

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: NOVEMBER 15, 2015

EIGHTH SUNDAY OF LUKE: THE NATIVITY FAST BEGINS

GOURIAS, SAMONAS, AVVIOS AND THOMAS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verses 14-23. It is found in our books on page 124.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 2 – 10: Ἀδελφοί, Χριστός ἐστιν ἡ εἰρήνη ἡμῶν, ὁ ποιήσας τὰ ἀμφότερα ἓν, καὶ τὸ μεσότοιχον τοῦ φραγμοῦ λύσας, τὴν ἔχθραν ἐν τῇ σαρκὶ αὐτοῦ, τὸν νόμον τῶν ἐντολῶν ἐν δόγμασιν, καταργήσας· ἵνα τοὺς δύο κτίσῃ ἐν ἑαυτῷ εἰς ἓνα καινὸν ἄνθρωπον, ποιῶν εἰρήνην, καὶ ἀποκαταλλάξῃ τοὺς ἀμφοτέρους ἐν ἐνὶ σώματι τῷ θεῷ διὰ τοῦ σταυροῦ, ἀποκτείνας τὴν ἔχθραν ἐν αὐτῷ· καὶ ἔλθων εὐηγγελίσατο εἰρήνην ὑμῖν τοῖς μακρὰν καὶ τοῖς ἐγγύς· ὅτι δι' αὐτοῦ ἔχομεν τὴν προσαγωγὴν οἱ ἀμφοτέροι ἐν ἐνὶ πνεύματι πρὸς τὸν πατέρα. Ἄρα οὖν οὐκέτι ἐστὲ ξένοι καὶ πάροικοι, ἀλλὰ συμπολίται τῶν ἁγίων καὶ οἰκεῖοι τοῦ θεοῦ, ἐποικοδομηθέντες ἐπὶ τῷ θεμελίῳ τῶν ἀποστόλων καὶ προφητῶν, ὄντος ἀκρογωναίου αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἐν ᾧ πᾶσα οἰκοδομὴ συναρμολογουμένη αὐξεῖ εἰς ναὸν ἅγιον ἐν κυρίῳ, ἐν ᾧ καὶ ὑμεῖς συνοικοδομεῖσθε εἰς κατοικητήριον τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν πνεύματι.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 10, verses 25-37. It is found in our books, pages 257-259.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 10, ἐδάφ. 25-37. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 256-258.

Today's *Apolytikion* (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Seven (Grave):

O Lord, by your sacred Cross You abolished death and granted to the thief blessed paradise. The myrrh bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The Apostles did preach the Good News at your command—that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing your mercy on the world evermore.

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέωξας τῷ ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας. Ὅτι ἀνέστης, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Introduction to Orthodoxy (*Sundays, 9.a.m., upstairs*). This 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. We explore 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 rediscover), week after week, why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact **Alexandros Kozák** at orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com.

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SPANISH: Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo; danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día; perdona nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; no nos dejes caer en la tentación, y líbranos del Mal.

MNEMOSYNON: today's memorial services are being held for the repose of the souls of: **Mihalis Siouris** (49 years), **Angeliki Siouris** (53 years), **Panagiota Siouris** (9 years)

PARISH COUNCIL MEETS TODAY: The Parish Council will hold its November meeting in the second floor conference room, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

2015 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD: **Annette Chiappari, Kalliope Fousekis, and Annamarie Balian** will be on hand today, collecting names for this year's Christmas Card. No doubt, you will want to be listed, as the community extends greetings and best wishes to one another on the occasion of Christmas and the New Year. The donation is, as it has been for years, \$25. Our Christmas card this year is a rendering of the Annunciation, written by our Iconographer, Professor **George Kordis**.

PARISH ASSEMBLY NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22: Our second Parish Assembly for 2015 will take place next Sunday, November 22, following the Divine Liturgy. The agenda is as follows: Opening Prayer 1. Election of Assembly Chair 2. Reading/Approval of the May 17, 2015 Minutes of the Parish Assembly, 3. Treasurer's Report, 4. Reports: a. Stewardship, b. 2015 Festival, c. Youth, 5. Capital Campaign and the Rebuilding of the Cathedral a. Vision Plan for the Cathedral Community, 6. Election of Board of Auditors, 7. Report of the Nominating Committee, 8. Old Business, 9. New Business, Closing Prayer.

2015 PHILOPTOCHOS ANGEL TREE PROJECT TO BENEFIT FOSTER CHILDREN: This Christmas season the Philoptochos is supporting the "Sleep Train Foster Kids" charitable program. This program provides a positive impact on the lives of thousands of foster children by providing them with everyday essential items. We are looking to provide gifts of pajamas and or winter coats to at least 50 foster children between the ages of 5 to 17. These items will be distributed to foster children in the San Francisco and San Mateo areas. The Christmas tree with gift tags have been set up since November 1st. Choose a tag for a specific age and gender. All unwrapped gifts need to be returned to the church by December 6th. Thank you for the generosity you have given over the past years. Contact Vivian Curd at 650-873-6055 with any questions.

LOOKING AHEAD: STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY: December 6 has been designated "Stewardship Sunday," when parishioners deposit their 2016 stewardship commitments.

THE EXTERIOR WALL IS DONE! It seems like only yesterday that we began and, here we are, having finished the exterior walls, and getting ready to install the windows, gutters, downspouts, dome metal, and clay tile roof. Then, the stucco will be applied; pavers, stonework, and doors will be installed. The exterior of the building will be virtually complete.

Excitement mounts as we watch this magnificent structure evolve, as it represents everything we are and everything we believe as Greek Orthodox Christians. It is also a symbol of the faith that our own generation has cultivated, and what we hope to leave behind, to inspire the generations to come.

We've noted on a number of occasions that we have raised \$6 million towards this project, with another \$4.7 to go. And we have explained how much has been spent and on what. (For specific information, please refer to the recent issues of the *Herald*.) Additionally, we have projected a timetable for completion of the project: completion of the exterior by summer of 2016; this includes the normal functioning of the garage. At that point, we are planning to hold a **Gala event**, to celebrate a great accomplishment, as we turn to phase two, the completion of the interior. Work on the interior, including appointments and iconography, should take another year or so. Certainly, we hope to be able to plan for its consecration, in 2017, four years before our 100th anniversary. All this, of course, will depend upon your prayers and continued support.

May God bless our undertaking, for God is the one who spoke to Moses, then, and who speaks to us, today, saying: *"Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you."* (Translated from the Septuagint: *Καὶ ποιήσεις μοι ἅγιασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*). (Exodus 25:8). May we prove worthy of the trust God has in us to rebuild His Church.



"The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified."

(Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, Ground breaking, November 6, 1997)