

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians Chapter 6, Verses 1-10: Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew Chapter 25, Verses 14-30: The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'" As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

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.

FDF NEXT WEEKEND: Next weekend the dancers, directors, parents, and families of our Dance Program will head down to Anaheim, CA to compete in FDF. We wish everyone well as they represent our Cathedral at FDF! Καλή Επιτυχία! Good success!

STEWARDSHIP CALL: We are all blessed with certain gifts. It is important to develop these gifts, multiply them and offer them back to God. Please take a moment to fill out your annual Pledge card and don't forget to fill out the back offering your skills and talents!

ELPIDA LENTEN RETREAT: On Saturday, March 30th we will be hosting our second annual Elpida Lenten Retreat! We already have about 80 kids registered, be sure to register your children as well! In preparation for the Retreat, we are also asking for assistance from those who would be interested in prepping crafts for the children. Please contact **Mia Fanourgiakis** for information about registering or helping us prep our crafts! mia.fanourgiakis@annunciation.org

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, Monday**-Please join Philoptochos in celebrating the Feast Day of the Annunciation with a luncheon. Save the date. More details to follow.

-February is Philoptochos Membership month. Become a new member or renew your membership. Your pledge helps us to continue our mission of helping those in need. Mail in the form or go to the church's website to complete.

