

## ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: JANUARY 31, 2016

### FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

### THE HOLY UNMERCENARIES KYROS & JOHN

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul's first letter to Timothy, chapter 4 verses 9-15. It is found in our books on page 132.

**Ὁ Απόστολος, Πρὸς Τιμόθεον πρώτης Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 9-15:** Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, πιστὸς ὁ λόγος καὶ πάσης ἀποδοχῆς ἄξιος. Εἰς τοῦτο γὰρ καὶ κοπιῶμεν καὶ ὄνειδιζόμεθα, ὅτι ἠλπίκαμεν ἐπὶ θεῷ ζῶντι, ὃς ἐστὶν σωτὴρ πάντων ἀνθρώπων, μάλιστα πιστῶν. Παράγγελλε ταῦτα καὶ δίδασκε. Μηδεὶς σου τῆς νεότητος καταφρονεῖτω, ἀλλὰ τύπος γίνου τῶν πιστῶν ἐν λόγῳ, ἐν ἀναστροφῇ, ἐν ἀγάπῃ, ἐν πνεύματι, ἐν πίστει, ἐν ἀγνείᾳ. Ἔως ἔρχομαι, πρόσεχε τῇ ἀναγνώσει, τῇ παρακλήσει, τῇ διδασκαλίᾳ. Μὴ ἀμέλει τοῦ ἐν σοὶ χαρίσματος, ὃ ἐδόθη σοὶ διὰ προφητείας μετὰ ἐπιθέσεως τῶν χειρῶν τοῦ πρεσβυτερίου. Ταῦτα μελέτα, ἐν τούτοις ἴσθι, ἵνα σου ἡ προκοπὴ φανερὰ ἦ ἐν πᾶσιν.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 19, verses 1-10. It is found in our books, on page 271.

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 19, ἐδάφ. 1-10. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 270.**

**Today's *Apolytikon* (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Two:**

When You descended to the realm of death, You as life immortal rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all-radiant Divinity. And, when You, from infernal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead, all the hosts of heaven's powers did proclaim and cry out: O life-giving Christ and our God, we give glory [to You].

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἢ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν Ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, δόξα σοι.

**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](mailto: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.

**DIVINE LITURGY THIS WEEK:** On Tuesday, February 2, we will celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Christ to the Temple. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated, beginning with Orthros at 9 a.m. and Liturgy at 10 a.m.

**PHILOTOCHOS MEETING:** The Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos will meet today, in the second floor conference room.

**CRAB FEED ON MARCH 4:** The situation with the crab this year did not allow for us to hold our crab feed, as we usually do, the last Friday in January. However, we've been assured that the crab is now safe and plentiful and, so, the Crab Feed will take place on Friday, March 4. A flyer/reservation form has been included in the February *Herald* for your perusal. Please complete the form and return it to the Cathedral, c/o Crab Feed. For additional information, please contact Angie Leventis, [aleventis3@comcast.net](mailto:aleventis3@comcast.net).

**SEVERAL WINDOWS ARE IN, MORE AND MORE BEING INSTALLED UNTIL ALL 135 ARE IN PLACE:** The windows have been a donor opportunity for us. For a donation of \$5,000., parishioners and friends of the Cathedral may donate a window. Their names will be listed as donors on the commemorative plaque, which will be installed in the entryway to the new Cathedral. If you have already given to the Capital Campaign and wish to sponsor a window, you may well qualify for a higher category of giving.

**THANK YOU, 2016 STEWARDS:** A church is only as vibrant as the faith of the people who make up the community. Annunciation Cathedral is blessed to have dedicated people, who worship regularly and who contribute, making possible the many ministries offered by their parish. Recently, we've had significant changes in the Cathedral's personnel. This does not, however, diminish the service, which the parish offers to you, its parishioners, nor the level of support which the parish enjoys from you. If anything, it energizes our parishioners to expect, rightfully, more and better programs, as we engage in articulating a vision for our parish for its second hundred years.

Through your stewardship, you declare your support of the Cathedral and its ministries for 2016 and beyond. To date, about 200 stewardship pledge cards for 2016 have been received. Now, is this good? Yes and no. Yes, because it represents two-thirds of the level of support we enjoyed in 2015, and we anticipate we should have 350 or so stewards again in 2016. On the other hand, our community has a potential of having 800 stewards. There are at least that many families with whom we communicate on a regular basis, and who consider the Annunciation Cathedral to be their parish church. So, how do we get everyone on board? By keeping at it, by staying the course. By continuing to extend the invitation, as the Lord himself does. As He says in Scripture, specifically, in the Book of Revelation, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock" (Revelation 3:20).

Meanwhile, we pause to acknowledge and thank our stewards. The February 2016 issue of the *Herald*, which you should have received by now, features an "honor roll of stewards." In the February issue, we printed the names of all those who declared their support for 2016 as of January 10. Some of you sent in your cards after this date; you will be acknowledged in a later issue of the *Herald*. Meanwhile, if, for some reason, you have misplaced your card, please call the Cathedral office at 415 864-8000, and we will be happy to send you another card. If you prefer, you may pick up a card when you come to the Cathedral for worship, or you may speak with **Gus Vouchilas**, our Stewardship Committee Chair, or with Father Stephen, [fatherstephen@annunciation.org](mailto:fatherstephen@annunciation.org). For your convenience, a second mailing will go out the end of February to those from whom we have not yet received 2016 pledge cards.

This is your parish, brothers and sisters; it is worthy of your participation, your involvement, and your support. We thank you.

**COUNT THE WINDOWS:** There are 135 of them. Some have already been installed. We hope to complete the window installation, weather permitting, by the end of February. This will be followed by the scratch coat, stucco, tile roofs, stone along the base of the new Cathedral as well as the planted areas and, finally, the placement of the cross over the entrance and the cross on the dome.

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. Additionally, we have projected a timetable for completion of the project, including the normal functioning of the garage: October 31, 2016. At that point, we are planning to hold a **Gala event**, to celebrate a great accomplishment, as we begin work on the interior. The Gala will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2016. By now, you should all have received a save the date card in the mail. With God's help, we hope to be able to complete the Cathedral by the end of 2017, and to consecrate the Cathedral before our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021.

May God bless our efforts, 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 ἁγίασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*). (Exodus 25:8). May we prove worthy of this sacred trust.



*"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)