

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

SUNDAY OF PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE, TRIODION BEGINS

TARASIOS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Timothy Chapter 3, Verses 10-15: TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke Chapter 18, Verses 10-14: The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

**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: March 3, 17, and 31. Please reach out to Irene Melitas ([irene.melitas@annunciation.org](mailto:irene.melitas@annunciation.org), or, 925.212.8561) to sign-up and learn more.

**TRISAGION TODAY:** Today's Trisagion Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of Aggeliki Kleftogianni, 4 years since her passing. May her memory be eternal! Αιώνια η μνήμη!

**COFFEE HOUR TODAY:** Today's Coffee Hour is being hosted by Sofia Kleftogianni as part of our new Coffee Hour invitational program. We thank Sofia for being the first volunteer to step forward under this program and host a coffee hour for the Cathedral!

**FDF AWARDS PRESENTATION:** Today following Divine Liturgy our dancers and directors will come forward to be acknowledged for their great success at FDF this past weekend! Our four dance groups won the following awards: **Rizes** - Choral, **To Mellon** - Costume, Choral, and 4th place, **Revmata** - Costume, 4th place, **Spithes** - 3rd place. We congratulate our dancers and directors on a tremendous showing this year. Your Cathedral community is very proud of you!

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

