachis	Irene Vafiades	Thanos Kyriacou	Mom Nicolakakis
Mike Spachis	Nick vafiades	Vasilios Kerr	George Vorrises
Alexandra Athanasiadi	Kieran Snow	Cathy Apostol	Tom Pantazis
Kallie Lyberopoulos	Kelly Rakos	Barbara Millett	Zac Montgomery
Maria Mastrokyriakos	Dilber Dimitra Fanourgiakis	Despina Poulos	Lea Lyberopoulos
Magda Lampros	John Roberts	Elise Brand	Lea Papavasilliou
Maxwell J Sugarman	Daniel Castagnola	Erika Brand	Presvytera Aliko Kyriacou
Michael Evans	Nico Pappas	Panayioti Sogotis	Scott Schulman
Penny Vardakastanis	Maria Sooklaris	Yianni Sogotis	Stefan Schulz
George Ambus	Konstantinos Michalpidis	Zac Wooster	Dean Nicolakakis
Jenny Dedo	George Kapoglis	Peter Kotsonis	Andoni Ambus
Greg Efstratis	Evi Katsoulieri	Sophia Kotsonis	Tessa Ambus
Tessa ambus	Bill Stavroulakis	Patricia Pantazis	Iliana Cazanis
Yilin chen	Konstantina Tsilipira	Sophia Kleftogianni	Giorgio Cazanis
Haroon Iftikhar	Jimmy Cosnos	Kathy Dermazakis	Andrew Zarou
Patty Rally	Maria Orologas	Julie Simonot	Matthew Nuris
Sabrina T. Kwist	Aggelos Ioannou	Loretta Simonot	Kosta Koutoulas
Katerina, Iliana, Giorgio Cazanis	Maria Stranza	George Simonot	Jim Cocolos
Athena	Jimmy Cosnos	Maria Papadaki	Luba Cocolos
Zach Tzavelis	Antonis Fkiaras	Nick Kontonis	Irene Melitas
Bonnie Grampas	Nepheli Aji	Peter Manetis	Vicky Spachis
Sally Verdos	Eleni Fkiaris	Dimitri Kontonis	Maria Pappis
Kathy Peterson	Michael Stephens	Dimitri Rally	Paul Sogotis
Bob Peterson	Erica Roberts	Tom Nuris	Jim Vorrisses
Foula Vasilogiorgis	Peter Kotsonis	Tiffany Hagincols	Jack Spachis
Nick Svetcoff	Chris Karas	Elias Hagincols	Helen Panomitros
Tasso Mavrodis	Stacey Kontakos	Taia Konstantinides	Evgenia Fkiaras
Gus Vellis	Tatiana Kyriakides	Christos Konstantinides	Vicky Moulas
Aris Vellis	Alexia Kleinkorte	Leo Hagincols	Bobby Fragakis
Andrew Vellis	Brittany Dhawan	Chris Contos	Stella Vafiades
Genie Mantzoros	Rachael Johansen	Maria Lentzou	Nick Vhrehas
Maria Allen	Eric Johanson	Filareti Tzalla	
Nick Tarlson	LeeLoo Johansen	Rada Nashawati	



# Elpida

On Sunday, September 10, the Elpida program resumed after our summer break. It was so nice to see the church full of children.

PreK-K was taught by **Giana Papavasiliou**. Children learned about the Nativity of the Theotokos, which is celebrated on September 8th. Children had the opportunity to celebrate the Theotokos's birthday. Children made birthday cards and even decorated their own cupcakes to celebrate the Theotokos. We all had so much fun!

Our 1st through 4th graders were taught by **Maria Nicolacakis**. Maria taught about the great work of St. Euphorosonos. St. Euphorosonos the Cook is celebrated on September 11th. Children learned about his life and his work. St. Euphorosonos is known to carry a bag of apples to represent his journey to paradise. Children completed some fun apple projects, and enjoyed some apple crisp as a class.

**Eleni Taptelis** bravely took on our largest class, our middle school. Eleni taught our middle schoolers about the Elevation of the Holy Cross that is celebrated on September 14th.

Children learned about St. Helen and her journey to the cross. Children also learned that basil was found growing near the cross when St. Helen found it. Children planted their own basil plants, and will be able to share the herb with their families.

High School this session was taught by **Mia Fanourgiakis**. Mia focused her lesson on the Church's Great feasts. Children talked about their own spiritual goals—which lead to a beautiful conversation about the Sacrament of Confession. **Christo Pappademos** will provide an opportunity for the children to participate in the Sacrament of Confession in the upcoming fall months.

Our next Elpida Sunday will be on October 15th. We hope to see you all there!



*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope*  
—Jeremiah 29:11

# Ministries

## Men's Fellowship – Save the Date

Our next gathering of the Men's Fellowship group will take place on Thursday October 19th. Social/cocktail hour will begin at 6:00 PM. Dinner and program will follow at approximately 7:00 PM. These meetings provide a great opportunity for us to reconnect with our friends, our community, and our faith. If you plan to attend our next meeting, please contact Jim Rakos at [jim.rakos@annunciation.org](mailto:jim.rakos@annunciation.org) to RSVP.

## Parish General Assembly

Our next regularly scheduled General Parish Assembly will take place on Sunday, November 19th in our Church Hall after the Divine Liturgy. All 2023 Stewards of our Annunciation Parish are invited to attend!

## Bible Study:

We have been approached by several members to bring back our Bible Study group. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and learn more about our faith.



Please respond to [Christo.pappademos@annunciation.org](mailto:Christo.pappademos@annunciation.org) if you are interested in joining in virtually after Church on Sundays in Person. We would love a volunteer to help with inviting and coordinating.



The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Family Wellness Ministry presents

# A Royal Adventure

Senior Resort Camp for adults aged 50 or better!

Monday, September 25 to Friday, September 29, 2023  
Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center  
Dunlap, CA

\$550 per person for single occupancy Lodge Room  
\$400 per person for double occupancy Lodge Room  
\$325 per person for Dormitory (shared occupancy)

Join us for good food, great company, and majestic experiences. And what Royal Adventure would be complete without high tea?

The adventure begins with registration on Monday afternoon. Our first Royal Feast will be Monday evening's dinner. The adventure concludes on Friday after breakfast.

Online registration available at [http://webink.donorperfect.com/Senior\\_Resort\\_Camp\\_2023](http://webink.donorperfect.com/Senior_Resort_Camp_2023)

Scan this code and register today!



For more information, please contact Saint George Greek Orthodox Church in Fresno, CA at 559-233-0397.



## Our Dance Program

We welcome the 2023- 2024 dance season with excitement! After an amazingly successful post Covid Fdf, Annunciation Cathedral's dance groups are ready to get back into action!

Practice has already begun as of Sunday, August 20 after church services. We welcome any new dancers! Revmata, to Mellon, Spithes, Rizes and our youngest group (yet to be named) are ready to begin their dance season with our festival in September. We look forward to showcasing our wonderful dancers at our successful festival.

### Our dancers:

4 to 6 year old group— our newest dance group directed by Evgenia Fkiarias. Taia Konstantinides, Alexis Rakos and Anastasia Rakos

**Rizes** (7 to 9 years old.) are directed by Penny Vardakastanis, Gianna Papavasiliou, and Kallie Lyberopoulos.

**To Mellon** (10-12 elementary/middle school age ) are directed by Irene Kyriacou and Katerina Sarikakis

**Revmata** (13-15 Middle school/high school age) are directed by Katerina Sarikakis, Eleni Taptelis, Stelios Kyriacou, and, Kostas Lyberopoulos

**Spithes** (16-young adult high school/college age) are directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos and , Lea Papavasiliou

### Youth ministry Sunday:

Our dance groups were proud to represent themselves at our youth ministry event this past Sunday. There, we showcased how we celebrate our culture and faith through events, performances, and wearing traditional costumes that we are either making or have purchased. Below are some photos of our presentation to our cathedrals parishioners!

We look forward to another amazing dance year filled with Kefi and new memories waiting to be made!





## Philoptochos News

New Board of Directors Elected On Sunday September 10th following the Divine Liturgy, Fr. Amphilochos Gravalas administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected board members for the 2023- 2025 term.



"I do solemnly affirm that I will uphold the dogma, teaching, traditions, holy canons, worship, and moral principles of the Greek Orthodox Church, as well as the Constitutional Charter, discipline and regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, and that I will fulfill faithfully and sincerely the duties and obligations required of the Board of Directors of the Philoptochos Society, so help me God."

This is the oath taken by board members of each parish chapter. These few words summarize the commitment each member takes upon themselves when joining Philoptochos. Congratulations to the following dedicated group of women: Executive Board Members: Jan Petrou, President, Vivian Curd, 1st Vice President, Liberty Nuris, 2nd Vice President, Meena Vellis, Recording Secretary, Grace Koutoulas,

Corresponding Secretary,  
 Mariam Arsinos, Treasurer.  
 Board Members: Kathy Dermitzakis, Joanne Glafkidas, Irene Poulakidas, Despina Poulos, Foula Vasilogiorgas, Maria Ramos, Kalliope Fousekis, Rada Nashawati, Irene Kyriacou and Pat Aleck (Advisor).



### Food Festival Greek Pastry Booth

Using recipes handed down over many generations the ladies made thousands of koulourakia and kourambiedes, as well as hundreds of melomakarona, baklava and galaktoboureko.

Thank you to each and everyone of the volunteers that worked so hard giving their time and talent to make our booth such a tremendous success. A lot of work went into making this year's delicious pastries. It all came together because of your love and dedication to Annunciation and Philoptochos.



## Calendar 2023-2024

October 22	Board Meeting
November 5	'Meet and Greet' Event
December 2	Christmas Pastry Bake Sale
December 14	Philoptochos Christmas Party/Lunch @ Nick's Rockaway in Pacifica
January 14	Vasilopita
January 26	Crab Feed





## 2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

For the 2024 spring semester, the following scholarships will be offered:

1. **Philoptochos Scholarship**, in the amount of \$1,500.00

\*Relative to the Philoptochos Scholarship:

a. Applicant must show commitment to public service through participation in a community, person or cause.

2. **The Andrew and Efrosine Memorial Scholarship**, in the amount of \$1,500.00

\*Relative to the Andrew and Efrosine and Vellis Scholarship:

a. Applicant must have participated in a youth activity such as Sunday school, altar, Greek School, dance group, and/or as a volunteer in a Cathedral-sponsored event. b. The Scholarship Committee and a member of the Vellis Family will review the application.

The application must be accompanied by the following:

\* **An Official Transcript** from the Office of the Registrar at your High School or College (University/ Vocational School) AND **Recent SAT or ACT Scores**.

\* **A Letter of Recommendation** from ONE (1) Member in Good Standing with the Cathedral of the Annunciation.

\* **A brief resume (2 page maximum)** about yourself including: honors/awards, special skills, extracurricular information, education, and life goals.

\* **Additionally**, the applicant (or, if the applicant is under 18 years of age, the applicant's parent(s)/guardian(s) must be a member of the Annunciation Cathedral. A member of the Cathedral includes support of the Cathedral through Stewardship. A 2023-2024 Stewardship Pledge Card must have been filed with the Cathedral in order for the scholarship application to be considered.

\* **All Applicants:** Applicants will be notified by phone as soon as possible following the December 3, 2023 deadline. Certificates of scholarship and acceptance letters will be mailed to the recipients.

Please complete the application and forward to the attention of:

The Scholarship Committee

c/o Vivian Curd

245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, California 94103

**Please note that the application must be submitted by December 3, 2023**

Should you have any questions, contact Vivian Curd at [vscurd@gmail.com](mailto:vscurd@gmail.com)

## 2024 SPRING SEMESTER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. NAME \_\_\_\_\_
2. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_
3. AGE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_
4. E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_
5. HIGH SCHOOL / COLLEGE you are currently attending \_\_\_\_\_
6. COLLEGE you will be attending in the spring \_\_\_\_\_
7. Field of Study: Major \_\_\_\_\_ Minor \_\_\_\_\_
8. Actual Grade Point Average \_\_\_\_\_ Weighted GPA \_\_\_\_\_
9. Date of High School Graduation \_\_\_\_\_ Career Objectives \_\_\_\_\_
10. Name of Parent(s) or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_
11. Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_
12. Involvement of Applicant with the Cathedral: Member, Youth / Young Adult Group, Choir,  
Sunday School, Greek School, Altar, Dance Group, Athletics  
Other \_\_\_\_\_
13. School Honors & Awards \_\_\_\_\_
14. Offices held in Class, School, or Church Organizations \_\_\_\_\_
15. Out-of-School Activities \_\_\_\_\_
16. Have you received a Cathedral, Philoptochos or Vellis Scholarship in previous years?  
Yes No If yes, year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority will be given to those who have not previously received a Scholarship.)

APPLICANT'S STATEMENT: I hereby certify that I am a Greek Orthodox Christian (or, of Greek descent, if applicable), spiritually in good standing and a member of the Annunciation Cathedral, San Francisco, California (or otherwise qualify as noted in the instructions). I have answered the above questions correctly and to the best of my knowledge. I will use any funds awarded to me (to be credited to my school account, or to me, if crediting my account will reduce other scholarship awards) as a result of this application for the sole purpose of assisting me in my higher education.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_







UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF  
SAN FRANCISCO, THE ANNUNCIATION  
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL  
245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-2320

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