



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



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MAY 2015



STEEL SIGNING TO TAKE PLACE JUNE 14: EVERYONE IS INVITED TO SIGN THE STEEL!

Steel signing will take place on Sunday, June 14, following the Divine Liturgy. What is steel signing? It's an opportunity for all the members and friends of the Annunciation Cathedral to sign their names on the red-iron steel that forms the frame for the new Cathedral. Your names will remain indelibly written on the steel, which will subsequently be covered over by the exterior as well as the interior walls of the Cathedral. McNely Construction, our contractors, has informed us that June 14 is the opportune time for this to take place, as most of the steel will be in place by then. The next day, welding of the steel will continue and the metal studs will begin being put into place. This will make it hazardous to go onto the site at another time and virtually impossible to access the steel, since the studs, and eventually, the walls, will be covering the steel.

As of Pascha (April 12), we had about 25 truckloads (out of 33) of red-iron steel yet to be delivered. The steel for the transept on the northern side and the apse, meanwhile, has been put in place, as has some of the steel of transept at the southern side. As noted above, the placement of the studs will follow the installation of the

red-iron steel. Decking will follow the placement of the studs, as will the building of the exterior walls. September 15 is the target date for completion of the metal stud installation.

Prior to the signing on June 14, a service of *aghiasmos* (blessing of the waters) will take place. Everyone will be given a marker that will bear the logo of the Annunciation and the words: Building the Annunciation Cathedral to the glory of God! Steel-signing June 14, 2015. (The markers are yours to keep.) Then, we will all go outside in procession, led by our clergy, our choirs and our altar servers. After everyone has had an opportunity to sign, we will convene in the Korinthias Hall (our community center) for a reception (refreshments and finger food). We look forward to welcoming all of you on June 14.

Question: Why is the vertical steel called "red-iron?"
Look for the answer, located somewhere in the present issue of the Herald.



**WHAT DOES MY GIFT TO THE BUILDING FUND REALLY AMOUNT TO OVER A FIVE YEAR PERIOD?
Below are some different ways to look at how you can make a meaningful gift.**

AMOUNT	PER YEAR OVER 5 YEARS	PER MONTH OVER 5 YEARS	PER DAY OVER 5 YEARS	2 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)	3 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)	4 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)
\$100,000	\$20,000	\$1,666.00	\$54.80	\$27.40	\$18.26	\$13.70
\$50,000	\$10,000	\$833.00	\$27.40	\$13.70	\$9.13	\$6.85
\$30,000	\$6,000	\$500.00	\$16.43	\$8.22	\$5.48	\$4.10
\$25,000	\$5,000	\$416.00	\$13.70	\$6.85	\$4.56	\$3.42
\$20,000	\$4,000	\$333.33	\$10.95	\$5.49	\$3.65	\$2.74
\$15,000	\$3,000	\$250.00	\$8.22	\$4.11	\$2.74	\$2.05
\$10,000	\$2,000	\$166.66	\$5.47	\$2.75	\$1.82	\$1.36

Gift Giving to the Capital Campaign

For those parishioners or friends of the Cathedral who wish to make a donation, you may consider donating funds from your stock portfolio. If you were to sell this stock on the open market most likely you will pay capital gain taxes. To avoid paying capital gain taxes, you simply donate the stock to the Annunciation Cathedral, a non-profit 501(c)3 religious corporation.

The stock needs to be publicly traded on one of the exchanges (NY, NASDAQ, etc) then you simply report it on your tax return as a noncash charitable contribution. You get the appreciated value for the donation and do not pay tax on the capital gain. Then all you will need for taxes is a letter of acknowledgment from the Cathedral, with the name of the stock, date of donation and number of shares received. For additional information regarding the transfer of stock to the Cathedral, please contact Father Stephen at fatherstephen@annunciation.org or Angie Leventis at aleventis3@comcast.net.

Parking During Construction

Parking for up to 70 cars is 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 card; the Cathedral will pay \$7 of the parking cost for Stewards. To pick up a parking pass or to discuss your stewardship, please call Marcelo Souza in the church office. Street parking is also available on Sundays, especially along the 217' construction zone in front of the Cathedral. For your convenience, an attendant will be on hand each Sunday to monitor the drop off zone and direct parking to the Zenanli lot behind the Cathedral. We kindly ask our parishioners to be considerate of those with disabilities, giving them parking preference in the spaces on Valencia Street.

*“Whatever you do, do in
the name of the Lord.”*

- St. Nicholas the Serb

LOOKING AHEAD:

PARISH ASSEMBLY ON MAY 17

As mandated by the Archdiocese Regulations, the Parish is required to hold two Parish Assemblies each year. These afford input from all the parishioners in the management of the affairs of the Parish. They are also vehicles for information. The first Parish Assembly for 2015 will take place on Sunday, May 17, following the Divine Liturgy. The agenda consists of:

Opening Prayer: Father Stephen

1. Election of Assembly Chair
2. Reading/Approval of the Minutes of the October 26, 2014 Parish Assembly: Gus Vouchilas
3. Treasurer's Report: Philippos Athanasiades
4. Reports on: Stewardship (Gus Vouchilas), the 2015 Festival (Angie Leventis), Youth (Father Niko), the Metropolis Clergy Laity (Father Niko) (The Clergy Laity was held at St. Nicholas Ranch April 27-28)
5. Report on Phase Two: Construction of the Cathedral/Capital Campaign (Ken Katen, Tom Nuris)
Election of Nominating Committee (Parish Council elections will take place on Sunday, December 13)
6. Old Business
7. New Business

Closing Prayer

Members in good standing, as defined in the Archdiocese Regulations, are invited to attend and participate in the Parish Assembly.

Purchase on Amazon.com and Support the Cathedral!

The Cathedral recently received a small donation from Amazon.com's AmazonSmile program, which the Cathedral has been enrolled for almost a year now. If you sign up for AmazonSmile (free), Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to a non-profit of your choice, in this case Annunciation Cathedral! Growing this program would be a tremendous help to the Cathedral while shopping on one of the biggest online businesses in the world!!

When making online purchases from Amazon, just select "Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral" as your charity of choice. Here's how to enroll in this program:

- Go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and log in with your Amazon account (if you don't have an Amazon account, you can create one from that web page by clicking on the 'Create an account' link)
- Enter 'Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral San Francisco' in the search field and hit 'Search'
- You should see a single result of 'Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral'. If you see more results, locate the one with 'San Francisco, CA' next to it.
- Hit 'Select' to make the Annunciation your charitable organization choice for your Amazon account.

That's it! When shopping on Amazon this Christmas season, simply sign into <https://smile.amazon.com> for the Annunciation to receive 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases. You'll know you're in the AmazonSmile program because the top left corner of the web page will show 'amazonsmile' instead of 'amazon'.

"Always pray to the Lord from your heart. The Lord does not require philosophy from us."

- Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESAN FELLOWSHIP TO WORK AT THE UNITED NATIONS

The Department of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical, and Interfaith Relations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America announces its Faith-Based Diplomacy & Advocacy Initiative. The Initiative establishes a total of four (2 for 2015-2016 and 2 for 2016-2017) yearlong Archdiocesan fellowships at the United Nations. All Orthodox Christian graduate and post-graduate students are invited to apply for a stipend fellowship.

The Faith-Based Diplomacy and Advocacy Initiative is made possible by a generous grant awarded by The Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Endowment Fund, and is meant to help develop future diplomats, policy-makers and advocates by providing them the professional framework upon which to exercise their academic training.

Fellows will focus their work at the United Nations in five main areas: 1) Religious Freedom and Human Rights 2) Environment/Ecology 3) Issues of Equality: Gender, Race, etc. 4) Global Conflict, Peacemaking and Humanitarianism 5) Health Advocacy

Among other activities, fellows will have the opportunity to join and participate in the work of United Nations NGO Committees; assist in formulating oral and written Archdiocesan statements and interventions; help plan and host "Side Events" during ECOSOC Functional Commissions; and participate in panel discussions at future Biennial National Clergy-Laity Congresses.

To apply for the fellowship please visit <http://adobe.ly/1DCQ8SO>. The deadline for submitting an application for the Fall 2015-Summer 2016 fellowship is May 31, 2015. For more information, please contact us: Ecumenical@goarch.org or 212-774-0226.

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council (GOAC) is accredited through the United Nations Department of Public Information (UN DPI) and has General Consultative Status under the Economic and Social Council of the UN (ECOSOC). GOAC has been actively working at the United Nations for 30 years.

Ongoing Catechism Class

Four months ago we began a new catechism (religious education) class at the Annunciation Cathedral, taught by Marcelo Souza. The Cathedral has had a pre-marriage program for the last five years, which often includes many individuals who have not been baptized in any Christian faith but would like to learn more. This class serves as preparation for those seeking baptism – not only those entering the Church through marriage, but any other inquirers, as well as Orthodox people desiring to learn more about our Faith, or a refresher course.

The class is meeting every other Tuesday. We are now using two introductory books – *Introducing Eastern Orthodox Theology* by Fr. Andrew Louth, and *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism* by Timothy Keller – in addition to investigating our Creed as the summary of the Faith. We are also reading through the Gospel of Mark.

Please keep our catechumens – a key part of the future of our church! – in your prayers.

Introduction to Orthodoxy Class

The Cathedral's Intro to Orthodoxy class, taught by Alexander Kozak, has now entered its eighth year! The class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodoxy and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey, but it is also open to people who are already Orthodox and who would like to deepen their understanding of their faith.

The class explores Christian theology and practice through reading selections of Scripture, the Church Fathers, the lives of the Saints, and other texts representative of the Orthodox worldview. These readings are the starting point for our discussions, which aim at clarifying doctrine and worship and helping us to discover (or re-discover), week after week, why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Alexandros Kozak at orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com.

For additional information on retreats or topics related to OIKOS, please contact Dr. Katina Kostoulos, Ph.D., katinakost@aol.com

Dr. Kostoulos has run parenting groups and taught parenting at Various Orthodox Churches in Southern California for the past 20 years, and has been in private practice with children, adolescents and adults for over 25 years. She recently moved to San Francisco and practices psychology and psychoanalysis in San Francisco, California.

*“If you seek Him,
He will be found.”*

– 1 Chronicles 28:9

*“I am called to enter the
inner sanctuary of my
own being where God
has chosen to dwell...
Many struggles and much
pain can clear the way,
but I am certain that
only unceasing prayer
can let me enter it.”*

– Fr. Henri Nouwen

Metropolis Offers Camperships for Summer Camp 2015

This year the Metropolis will offer “camperships” to once again assist families experiencing financial challenges. In prior years most camperships covered the full price of camp registration. Due to the extremely high demand for financial assistance in the last few years, the majority of camperships will cover 25% or 50% of camper registration, with a very limited number covering full registration. This is being done in order to assist financially more families throughout the Metropolis. This year we have also improved the process by creating an online form for the parish priest to fill out.

Campership Application Process:

1. Families fill out the online Campership Application (link found at gosfyouth.org)
2. Families will ask their parish priest to fill out the online Parish Priest Recommendation.
3. Once the campership application and Parish Priest recommendations are reviewed by the Metropolis, the family will be contacted by email.

Please note: Applications are accepted on ongoing basis and camperships are awarded on a first-come first-served basis until camp sessions are full, or available funds are distributed. Submission of an application does not guarantee that a campership will be granted, or that the entire amount requested will be awarded.

Stewardship as Creation Care – Part 1

By Rev. Fr. John Chryssavgis

Scripture and the Fathers

When we think of the term stewardship, we frequently consider only matters of financial support. The prevalent rendering of the term *oikonomia* as “stewardship” or “economy” is not very illuminating as it provides both a linguistic as well as conceptual reduction of this critical and originally Biblical word. In so doing, however, we have narrowed the scope of the Bible’s teaching and neglected the depth of our Church’s tradition about our place and role in the world, indeed at a time when these are more vital and critical than ever before.

If we turn to the Church Fathers, we see that they attribute the highest importance to *oikonomia* (stewardship or economy), which in their eyes implied a broader and more inclusive concept of revelation and salvation, identified with God’s vision and desire to save the world. For our great theological teachers and spiritual masters, economy in fact refers to our very salvation by the all-embracing love of God for all humankind and to the universal compassion of the Creator for all creation. Somewhere along the line, we unfortunately shrunk the theme of “stewardship” to purely monetary terms that primarily include making contributions to philanthropic organizations ~ probably as a result of a narrow interpretation of scripture, and possibly as a result of the rigid focus of modern society.

All of this invariably affects not just our understanding of the moral obligation that we have toward one another as human beings, but also inevitably distorts the worldview that shapes our moral responsibility toward creation. By limiting our attention to divine commandments for human compassion, we have invariably excised from scripture the clear mandate to creation care. Yet, these two dimensions of Christian life are integrally interrelated; one cannot have human progress without ecological preservation. The way we treat God’s creation in nature essentially reflects the way we respect human beings created “in the image and likeness of God.” The reality is that we should respond to nature with the same tenderness that we respond to people. All of our spiritual activities are ultimately measured by their impact on the natural creation; just as all of our ecological choices are finally evaluated by their effect on the poor.

The Sin of Neglect; the Arrogance of Domination

It is no wonder, then, that our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew surprised the theological and secular worlds alike when he identified carelessness or indifference to the natural environment as tantamount to sin. It is plainly wrong to regard sin as the negative impact of our behavior on other people, whether individually or collectively, while disregarding the ecological and cosmological consequences of our actions (or inaction). As His All-Holiness remarked at Santa Barbara in 1997:

For humans to cause species to become extinct and to destroy the biological diversity of God’s creation, for humans to degrade the integrity of the earth by causing changes in its climate, stripping the earth of its natural forests, or destroying its wetlands . . . for

humans to contaminate the earth’s waters, its land, its air, and its life with poisonous substances ~ all these are sins.

The vocation and covenant to cherish and care for the creation is the principal reason for which God placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden (Genesis 2.15), namely “to till and keep it” ~ a phrase I like to translate (based more closely and literally on the Greek translation of the Septuagint) as “to serve and preserve it.” It has not, of course, helped in the least that we have also misconstrued the Biblical term “dominion” (in Genesis 1.28 and Psalm 8.5-8) as “domination” in an unashamedly self-centered and self-serving manner; after all, “dominion belongs only to the Lord.” (Psalm 22.28) Any dominion over the creation implies ruling in accordance with the love, peace, and justice of the Creator. Whether for fear of pagan idolatry or out of a sense of arrogant selfishness, there is no doubt that ~ over the centuries and in our own lives ~ we have overemphasized the unique role of humanity. Anthropocentrism is an entrancing temptation to which we are all guilty of submitting at one time or another, and which has detrimentally burdened our perspective and practice. “The whole of creation has been groaning together in pain until now, inwardly awaiting its liberation by the children of God.” (Rom. 8.22-23)

Glorious Beyond Compare Than the Seraphim”? – Conclusion

by Marcelo P. Souza

She is not simply “Mary” – she is the Theotokos. The Mother of God. That’s how Christians address her. She is not merely one more of us, for all the reasons I stated before (and these are not merely my own personal views, but a tentative summary of what the Church affirms). Her work is not done, in the same way that the work of the Saints is not done. We join them and they join us on “Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.”



The work of the Church is never done - even in the eschaton it won’t ever be done. The work of help and intercession continues now uninterrupted, along with unceasing worship and the continuing process of deification and conformity of finite creatures to the infinite energies of God, which will never end. And yes,

see next page

from page 5

they can hear a virtually infinite number of people at any time, anywhere. Why? Because they do not hear with the physical ear, nor do they process physical sounds in the brain. They are connected to us in the Holy Spirit.

Saints on this earth already can know and hear others who are physically separated from them; they can see their souls, know their hearts. Why? For the same reason. They know in the Holy Spirit in whom they live because of their close communion with Him. There is no temporal and physical barrier. This is the universal experience of the life of the Church on earth to this day; one needs only to read the life of saints past or present, even living ones. Better yet, have the privilege to meet one of them.

So much more, beyond compare, are the Saints in heaven. They know us and hear us in the Holy Spirit. They live entirely in the Holy Spirit now, to begin with. They intercede for us, speak to us, and help us. My own patron saint has appeared to more than one person that I personally know. And he is alive and continues to work on my behalf and on behalf of those who ask for his help. This is the universal doctrine and practice of the Church, East and West, since the first century.

In this way, the supplicatory prayer of the Small Compline says,

“O undefiled, untainted, uncorrupted, most pure, chaste Virgin, Thou Bride of God and Sovereign Lady, who didst unite the Word of God to mankind through thy most glorious birth giving, and hast linked the apostate nature of our race with the heavenly; who art the only hope of the hopeless, and the helper of the struggling, the ever-ready protection of them that hasten unto thee, and the refuge of all Christians . . . as the Mother of God Who loveth mankind, show thy love for mankind and mercifully have compassion upon me a sinner and prodigal, and accept my supplication . . . at the time of my departure taking care of my miserable soul, and driving far away from it the dark countenances of the evil demons . . . O my Sovereign Lady, most holy Theotokos, in virtue of thine intercession and protection, through the grace and love to mankind of thine only begotten Son, our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ, to Whom is due all glory, honor and worship, together with His unoriginate Father, and His Most Holy and good and life creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.”

This is why we affirm, in every single Divine Liturgy (of St John Chrysostom) celebrated since at least the fourth century (hardly a modern concept!):

It is truly meet to bless you, Theotokos, ever blessed and most pure, the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you!

***More of Marcelo's articles can be found on his blog, "Luminous Darkness," at luminousdarkcloud.wordpress.com ***

Xronia Polla for Namedays in May!

Best wishes to the following individuals who celebrate their namedays this month:

Alexandra Athanasiades	Elena Lingas
Constantine Barlas	Elaine Makras
Helen Calofonos	Helen Markanton
Eleni Carter	Irene Melitas
Alexander Choulos	Helen Morales
Constantina Dedes	Dena Mourgos
Gus & Helen Franco	Konstantinos Nicolacakis
Constantine Glafkides	Helen Nicolas
Alexandra Gumas	Alexander Ossipoff
Costas Haralambopoulos	Helena Palombi
Alexander Kasolas	Connie Panagotacos
Deno C. Konstantinidis	Helen Panomitros
Irene Kosaris	Helen Paras
Alexandra Kostoulas	Dean Poulakidas
Ambassador Eleni Kounalakis	Kosta Sakellis
Dina Koutoulas	Alexander Truog
Gus Koutoulas	Eleni Tsagaris
Kosta Koutoulas	Konstantinos Vafiadis
Gus Koutoulas	Irene Vafiadis
Helen Koutsakis	Costas Vellis
Alexandros Kozak	Eleni Violet
Irene Kyriacou	Gus Vouchilas

Saint Irene the Martyr, May 5

Saints Constantine and Helen, First-Crowned and Equal to the Apostles, May 21

Saint Alexander, May 26

You may wish to consider sponsoring a coffee hour on the Sunday closest to your nameday, as a way of celebrating with our parish family. The suggested donation for sponsorship is \$100. For more information, please contact **Mike Canellos** at (415) 864-8814.

*** The information above was taken from the data submitted on our 2015 stewardship pledge cards. If your name does not appear on this list, please feel free to give your information to our stewardship data table in the gallery, or by filling out a 2015 stewardship pledge card. ***

Cathedral Office Team Formed!

Many, many thanks to our new team of office volunteers! Over the last year, these beloved Cathedral parishioners have generously volunteered their time and commitment to several of our bigger mailings. Our fantastic team of **Al and Loula Ossipoff, Alexia Kleinekorte, Carl Weiner, and Paul Hamberis** have been a HUGE help in putting together mailing materials, specifically, the Easter, Stewardship, and Christmas mailings, a massive task which they continue to do capably and with joy. We are grateful for their assistance and look forward to their help the remainder of this year, as well. Thank you!

The Cathedral office team always welcomes additional assistance from those who are able and willing to offer. If you'd like to join the office team, please call (415) 864-8000

Answer to the question “Why is the vertical steel called “red-iron?” Because of the reddish color of the protective coating placed on the steel to keep it from rusting. Like the color of the Golden Gate Bridge.

2015-2016 Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships Available

Applications and instructions for three scholarships administered by the Department of Philanthropy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America are available for awards to be made for the 2015-2016 academic year. The George & Naouma (Gioule) Gioles Scholarship and the Katina John Malta Scholarship are for undergraduate studies, and the Paleologos Scholarship is awarded for graduate work of a non-theological nature. Each of these scholarships was established through generous gifts from dedicated Greek Orthodox Christians who wanted to provide financial assistance towards the education of young people from our Orthodox Christian community.

Applications can be accessed here or by visiting www.goarch.org (scholarships are listed in the ‘SPOTLIGHT’ section on the homepage). For more information, please email scholarships@goarch.org or call 212-774-0283. The deadline for submitting an application for any of these scholarships is April 27, 2015.

Give up Mochas for Missions to fuel Missions & Evangelism!

The Mochas for Missions campaign (formerly Pennies & Prayers) will begin very soon at Annunciation Cathedral. This is an opportunity to learn about and support Missions & Evangelism work taking place in our very own Metropolis and renew our commitment to being evangelists in our own community. The idea is to sacrifice a coffee drink or other treat for the sake of making a donation to this worthwhile campaign. Mochas for Missions is the main income source for the Commission for Orthodox Missions & Evangelism, or C.O.M.E., which offers support and mentoring to 14+ parishes in our Metropolis. More information can be found at <http://sanfran.goarch.org/ministries/missions-and-evangelism/>.

Community Link Continues Ministering to Those in Need

Community Link, now in its ninth year of existence, is a group of Annunciation parishioners who meet once a month on a drop-in basis to visit members of our community who may be confined due to illness or age. We travel to hospitals, nursing homes and private residences. Many of those we visit no longer have family or friends to support them and just need to know there is someone who cares. A short visit or phone call can lift one’s spirits a great deal. If anyone in the community knows of any other home bound parishioners to add to our list or would like to join us for a visit, please contact, please contact Pauline Oetzel at poetzel@hotmail.com. Upcoming community link dates are May 16, June 20, and July 18.

Metropolis Summer Camp 2015 Registration Open!

Online camper registration and staff applications for the 2015 Metropolis Summer Camp are now available at www.gosfyouth.org! The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco is proud to announce the 35th year of its Summer Camp ministry at Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, CA. Organized by the Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, this program has grown to be one of the most successful youth ministries of the Metropolis. All three sessions of Summer Camp are for campers ages 8 - 18.

Summer Camp Dates for 2015:

Staff Orientation Week:	June 30 - July 4
Session 1:	July 5-11
Session 2:	July 12-18
Session 3:	July 19-25

Pricing for 2015:

\$525 Late Registration (May 1 - June 15)

All siblings receive a \$25.00 discount.

Online Registration:

Camper Registration is NOW available online. You can make a deposit today to lock in the “Early Registration” pricing and make payments until June 15.

Camp Director & Management Team:

The Camp Director will be Johanna Duterte, Director of the Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. The Summer Camp Management Team will be comprised of the following individuals: Jacob Saylor, Program Director; Chris Retelas, Boys’ Director; and Kalli Retelas, Girls’ Director.

Camp Theme:

Building on the success of the themes from the last two years, the commandment of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to “Love One Another” and “As I have loved you”, the theme for next summer is “Be Holy” taken from 1 Peter 1:16, “You shall be holy, for I am Holy.”

Staff Applications:

For questions please contact **Johanna Duterte**, Director, Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, (415) 814-1187, jduterte@sanfran.goarch.org.

YOUTH NEWS

Sunday School Korner

Christos Anesti! Our children had a wonderful Lenten season in Sunday School and it was capped off by a hugely successful TGI Pascha and our beautiful Angels during Holy Week. Our Boys looked fantastic in the Altar! Thank you to all the many volunteers who helped make it possible.

May brings wonderful Mother's Day projects and lessons about family and relationships. We encourage parents/grandparents to bring children to Sunday School at 10:30 am each Sunday. We will hold no Sunday School Classes Memorial Day Weekend, May 24.

The Sunday School of Annunciation Cathedral offers a scholarship in memory of Andrew and Efrosine Vellis for their dedication to both the Sunday School and the Annunciation Cathedral. The first scholarship was awarded June 5, 2011. This year's scholarship will be awarded at Sunday School Graduation on June 7th. Please contact the church office to obtain scholarship requirements and an application. Applications are due by May 15th for consideration.

Plans are underway to prepare for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year. Volunteers are needed for assistance in the classroom and for specific projects such as: filing, emails, food drive, Unicef, Christmas program, Oratorical Festival, and more.

Remember, It takes a village. Please contact **Denise Yeilding** at dyeilding@yahoo.com or **Father Niko** to step up and participate.

'Like'
Annunciation
Cathedral Sunday
School!



Greek School Going Strong!

Greek School continues going strong! Should you have any questions about the program or would like to sign your child up for the 2014-2015 year, you may contact **Anthi Janssens** at anthij@comcast.net.

JOY Going to Giants Game This Month!

After skipping the month of April for Holy Week and Pascha, our Cathedral JOY group will resume events this month with a Giants outing! Following that, JOY will conclude the 2014-2015 school year with a summer party at the Konstantinidis home.

Please contact Father Niko at fatherniko@annunciation.org for more information. Hope to see you there!

Annunciation Dance Year Kick Off!!

Our dance groups will be starting up again so don't miss your chance to be a part of this award winning program. Our directors teach the history of Greek culture through traditional songs and dances, at the same time promoting faith and fellowship in our church. We are happy to announce the addition of two amazing directors to our team this year, **Katerina Sarikakis** and **Eleni Taptelis**. They will join existing directors, **Michael & Nicole Garibaldi**, **Irene Kyriacou**, **Lea Lyberopoulos** and **Lea Papavasiliou**. The new dance year began with a kickoff party on April 26th after liturgy in the hall. May 3rd will begin regular dance practice with practice times starting between 12 and 12:30 following liturgy.

There are 5 dance groups at the Cathedral:

Pre-K group, turning 3 1/2 - 4 in 2015, or entering PreK or Kindergarten in fall 2016

Beginning elementary group, Kindergarten-2nd grade in Fall 2015

Thisavri, 3rd -5th grade in Fall 2015

Spithes, 6th-10th grade in Fall 2015

Ekrixi, 18 and up.

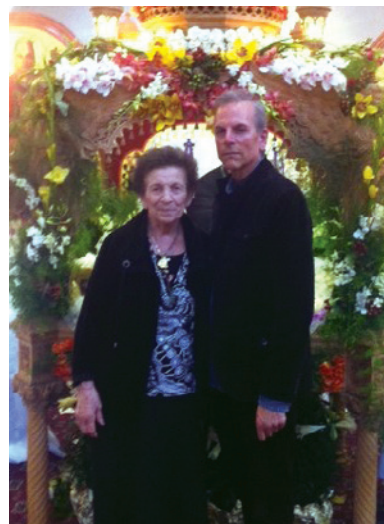
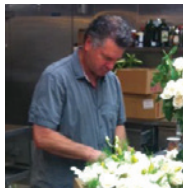
Please contact **Lea Lyberopoulos**, President dance board, at karthia808@yahoo.com for further information.

Metropolis GOYA Events

The Metropolis GOYA continued its regional events in April with a volleyball night in San Jose on April 24, and a great time was had by all! This month, GOYAns from our Bay Area parishes will be attending a Hellenic Heritage Night at the San Jose Earthquakes Game, May 16! Should be a fantastic night.

“The reward of choosing joy is joy itself... Joy never denies the sadness, but transforms it to a fertile soil for more joy.”

- Fr. Henri Nouwen



Young Adults Hold Second Annual Sunday Brunch

Our young adults got together in the Cathedral conference room on April 26 for their second annual Sunday Brunch! The event continues to be a nice outreach as well as a way of welcoming young professionals new to San Francisco into our community. Many, many thanks to **Chef Harry Madeckas** of *Kokkari Estiatorio* for cooking that morning! Our young adult group is thriving and

shows no signs of slowing down in the professional hub of San Francisco. Glory to God!

Our young adults continue to run our Cathedral's soup kitchen, as well, now in its second year! In May, the group will hold an SF street food outing on May 28.



Altar Groups in May

Our altar schedule for this month is as follows:

May 3- Group 1

May 10- Group 2

May 17- Group 3

May 24- Memorial Day Weekend, All Welcome

May 31, Pentecost- Group 4

Our altar groups for the 2014-2015 school year are as follow:

Group 1- Niko Manetas, Stelio Kyriacou, Kosta Lyberopoulos, George Tsokas, Victor Nicolacakis

Group 2- Demetri Kontonis, Andrew Vellis, Panagiotis Sogotis, Yianni Sogotis, Steven Monolakis, Sean Souza

Group 3- Niko Pezo, Demetri Rally, Steven Chiappari, Gianni Kefalas, Nicholas Shatara

Group 4- Jonas Tesfai, Nathan Tesfai, Bobby Kontonis, Hari Manetas, Matthew Nuris

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. If any families are interested in their boys joining an altar group, who are above the age of 10, feel free to contact **Father Niko Bekris** at fatherniko@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!

JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth) is open to all youth grades 3-6

*** GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America) is open to all youth grades 7-12***

*** Our Young Adult group is open to all youth age 22-35(ish)***

More information for all of our youth group events can be found on our "Youth of Annunciation Cathedral San Francisco" Facebook page.

You can also find more information on the NorCal GOYA events by contacting **Johanna Duterte** on "Metropolis of San Francisco Youth and Young Adult Ministries."

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Alexandra Georgia, daughter of **Dean (Konstantinos Victor)** and **Maria (Katzakis) Nicolacakis**, was baptized April 18. Her Sponsors are **Mike** and **Joanna Aretakis**.

Na mas zisi! Long life!

FUNERAL

Demetrius G. Rally, who fell asleep in the Lord on April 13, was buried on Friday of Bright Week, April 17. He is survived by his wife, **Helen**, their children, **George**, **Dean** and **Nick**, and their families and by his brother, **John Rally**.

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	6	7	8	9
Orthros, 9 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am; Sunday School, 10:30 am	Bridegroom Service, 7 pm		Construction Meeting, 10 am			Mother's Day Luncheon, 12 pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Orthros, 9 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am; Sunday School, 10:30 am		Pre-Marriage Class, 7 pm	Construction Meeting, 10 am			Community Link, 9 am; GOYA San Jose Earthquakes Night
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Orthros, 9 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am; Sunday School, 10:30 am Parish Assembly		Soup Kitchen, 6:30 pm	Construction Meeting, 10 am	Ascension, Divine Liturgy, 10 am		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Orthros, 9 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am;	Memorial Day, Offices Closed	Parish Council, 7 pm	Construction Meeting, 10 am	Young Adult Street Food Night, 6:30 pm		Saturday of Souls, Divine Liturgy (cemetery), 10 am
31						
Orthros, 9 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am; Sunday School, 10:30 am						

“I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by on His right hand and on His left.”

- 3 Kingdoms 22:14

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

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“REMAIN IN MY LOVE.”
– John 15:9



Soup Kitchen Update



May 2015 • Annunciation Cathedral • 245 Valencia Street • San Francisco CA 94103 • www.annunciation.org

The soup kitchen ministry continued its efforts in the month of April, this time preparing a wonderful meal in a collaborative effort by several chefs! Many thanks to Christina Tsiatis, Athena Palombi and the entire kitchen crew for putting together last month's meal. In addition, the SF Food Bank recently heard that a food pantry was being offered at the Cathedral and brought two pallets of dry goods for the ministry!



As a result, we now have eight bins overflowing with non-perishables in our gym waiting to be distributed over the next few months! The Lord truly provides.

Even though we are doing well on our food pantry supply at the moment, we can never have too much for subsequent months, so please feel free to bring non-perishable items with you whenever you come to the Church, any time of the year. The following items would be most appreciated: Plastic Grocery Bags, Peanut Butter, Crackers, Canned/Pouched Tuna, Canned Beans, Granola Bars, Canned Fruits, Canned Vegetables, Canned Baby Food, Raisins, and Oatmeal Packets.

God willing, the soup kitchen and food pantry are two of several ministries that our community can offer our neighborhood as we go forward building our new church in downtown San Francisco. Many thanks to all our volunteers and especially our hard-working committee of Christina Tsiatis, Maryann Boosalis, Andrew Christofas, Presbytera Stella Bekris, Ariana Alex, and our newest member, Alayna Dunkerly! Many, many thanks to Mike Canellos and Antonio Perez for procuring items from the SF Food Bank, as well. Please keep the soup kitchen program in your prayers, and many thanks again for everyone's support!

** The Annunciation Cathedral's soup kitchen is currently held on the third Tuesday of every month. Please feel free to bring non-perishables with you any time of the month to drop off in the food pantry barrels. If you'd like to volunteer at the next soup kitchen or have any questions, please contact soupkitchen@annunciation.org. **

*If you would like to make a monetary contribution to the soup kitchen or urban garden portion of our building project, please to make checks payable to "Annunciation Cathedral," with "soup kitchen" clearly noted. **Donations can also be made online at annunciation.org.***

Volunteer! If you would like to volunteer or donate to the soup kitchen, upcoming dates are Tuesday, April 21 and May 19. Prep begins at 5:30, with meals served from 6:30-8:30 in the Kytherian Room. Please contact soupkitchen@annunciation.org for more details.

Soup Kitchen Upcoming Dates: Tuesday, May 19 & Tuesday, June 16

The Annunciation Cathedral's Ladies Philoptochos
invites you to our
56th Annual Mother's Day Luncheon and Fashion Show
Saturday, May 9, 2015

Cathedral of the Annunciation 245 Valencia St., San Francisco, California

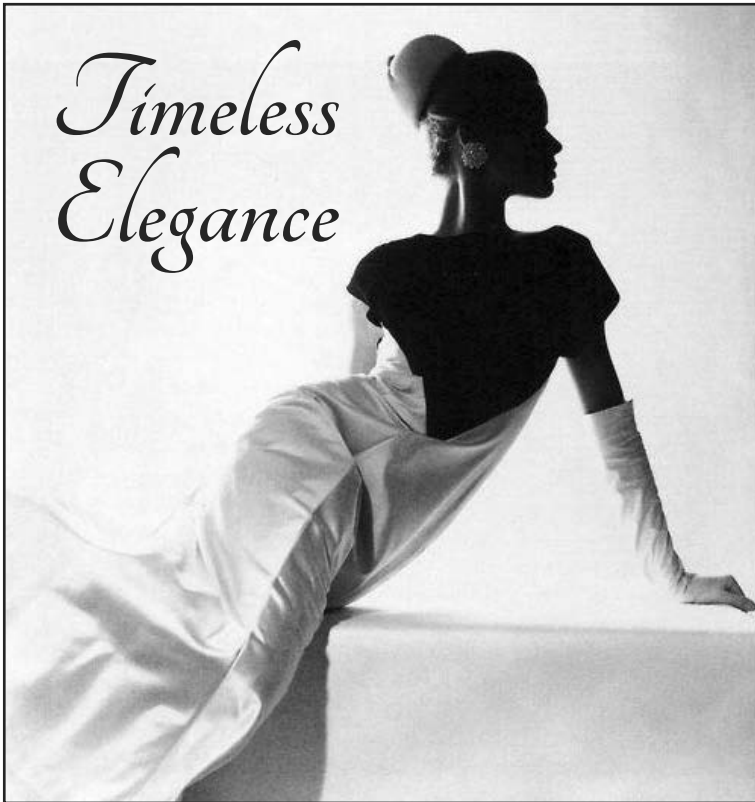


photo Horst P. Horst

Honoring our 2015
Mothers of the Year
Annette Chiappari
and
Niki Kastoras

12:00 Cocktail Reception ~ 12:45 Lunch
Donation: Adults \$55.00 ~ Children \$25.00
Seating is limited.
Please see directions for parking on back.

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE BY MAY 2, 2015
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ EMAIL _____

PLEASE RESERVE _____ ADULT @ \$55 AND _____ CHILDREN UNDER 10 YEARS @ \$25 TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

VEGETARIAN PLATE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST WITH RESERVATION.

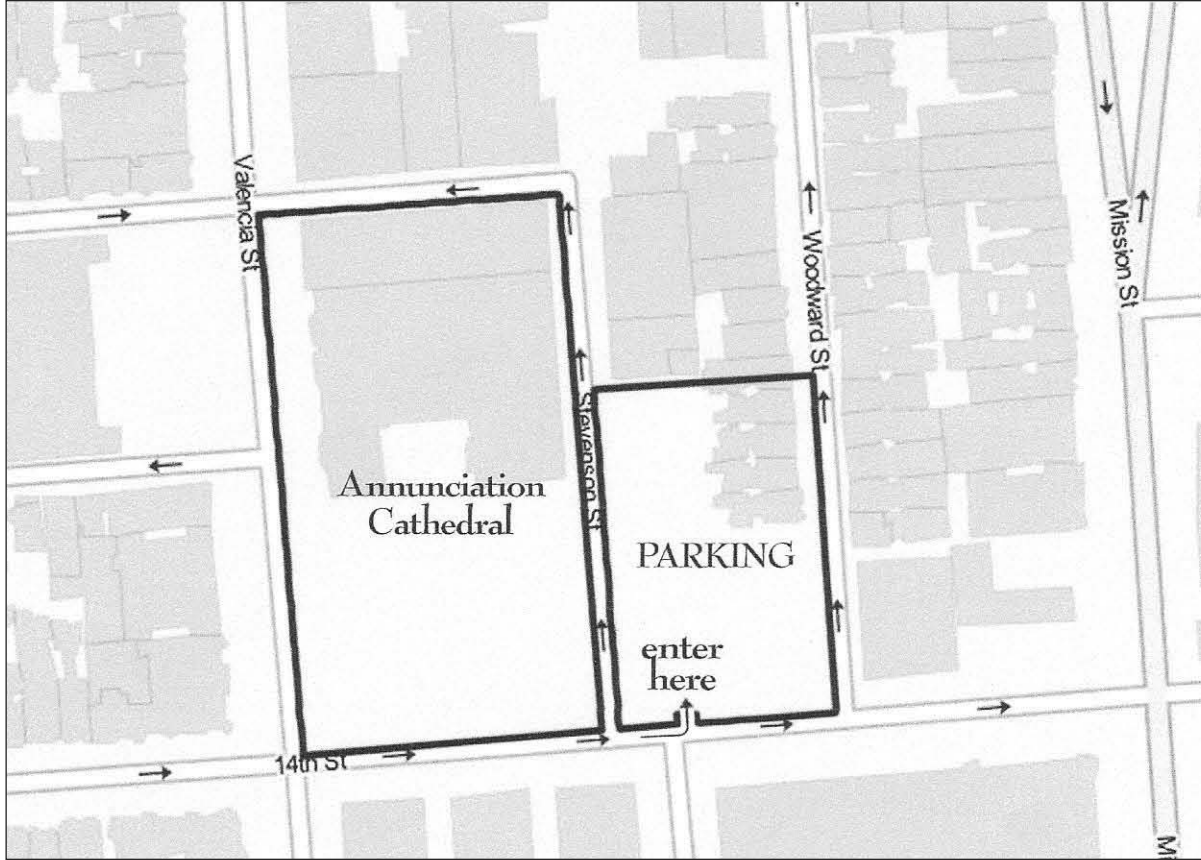
PLEASE LIST ALL ATTENDEES' NAMES ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM. TABLES OF 10 AVAILABLE.

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 FOULA VASILOGIORGIS ~ FOULAKI8@GMAIL.COM
IRENE KYRIACOU ~ SASSYGRK@AOL.COM

**ZENANLI Parking Lot
344 14th Street
San Francisco, CA**



1. _____ 6. _____

2. _____ 7. _____

3. _____ 8. _____

4. _____ 9. _____

5. _____ 10. _____

Gala 2015

ST BASIL'S ANNUAL
DINNER DANCE

Sunday May 3rd

ST MICHAEL ARCHANGEL SOCIAL HALL
18870 ALLENDALE AVE., SARATOGA, CA



COCKTAILS & SILENT AUCTION AT 5:00PM

FAMILY STYLE DINNER & DANCING AT 6:00PM

RAFFLE & WINE PULL

Guest Performer "Margarita"

ADULTS \$70 CHILDREN (12 AND UNDER) \$25

Ticket Purchase Deadline Sunday April 19th – No Ticket Sales At The Door

RSVP: 1.408.489.5114

EMAIL: stbasilgala2015rsvp@yahoo.com

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Andrew and Effrosine Vellis Scholarship

Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

E Mail: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Accredited High School/College Currently attending:

Accredited College you will be attending in the Fall:

Year in College: _____

Field of Study: Major _____ Minor: _____

Actual GPA: _____ Weighted GPA: _____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian: _____

Attended Sunday School from: _____ to _____

Altar Boy/ Angel From: _____ to _____

School Honors/Awards _____

Extra curricular activities: _____

Participant in Oratorical Festival: _____

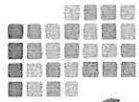
Have you received a Scholarship from Annunciation Cathedral (any) in previous years? _____

APPLICANT'S STATEMENT:

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is accurate. I understand that if any of the information is found to be inaccurate or incomplete, the committee will deny me an award. I have answered the above questions and submitted attachments to the best of my knowledge. I will use the funds awarded to me (to be credited to my school account), as a result of this application for the sole purpose of assisting me in my higher education.

Signature of applicant: _____

Date: _____



Sunday StreetsSF

Mission
May 10, 2015
October 18, 2015
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

