



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 · 415 864-8000 · FAX 415 431-5860 · WWW.ANNUNCIATION.ORG

APRIL 2018



Christ is Risen!

Pascha (Greek: Πάσχα) (we prefer it to “Easter”), is the feast of the **Resurrection of the Lord**. *Pascha* is a transliteration of the Greek word, which is itself a transliteration of the Aramaic *pascha*, from the Hebrew *pesach* meaning *Passover*.

Pascha normally falls one to five weeks later than the feast as observed by Christians who follow the Gregorian calendar. Occasionally the two observances coincide. The reason for the difference is that, though the two calendars use the same formula developed in Nicaea, in 325, to determine Pascha (the first Sunday following the full moon following the Spring equinox) the starting point is different. The older Julian calendar’s solar calendar is presently 13 days behind the Gregorian’s and its lunar calendar is four to five days behind the Gregorian’s. The Pascha date this year is April 8. Next year, it will be April 28 and, in 2020, April 19. For 40 days following Pascha (the number of days between the Resurrection of Christ and His ascension), we greet one another with the words: Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is Risen! And, we answer by saying Αληθώς Ανέστη!, Truly, He is Risen!

100

Annunciation Turns 100 in 2021

Just 3 years from now, Annunciation will turn 100 years young. We were founded back in 1921. At a banquet, in fact, held on May 17, 1921. This was formalized at a meeting two days later. Following these paragraphs, under “How the Cathedral Got its Start,” is a translation of the minutes of that meeting, signed by its founder, Meletios Metaxakis. Metaxakis had been Archbishop of Athens. After accomplishing some extraordinary work in America, he was elected Ecumenical Patriarch. For, after establishing the Cathedral and the then Diocese of San Francisco, he went on to establish the Dioceses of Chicago and Boston, before going to New York to found the Archdiocese, all in the same year! A busy man, to say the least, when overseas travel was by steamer, and inland travel was by train or bus, and when the farthest one could call overseas was from Key West to Havana. (The first transatlantic telephone call didn’t take place until 1926!) The world has changed enormously these last 100 years, certainly in the area of technological advancement. There’s a lot to celebrate. And to look ahead to the future.

see page 2



Photograph of the May 17, 1921 banquet, where the Cathedral was founded by acclamation, as referred to in the May 19, 1921 minutes. From the Cathedral’s archives.

from page 1

We would like to invite you to start thinking about just how we might celebrate this milestone anniversary of our community. Sure, we can plan a dinner and write a commemorative book, produce a video and the like. Here and there, we've even talked about consecrating the new Cathedral. However, the cathedral has to be finished first. At this point, we don't know for sure when this will occur. But, we will go on to celebrate in any case. To mark the occasion of 100 years of vibrant and wonderful history, of course, but also to chart the course for the second hundred years, and beyond! And we would like the whole parish to be involved in the planning. Therefore, we invite you to pause for a second and consider how you might be a part of all of this. Do you have the time? Do you have ideas? Are you motivated? Are you willing to come together and share with us? If so, we invite you to join us. Begin by contacting Father Stephen, fatherstephen@annunciation.org. Tell him your willingness to be a part of the celebration. At some point over the next couple of months, we will get a meeting going involving as many people as would like to be involved. People from all areas of our community life. From the young to the forever young. Meanwhile, our sister community of the Ascension Cathedral, in Oakland, recently celebrated its 100th anniversary. Below is a link to the celebrations by that community. This should give us some food for thought, as we plan to organize our own 100th anniversary celebration. Enjoy: https://www.dropbox.com/s/3n77mvxmtoaplx8/Oakland_100_Video.mp4?dl=0

*If anyone is devout and a lover of God,
let them enjoy this beautiful and radiant
festival.*

*If anyone is a grateful servant, let them,
rejoicing, enter into the joy of his Lord.*

*If anyone has wearied themselves in
fasting, let them now receive recompense.*

*If anyone has labored from the first hour,
let them today receive the just reward.*

*If anyone has come at the third hour,
with thanksgiving let them feast.*

*If anyone has arrived at the sixth hour,
let them have no misgivings; for they
shall suffer no loss.*

*If anyone has delayed until the ninth
hour, let them draw near without*

— PASCHAL SERMON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

How the Cathedral Got its Start

Minutes from the founding meeting of May 19, 1921. The Cathedral had been come into being "by acclamation," at a banquet two days previously. The minutes of the founding meeting of May 19, deal with by-laws and governance. The original minutes reside in the Cathedral's archives.

Today, Thursday, May 19, 1921, at 9 p.m. Archimandrite Ph. Joannides, D. Kapatos, Kokos, Chr. Antoniadis, J. Jerome, D. Douvaras, G. Giannopoulos, K. Molakides, Chr. Catharios, D. Glafkides, Ch. Frangogiannis, J. Pantazopoulos, Chr. Saris, G. Kardiakos, G. Evangelou, Th. Doumanis, S. Bonatsos, Emm. Vogiatzis, G. Meletopoulos, Al. Alimisis, convening in room no. [] of the Phelan Building, under the chairmanship of His Eminence Meletios, Metropolitan of Athens, with G. Polyzoides serving as secretary, met and acted as follows:

Taking the floor, His Eminence the President declares he is still moved by the establishment of the Church and School during the banquet on May 17 at the Fairmont Hotel, a most generous gesture by those present. He notes that the Community of San Francisco has been designated to become the Seat for the Diocese of the Western States. It is for this reason that the Church to be established has been given the name Cathedral, as it comprises the center of spiritual worship for the surrounding parishes. He notes, besides, that the establishment was necessitated by the nature of things, the fact that the City of San Francisco has 5-6 thousand Greeks. It is not a matter, he says, of dividing the Community, but rather of filling the present need, as it is becoming apparent at the present time. For the time being, two Churches in San Francisco are not a lot, taking into consideration that the more recent one will also be an educational center. Mr. Al. Alimisis reads a plan for incorporating, in English, and in Greek translation.

Following the reading, D. Kapatos has the floor and asks for an explanation of the article according to which the parish property, in the event of dissolution of the corporation, devolves to the next highest corporation (the Diocese) and in the event of its dissolution, the next highest [corporation] (the Archdiocese).

Mr. G. Giannopoulos asks for an explanation of the article according to which, in the absence of the Bishop, the Priest presides. J. Jerome speaks in the same spirit.

Mr. Bonatsos notes that the Bishop should always preside, or the Priest, and should designate the 6

members of the Council, because he knows the appropriate individuals and, besides this, because he has the time needed [to do so].

Mr. Glafkides says that all the Churches should be directed by the Bishops, as it is in Turkey, and, in the absence of the Bishop, by the Priest, in which the financial situation is eased.

Mr. Kapatos speaks again, noting that the Bishop must have direct oversight, through the Priest, over the laity, who do not have the appropriate qualifications for this, nor the time required. He thinks that the plan for incorporating should be voted on as it is.

Emm. Vogiatzis agrees fully with the last speaker.

Mr. Meletopoulos conveys the opinion of many, and says that the Priest should only be honorary President of the Council.

Speaking a second time, Mr. Bonatsos observes that all community divisions up to the present time have come from the abuse of the office of the President and repeats, that the Priest must be the President; if this is not possible, then the institution of the President should be utterly abolished.

Mr. Kokkos reminds [the group] that, according to American law concerning corporations, the members and the President are elected by the members of the Council.

Mr. Th. Doumanis thinks that the President should be elected by the Council and, because the Priest has the necessary qualifications, he will always be elected.

Mr. Catharios thinks that it is necessary to try this plan and declares that he is ready to sign.

Mr. J. Jerome declares that, by signing the plan, all rights are being given to the Bishop and, in his absence, to the Priest.

In summary, His Eminence the President expresses his joy, because all the arguments were discussed in a composed manner. We belong, he says, to a nation which gave Democracy, and the Church is democratic, as its history shows, in contrast to absolutist Rome (Pope), and leaderless Protestantism. We find ourselves in a land where all three forms of [church] governance exist. We will not find a church in which the spiritual head is not President of the Church Council. Our canons explicitly define the role of the Priest (Canon of Penthekte). The Priest is not the servant of the Council, but the soul of the

Church. In Greece, from 1909, a place in the Council is accorded the Priest. The new law says that the Priest is honored as the natural person in charge of community as President of the Parish Council; even the Protestants have the Priest as President of the church (Rector) (?) nor is the designation of the Council opposed to the law, because there are religious bodies here in which the Priest designates all the members of the Council. He repeats, however, once again, that the Bishop will be designating one half of the members, and not the Priest. Now the institution of an elected and appointed [Council] is imposed here, inasmuch as the Church here is the Cathedral and the Bishop will be seeking to exercise his authority over the rest of the communities under him. It will be advantageous [for him] to appoint the 6 members from among the best parishioners. The priest will not be selecting the 6 members because, then, every unfortunate turn in the communities will be ascribed to him. Of the members of the Council, half will be replaced, while the rest will remain, in order that the normal course of the work of the Council be continued. As for the assignment of the clergy, the head Priest of the Cathedral is assigned by the Bishop, while the other priests are recommended by the Community and assigned by the Bishop.

Mr. Jerome thinks that, since the majority will be in the hands of the Bishop, there will be a reaction on the part of many.

Mr. Kapatos observes that their term will not influence the convictions of the appointed Council, while Mr. Kokos persists in the opinion that many individuals must be proposed in advance to the Bishop and he will appoint 4 or 6 from among them.

Following much deliberation, it is proposed that the following be accepted unanimously, namely: the Council will consist of twelve members; six (6) will be elected by the people, five (5) will be assigned by the Bishop, and one will be ex officio.

Mr. S. Bonatsos moves the adoption of the plan as this is approved unanimously, enthusiastically.

It is proposed that certain ones of those present not comprise the first Council; however, because some are withdrawing, His Eminence the President asks for a vote of confidence so that he might appoint the first Council: this is accepted by acclamation. Mr. Jerome proposes that a discussion about certain individuals take place at another time in private.

see page 4

from page 4

In closing, divine blessing is invoked upon the work which is being undertaken and, because of the lateness of the hour, the meeting comes to a close.

In San Francisco the 19th of May 1921
The President

+Meletios of Athens

The Secretary

G. Polyzoides

{Note: The group met again on May 20, May 21, May 24, May 30, June 1, June 2, June 7, June 10, June 12, June 13, June 15, June 17, June 20, June 21, June 23, June 29 June 30, July 5, July 11, July 18, August 23,

and August 24. All had to do with aspects the organization of the Cathedral, along with the Diocese of San Francisco, including purchasing of property at Hayes and Pierce Streets, raising funds, engaging clergy, and building buildings. It was an intensive period of hard work. Meletios left San Francisco for Chicago, following the June 30th meeting, leaving Archimandrite Philaretos Johannides as President of the Cathedral and the Reverend Pythagoras Caravellas as secretary. When the Chicago diocese was organized, Philaretos was named first bishop of Chicago, leaving Father Caravellas as president. Father Caravellas died in 1934, at the age of 44. Once again, the minutes of the meetings, all in the original Greek, reside in the Cathedral's archives.]

Construction Continues at a Fast Pace

See the photos that follow. They depict the laying of the pavers throughout the property, as well as the planter and other walls along Valencia Street. It seems, now, that construction is continuing at a fast pace.



The laying of the courtyard pavers has begun. Several inches of crushed rock is being laid over the waterproofing membrane and under the pavers, to facilitate drainage. The last outdoor item which will be tended to is the Courtyard fountain.



Pavers being laid between the western garden and the courtyard

Putting on the Finishing Touches

These photos show us putting on the finishing touches on the exterior of the building. Externally, we're preparing the clear path of travel, which is one of the conditions in order for us to begin using the garage. The other is the elevator, which is now installed, and waiting for final inspection. Currently, we are looking into the legal side of what it means to have been issued a conditional use permit for operation of the garage. As previously noted, on January 11 we were granted a conditional use permit by the San Francisco Planning Commission. This means that we will be able to charge for parking when the garage is not being used by Cathedral parishioners when they come for worship. By the way, we are not going to be operating the lot ourselves: we will be engaging a third-party operator to run it. In turn, they will be paying us in order for us to pay for maintenance, utilities, upkeep and the like. While these things are being sorted out, we are completing the garage exhaust, installing the gates—in a word, putting on the finishing touches, so that we can utilize both the garage and enjoy the exterior. The interior is another story. Several options are open to us. But, for now, we are working as fast as we can to complete the present phase of construction. Everyone agrees: it's a beautiful structure on the outside; it's even more beautiful on the inside. Everyone who goes in, even in its unfinished state, says "wow." We cannot wait for the day when the Cathedral is completed, paid for, and filled with God's people, singing hymns of praise to the One who makes all things possible.



The wall and fence footings along Valencia Street being constructed. This will enable the fence to be pushed back and positioned behind the new sidewalk, which is being poured as this issue of the Herald is being delivered to you.



Pavers being laid behind the Cathedral, along the eastern wall



Pavers being laid along the south wall and garden



I PLEDGE TO REBUILD MY CHURCH

Once again, we thank those parishioners and friends of the Cathedral, who, during the last two months in 2017 and in the first three months of 2018, have made good on or paid off their building fund pledge. In some cases, people have renewed or extended their pledge. All this bodes well in terms of funding our project. As noted in past issues of the Herald, our Capital Campaign was undertaken in good faith, for the purpose of rebuilding the Cathedral. At the time, the Cathedral, together with its underground parking component, was estimated to cost a total \$14 million, about \$10.9 for the exterior and about \$3.1 for the interior. And, we approached our parishioners and friends. In turn, you responded generously. Some made a one-time payment; others made a 5-year pledge. Most of those who made a 5-year pledge have now completed their pledge. This has enabled us get to the point where we are now. Yes, there have been a few glitches along the way, like when lead was found in the soil, like when it was discovered the neighboring property slightly encroached on ours. Like when the window installation took longer than expected. But, we overcame these delays. In any case, we thank you for your pledge to rebuild your church.

hesitation.

If anyone has arrived even at the eleventh hour, let them not fear on account of tardiness.

For the Master is gracious and receives the last even as the first; He gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour, just as to him who has labored from the first.

He has mercy upon the last and

– PASCHAL SERMON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Introduction to Orthodoxy

“Introduction to Orthodoxy” Class Welcomes New Members to the Faith

The new Annunciation cathedral recalls the beauty and majesty of other churches more than a millennium old, such as Hagia Sophia in Constantinople. Those who have been fortunate enough to witness its construction know that, like those older churches, it is being built to last, and one can imagine it serving the needs of the faithful, God willing, centuries from now. The building is an impressive, outward sign of our community’s conscious outreach to the city and the world. By building a sanctuary for God, we are simultaneously expressing a gesture of welcome to all future generations of Orthodox Christians.

Some of them will be born into our families, while others will marry into the faith. Still others will come to us simply because they are astounded by the beauty of our worship, the richness of our theological traditions, and our special emphasis on the mystery of our intimate encounter with God. Whether future parishioners are drawn into the fold by love for its members, for their resilient, ancient faith, or by a mixture of the two, we must continue to be prepared to accommodate incoming Orthodox Christians of every background.

The Cathedral’s “Introduction to Orthodoxy” class aims to facilitate the spiritual journey of those considering joining our Church. We prepare adult inquirers for their baptisms and chrismations, and we explore the richness of our faith through discussion of Holy Scripture, the theology of the Church Fathers, and the lives of the Saints. The goal of the course is to provide people with acculturation in the Church prior to their becoming full members in it.

The class has been meeting on a weekly basis. Going forward, however, it will meet two times a month. In April, the class will meet on April 15 and April 29. The class meets in the conference room on the second floor, beginning at 9 a.m.



Socks Drive

Our Young Adults, in tandem with our Ladies Philoptochos, is conducting a socks drive all during the months of March and April. The socks are being given out to our guests who come to Community Kitchen. The next Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, April 17. Won't you bring a packet of new socks (or even a pack of 3 pairs of socks), and leave it in the appropriate receptacle, located in the front office, as soon as you enter the building, from Valencia Street. You will be helping keep someone's feet warm.



Stewardship and You: Eucharisto!

We cannot stress how important it is for everyone, age 18 and above, who considers the Cathedral to be your home parish, to support its ministries through Stewardship. For, we are a family, and a family needs all its members doing their part, in order for it to be a happy, functioning family. In an effort to properly acknowledge and thank you for your support, we have listed the names of all stewards, as of February 1st, in the March issue of the Herald. Didn't see your name? You may have misplaced your card and didn't get to send it in. In case you've misplaced your card or if you wish additional cards for family members, these, as well as information about our Stewardship program, may be found at the pangari. They are in an envelope marked "Stewardship." If you prefer, the Cathedral at 415 864-8000 or e mail us at office@annunciation.org to receive additional cards. We also invite you to direct any questions you may have concerning our Stewardship program, to Father Stephen or a member of the Parish Council Stewardship Team. We truly want everyone to be included. We want everyone to be involved. Let's make 2018 a banner Stewardship year for the Cathedral. Help us accomplish this goal. As the above icon shows, Christ is blessing the five loaves and two fish. And, with these, he's able to feed the multitudes. Everyone. So, the Church's invitation extends to all. For, we are all members of God's household. All of us together, we are His Church.



Festival 2018: September 21, 22, 23

Though months away, planning has begun on this year's Food Festival, which will take place on our location at 245 Valencia Street, Friday, September 21, Saturday, September 22 and Sunday, September 23. By far the largest fund raiser for the Cathedral, it is also its largest social event, bringing together thousands of people for a weekend of food, fellowship, and faith. In recent years, social media has been the way people have been informed of the festival, and the growing crowds each year suggests we will expect to break another attendance record in 2018. But, we need volunteers. Volunteers to plan the festival. Volunteers to promote the festival. Volunteers to cook, organize and offer the various food items during the festival. We need you.

cares for the first; to the one He gives, and to the other He is gracious.

He both honors the work and praises the intention.

Enter all of you, therefore, into the joy of our Lord, and, whether first or last, receive your reward.

O rich and poor, one with another,

— PASCHAL SERMON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

IF YOU WANT PEACE, WORK FOR JUSTICE

Father Stephen to Attend Forum on Human Trafficking

Father Stephen has been invited to attend a forum on human trafficking, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, May 5 to May 8. This is the second such forum to take place at the initiative of and under the auspices of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. The first was held in Istanbul. His Eminence, Metropolitan Nikitas of the Dardanelles, who is the coordinator for the forum, was at the Cathedral both for the services of the third Salutations, on March 9 and at the Divine Liturgy on the third Sunday of Great Lent (the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross) on March 11. Following the Divine Liturgy, His Eminence met with the Cathedral Philoptochos board and shared aspects of and the timeliness of the forum. In preparation for the forum, His Eminence met with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Spiritual head of the Anglican communion (in the U.S. the church is often referred to as the Episcopal Church), Dr. Justin Welby. Below, is an article covering the meeting at Lambeth Palace. The conference will begin with Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral church of the Metropolis of Buenos Aires on Sunday, May 6. Two short presentations, following the keynote address, will take place. On Monday, statements from religious and civic leaders will be offered, followed by panels and discussions and, on Tuesday, the final session of the forum will take place, ending with a declaration and closing session. The purpose of the forum is twofold. It places on the world stage the concern of the Ecumenical Patriarchate for contemporary issues which vitally affect us. (The pioneering efforts of the Mother Church on the Environment, as noted in the March issue of the Herald, must not be underestimated.) Secondly, it sensitizes us to the acute problem of human trafficking and slavery taking place right under our noses. You may know that this is a huge problem in California where, in June alone, over 500 arrests were made. The Church has a major role to play in our world. It's not just about our service at the altar, but also our service to human beings wherever there is need that defines us as Christians. Hence, our logo: If you want peace, work for justice.

Συνάντηση Νικήτα με Αγγλικανό Αρχ/πο

ΛΟΝΔΙΝΟ. Ο Μητροπολίτης Δαρδανελλίων κ. Νικήτας είχε συνάντηση με τον Αρχιεπίσκοπο Καντουαρίας Επικεφαλής της Αγγλικανικής Ομολογίας Εκκλησίας, κ. Justin Welby, σύμφωνα με το Πρακτορείο Εκκλησιαστικών Ειδήσεων «Romfea.gr» της Ελλάδος, από το οποίο ο «Εθνικός Κήρυκας» πήρε την είδηση, καθώς και το σχετικό φωτογραφικό στιγμιότυπο.

Τον Μητροπολίτη Δαρδανελλίων κ. Νικήτα υποδέχθηκε ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος Καντουαρίας στην επίσημη κατοικία του στο Lambeth Palace στο Λονδίνο.

Κατά την διάρκεια της συνάντησης, η οποία πραγματοποιήθηκε σε θερμό κλίμα, οι δύο πλευρές αντάλλαξαν απόψεις πάνω στη σύγχρονη δουλεία και την εμπορία ανθρώπων.

Ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος μετά το πέρας της συνάντησης δήλωσε: «Είχαμε με τον Μητροπολίτη Δαρδανελλίων κ. Νικήτα μια εξαιρετική συνάντηση, κατά τη διάρκεια της οποίας διερευνήσαμε περαιτέρω τρόπους συνεργασίας των Εκκλησιών μας για την αντιμετώπιση της σύγχρονης δουλείας και της εμπορίας ανθρώπων».

Ο Μητροπολίτης κ. Νικήτας είναι Διευθυντής του Αθηναγορείου Ορθόδοξου Ινστιτούτου στην Καλιφόρνια, ενώ το Οικουμενικό Πατριαρχείο του αναθέτει διάφορες εκκλησιαστικές αποστολές.



Από τη συνάντηση του Μητροπολίτη Δαρδανελλίων κ. Νικήτα με τον Αρχιεπίσκοπο Καντουαρίας της Αγγλικανικής Ομολογίας κ. Justin Welby στην κατοικία του στο παλάτι Lambeth.

*dance for joy!
O you ascetics and you negligent,
celebrate the day!
You that have fasted and you that
have disregarded the fast, rejoice
today!*

— PASCHAL SERMON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Please join the Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos Society in helping eradicate bullying.

The National Philoptochos' Stop Bullying In Your Community program is a valuable anti-bullying curriculum in which we intend to share and help implement this initiative to all our youth ministries as well as our parish members. Below is some information about bullying but by no means is the entire curriculum.

Bullying

Definition: bullying is a form of emotional or physical abuse with three defining characteristics: 1) deliberate, 2) repeated, and 3) power imbalance.

It can happen anywhere, cities, suburbs or rural towns depending on the environment.

These actions are the main components causing verbal, physical and relational types of harmful behavior among our youth.

It is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated or has the potential to be repeated over time. Both children who are bullied and who bully others may have serious, lasting problems.

Some people dismiss bullying among children as a normal part of growing up, but bullying is harmful. It can lead children and teenagers to feel tense and afraid. It may lead them to avoid school, and in severe cases, teens who are bullied may feel they need to take drastic measures, react violently, or even consider suicide. The effects of bullying last a lifetime.

To learn more about this initiative, please visit <http://www.philoptochos.org/outreach/projects/stopbullyinginyourcommunity>

Please join us as we build a community of faith, respect and kindness that is safe and welcoming for all.



Festive times at the crab feed. A good time was had by all.

Crab Feed 2018

Once again, we had a great turn out for the annual Crab Feed on Saturday, March 3.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this year's Crab Feed a fun and delicious evening. The crab was fresh and plentiful, Pasta Panomitros was fantastico, the Salad was delicious, and the dessert was It's It. On behalf of our Ladies Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos, we are grateful to our parish members, friends and family, and neighbors for supporting this fund-raising event for Philoptochos charities. The evening would not be the success without the hard work and commitment of Rose Sogotis and Annamarie Balian. An amazing job! And a salute to the team who helped put this together: Foula Vasiliogeorgis, Angie Leventis, Effie Makras, Vicky Moulas, Terpsi Varanis, Despina & Jim Puolos, Helen & John Panomitros, Liberty Nuris, Grace and Gus Koutoulas and Isabella, Sosa Dekaristos, Maria



Four generations... (l to r: Tea Nuris creator of crab feed 36 years ago, Annamarie Balian, Nicole Papageorge & Ana

Bessis, Irene Vafiadis, Bonnie Grampas, Deedy & Pat Aleck, Mariam Arsinoos, Vicki Holloway, Sofia Makras, Irene & Sakee Poulakides, Kathy Dermatakus, Pat Destein, Lula Ossipoff & Alexia Kleinekorte, Vivian Curd, Meena Vellis, Terpsi Varanis, Despina Kocalis, Soso Deharistos, Annette Chiappari, Nick Balian, Jimmy Sogotis, and George Vlahos.

A special thank you to our donors: 22nd and Irving Produce, Mountanos Coffee, Michael and Helen Franco, and George Vlahos.

Philoptochos Events Recap

Go Red Sunday

Thank you to everyone who came to learn more about Women's Health on Sunday, February 18. Go Red Sunday is a national Philoptochos movement. Donations from this event benefitted the American Heart Association.

see photos on page 10



Go Red Sunday parishioners enjoying the healthy treats and chatting with Janis Petrou. George Vlahos commented "anything is good if it makes you healthy" Farah Manneh commented "Can we have this every Sunday?"



Ladies Philoptochos showing support for Go Red Sunday



Vicki Holloway, Maria Allen, Grace Koutoulas and Presbytera Aliko working to make this presentation happen

Update: IOCC School Kits and Hygiene Kits

I would like to thank the community for their generosity by donating school supplies and hygiene kits that were sent to the IOCC. I received a letter from the IOCC and wanted to share part of the letter with you all. "Your generous gift of time assembling these kits, as well as your donation of the materials they contain, is invaluable. The kits you provided are helping people who are suffering in impoverished, disaster-stricken, and war-torn areas throughout the world. Please know that you have personally touched the lives of people who are in need and have brought to them the love of Christ."



The Road to Good Health without Medicine was the theme of the SF Metropolis Philoptochos annual Health and Wellness Lenten luncheon and symposium. It took place at the Holy Cross Church in Belmont on Saturday, March 10. Joanne Glafkides, Kathy Dermitazakis, and Kalli Fousekis are shown here expressing their appreciation for the presentation entitled the Power of Prayer.

*The table is rich-laden: feast royally,
all of you!
The calf is fatted: let no one go forth
hungry!
Let all partake of the feast of faith. Let
all receive the riches of goodness.
Let no one lament their poverty,*

– PASCHAL SERMON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

The Founding of the Cathedral Philoptochos

The following article was submitted by Jim Loukas and chronicles the founding of our Philoptochos. In his words, "the following chronicles the founding of our Philoptochos:"

On July 27, 1921, a meeting was held at the home of Athena Constantine, 834 Cabrillo Street, San Francisco, which was comprised of ladies of the new St. Sophia church located at Hayes & Pierce streets. The purpose of the meeting was to devise ways & means of helping the new church.

Attendees:

Mrs. Athena Constantine
Mrs. Effie Alamisis
Mrs. Kouvelas
Mrs. Elisavet Julius
Mrs. Chrisafo George
Mrs. J. George
Mrs. Angel
Mrs. Calogridis
Mrs. Vasilatos
Mrs. M. Taggart
Mrs. T. George
Miss Zoe Vasilatos
Mrs. J. Gianopoulos
Miss Cannelos
Mrs. J. Pappas

The group agreed that the society's objectives will be to aid the church, the prospective school, and orphanage and to help those of our faith as necessary. The group elected its first permanent officers:

Mrs. Athena Constantine – President
Mrs. Effie Alamisis – Vice President
Mrs. Kouvelas – Secretary
Mrs. J. Gianopoulos – Treasurer

The group agreed to an initiation fee for membership of fifty cents, dues of fifty cents per month or six dollars per year. The group agreed to meet every Wednesday at 2pm and that their first fundraising activity will be a bazaar held a little before Christmas. Two weeks later, Mrs. Alamisis resigned her position and was replaced by Mrs. Kalliopi Preovolos.

On August 3, 1921, the group added the following new members:

Mrs. L. Bravos
Mrs. J. Marjoris
Mrs. J. Johnson
Mrs. Vitalie
Mrs. N. Diamianakis
Mrs. Panagiota Kockos

Father Ioannides donated \$10 to the new society and spoke of the power of women within the church and

to use their influence to uplift humanity in spiritual and practical ways. The ladies agreed that the name of the new organization will be "The Ladies Aid Society of Saint Sophia". On August 10, 1921, the organization's constitution and bylaws were approved. On August 17, 1921, the organization held its first meeting at St. Sophia.

Who was Athena Constantine, the first president of the Cathedral's Philoptochos?

Athena immigrated to the United States in 1875 at age seven with her mother Anna Tsikoorees and her brother George Tsikoorees. They settled in San Francisco prior to 1885.

Athena married Cosmas Constantine in the early 1880s. The couple had two sons, Peter and Cosmas. The family initially lived at 1814 Taylor Street before purchasing a home at 834 Cabrillo Street. The Tsikoorees and Constantine families started the Angel Produce Company about 1896 and it was based in Oakland. In 1902, Athena filed for divorce in 1902 on the basis of neglect leaving her a single mother raising two sons. Her ex-husband passed away before 1910.

Athena later worked as a dressmaker. Prior to the founding of a Greek Orthodox church in San Francisco in 1904, news articles show that Athena had a long history organizing successful events on behalf of the Russian Orthodox Church. After the founding of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in 1904 her involvement continued. As the president of the Ladies Aid Society of Saint Sophia, she organized fund raising events and most notably Greek Independence Day celebrations at the Scottish Rite Auditorium.

Her mother Anna Tsikoorees passed away in 1912, and she is buried at Olivet Memorial Park in Colma. Athena passed away in 1927 and she is buried at Olivet close to her mother.

Her son Peter Constantine worked in various restaurants in the San Francisco area. He never married. At the time of his passing August 25, 1948 he was 55 years old. Peter was buried at Greek Orthodox Memorial Park in Colma. Athena's brother George Tsikoorees worked for the US Post Office as a letter carrier. He became a US citizen in 1890. Athena's son Cosmas Constantine (same name as his father) served as a sergeant during World War I. Cosma passed away March 29, 1958. He was given a military burial at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno. His wife Cecilia who passed away February 21, 1987 is buried next to him.



OIKOS News

We Began the year in September with a talk by Dr. Steve Harris, Ph.D. an Orthodox Christian and Clinical Psychologist from Newport Beach, California. Dr. Harris spoke to us from a chapter of his soon to be published book, "God, Psychology and Faith" by St. Sebastian Press. Congratulations to Dr. Steve and gratitude for his sharing his thoughts on the interplay between psychology and religion. We end the year in June with a six-day icon painting workshop, taught by Dr. Theodore Papadopoulos from Larissa, Greece. Dr. Theodore will give a Lecture to our parishioners on the icon of Christ that the students will be writing over the six day period at the Annunciation Cathedral. No prior artistic experience is necessary, just a willingness to dive into the experience with an amazing teacher. For detailed information see the flyer in the Herald and on our web site or contact Dr. Katina Kostoulas (katinakost@aol.com).

for the universal kingdom has been revealed.

Let no one mourn their transgressions, for pardon has dawned from the grave.

Let no one fear death, for the Saviour's death has set us free.

He that was taken by death has annihilated it!

He descended into Hades and took Hades captive!

He embittered it when it tasted His flesh! And anticipating this, Isaiah exclaimed: "Hades was embittered when it encountered Thee in the lower regions".

– PASCHAL SERMON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM



People Ask

People are calling the Cathedral asking questions like, how do I become Orthodox? How can I learn more about your Faith? We were raised in this or that faith (or, in one case, recently, in several faiths), or in no faith, and, seeing the Cathedral being built, we want to know more about you, as we may want to become a part of your community. When they call, we try to discern where they have been spiritually, and how we may guide them to the Lord in fellowship with His Apostolic Church. We direct them to the class we have, taught by Alex Kozak, aimed at introducing people to the Orthodox Faith. We provide Alex's e mail: orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com. We also direct them to the Archdiocese web site, www.goarch.org. Once they're on the web site, we ask them to go to Library. Scroll down to Introduction to Orthodoxy. There, they will read: 1. an Introduction, which aims at introducing the non-Orthodox to Orthodox Christianity, 2. House of God, which describes the interior of the church building, 3. Worship, which discusses the form and characteristics of Orthodox worship, 4. Liturgy, which describes the meaning and celebration of the Eucharist, 5. Sacraments, which describes the meaning and importance of liturgical life, 6. Special Services and Blessings, which describes the non-sacramental services which contribute to spiritual life, 7. Teachings, which outlines the salient points of doctrine and basic creedal affirmations, 8. Spirituality, which discusses the meaning of theosis as the goal of Christian life, 9. History, which sketches the great epochs of Orthodoxy, and 10. The Church, which outlines the procedures for becoming a member of the Orthodox Church.

Becoming an Orthodox Christian is a process. There is no "one rule fits all" as for the time required and the amount of learning one must undergo to become a member of the Church. For some, it's a matter of a few months; for others, a few years. But, the overwhelming consensus of those who join the Church is they feel fulfilment, they feel joy, they feel this Faith is the true Faith. The Faith we have inherited is a treasure, indeed, open to all who seek Truth. As St. Paul reminds us in his first letter to Timothy (1 Timothy 2:3-4), "God...desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." By the way, you don't have to be non-Orthodox to benefit from Alex's class or the articles available on www.goarch.org. Do you have a few minutes? Do you have access to the Internet? We invite you to log on. You will be glad you did.



Community Kitchen

The Cathedral's Community Kitchen, which began under the name "Soup Kitchen," operates the third Tuesday of every month. The volunteer work involves food prep, cooking, hall setup, serving the meal and--so important--cleanup. We also have a food pantry, so a few awesome volunteers come early to bag up canned/non-perishable goods for our guests to take with them. Some volunteers arrive earlier, but the typical timeframe is 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Shown above are just some of our Young Adults, who spearhead the Community Kitchen ministry. Won't you join them? Following each Community Kitchen, after cleanup, the Young Adults gather in the second-floor conference room for wine and cheese. They get to know one another better. They welcome new members. They address topical issues. And, of course, they plan for the following month's Community Kitchen. In November, the Young Adults teamed up with the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos and turned out a Thanksgiving feast! In December, the theme was Christmas. The Metropolis Young Adults contributed gift cards, which, in turn, were handed out to our guests. In April, Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, April 17. Our guests count on us to provide them with a hot meal, and fellowship. May we, in turn, count on you? Once again, that's April 17, 5:30 p.m. for set up and 6:30 p.m. for serving.



GOYA News

Calling all members of GOYA: Pascha this year falls on April 8. Palm Sunday falls on April 1. The previous day is known as the Saturday of Lazarus. As our GOYA project for the month, we are responsible for Palm making before Palm Sunday. It's our project for the month. As for next month, we are planning to have an end of the school year Escape Room outing in San Francisco on May 5th. More information about this will be forthcoming via e mail.

Senior Varsity Basketball

Calling all coaches and players:

It's March Madness, (actually spring madness, now that we're in April) and everyone's excited that the High School and Adult OYAA basketball season has begun. As you may know, there are a couple requirements of all players who participate in the Cathedral's basketball program.



First, all players must be members in good standing of the Cathedral, meaning that every adult player must pledge for Stewardship in 2018 to the Annunciation Cathedral, and parents of the High School players must also be pledged stewards. If you have already pledged for 2018, thank you very much for your support. If you have not and need a

see page 14

Amazon Smile

A lot of us buy books, household items, and what-have-you on Amazon. If you sign up, at no cost to you, Amazon will make a contribution, based on your purchases, to the Annunciation Cathedral. If you have not already done so, visit smile.amazon.com to enroll. It's as simple as that.

pledge card, please ask one of the Parish Council members who is coaching or playing on one of the teams (Tom Nuris, Deno Konstantinidis, Manoli Nuris, and Chris Ramos).

Second, there is also a \$50 per player fee to participate in the Cathedral's basketball program. We are asking the coaches of each team to collect this per player fee. Please note that for the JV season, the Cathedral paid nearly \$1,000 for just two teams (elementary and middle school boys) to participate in the OYAA. Each of our JV players paid the \$50 fee. We hear this season there are as many as four adult teams, in addition to our HS boys. We need the support of all players and families, both for our basketball program and to support the operations of the Cathedral generally as stewards.

We are asking the coaches and player representatives of each team to be accountable and collect per player fees and Stewardship pledge cards for each player on your respective teams before the Varsity season begins. Please help us get the word out, in case we've missed anyone.

If you or anyone on your team have any questions, please feel free to contact one of the Parish Council members listed above, one of our Stewardship Committee members (Dean Nicolacakis, Paul Sogotis and Nick Svetcoff), Father Stephen or Chris Kyriacou.

Good luck to all the teams this season, and thank you for supporting our basketball program and our Cathedral!

The schedule is as follows:

Sunday, April 1st

@ Annunciation
 3:00 Adult St. Nicholas SF Annunciation 3
 4:00 Adult St. George SF
 St. Gregory 2
 5:00 Adult St. Nicholas SJ
 St. Gregory 1

Saturday, April 14th

@ Resurrection
 10:00 Adult St. George SF Resurrection
 11:00 Adult Ascension 2 Annunciation 4
 12:00 Adult Annunciation 1
 St. Nicholas SJ
 1:00 Adult Annunciation 3 Ascension 1
 2:00 Adult St. Gregory 2 Annunciation 2
 3:00 Adult St. Nicholas SF
 St. Gregory 1

Sunday, April 15th

@ St. Nicholas (San Jose)
 2:00 HS St. Gregory
 St. Nicholas SJ
 3:00 Adult Resurrection
 St. Nicholas SJ

@ St. Vincent de Paul High School (849 Keokuk St, Petaluma)
 3:30 HS Holy Trinity St. George (Rohnert Park)

@ Holy Cross
 2:00 HS Holy Cross Ascension
 3:00 Adult St. George SF Ascension 2
 4:00 Adult Ascension 1 Annunciation 2

@ Annunciation
 2:00 HS Annunciation
 St. Gregory 2
 3:00 Adult St. Nicholas SF Annunciation 1
 4:00 Adult St. Gregory 2 Annunciation 3
 5:00 Adult St. Gregory 1 Annunciation 4

Wednesday, April 18th

@ Annunciation
 7:00 Adult Annunciation 3 Annunciation 4
 8:00 Adult Annunciation 1 Annunciation 2

Sunday, April 21st

@ Holy Trinity
 10:00 HS St. Gregory 1 Holy Cross
 11:00 HS St. Gregory 2
 St. George (Rohnert Park)

Sunday, April 22nd

@ Holy Trinity
 2:00 HS Holy Trinity
 St. Gregory 2
 3:00 HS St. Gregory 1
 St. George (Rohnert Park)
 4:00 Adult Annunciation 3
 St. George SF

@ Annunciation
 2:00 HS Holy Cross Annunciation
 3:00 Adult St. Gregory 1 Annunciation 2
 4:00 Adult St. Gregory 2 Annunciation 1

@ Ascension
 3:00 Adult Resurrection Ascension 1
 4:00 Adult Ascension 2 St. Nicholas SF

@ St. Nicholas (San Jose)
 2:00 HS Ascension St. Nicholas SJ
 3:00 Adult Annunciation 4 St. Nicholas SJ

Sunday, April 29nd

@ Ascension
 3:00 HS Ascension Holy Trinity
 4:00 Adult St. Nicholas SF Resurrection
 5:00 Adult Ascension 2 St. Gregory 1
 6:00 Adult Ascension 1 St. Gregory 2

@ Annunciation
 2:00 HS St. Gregory 1 Annunciation
 3:00 HS Holy Cross St. Gregory 2
 4:00 HS St. Nicholas SJ St. George (Rohnert Park)
 5:00 Adult St. Nicholas SJ St. George SF

Sunday, May 6th

@ Annunciation
 2:00 Adult St. Nicholas SF St. George SF
 3:00 Adult Annunciation 4 Annunciation 2
 4:00 Adult Annunciation 3 Annunciation 1

@ St. Vincent de Paul High School (849 Keokuk St, Petaluma)
 3:30 HS Annunciation St. George (Rohnert Park)

@ Holy Cross
 2:00 HS Holy Trinity Holy Cross
 3:00 HS St. Nicholas SJ St. Gregory 2
 4:00 Adult St. Nicholas SJ Ascension 1

@ Ascension
 3:00 HS Ascension St. Gregory 1
 4:00 Adult Ascension 2 St. Gregory 2
 5:00 Adult Resurrection St. Gregory 1

Tuesday, May 8th

@ Ascension
 7:00 Adult Annunciation 1 Resurrection
 8:00 Adult Annunciation 3 Ascension 1
 9:00 Adult Ascension 2 St. Nicholas SJ

Wednesday, May 8th

@ Annunciation
 7:00 Adult St. Gregory 2 Annunciation 4
 8:00 Adult St. George SF St. Gregory 1
 9:00 Adult St. Nicholas SF Annunciation 2

Saturday, May 12th

@ Holy Trinity
 10:00 HS Holy Trinity Annunciation
 11:00 HS Ascension St. George (Rohnert Park)

Sunday, May 13th

@ Holy Cross
 3:00 HS St. Nicholas SJ Holy Cross
 4:00 HS St. Gregory 1 St. Gregory 2

PLAYOFFS

Wednesday, May 16th

@ Annunciation
 7:30 Adult
 8:30 Adult

Saturday, May 19th

@ Annunciation
 10:00 High School
 11:00 High School
 12:00 Adult
 1:00 Adult

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday, May 20th

@ Annunciation
 2:00 Adult
 3:00 High School

Young Adults

Our Young Adults are becoming increasingly involved in the life of the Church. They are worshiping on Sundays and, after a number of years, are still hands on in charge of our Community Kitchen, which is held the third Tuesday of every month. Hardly a Sunday goes by when we don't welcome a new Young Adult or two. Some come from parishes clear across the country. Others are more local. Some come immediately upon arrival. Others do so after months of living in the City. Some scope us out, visiting other Bay Area churches, to determine if we're a good fit for them. Let's face it, different strokes for different folks. Some like more Greek in the Liturgy, others less. Still others are looking for a more "spiritual" or "engaging" parish. Others show up when they need a certificate of membership because they want to baptize someone or because they're going to be married. No matter what, we are impressed by the genuine interest of our Young Adults and we welcome them. We're here to serve. And, we invite them to become involved in the life of the parish, certainly in the monthly Community Kitchen and our get-togethers afterwards, as well as the following, designed exclusively for them:

METROPOLIS YOUNG ADULT SPRING RETREAT
April 27-29, 2018

St. Nicholas Ranch & Retreat Center, Dunlap, CA

METROPOLIS YOUNG ADULT CAMPING TRIP
August 31-September 3, 2018 (Labor Day Weekend)
Near Chico, CA

METROPOLIS YOUNG ADULT FALL RETREAT
October 12-14, 2018

St. Nicholas Ranch & Retreat Center, Dunlap, CA



The Cathedral Young Adults are responsible for starting the Soup Kitchen (now Community Kitchen). While others come and volunteer, it is the Young Adults who are spearheading this ministry. After everything is cleaned up, the Young Adults convene in the second-floor conference room for fellowship and discussion, over wine and cheese. A recent discussion took place around the Great Schism of 1054, ecumenical efforts in recent times, and the Great and Holy Council, which took place last year on the island of Crete.



Summer Camp Update (yes, summer camp!)

Count the days until Summer Camp 2018!

Camp dates this summer (at St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center), as noted above, are:
July 8-14, July 15-21, July 22-18 and July 29-August 4 (new this year!).

Session 4 is available to any campers who would like to attend two sessions of camp this summer! The last few summers we have limited camper registration to only one session per camper, but with the addition of the 4th session of camp, we are now allowing campers who would like to attend an additional session of camp to also register for Session 4! This offer does not apply to any other session of camp.

Online camper registration is quickly filling up! Make sure to register soon to secure your spot. Here is an update of the camper registration spots available:

2018 SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION UPDATE:

Session I: July 8 – 14 (26 spots left)*

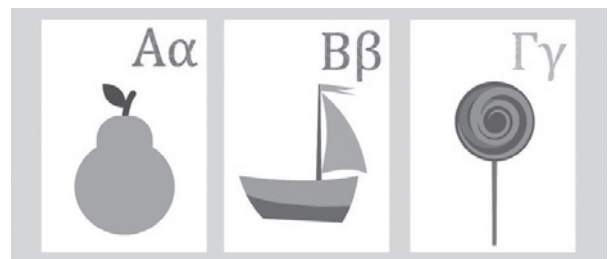
Session II: July 15 – 21 (20 spots left)*

Session III: July 22 – 28 (51 spots left)*

Session IV: July 29 - Aug 4 (95 spots left)*

*As of January 3, 2018

For online registration and more information, visit www.gosfyouth.org



Greek School News

Classes are in full swing. We are proud of all of our students.

We are happy to be sharing the beautifully renovated classrooms by Millennium School and look forward to a great partnership. If you would like more information about Greek school for your children, please contact Anthi Janssens at anthigj@gmail.com. Thank you. Occasionally, we have requests about an Adult Greek class. If you are interested, likewise, please contact Anthi Janssens at anthigj@gmail.com. Meanwhile, we extend best wishes for a blessed Pascha.



Dance Group News

The Annunciation Cathedral's dance program is opening registration for the 2018-2019 dance year to new dancers for a limited time. Our program encompasses dancers from Pre-K to adult. The goal of our program is to cultivate appreciation of Greek culture and heritage through dance while also fostering fellowship in our youth and community. All groups attend the annual Folk Dance Festival (FDF), sponsored by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco. During the year, dance groups perform at Annunciation's Greek Festival as well as other special events.

Practices resume on April 22. All of our groups, with the exception of our Young Adults, will be practicing on Sundays, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Interested in joining our award-winning groups? Come on April 22 or contact Lea Lyberopoulos, karthia808@yahoo.com.

The Cathedral's dance groups are:

To Mellon: Pre-K-1st grade (must be at least 5 years old in Fall 2017)

Directed by Irene Kyriacou and Katerina Sarikakis

Revmata: 2nd-4th grade in Fall 2017

Directed by Katerina Sarikakis, Trina Misthos and Eleni Taptelis

Thisavri: 5th-7th grade in Fall 2017

Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou

Spithes: 8th -12th grade in Fall 2017

Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou

Atithasi: Young Adults

Directed by Michael Garibaldi and Nicole Garibaldi



Sunday School News

"Of all holy works, the education of children is the most holy."

~Saint Theophan the Recluse

Sunday School is putting out an APB on TGI Pascha on Holy and Great Friday, April 6. The program will begin at 10 a.m. At noon, we will break for a light lunch and then attend the service known as the Descent from the Cross, at 1 p.m. This year we are changing the activities and crafts (hooray!) and we are also looking for some parent volunteers to assist us. If your children are going to be participating in this event, please e mail Brittany, henderson.brittany@gmail.com and Grace Koutoulas (gmkoutoulas@yahoo.com), so that we can get an appropriate head count for the craft supplies, as well as food. If you are able to volunteer, please indicate this in your e mail.

Parents: Please send your children to Sunday School. We have a wonderful program and we would love continuing to teach them in matters of our Faith. We notice a severe drop in attendance since dance practice stopped. We know it is resuming on April 22. But, please don't come to church just when there's dance practice. Sunday School is equally an important part of your children's church experience.

Meanwhile, on the third Sunday of every month, we hold a music class for PK - 6th grades and, on the fourth Sunday for 7th to 12th grades. The classes take place in the conference room on the second floor. Meanwhile, we are also planning to participate in the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, which is a wonderful opportunity for our chil-



Find us on:
facebook®

'Like' Annunciation Cathedral Sunday School!

dren to speak before the congregation and share something special. It may have to do with their favorite saint, their favorite Scriptural passage, or their thoughts about some of the things that are occurring in the world around us. Below is the schedule of district schedules, as well as the Metropolis Oratorical Festival. The winner of the Metropolis Oratorical Festival goes on to participate at the Archdiocese Level. Last year, the winner of the Archdiocese Oratorical Festival came from the Metropolis of San Francisco. Who knows? Perhaps, one day, that person can be a one of our students at the Annunciation Cathedral.

Pacific Northwest District Festival:
Holy Trinity, Portland, OR - April 15, 2018

Bay Area District Festival:
Holy Cross, Belmont, CA - April 22, 2018

Eastern California District Festival:
Annunciation, Modesto, CA - April 22, 2018

Southern California District Festival:
Assumption, Long Beach, CA - April 22, 2018

Southwest District Festival:
Holy Trinity, Phoenix, AZ - April 22, 2018

Metropolis Oratorical Festival:
St. Nicholas Ranch, Dunlap, CA - May 5, 2018



Pangari Schedule

Serving on the pangari is a privilege, not only for Parish Council members, but for anyone who would like to be a part of the team of those who extend welcome to our services, especially for those who are visiting us from out of town and also people new to the community. The following teams, created so as to match up with their respective children, who will be serving in the altar on those days, consists of Parish Council members. Duties include the passing of the collection plate(s) and the seating of guests.

Team #1

Deno Konstantinidis
Philippos Athanasiades
Christopher Kyriacou
Dean Nicolacakis

Team #2 (Second Sunday Please)

Paul Sogotis
George Ambus
Mike Sarikakis

Team #3

Nicholas Rally
Nicholas Svetcoff
Chris Ramos

Team #4

Manoli Nuris
Vasiliki Moulas
George Gavros

Peter Manetas, Nick Kontonis, Michael Bagatelos, Gus Vellis also serve at the pangari, on a regular basis.

Philoptchos members and other members of the community are invited to participate, as well. Please speak to Paul Sogotis, our "chief of protocol," and indicate your willingness to be a part of the pangari team.

*It was embittered, for it was
abolished!*

It was embittered, for it was mocked!

It was embittered, for it was purged!

*It was embittered, for it was
despoiled!*

*It was embittered, for it was bound in
chains!*

It took a body and came upon God!

*It took earth and encountered
Heaven!*

*It took what it saw, but crumbled
before what it had not seen!*

O death, where is thy sting?

O Hades, where is thy victory?

*Christ is risen, and you are
overthrown!*

– PASCHAL SERMON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Serving in the Altar

Serving in the altar is a wonderful way for our young people to participate in the worship of our church, and learn more about our faith. For the present school year, we are very pleased to announce the altar leaders program! This year, three of the older altar servers have taken on the responsibility of coordinating the groups during services each week. We hope to add several more to their ranks in the coming years!

If any families are interested in their boys joining an altar group, who are above the age of 10, feel free to contact **Father Stephen** at fatherstephen@annunciation.org. Thank you also to **Nektarios McKnight** for guiding and instructing our altar servers each Sunday. As always, if anyone has any questions or suggestions, feel free to let us know. Thanks!



Our altar schedule for April is as follows:

- April 1 - Group 1
- April 7* - All Groups
- March 15 - Group 2
- April 22 - Group 3
- April 29 - Group 4

Please note, as Holy Pascha falls on April 8, and we have a number of services during Holy Week, it would be good to have as many acolytes possible participate in as many services possible. In other words, all are welcome. Please consult the calendar for days and times of services.

Our altar groups are as follow:

Group 1- Stelios Kyriacou, Kosta Lyberopoulos, Andrew Vellis, George Tsokas, Victor Nicolacakis, Justin Perez, Christian Kleinekorte (Dimitri Kontonis- Group Leader)

Group 2- Christopher Apostolos Percia, Panagiotis Sogotis, Yianni Sogotis, Steven Monolakis, Matheos Zarou (Niko Manetas- Group Leader)

Group 3- Niko Pezo, Demetri Rally, Steven Chiappari, Gianni Kefalas, Nicholas Shatara (Demetri Kontonis- Group Leader)

Group 4- Nathan Tesfai, Bobby Kontonis, Hari Manetas, Alexander Kasolas, Matthew Nuris (Jonas Tesfai- Group Leader)

Don't see your name here? Would you like to join us? We would like you to. Report for altar duty any Sunday morning, prior to 10:30 a.m., and Nektarios will make the appropriate arrangements. Meanwhile, it is also imperative that you attend Sunday School.

Interested in forming a group of girl altar servers, beyond the Myrrh Bearer's (Angels) program that we have during Holy Week and Pascha? Please contact Evangelia Raptis-Zarou, erz.raptiszarou@gmail.com

Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen!

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice!

Christ is risen, and life reigns!

Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in a tomb!

For Christ, being raised from the dead, has become the first-fruits of them that have slept.

To Him be glory and might unto the ages of ages.

Amen.

– PASCHAL SERMON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sacraments and Services

Baptism

Christopher Thomas, son of William Halsel Offill, IV and Christina Irene Daugherty Offill, was baptized on March 24. His sponsors are Matthew Daugherty and Janet Floratos.

William Gavin, son of Noel Bradley McMichael and Jeanne Morgan McMichael, was baptized on March 31. His Sponsor is Theodore Callis.

Na Mas Zisoun! Long Life!

Funeral

Theodosios Harry Theodosopoulos, who fell asleep in the Lord on March 15, was buried March 23. He is survived by several nephews and nieces.

Aionia I Mnimi. Eternal Memory!

A P R I L C A L E N D A R

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Palm Sunday: Nymphios Service 7 pm HS/Adult Church Basketball 2 pm	Holy Monday: Nymphios Service 7 pm	Holy Tuesday: Nymphios Service 7 pm	Holy Wednesday: Holy Unction 7 pm	Holy Thursday: Divine Liturgy 10 am The 12 Gospels 7 pm	Holy Friday: Great Hours 10 am Descent from the Cross 1 pm The Lamentations 7 pm	Holy Saturday: Divine Liturgy 8 am Paschal Vigil 11 pm ANASTASIS and Divine Liturgy Midnight
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
PASCHA: Agape Vespers (No Liturgy) 11 am				Basketball practice 7 pm		Greek School 10 am Divine Liturgy at Cemetery Chapel 10 am
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Class on Orthodoxy 9 am HS/Adult Church Basketball 2 pm		Community Kitchen, 6:30 pm Young Adult Get-Together 8:00 p.m	HS/Adult Church Basketball 7 pm	Basketball practice 7 pm		Greek School 10 am
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Dance Practice 12:30 pm HS/Adult Church Basketball 2 pm				Basketball practice 7 pm		Greek School 10 am
29	30					
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Bay Area Historical Society Sponsoring Coffee Class on Orthodoxy 9 am Dance Practice 12:30 pm HS/Adult Church Basketball 2 pm						

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
PERMIT NO. 1734



Annunciation Sunday school Children, with Acolytes, following the Sunday of Orthodoxy procession