

## ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: APRIL 10, 2016

FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

ST. JOHN OF THE LADDER

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews, chapter 6, verses 13-20. It is found in our books on page 144.

**Ὁ Απόστολος, Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 6, ἐδάφ. 13-20:**  
Ἀδελφοί, τῷ Ἀβραὰμ ἐπαγγειλάμενος ὁ θεὸς, ἐπεὶ κατ' οὐδενὸς εἶχεν μείζονος ὁμόσαι, ὥμοσεν καθ' ἑαυτοῦ, λέγων, Ἡ μὴν εὐλογῶν εὐλογήσω σε, καὶ πληθύνων πληθυνῶ σε. Καὶ οὕτως μακροθυμήσας ἐπέτευχεν τῆς ἐπαγγελίας. Ἄνθρωποι μὲν γὰρ κατὰ τοῦ μείζονος ὁμνύουσιν, καὶ πάσης αὐτοῖς ἀντιλογίας πέρας εἰς βεβαίωσιν ὁ ὄρκος. Ἐν ᾧ περισσότερον βουλόμενος ὁ θεὸς ἐπιδειξάτω τοῖς κληρονόμοις τῆς ἐπαγγελίας τὸ ἀμετάθετον τῆς βουλῆς αὐτοῦ, ἐμεσίτευσεν ὄρκῳ, ἵνα διὰ δύο πραγμάτων ἀμεταθέτων, ἐν οἷς ἀδύνατον ψεύσασθαι θεόν, ἰσχυρὰν παράκλησιν ἔχωμεν οἱ καταφυγόντες κρατῆσαι τῆς προκειμένης ἐλπίδος· ἦν ὡς ἀγκυραν ἔχομεν τῆς ψυχῆς ἀσφαλῆ τε καὶ βεβαίαν, καὶ εἰσερχομένην εἰς τὸ ἐσώτερον τοῦ καταπετάσματος· ὅπου πρὸδρομος ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν εἰσηλθεν Ἰησοῦς, κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδέκ ἀρχιερεὺς γενόμενος εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter 9, verses 17-31. It is found in our books, on pages 295-299.

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ παρικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον, κεφ. 9, ἐδάφ. 17-31. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 294-298.**

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

When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore, and Christ our God has risen from the dead, and granted to the world His great mercy.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου μαθήτριά, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος 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](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.

**TODAY IS THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN THE GREAT LENT:** On this day we remember St. John of the Ladder (Climacus) and, in particular, his work, The Ladder of Divine Ascent, which demonstrates what steps a Christian must take to attain the highest degree of spiritual growth. Written the year 600, the work is a treasure, dealing, in 30 steps, with: Renunciation, Penitence, Defeat of Vices, Avoidance of Pitfalls, Acquisition of hesychia, and the attainment of Love, Hope, and Faith. On this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April we also remember Terence of Africa and Gregory V, Patriarch of Constantinople.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY:** The meeting will take place in the second floor conference room, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

**BASKETBALL GAMES TODAY:** The OYAA High School and Adult Season have begun. Games being played today at the Annunciation Cathedral are as follows:

2 p.m. Adult Annunciation 1 vs. Annunciation 2  
3 p.m. Adult St. George vs. Annunciation 3

**SERVICES THIS WEEK:** On Friday, April 15, we will celebrate the Akathist, beginning at 7 p.m.

**GODPARENT'S SUNDAY NEXT SUNDAY:** The Sunday before Palm Sunday is Godparent's Sunday at the Cathedral. Next Sunday, April 17, Godparents and Godchildren will have the opportunity to renew their baptismal vows just before journeying into Holy Week. A light luncheon, the offering of our Stewardship Committee, will follow. Invite your Godparents/Godchildren to church next Sunday.

**CHRISMATION NEXT SUNDAY:** During next Sunday's Divine Liturgy, Zachary Hart Weiner will be received into the Church through the Sacrament of Chrismation.

**STREET CLOSURE TODAY:** As announced, Valencia Street is closed to automobile traffic today, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. You will still be able to access the church by driving down 14th Street, and taking a left onto Valencia Street. To depart the Cathedral, turn right onto Valencia Street. The personnel in charge of the street closure program have assured us there will be no glitches, as there have been in the past. If you should experience any, we ask you to let us know immediately. The Cathedral, in turn, will file a protest. No one wishing to come to church can be denied access. That's the law. We are happy to cooperate with the City, to provide for pedestrian access to the streets on specified days. At the same time, we have stressed to the organizers the difficulty this poses for our parishioners, and they have assured us they will cooperate with us for the betterment of all concerned. Please note, Valencia Street will also be closed on Sunday, August 21.

**NEXT OIKOS LECTURE, MAY 15:** Because of Pascha (May 1) and Mother's Day (May 8), our next OIKOS lecture will take place on Sunday, May 15. Our speaker will be Professor Martha Klironomos, Ph.D. Martha has served as Director of the Center for Modern Greek Studies, the Nikos Kazantzakis Chair, at S.F. State University, where she has been teaching courses in Modern Greek language and literature and Comparative and English literature since 1996. She will speak on the Bloomsbury Group and how their travels to Greece and Italy inspired the integration of Byzantine motifs into their art.

### THE RAISING OF THE CROSS!

The large cross, which will go over the dome, and which measures 9 feet and weighs 470 pounds, is about to be raised over the dome. We hope today to announce the exact day and time for this significant event. The smaller cross, which will go over the entrance, above the Narthex, is 4'10" and weighs less. Our plan is to bring it to the site and display it in the chapel until the tile roof is completed, in about 2 months. At that time it, too, will be positioned in place. As for the large cross over the dome, the plan is to light it, for the first time, at Pascha.. Meanwhile, some one out there may want the privilege of placing the cross above the dome, or above the narthex, thus essentially donating the dome or the narthex. Father Stephen is looking for a donation of \$1 million and is confident one of you will step up for this honor. To mark the completion of the exterior of the building, later this year, and to celebrate our 95<sup>th</sup> year as a community, we will hold a **Gala event on November 5**. Now, for the interior of the Cathedral: with God's help, we hope to be able to complete it by the end of 2017, and to consecrate the Cathedral to the glory of God to coincide with our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021. God will bless us, indeed, if it is His Will that His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who laid the cornerstone back in 1997, also consecrates it to God's glory in 2021!

May God enable our undertaking, and may God continue to inspire you and generations to come through this landmark house of worship, which you are building to glorify His holy Name.



*"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)