

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians Chapter 4, Verses 6-15: Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew Chapter 22, Verses 35-46: At that time, a lawyer came up to Jesus and asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put your enemies under your feet'? If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Two:

When You descended to the realm of death, You as life immortal rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all-radiant Divinity. And, when You, from infernal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead, all the hosts of heaven's powers did proclaim and cry out: O life-giving Christ and our God, we give glory [to You].

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἢ ζωὴ ἢ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν Ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεώτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, δόξα σοι.

MEMORIAL SERVICE TODAY: Today's Memorial Service being offered for the repose of the soul of **Ted Leventis**, 1 year since his passing. May his memory be eternal! Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη!

ARTOKLASIA SERVICE TODAY: Today's Artoklasia Service is being offered by the Navarino Messinian Society to mark Ipapandi. The Navarino Messinian Society began right here at the Annunciation Cathedral in February of 1946. May they be blessed with many more years of fellowship, celebrating their heritage.

FDF PREVIEW LUNCHEON TODAY: Today our dance program is hosting their FDF Preview Luncheon featuring performances from our groups Orama (4-6 years old), Rizes (8-10 years old), To Mellon (11-13 years old), Revmata (14-16 years old), and Spithes (16 years old-College) and a delicious lunch catered by Spin A Yarn Restaurant - The Karvouniaris Family. Tickets will not be sold at the door. We look forward to this pre-FDF event!

COFFEE HOUR TODAY: In addition to our Luncheon, there will also be a coffee hour hosted by the Navarino Messinian Society. You will see their refreshments set up as you exit the chapel. While today's luncheon is only accessible with a pre-purchased ticket, the coffee hour is open to everyone.

AN INVITATION TO HOST COFFEE HOUR: We're excited to announce the launch of our revitalized coffee hour program to include a more complete offering for our parishioners to enjoy with their cup of coffee! Here's where you come in...we're calling on all ministries and organizations (and even our parishioners!) to sign up to host one or more coffee hours over the course of the year. We'll supply the coffee/cream/sugar, tablecloths, napkins, utensils – and you supply the goodies (e.g., pastries, donuts, bagels & cream cheese, small sandwiches, fruit/vegetable/cheese platters and assorted dips, or other similar items.)

We're currently seeking hosts for the following Sundays in February: 11th, 18th, and 25th. Please reach out to Irene Melitas (irene.melitas@annunciation.org, or, 925.212.8561) to sign-up and learn more.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Save the date for our next Men's Fellowship gathering on **Thursday, February the 29th**. As always, social hour begins at 6pm followed by prayer, dinner, and our program at 7pm. Please RSVP to Jim Rakos if you'd like to attend at jim.rakos@annunciation.org

PHILOPTOCHOS UPDATES:

-March 25th Luncheon celebrating our Feast Day of the Annunciation. More details to follow

