



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



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

MAY 2018

When in Rome...



THE ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL'S
LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS
INVITE YOU TO OUR 59TH ANNUAL
MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON
AND FASHION SHOW
SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018
(please see page 4 for mor info and to register)

CATHEDRAL OF THE ANNUNCIATION
245 VALENCIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

12:00 COCKTAIL RECEPTION

12:30 LUNCH

DONATION:

ADULTS \$60.00 CHILDREN \$25.00

VALET PARKING IN ANNUNCIATION
CATHEDRAL PARKING LOT INCLUDED



Photos courtesy of Kathy Truog

Georgia Kallas Turns

100

Being born on March 25, 1918 on both the Annunciation and Greek Independence Day, wasn't enough for Georgia Callas. Her father was born on March 25, as well! Georgia came into the world near Porto Germano, northwest of Athens, where her father was a civil surveyor and forest ranger. Her father, Demetrious, was a native of Psari, near Dorian in the Peloponnese and was a descendant of the revolutionary hero Staikos Staikopoulos. Her mother, Pelagia Savopoulos, hailed from Stemititsa near Dimitsana in Arcadia.

Together with her younger sisters, Andronika and Helene, Georgia and her mother remained in Psari while her father journeyed ahead to America. When she was nine, the family was reunited in Chicago where the younger siblings, Becky and Nick were born. The former was delivered by a 13year-old Georgia in the middle of a snow storm that prevented the midwife from attending. Georgia had an advance aptitude for numbers and, in fact, learned English by being in advanced math classes with older students. Clearly capable and always independent, Georgia became the secondary breadwinner by working a variety of jobs while putting her siblings and herself through college. She helped the war effort by working at McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft as an inspector during WWII.



On February 2nd, 1947, she married law

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from page 1

student Peter Louis Callas at the Church of the Assumption in Chicago, Illinois. After the birth of daughter Ellen, they moved to be closer to Pete's family in Moline, Illinois and were active in the St. George church there. By the time son Louis was born, the family was back in the Chicago area and were members of the St. Andrew Church, on the north side. Eventually settling in the suburb of Glenview, Georgia and Peter found themselves a part of the founding membership of a brand-new congregation there, the church of SS. Peter and Paul. Originally meeting in an elementary school, they worked devotedly together with a handful of other young families to build the new church. After Peter's premature death in 1968, Georgia remained in the area. She eventually retired from her long-term employment at Scott-Foresman Publishing Company.

With both children and her granddaughter Shawnis (Anastasia) living in California, Georgia spent winters with them and was finally convinced to move to the Bay Area, permanently, in 2003, following the birth of her beloved great-grandson, Joshua. Since then, she has become a "regular" at the Annunciation Cathedral, attending worship services and the Sunday Bible Study.

Although she lives with Ellen and son-in-law Greg Hillman in San Francisco, she loves to spend time at her "country house" with son Louis and daughter-in-law Meg where she works on her tan.

Her 100th birthday was celebrated with a party attended by nearly a hundred people, mostly family, who travelled from all over the country to be with her. On this occasion, when asked what is the secret to her longevity, she smiled, looked around the room and said "Love!"

A naturally curious "people person," who embraces history, Georgia loves to travel and has travelled extensively here and abroad.

Εύχαριστώ to Angelo Koutoulas

Mr. Koutoulas has gone above and beyond the call of duty, and we would like to publicly thank him. Angelo provided, at no cost to the Cathedral, the dinner following Great Vespers on March 24 (for the Feast of the Annunciation), including labor. In addition, he provided the dinner following the Young Adult Presanctified Divine Liturgy on March 30 (eve of the Feast of the Raising of Lazarus), and he also provided the dinner following the Pascha Divine Liturgy, the morning of April 8 (mageritsa, which was superb! along with shish kebob, rice, and all the trimmings). Not only this, but Angelo is also offering to provide meals for future fund raisers for the Building Fund. Now, that's stewardship. Efharisto, Angelo. May the Panagia continue to watch over you and your family.



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).



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.



Putting on the Finishing Touches

The above 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 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.



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The San Francisco Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos would like to invite you to our annual Mother's Day luncheon and fashion show being held on Saturday, May 12. Once again...our amazing member Irene Kyriacou is chairing this wonderful event.

Along with the luncheon and fashion show, the highlight of the day will be the presentations for the Mothers of the Year. This year's honorees are two women who have given their faith, devotion and dedication to their families, church and community. We are delighted and proud to announce the 2018 Mothers of the Year – Vivian Curd and Kalliope Fousekis. Congratulations!

This annual spring event is a special time to spend with family and friends. Thank you in advance for your support in making this year's Mother's Day luncheon a success. Please join us...see you in Rome.



PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE BY **MAY 1, 2018**
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ EMAIL _____

PLEASE RESERVE _____ ADULT @ \$60 AND _____ CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS @ \$25 TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

VEGETARIAN PLATE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST WITH RESERVATION.

PLEASE LIST ALL ATTENDEES' NAMES BELOW. TABLES OF 10 AVAILABLE. SEATING IS LIMITED.

TICKET AND SEAT ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE HELD FOR YOU AT THE DOOR.

I AM UNABLE TO ATTEND AND WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO PHILOPTOCHOS CHARITIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL ANGIE LEVENTIS (650) 878-2855 OR CONTACT
BY EMAIL ANGIE LEVENTIS ~ ALEVENTIS3@COMCAST.NET IRENE KYRIACOU ~ SASSYGRK@AOL.COM

3. _____ 8. _____

4. _____ 9. _____

5. _____ 10. _____



The Art of Koulourakia Making— Magic Fingers

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Theology

biblical religious believe faith
God preach spirituality worship

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 four 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.

Hymn of Pentecost

Εύογητὸς εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς
ἡμῶν, ὁ πανσόφους
Τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας, καταπέμψας
αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον,
Καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην
σαγηνεύσας,
Φιλάνθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

Hymn of Pentecost

Blessed are You, Christ, our God,
Who showed the fishermen to be most
wise, Having sent upon them the Holy Spirit,
And, through them, swooping up the whole
world Lover of humankind, glory to You.

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 May, the class will meet on May 6 and May 13.



His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia presided over this year's Great Vespers for the Feast of the Annunciation and celebrated the Divine Liturgy on the 25th. Shown here: His Grace with participating area clergy, chanters, and acolytes



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, May 15. 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.

In the Old Testament Pentecost was the feast which occurred fifty days after Passover. As the Passover feast celebrated the exodus of the Israelites

see next box



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.



Stewardship and You: Eucharist!

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.

*from the slavery of Egypt, so
Pentecost celebrated God's gift of
the ten commandments to
Moses on Mount Sinai.*

*In the New Covenant of the Messiah,
the Passover event takes on its new
meaning as the celebration of Christ's
death and resurrection. It marks the
"exodus" of men from this sinful*

see next box

*world to the Kingdom of God, to
salvation. And in the New Covenant,
as well, the Pentecostal feast is given
new meaning: instead of the law alone,
we now have the Holy Spirit, as the
fulfillment of the law. Read St. Paul's
letter to the Galatians, especially
chapters 3, 4 and 5, where Paul
discusses the "tutor" role of the law,
until the coming of the Spirit.*

see next box



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.

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.



Father Stephen offered the meditation at a breakfast meeting of the San Francisco Interfaith Council on April 12. Shown are Michael Pappas, Director of the SFIC, Rita Semel, Founder of the SFIC, Rev. Susan Hendershot Guy, President, Interfaith Power & Light, Kaushik Roy, SFIC Chair, and Debbie Raphael, Director, San Francisco Department of the Environment

ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΚΗ ΔΙΚΑΙΟΣΥΝΗ

Χριστός Ανέστη! A local event where we can put our faith into action is the “WinterFaith Shelter Walk 2018.” It will take place on Sunday May 6th at 1:30 pm at Lake Merced in San Francisco. The Interfaith Winter Shelter provides food and shelter for 100 men each night from Thanksgiving to the end of February. This year it was extended through April 1st. Four congregations serve as host sites, and 50 other congregations provide food. The walk is an opportunity to raise funds for this worthy program to help our fellow residents of San Francisco. It would be terrific if some members of our parish participated—you can register and gather sponsors for your walk at <http://winterfaithshelterwalk.dojiggy.com>.

The ACT to End Racism rally in Washington DC, which we wrote about in the March Herald, took place on April 4th, the 50th anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The night before the rally, 400 faith leaders from across the country joined Archbishop Demetrios at St. Sophia Cathedral for the Bridegroom service and for a talk after the service on how communities of faith can move forward to end racism in the U.S. You can find pictures from the April 3rd event on the Archdiocese website, <https://www.goarch.org/>, and a piece in the Washington Post about the rally: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-faith/wp/2018/04/04/on-the-anniversary-of-martin-luther-kings-death-faith-groups-sharpen-their-focus-on-systemic-racism>

According to the National Council of Churches (NCC), which sponsored the event, there were approximately 10,000 people in attendance at the rally, which was quite an achievement as the weather was wintry the afternoon of the rally, and precluded some of the speakers from sharing their remarks. One person who was unable to speak

the day of the rally was Metropolitan Tikhon of the Orthodox Church in America. His prayer is printed in full below. Metropolitan Tikhon repeats the phrase “I am a man” which was written on the signs of the striking African American sanitation workers in Memphis where Dr. King was assassinated. Dr. King had gone to Memphis to support the sanitation workers in their strike. You can find more information about the strike and some of the people mentioned in Metropolitan Tikhon’s prayer here: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/retropolis/wp/2018/02/12/i-am-a-man-the-1968-memphis-sanitation-workers-strike-that-led-to-mlks-assassination/>

In the coming months, we will share the steps that congregations can take to combat racism in our own communities; the rally was just the first step in a longer drive toward sustained change.

Prayerful Reflection at National Council of Churches A.C.T. Rally

Metropolitan Tikhon Washington, DC April 4, 2018

O Lord Jesus Christ True God and True Man;

I am a man –

a fallen and broken man;

I am a man –

Who only ten days ago, with all Christians commemorated a great mystery – the greatest mystery of all – the mystery of Your Incarnation, when through the announcement of the Archangel Gabriel, You took on our human flesh of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary.

I am a man –

Who with all Orthodox Christians, walks this week with You, the God-man, in Your extreme humility, as You voluntarily walk the path of suffering, abandonment, mockery, and solitary death and burial.

I am a man –

Who denies You with Peter, saying: “I know not the man!” Who sees You with crown of thorns and purple robe and says with Pilate: “Behold the man!”

I am a man –

Who from the moment of Your Passion and Crucifixion is no longer told what is right, but is shown it. is no longer guided on the way, but watches the Way. no longer describes life, but sees my own life hang before my very eyes.

see page 10

from page 9

I am a man –

Who because of that moment recognizes that, because of Your becoming man, completely human, leaving nothing of humanity untaken into Your own divine life save for sin, there is only one proper and true way to look at another human being.

I am a man –

Who gives thanks for the witness and life of the man we are gathered here to honor, Dr. Martin Luther King, A man who, in 1954, reminded us that the greatest battle we have is for the human heart.

“The problem is with man himself and man’s soul,” he said

“We haven’t learned how to be just and honest and kind and true and loving. And that is the basis of our problem. The real problem is that through our scientific genius we’ve made of the world a neighborhood, but through our moral and spiritual genius we’ve failed to make of it a brotherhood.”

And further –

“The great danger facing us today is not so much the atomic bomb that was created by physical science. Not so much that atomic bomb that you can put in an aeroplane and drop on the heads of hundreds and thousands of people as dangerous as that is. But the real danger confronting civilization today is that atomic bomb which lies in the hearts and souls of men, capable of exploding into the vilest of hate and into the most damaging selfishness.

That’s the atomic bomb that we’ve got to fear today. The problem is with the men. Within the heart and the souls of men. That is the real basis of our problem.”

I am a man –

Who recognizes that it is this darkness in the heart of man that You have been after to heal; Who understands that You want me to see Christ in my neighbors by first seeing Christ in myself; Who sometimes forgets that the scandal of the Cross, the mystery of the Incarnation can have no other meaning but the eternal presence of Christ in me, in my life, and in the life of all.

I am a man –

Who – 50 years after Dr. Martin Luther King’s untimely and violent assassination – is now left to continue staring

directly at the evil of the human heart and mind, at human selfishness. The same ancient evil, deep evil and ultimate evil, the root of all evil behavior, which is expressed now as has always been in one human being’s hatred of another human being because of the color of their skin or for any other reason.

I am a man –

Who knows that, in spite of all this evil, in Dr. Martin Luther King’s death hides the mystery of Christ, the same great mystery of time that awaits us all: we will all try to overcome evil and we will succeed at times, but we also have to foresee the degree to which we will also fail; we will stand up, but we will also fall down, we will dream and we will fight nightmares, we will bleed for our fellow human beings, and often they will make us bleed, we will prepare to die for them and they may not care,

But each effort and sacrifice will fertilize this land of humanity which we were given, our bones will become the foundations of more building to come, and in all this Christ will work His own suffering and life-creating death from generation to generation, until He will have gained us all in the mystery of the age to come.

Finally, I am a man –

Who prays that the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King may be eternal, That the memory of Echol Cole and Robert Walker may be eternal, That the memories of Addie Mae Collins, Cynthia Wesley, Carol Robertson and Carol Denise McNair may be eternal, And that they, and all who have lost or given their lives for the cause of human dignity will partake in that mystery of the age to come that we behold on the Day of resurrection, when Christ in Victory trampled on death by His own voluntary death; and may all sing with St Gregory the Theologian:

Yesterday I was crucified with Christ, Today I am glorified with him; Yesterday I died with him, Today I am made alive with him; Yesterday I was buried with him, Today I rise with him. Let us make an offering to the one who died and rose again for us.... Let us offer our own selves, the possession most precious to God and closest to him. Let us give back to the Image that which is according to the image—recognizing our value, honoring the Archetype, knowing the power of the mystery and for whom Christ died.

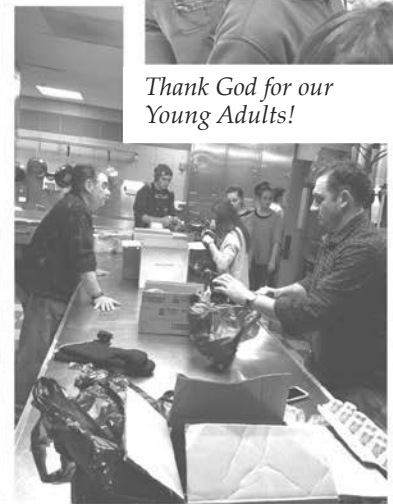
Amen



Bless the hands that have prepared this food.



Thank God for our Young Adults!



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. The next Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, May 15. 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 May 15, 5:30 p.m. for set up and 6:30 p.m. for serving.



GOYA News

On April 28, GOYA gathered at the Escape Room, in San Mateo. We had a good turnout. Led by Matia Kostakis, the group gathered at the B Street, San Mateo location for solving a series of puzzles and riddles using clues, hints and strategy to complete the objectives at hand. Meanwhile, earlier in the month, GOYA members got together to prepare palms for Palm Sunday. They took palm leaves or fronds and made crosses out of them. The cross, of course, is the Christian symbol for victory. And palms are reminiscent of some of the branches that the people cut and waved, welcoming Jesus as he entered Jerusalem some 2000 years ago on that first Palm Sunday. Together with a kind of bay leaf, more prevalent in Mediterranean countries, the crosses were distributed to the hundreds of faithful who came to church this Palm Sunday, April 1. It must be noted that members of GOYA (both boys and girls) participated in Holy Week services, from Good Friday, when the Myrrh bearers gave out flowers and the boys stood guard at the Epitaphios, to Pascha, when the Myrrh bearers received and distributed the light, and the boys disseminated the Paschal red eggs. We are proud of our youth!



Our trophy-winning High School team, shown with coaches Tom Nuris and Nick Kontonis

Senior Varsity Basketball

It's May Madness, (actually spring madness, now that we're well into spring) 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 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 May schedule is as follows:

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)
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@ 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

The mystery of Pentecost is the direct union with Providence of those things that are in its care. It is the union of nature with its principle, the Logos, under the guidance of Providence; and in this union there is not the slightest trace of time or generation.

– St. Maximos the Confessor

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

10:00HS	Holy Trinity	Annunciation
11:00HS	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

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

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday, May 20th@ Annunciation

2:00 Adult
3:00 High School





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

When, as promised, on the day of Pentecost the Paraclete made Himself present and the power of the Holy Spirit came to dwell in the souls of the apostles, the veil of sinfulness was once and for all removed from them, their passions were annulled and the eyes of their heart were opened. Henceforth they were filled with wisdom and made perfect by the

see next box

Young Adults

Our Young Adults are becoming increasingly involved in the life of the Church. They are worshipping 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 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 and Holy Council, which took place last year on the island of Crete, and especially its outreach to young adults around the world.



Dance Group News

The Annunciation 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.

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? Contact Lea Lyberopoulos at 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

TGI Pascha is the name of our annual Good Friday program for our Sunday School students. Our young people participate in various activities which aim at teaching them about the Lord's suffering and death, and which prepare them to better understand and appreciate His Resurrection.

This year, we began with the children having two different, age-appropriate art activities. The younger children were given a great introduction to the activity by Kalli Fousekis. She explained about The Royal Hours and how Jesus was crucified for us so our sins could be forgiven. Those children then participated in completing a Clock of the Royal Hours or Decorating a cross with a "Forgiven" banner. In turn, they viewed a video of the Easter story and colored a cross or other poster. We were so thankful that many parents stayed and helped the children with these activities.

The older students began Holy Week "wreath" with various illustrations and Bible verses for each important event during Holy Week, beginning with the events of Palm Sunday and going through Christ's Ascension to Heaven. They were very excited to work on this activity. The students will complete their projects during Sunday School, where they will have more time to read over the verses more carefully and discuss them with their Sunday School teachers.

see page 16



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from page 15

Following the craft activities, we assembled both groups and sang "Christos Anesti" and "Agios O Theos." We all enjoyed a wonderful Lenten luncheon, prepared by Grace Koutoulas and other volunteers.

Later, we went into church for the beautiful and solemn "Descent from the Cross" service. Many of the children sat in the front rows. It was so touching when Ecclesiarch Nectarios gathered them to help place the "shroud" over the body of Jesus as it was removed from the cross. Our boys and girls served as altar boys and angels and truly took part.

Overall, it was a very successful and beautiful morning and afternoon with our Sunday School Children. Thanks to all.





Greek School News

Greek School had its annual 25th of March celebration on Saturday, March 24th in the chapel with Fr. Stephen and all our wonderful families followed by coffee and Greek goodies. Our school resumes classes on April 14th. Thank you to Fr. Stephen for all his support. If you would like more information about our school, please contact Anthi Janssens at anthig@gmail.com. Our last day of school will be June 9th, 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 #3
 Nicholas Rally
 Nicholas Svetcoff
 Chris Ramos

Team #2 (Second Sunday
 Please)
 Paul Sogotis
 George Ambus
 Mike Sarikakis

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.



The Epitaphios each year is beautiful and unique, thanks to the efforts of our faithful volunteers



Father and Daughter: The dynamic Pappas duo

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 May is as follows:

- May 6 - Group 1
- May 13 - Group 2
- May 20 - Group 3
- May 27 - Group 4

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

Sacraments and Services

Baptisms

Vasiliana Adamantia, daughter of Dean & Marietta Moulas, was baptized April 21. Her sponsors are Denis and Eugenia Vorrises.

Iannis Christian, son of Theodore Andersen and Alexandra Kostoulas, was baptized April 28. His sponsor is Apollo Papafrangou.

Na Mas Zisoun! Long Life!

Marriage

The marriage of Dean Nick Moulas and Marietta Tetradi was blessed on April 21. Their sponsors are Angelo and Andriana Metaxas.

Na Mas Zisoun! Long Life!

Funerals

Charlotte Derdevanis, who fell asleep in the Lord on April 5, was buried on April 12. She is survived by her children, Philip and Georgette Derdevanis, her sister Frances, and her brother Arthur, and his family.

Tony Selianitis, who fell asleep in the Lord on April 11, was buried on April 23. He is survived by his mother Dorothy, his wife, Priscilla, their five children, as well as a new grandson, in addition to his siblings.

Aionia I Mnimi. Eternal Memory!

M A Y C A L E N D A R

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
						Greek School 10 a.m.
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Father Stephen Scott celebrating 12:30 p.m. Philoptochos 12:30 p.m. Dance practice 2 p.m. Basketball Games		Church basketball 7 p.m.	Church Basketball			Greek School 10 a.m. Mother's Day Luncheon & Fashion Show
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Orthros 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.		Community Kitchen 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Get-Together	Church Basketball	Ascension Liturgy in Oakland 10 a.m. Church Basketball 7 p.m.		Greek School 10 a.m. Church Basketball 10 a.m.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. Parish Council 2 p.m. Church Basketball	10 a.m. Sts. Constantine & Helen Liturgy in Vallejo					Greek School 10 a.m. Saturday of Souls Liturgy at Cathedral 10 a.m.
27	28	29	30	31		
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Holy Pentecost	Holy Trinity Liturgy at Holy Trinity, S.F. 10 a.m.					

Spirit: through Him they knew how to carry out God's will, and through Him they were initiated into all truth, for He directed and reigned in their souls. Thus, when we are brought to tears on hearing God's word, let us entreat Christ with unwavering faith and in the expectation that the Spirit, who truly hears and prays according to God's will and purpose, will indeed come to us.

-St. Makarios of Egypt.

UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF
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Annunciation Greek School Children, at the March 25th program.

