



# ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



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

OCTOBER 2017

## Our Festival: It's all About People

Friday, September 22, Saturday, September 23 and Sunday, September 24 were memorable. There was so much to do. People kept coming and coming. They socialized, they ate, they danced, they contributed. They took chapel tours, and learned something of our Orthodox Christian Faith. They watched the dance groups perform, and learned something of our Greek cultural heritage. Yes, we made money: over \$65,000 came in from the souvenir book ads, and, when all was said and done, we netted \$100,000 towards the support of our various parish ministries. But, in the end, it wasn't the souvlaki or the pastitsio or the gyro. It wasn't the fact that we



*Time to roll the dolmades. First came two, then four women. Within the hour, a team 30-strong assembled and, what was to have been a two-day project, was over with in just a few hours. The amazing power of team work!*

could pay the bank one or two months. Or the contractors. It was really all about community building. For, this is what we do here in the Mission, in the heart of the City. We reach out to everyone

and share with them the love of God. For, as a parish and as the Church, we are a family, called "from among the Gentiles" to share the Good News of joy, peace, and salvation. Και του χρόνου!

## Building Update: In the Home Stretch for the Exterior!

Getting there and, quite honestly, we can't wait for it to finish. However, with the current building boom in San Francisco, the Contractor is having trouble getting subs to do the work. We're in the home stretch, though for, given the challenges of getting workers and coming up with the money to pay our contractor, we are, nevertheless, nearing completion of the exterior. We are also about a month away from receiving a Conditional Use Permit to enable us to secure a third-party operator



to run the parking. As for the interior: we hope to begin the upper wall installation by the end of 2017. However, in order for us to continue, we need your prayers and your continued financial support. As noted, some \$4 million is needed for the interior (note the above laser graphic). Those parishioners and friends of the Cathedral who have made pledges to the Capital Campaign, but who have outstanding pledge balances, are being asked to make good

on your pledges by the end of 2017. We have about \$600,000 in outstanding pledges, which is a significant sum. It's about 10% of the total amount of pledges to the Capital Campaign. Those with outstanding pledges have been notified, by snail mail statements and, in most cases, also by e mail. Members of the Parish Council followed up with phone calls, offering thanks and encouragement. Let's all join together and finish what we've begun.

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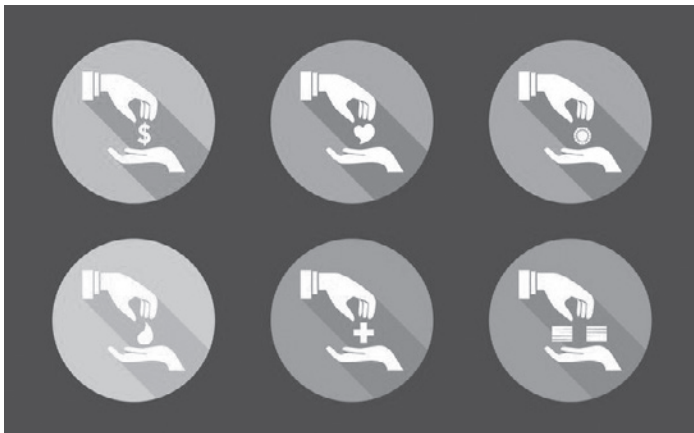
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## A Mural on the Back Wall

A mural on the Stevenson Street wall, shown above, got considerable attention when it was printed in the September Herald. People actually loved it. We noted how the purpose of doing a mural was to thwart graffiti, which has become a perennial problem along Stevenson Street. You no sooner paint over the graffiti and, almost overnight, it reappears. We also noted how in other parts of the City and, notably, in the Mission, the issue is being addressed by painting murals. So much so that they attract tourists, who come and admire them, photograph them, and share them on Facebook and other social media outlets. We shared how Peter Misthos will engage the artists and oversee the work. We're very excited. The work will cost about \$30,000. We are looking for a "godparent," i.e. someone to underwrite the cost of doing the mural. Surely, someone out there would like to "adopt" this project, knowing that you not only helped the Cathedral thwart graffiti behind the new Cathedral by put-



ting up a mural, some 90 feet wide by 12 feet tall, but that you are making a significant artistic contribution to the City of San Francisco. As one can readily see, the mural shows another, much older City, located on original Golden Gate! We're referring, of course, to the City of Constantinople as it appeared some centuries ago—the City where our Mother Church, the Ecumenical Patriarchate is located. We expect to begin the mural as soon as the stucco has been applied to the wall, i.e. within the next few weeks. For further information, please call Father Stephen, [fatherstephen@annunciation.org](mailto:fatherstephen@annunciation.org).



## Would You Consider Donating \$1 Million? (Redux)

Back when Father Scott was helping us raise money to begin rebuilding the Cathedral, at one of the meetings where we were discussing holding a gala-type event, we recall his saying:

"If we can get someone to donate \$1 million, that would electrify the community." He used these very words. Since then, we worked in earnest to raise the money to rebuild,

and we did, in fact, raise that single donation of \$1 million. In fact, it was over \$1 million. It came from the late Katherine Costopoulos. May God rest her soul, as we remember her among the "Founders and Benefactors of this Holy Church." The time is now come when we are poised to receive another single gift in the amount of \$1 million (or more), towards the rebuilding of the Cathedral. We've been cultivating a few individuals and can only pray that this will come about. There are a number of people in the Greek Orthodox community who are in a position to make this kind of gift, if they are so inclined. The project itself is compelling. First, it's about the rebuilding of a church. But, it's also about "making firm" our presence as a faith community and as a cultural community, in the heart of the City. At a time when mega buildings are rising, at an unprecedented rate, making an important contribution to the City's skyline. At a time when the vibrancy of youth is re-energizing the City's neighborhoods. At a time when an optimism about the future abounds (despite the many challenges facing our society). Precisely at this time, God is enabling a church to be built, to be a beacon of hope and reconciliation. For, that is what our faith is all about, the gathering of the nations of the earth into one household, where "Christ is all and in all" (Colossians 3:11). So, again, and again, the question: would you consider donating \$1 million?

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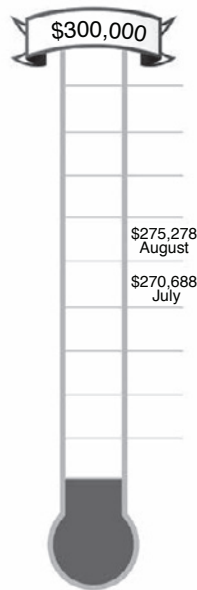
## Lending the Cathedral \$1 Million?

The previous article states there are people in the Greek Orthodox community who are in a position to making a significant monetary contribution towards the rebuilding of the Cathedral. Recently, a suggestion was made that 4 to 6 people lend the Cathedral \$1 million each—interest free—, so as to enable the rebuilding to continue, but also, to enable the Cathedral to save the \$22,000 a month it's paying the Bank, in interest alone! This could be a win-win for all. Those who may wish to consider this kind of assistance are invited to discuss this first with their financial planners and advisors. The potential is there. And the time for us to do something about it is now.

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## Making Good on/Paying Off Your Building Fund Pledge

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, and you responded generously. Some of you made a one-time payment; others made a 5-year pledge. Most of those who made a 5-year pledge have made good on your pledge and we thank you. This has enabled us to break ground and 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. But, we overcame these delays. And then there were cost overruns. And the monthly interest from the Bank, to the tune of \$22,000. And the annual balloon payment, to the tune of \$400,000. (We barely made it this year, but we were able to pay it.) Now, our Capital Campaign fund is down to its last \$100,000 and here we have a total of about \$600,000 outstanding on Capital Campaign pledges. It's really a no-brainer. Our Parish Council has been charged with the responsibility of reaching out to those with outstanding balances, asking them to consider accelerating their payments, if possible, or, in the case of those whose payments have fallen behind, to make good on their pledges. This will enable us to go on in earnest to complete the outside of the building, so that we can utilize the courtyard, and also begin using the parking component. By now, those with outstanding pledges have been contacted by a member of the Parish. We thank you for the courtesy you afforded them and also for making arrangements to complete your gift.



## Parking: Just a Few Days to Go

Parking for up to 70 cars has been available in the lot behind the Cathedral, at 334 14th Street and on the street. Stewards of the Cathedral are charged only \$5 to park, by showing their discount card; the Cathedral picks up \$7 of the parking cost for Stewards.

This parking arrangement with the lot behind the Cathedral is about to end, as our own parking structure gets up and running. As previously noted, we intend to have a third-party operator run our lot, which will be available to the public when not in use by the church. For this, a conditional use permit is required. We are waiting for approval from the City Planning Department to enable us to proceed. We had noted the hearing for this will take place the first week in October. However, the Planning Department informed us, as this issue of the Herald was going to press, that the hearing will, in fact, take place in November. Please pray that the hearing goes well. This is the second of four steps we need to take before we are able to access the parking component. The third step is the inspection of the elevator, which has, at last, has been installed and finalization of a clear path of travel, enabling people who park in the lot to surface, by elevator or by stairs, into the lobby and to proceed either to the offices, classrooms and community center via the covered archway, or through the gate and onto Valencia Street .

*The following Greek expressions and names are commonly used and easily learned Some of the expressions are particularly colorful. For example, people wish an engaged couple, "Kala Stephana" (good crowning) in reference to the crowns put on the heads of the bride and groom during the wedding service. An expectant mother may be wished "Kali lefteria," implying "safe delivery," but literally meaning, "good liberation." Good luck! – or as the Greeks say, "Kali tichi!"*

*(see following boxes)*



## X Marks the Spot!

Back in 1997, His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew broke ground for the new Cathedral and lay the corner stone. You may recall, it was at the bottom of the steps leading to the parking lot, right next to an evergreen tree. Well, today, the cornerstone has been placed on the exact spot where the Patriarch

broke ground. It is located in the current courtyard, just to the west of the north doors of the new Cathedral. It reads: His All Holiness Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch, laid the cornerstone of this Annunciation Cathedral Church to the glory of God during the Episcopacy of the Right Reverend Bishop Anthony of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of San Francisco and the pastorate of the Reverend Stephen H. Kyriacou, on the sixth of November, in the year of our Lord 1997. (Recall, in 1997, the Diocese had not yet been elevated to a Metropolis.)



*One of the workers, securing the cornerstone.*

## 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 (Stelios in Altar)  
 Dean Nicolacakis

### Team #2 (Second Sunday Please)

Paul Sogotis (Panayioti & Yianni in Altar)  
 George Ambus (Christopher in Altar)  
 Katina Kostoulas

### Team #3

Nicholas Rally (Demetri in Altar)

Nicholas Svetcoff  
 Chris Ramos

### Team #4

Manoli Nuris (Mathew in Altar)  
 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.

### *[Wishes for] Special Occasions*

*Baptism Na sas zisi (May he/she live for you)  
 Na zisi (May he/she live)  
 Na mas zisi  
 (May he/she live for us...s  
 aid among family members only)*



## Sunday OIKOS Lecture Series News

We began our Lecture series in January this year with a talk by Dr. Katina Kostoulas, a clinical psychologist and member of our Parish Council, and head of OIKOS, on The Role of the Family in the Spiritual Development of Children. In March, we heard from a group of educators, headed by Dr. Barbara Karvelis, on the group's experiences working with Syrian and other refugees in Lesbos Greece. We are very sensitive to the situation there, in view of the present economy of Greece, and we are not interested in engaging in politics. Just to be of help, as the local authorities decide.

Then, on June 11 Carl Andrew Wiener read poems which he had composed, poems entitled "For Euripides," "Of the Diktean Cave," "On the Acropolis, Looking South," and "Poor Thucydides," to name a few. On September 9, we will hear from Alexander Kozak, on the topic of "holy fools" (yes, there is such a topic!). The actual title for his talk is "Holy Fools in the Byzantine Empire." On October 8, Dr. Steven Harris will be our guest speaker (see below). Following, we are trying to secure Professor George Kordis, the iconographer who will write the icons for our new Cathedral, is scheduled to come and speak to us prior to the end of the year, depending upon his travel schedule.

At the same time, we are hoping to self-publish the talks which will have been presented since the inception of the program. In addition to the above, we have had talks on parenting, the Theology of St. Maximos the Confessor, the Prayer Rope, as well as Byzantine Chanting. The lectures are about 20 to 30 minutes long with about 20 minutes for dialogue form the participants with the presenter and each other. They are meant to be informative, engaging and inspiring.

As noted above, our speaker for Sunday, October 8 is Dr. Steven Harris. Below is Dr. Harris' bio.

### **Steven-John Michael Harris, PhD**

Attends The Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos Serbian Orthodox Church in Irvine, CA

### **Education**

PhD, Psychology, U.S. International University (now Alliant International University), San Diego, CA, 1990.

### **Training**

Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Certificate, Newport Psychoanalytic Institute, Tustin, CA. Awarded May, 2011.  
Jungian Psychotherapy Certificate, American Behavioral Studies Institute, Santa Ana, CA. 2000.

### **Positions**

Director, Center For Depth Psychology, Newport Beach, CA. Continuing Education providing CE's in Psychoanalytic and Jungian thought. 2002-2005.  
Clinical Coordinator of "Learning Solutions," a clinic providing assessment, diagnosis and treatment for learning disabilities and attention deficit disorder, 1991-1993.  
Co-Director (1/2014-12/15). Psychoanalytic Study Center of Southern California. Tustin, CA  
Clinical Director (4/97-5/2002). Center for Individual and Family Therapy. Orange, CA  
Board of Directors. (5/92-8/94). Served on the board of Mercy House Transitional Living Center (Homeless Shelter), Santa Ana, CA.

### **Academic**

Associate Professor of Psychology and Family Therapy (1/93-4/96), California Graduate Institute, Orange, CA. Taught courses in Intelligence Testing, Personality Assessment, Projective Testing, Neuropsychological Assessment, Psychopathology and Family Dynamics, Adult and Child Psychopathology, Clinical Practicum, Developmental Psychology, Suicide and Crisis Intervention.  
Adjunct Professor of Psychology, Southern California College, Costa Mesa, CA. Courses taught: Introduction to Psychology, History & Systems of Psychology.  
Adjunct Professor of Psychology, Rosemead School of Professional Psychology, BIOLA University, La Mirada, CA. Course taught: Introduction to Neuropsychological Assessment (Spring, 1996).

### **Research and Publications**

Doctoral dissertation. "A Psychophysiological Investigation of Two Subtypes of Attention Deficit Disorders." Dissertation Abstracts International.  
"Neuropsychological and Psychophysiological Differentiation of Inattention/Overactivity and Aggression/Defiance Symptom Groups." Keith McBurnett, Ph.D., Steven M. Harris, Ph.D., James M. Swanson, Ph.D., Linda J. Pfiffner, Ph.D., Leanne Tamm & Darryl Freeland, Ph.D. Journal of Clinical Child Psychology, 1993, Vol. 22, No. 2, 165-171.

### **Awards**

Distinguished Professor Award. California Graduate Institute, for the academic year, 1993.  
Distinguished Professor Award. American Behavioral Studies Institute, for the academic year, 2002.

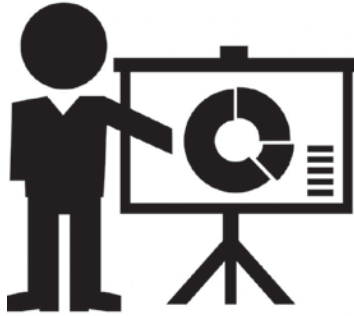
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## Introduction to Orthodoxy

### 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 October the class will meet on October 1 and October 22, in November on November 5 and November 12 and in December on December 3 and December 10. The class meets in the conference room on the second floor, beginning at 9 a.m.

#### *[Wishes for] Special Occasions*

*Birthday*      *Chronia polla (many years)*  
*Ke tou chronou (And to next year)*  
*Na ta katostisis or na ta ekatostisis*  
*(May you live to be a hundred)*

## Young Adult Fall Retreat

Join Orthodox Young Adults from across the West Coast for the Metropolis Young Adult Fall Retreat at St. Nicholas Ranch & Retreat Center September 29-October 1, 2017. Young Adults from all Orthodox traditions are welcome to attend! Make sure to register before we sell out!

We are excited to announce that our keynote speaker will be Fr. Barnabas Powell speaking on the theme of "Growing Orthodoxy in America". He is a well-known name on Ancient Faith, and it is a huge honor to have him with us! Arrive early on Friday September 29 from 4:30pm-6:30pm for a special book signing and enjoy sweet tea on the patio with Fr. Barnabas for a little taste of the South!

Fr. Barnabas Powell is a prolific author, blogger, and podcaster. He has worked in Christian ministry for his entire life and one of his talents is creatively using media to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To this end, in addition to his full-time position as a parish priest, Fr. Barnabas founded Faith Encouraged Ministries and developed a 16-session video introduction to the Orthodox Church, A Journey to Fullness. As a convert to the Orthodox Christian Faith, Fr. Barnabas is passionate about helping others find the Church and growing in Christ. Learn more at <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/faithencouraged/>

We will spend time having discussions and fellowship at St. Nicholas Ranch, as well as visit and help the Sisters at the Monastery of the Life-Giving Spring with a work project on Saturday afternoon. Saturday night we will head down to the lake and feature a Talent Show and campfire, so bring your musical instruments and creativity!

**DATE:**  
Friday September 29 - October 1, 2017

**LOCATION:**  
St. Nicholas Ranch & Retreat Center, Dunlap, CA

**COST:**  
\$140 for a Dorm Room (cabins with multiple bunk beds)  
\$180 for Double Occupancy Lodge Room (hotel style room with two queen beds)  
\$250 for Single Occupancy Lodge Room (hotel style room)

**ONLINE REGISTRATION:** [www.gosfyouth.org](http://www.gosfyouth.org)

**AGES:** College Students & Young Adults

**ARRIVAL TIME:** Arrivals begin at 4:30pm on Friday  
**DEPARTURE TIME:** 12:30pm on Sunday

## What's the Big Deal About Stewardship?

Well, it is a big deal because this is how we support the Church. We make an annual pledge to support the Church's programs and ministries. We do so in accordance with our means. We do so commensurate with our faith. If we believe in the work of the Church, we give. If we don't, we don't give, or we give nominally. We are pleased to share with you that financial Stewardship pledge income received in 2017, so far, is shaping up to be the highest in recent history. Which means the faith of our parishioners is strong, that you want to see the Cathedral strong and thriving. Hopefully, this trend continues throughout 2017. As of July 31, 299 of our 350 Stewardship units (families, for the most part), have sent in their 2017 Stewardship pledge, which totals \$275,278, so far, for the support of the Cathedral's ministries. While this amount is essentially only about half of what it takes to keep the Cathedral operating, the level of support is promising. The average pledge amount has increased over recent years and that is a testimony to your commitment. The average pledge amount for 2016 was \$845 (as compared to \$782 in 2013). As of this writing, it is \$921. With this level of support, it looks like we will exceed our Stewardship goal of \$300,000. We thank you for your continued support, your love for the Lord and His people, and your unwavering dedication to the Annunciation Cathedral. God bless you.

STEWARDSHIP DATA	2013	2015	2016	2017	LAST MONTH/THIS MONTH
Number of Pledges	322	351	343	299	294/299
Pledged Dollars	\$251,670	\$299,637	\$289,989	\$275,278	\$270,688/\$275,278
Outstanding Balances 2017				\$62,849	\$73,179/\$62,849
Average Pledge	\$782.00	\$854.00	\$845	\$921.00	\$921/\$921
Number of pledges at 1000.00 or above				113	110/113**
Number of pledges between 601 and 999				29	28/29
Number of pledges at 600.00 and below				156	150/156
Number of individual 2016 pledges that have not pledged for 2017 to date				76	82/76

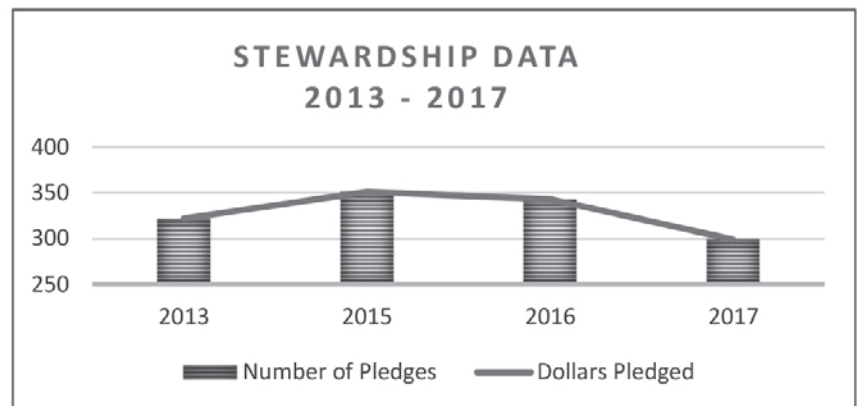
Period ending July 31, 2017

\*\*37% of Total Pledges

### % Change TY/LY to Date

Number of Pledges	-2%
Pledged Dollars	2.0%
Average Pledge	6.0%

**Unique 2017 Pledges :**  
(no pledge 2013 - 2016)





*Thanks to those who prepared this food, those who serve it.*



*They keep coming and coming. What's wrong with this disconnect? In the most affluent corner of the corner, if not the world, hunger persists! We pause to thank God that, in this small way, feeding people, we find ourselves engaged in prayer. We find ourselves counting our blessings. We find ourselves thankful that we can go out of our way and do something to help others.*

## 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 October, Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, October 17. On this day, our Young Adults will be joined by members of our GOYA, under the direction of Matia Kostakis. The teen group's participation is part of its community service program. Won't you join them?

### *Marriage*

*Na zisete eftyhismeni (Live happily); Na zisete (Long life)*

*Na mas zisete (May they live for us—said among family members only)*

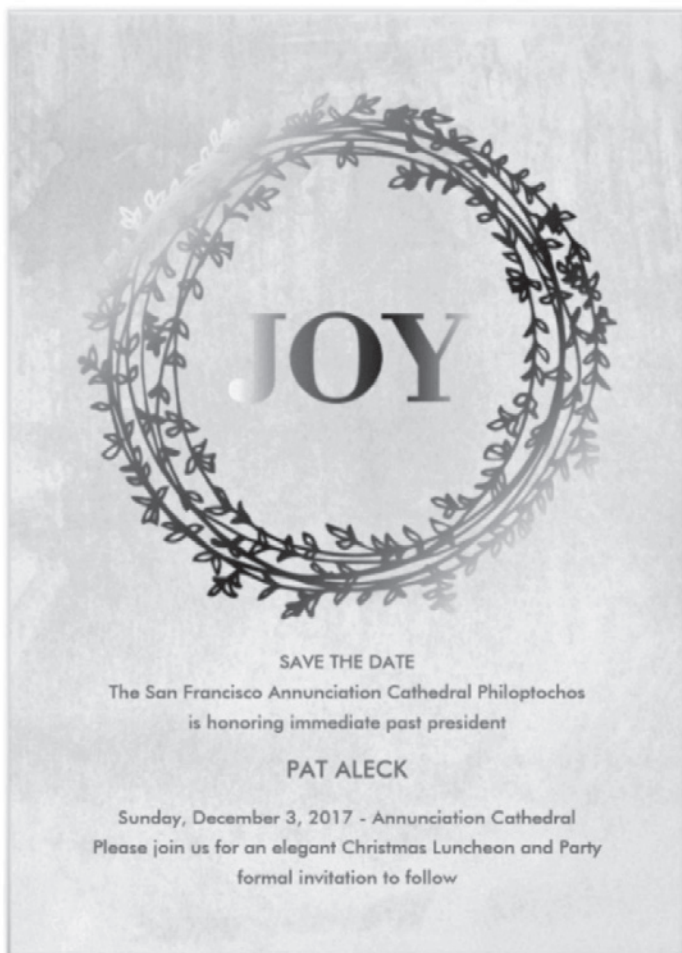
*Syncharitiria (Congratulations)*

*Ke sta thika sou (And at yours [wedding]—said to single women and men)*

*Ke sta pethia sou/sas (May your children get married and to theirs—*

*said to married couples with children [formal/informal])*





## Save the Date: Date Change: to December 3

Originally, the date for honoring Patricia Aleck, immediate past president of Philoptochos, was November 5. Now, however, it has been rescheduled to Sunday, December 3. On Sunday, December 3, following the Divine Liturgy, the Annunciation Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos will honor Patricia Aleck for her outstanding presidency. The hall will be “dressed up” for Christmas, and the event will take on the characteristic of a joyous fête, as the Save the Date card, above, conveys. As it should, for we are preparing to celebrate the Birth of our Lord. We are also celebrating the spirit of service and generosity, which Pat embodies. Her love for her Church and her life-long dedication to the Cathedral—as a Parish Council member, as Stewardship chair, as Parish Council President, as Philoptochos member and as Philoptochos President. A lifetime of devoted service! We are confident everyone will want to be a part of this celebration. The event will benefit the Building Fund so, save the date: that’s Sunday, December 3.



*Vicki Holloway (Carnegis) shown holding a school kit checklist, inviting school children to participate in the response to the recent catastrophic hurricanes, which devastated Caribbean islands and wreaked havoc on Texas and Florida.*

## Philoptochos Spearheads Hurricane Relief Efforts, Vicki Holloway (Carnegis)’ Personal Testimony

Vicki Holloway (Carnegis) shown holding a school kit checklist, inviting school children to participate in the response to the recent catastrophic hurricanes, which devastated Caribbean islands and wreaked havoc on Texas and Florida.

The full text of Vicki’s document, read at a recent meeting of the Philoptochos, is as follows:

Hurricane Harvey was catastrophic to so many different areas along the coast and surrounding areas in my home state of Texas.

Alan (Harrell’s nephew) and his family 5 Children were under tornadoes warnings for 8 hours they were coming so often, they spent the night in a closet. they were okay, but received mandatory evacuation order, concerned that the Brazos river would flood the neighborhood. Left their house and headed North with clothes for their 5 children and water wings and floaters in case they got stuck in high water. They were lucky, when thy got home water did not flood the

*see page 10*

from page 9

house, and roof damage just a lake in the back yard. David (Harrell's nephew) and his family were in a tornado, trampoline went through one of the bedrooms, their house suffered water damage and flooding in their house. They had to evacuate.

50 families from the Annunciation Cathedral lost everything. One of my friends (Patricia Economides) Yia Yia was airlifted so she could get medical help.

One of my Mom's associates at works daughter and son on law live in Port Arthur, (direct hit) they evacuated and came to Dallas. When they drove back to check on their apartment, everything had to be disposed. She had a collection of autographed books that were destroyed along with mementoes, they were newlyweds. Staying with friends, until they can find permanent place to live. Her car when she opened it water came pouring out and has been totaled.

There are so many similar stories to these, now the rebuilding begins.

The stories above are about monetary loss. I was speaking to my husband the other night and he told me about the Spa Manager, Jill at the Omni Houston. She was helping a guest get to safety since the hotel was flooding and she did not make it out. They found her body in the flooded hotel after a few days.

The ask of raising money and collected school supplies started for Harvey but now with the second deadly and destructive hurricane (Irma) it becomes helping those both in both Texas and those impacted by Irma.

The Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos is spearheading the Cathedral community's relief efforts.

Memorial	<i>Eonia I mnimi (Eternal be [his/her ]memory)</i>
Misfortune was written)	<i>Etsi itan grafto (That's the way fate</i>
Name Day	<i>Chronia polla (Many years) Ke tou chronou (And to next year)</i>
New Year	<i>Chronia polla (Many years) Kali chronia (Good year)</i>
Pregnant woman	<i>Kali leftheria (Safe delivery)</i>
Saturday of souls	<i>See "Memorial" above</i>
Sneeze mal/informal)	<i>Yia sou/sas (To your health—formal/informal)</i>

## Philoptochos Congratulates Foula Vasilogiorgis, Vaso Moulas

Congratulations to Foula Vasilogiorgis, who has been elected District Governor of the Golden Gate, District 21, Daughters of Penelope.

Philoptochos also congratulates Vaso Moulas, who has accepted the role of Lieutenant Governor.



Foula and Vaso are shown in the photo below, following their election.

We are very proud of both of you.

We wish you the very best and much success in your new positions.

Foula and Vaso are shown in the photo above, following their election.



## Waiting for the New School

The Private School community in San Francisco is, probably because it is relatively small, also closely knit. The phone rang off the hook after Sterne School decided to relocate. The calls came from various schools—startups as well as established schools, which were looking for a new, more “permanent” home. Most stopped by to view our facilities, to see whether what we have to offer is a good fit for them. Over and over again, we heard how the Cathedral's location is perfectly suited, how it's easily accessible for folks coming over the Golden Gate Bridge, and the Bay Bridge, as well as those coming up from the Peninsula. We also heard how beautifully laid out our classrooms are. As for our gym, we were told over and over again how fabulous it is. As this issue of the Herald went to Productive Printing for formatting and printing, on August 16, we were in contact negotiations with one of the schools. The school had signed a contract at another facility in the City, but is getting out of that contract to relocate here. They plan to start school in January 2018. Until the contract is signed, we opt not to share any particulars, but will let you know in the November Herald. (We expect that things will have been finalized by then.) Meanwhile, San Francisco Waldorf High School, which began at the Cathedral some years ago, by adding one high school class at a time, still uses out gym after school hours, for their athletic program. We have enjoyed the long-time relationship with Waldorf and are looking forward to the new school's arrival.

## YOUTH NEWS



### GOYA News

We learn, we pray, and we play. Shown above, and below, are photos of GOYA's summer game day in Burlingame. It is GOYA's intention to have one activity of each month. Matia Kostakis, our GOYA Advisor, invites both participation and ideas for activities. The following dates have been designated as GOYA activity dates. If you have ideas for some of these, please pass them along and we can work out a plan for each. Also, there has been a request to have GOYA help with the Mother's Day brunch. This will be a first!

#### Here the dates so far:

Tuesday, October 17th - Volunteer at Soup Kitchen 5pm

Sunday, November 5th, 3pm - Thanksgiving Activity at church (ideas?)

Sunday, December 10th 3:30pm - Christmas Activity (Ideas?)

January - break due to basketball and FDF.

Sunday, February 25th 1pm - February post ski week activity (ideas?)

Saturday, March 17th, 2pm - March Activity (ideas?)

Saturday, March 31st, 1pm - Palm making at church

April - break due to Easter

Saturday, May 5th, 1pm - End of year BBQ at Washington Park

For more information about our teen group, please contact Matia Kostakis, by e mail at [matiak23@gmail.com](mailto:matiak23@gmail.com) or by phone at 781-789-8611.



### All Events Calendar on the Web Site!

Yeah! As noted in the September Herald, we now have a "global" calendar, accessible to all, on our web site, [www.annunciation.org](http://www.annunciation.org). By "global" we mean that all events which go on at the Cathedral, including worship, meetings, games and practices for the church, practices and game times for Waldorf, and classroom and extracurricular events for the new school, all now appear on the "global" calendar. Want to know what's going on? Go to the web site. Scroll down to the calendar, on the bottom right. Click on any day and, voila! You see what's going on, any given day. Or, if you want to look ahead: simply click on the arrow and you can view what's going on for an entire month. The wonderful thing about it is, as soon as a calendar event is created at the Cathedral office, within a very short time it also appears on the "global" calendar. This was done in an effort to keep you, our parishioners, better informed as to what is taking place in your parish.



## Dance Group News

### Greek Dancing in the heart of San Francisco

After performing at our amazing festival in September, the Annunciation Cathedral Greek folk dance groups are hard at work preparing for the 2018 annual Folk Dance Festival. Although our groups are currently closed to new dancers from October 1st until after FDF in January, we would love to speak with prospective dancers and parents about joining our program next year.

The members of the Annunciation dance family are thrilled this year to represent the Cathedral in our home town for the 42nd annual Greek Orthodox Folk Dance & Choral Festival (FDF), which will take place January 11-14, 2018 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in San Francisco, CA! One third of parishes that participate in FDF are located near the Bay Area. Additionally, San Francisco is home to the Metropolis of San Francisco, which has supported FDF since 1976. We are excited to bring this event to back to Northern California, an area so connected to the FDF community!

The Cathedral's award winning dance program consists of experienced and dedicated directors, talented dancers, and supportive families and community. All groups are currently open to new dancers for a limited time. Our program encompasses everyone from five years old to young adult. Please contact Lea Lyberopoulos at karthia808@yahoo.com for more information.

**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 Mithos 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

FDF information

FDF website [www.yourfdf.org](http://www.yourfdf.org)

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FolkDanceFestival/>

Instagram and Twitter @yourfdf

Snapchat @Your\_FDF

- Your 2018 FDF Management Team and FDF Board of Trustees **Hotel Room Reservation Information**  
A special FDF room rate of \$195 per night has been secured for FDF participants.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\* When making hotel reservations under the FDF room block, the hotel will charge a non-refundable deposit of one night's room rate PER ROOM at the time of booking.** This is required by the hotel – you will be charged the amount of your first night hotel room. No exceptions.

To reserve a hotel room with the FDF room rate, go to: [www.yourfdf.org](http://www.yourfdf.org)

NB: Adult Group in the Making

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## Sunday School News

*“Of all holy works, the education of children is the most holy.”*

*~Saint Theophan the Recluse*

For the upcoming School year, Brittany Dhawan, our current music teacher, is now going to be the director. She is very much looking forward to an invigorated new year as we take up the vital ministry of teaching our faith to the children and youth of the parish. The music class will also continue this upcoming year with new assistance from our own Evan Boukidis, and with new tools. We are still looking for new volunteers to help with special occasions in Sunday School throughout the year and for new teachers.

As we look forward to the start of the new Sunday School year for 2017-2018, which will start on September 10th, I would like to encourage the parents and grandparents that bring their children to Sunday School to set a new goal this year to come as often as possible. To be able to fully use the one hour a week of the classes we would like to encourage the children to arrive by 10:30.

We had a parent - teacher meeting on May 21st discussing our new attendance policy for Sunday School, and requested feedback about changing the time slot of Sunday School. Since many of the parents were not able to make the May meeting we will be holding a second meeting on August 27th. On that Sunday we will start the enrollment of the children to start to organize the classes and teachers for the upcoming year. Sunday school will not be in session the weekend of the Festival, September 22-24. Though we are also not in session for Sunday School during the summer, we encourage all parents to

bring their children to liturgy to worship together.

- The first day of the 2017-2018 Sunday School Year is September 10
- August 27th - Cleaning Day with the Teachers
- September 10th - Sunday School Start
- September 24th - No Sunday School - Festival 22-24
- October 22 - Unicef Halloween Boxes distributed
- October 29 - Unicef Halloween Boxes received / counted
- December 17th - Christmas Pageant
- March 25th – Feast of the Annunciation - Godparents Sunday - Godparents come to Sunday School with children
- April 1st - Palm Sunday
- April 6th - TGI Pascha
- April 8th - Pascha
- June 3rd - End of School Year

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## Greek School News

Greek school has begun. Our hours stay the same: we begin at 10 am and we end 12:15 pm, every Saturday. (Vacation dates are noted). We always welcome new students, whether they speak the language, a little or a lot, or whether they don't speak Greek at all. That's why we're here. The tuition remains the same. It's \$500.00 for the year..

If you need more information about our program, or would like a registration form, please contact Anthi Janssens at [anthigj@gmail.com](mailto:anthigj@gmail.com) or 415 254-5458. You may also obtain a registration form by contacting the Cathedral office, at 415 864-8000.



'Like' Annunciation Cathedral Sunday School!

### Y2 AM Ministry Plan

[Y2am.org/Ministry Plan](http://Y2am.org/MinistryPlan)

(We just threw in the above to see how many of you will click on the above to see what it's all about. Hint: those who do so will not be disappointed.)



*San Francisco Greek Food Festival a success!  
See the November edition of the Herald for more photos and thoughts about the festival.*

## 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](mailto: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 OCTOBER is as follows:

- OCTOBER 1 - GROUP 1
- OCTOBER 8 - GROUP 2
- OCTOBER 15 - GROUP 3
- OCTOBER 22 - GROUP 4
- OCTOBER 29 - GROUP 1

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](mailto:erz.raptiszarou@gmail.com)

### Sacraments and Services

#### Chrismation

Carla Daniela Ayarza was received into the Church through the sacrament of Chrismation, on August 20. She took the name Anastasia. Her sponsor is Dr. Nikolas Stathopoulos.

#### Wedding

The marriage of Justin Constantine Kyriacou and Carla Daniela (Anastasia) Ayarza was celebrated on September 15. Their Sponsor is John Theodore Lampros.

Na Mas Zisoun! (Long Life!)

#### Funeral

Helen Nicklas fell asleep in the Lord on September 17. She was laid to rest on September 26. Helen is survived by her children, Nick Nicklas and Sophia Nicklas, and her children.

Gus (Konstantinos) Vardakastanis, who fell asleep in the Lord on September 22, was buried September 29. He is survived by his wife, Georgia, his sons, Dimitri and Bobby, and their families.

Aionia I Mnimi! (Eternal Memory!)

#### Condolences

The Cathedral extends condolences to Lester Pezo and his family, upon the falling asleep of his mother, Rosa Amelia Pezo, September 15.

Nick Verreos, who fell asleep in the Lord on September 22, was buried September 26. He is survived by his wife, Adrienne and his children Anthony, Christopher and Connie.

Aionia I Mnimi! (Eternal Memory!)

# O C T O B E R C A L E N D A R

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.; Dance Practice 12:30 p.m. Philoptochos 12:30 p.m.					Dance practice, 6:15 p.m.	
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.; Dance Practice 12:30 p.m. OIKOS Lecture: Dr. Steven Harris			Basketball practice 7 p.m.	Basketball practice 7 p.m.	Dance practice, 6:15 p.m.	Greek School 10 a.m.
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.; Dance Practice 12:30 p.m.		Community Kitchen (GOYA assisting) 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Get- Together 8:30 p.m.	Basketball practice 7 p.m.	Basketball practice 7 p.m.	Dance practice, 6:15 p.m.	Greek School 10 a.m.
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.; Dance Practice 12:30 p.m. Parish Council 12:30 p.m.			Basketball practice 7 p.m.	St. Demetrios, Liturgy 10 a.m. Basketball practice 7 p.m.	Dance practice, 6:15 p.m.	Greek School 10 a.m.
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				
Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.; Dance Practice 12:30 p.m. Parish Assembly 12:30 p.m.						

*Bon appetite*    *Kali orexi (pron. Oreksi)*

*Christmas*    *Kala Christougenna (Good Christmas)*

*Death*    *Zoi se sas (Life to you—said to mourning family only)*

*Zoi se mas (Life to us—said among mourners)*

*Syllipitiria (Condolences)*

*O Theos na ton/tin synchoresi (God forgive him/her)*

*O Theos na ton/tin anapafsi (Go rest his/her soul)*

*Ester*    *Kalo Pascha (Happy Ester)*

*—said before Easter)*

*Kali Anastasi (Good Resurrection—said after*

*Good Friday service)*

*Christos Anesti (Christ has risen—said after*

*Anastasi service)*

*Responses: Alithos anesti (Truly He is risen) or*

*Alithos o Kirios (Truly the Lord)*

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

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*Remember this mosaic? Study it closely and see whether this early Christian mosaic might have a place in the new Cathedral.*

