



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



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MARCH 2017



Spotlight on our youth: FDF! Shown above are photographs taken of our various groups—*To Mellon, Revmata, Thisavri and Spithes*—which participated in this year’s Folk Dance Festival in San Diego. Some of the photos were taken during the last days of practice at the Cathedrals; some were taken at FDF. Some 200 young people, parents, and other relatives represented the Cathedral at this year’s FDF—our biggest in years. And we are very proud to say they all did well.

Winners, All!

All three groups, who were competing, (*To Mellon* performed, but did not compete) received recognition for their efforts: *Spithes* received the special achievement award for Division II; *Revmata* received the choral award and a Founder's special achievement award in the primary category; and *Thisavri* received a Founders special achievement award in the advanced primary category. Congratulations for their outstanding performances!



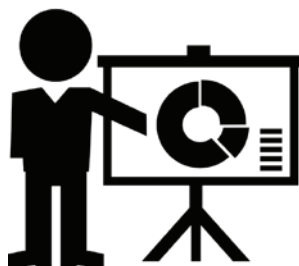
March 25th: Feast of Christianity; Feast Day of the Cathedral

March 25th marks the Incarnation of our Lord, the "Fountainhead of our Salvation," as the festal hymn puts it. For, the maiden Mary acknowledged the will of God for her, consenting to the Archangel Gabriel, "Be it done for me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). Accordingly, March 25th is cause for celebration, by the entire Christian world, generally, and by the Annunciation Cathedral, specifically, as we are blessed to be named for this salvific event. Every year on this day, services are held at the Cathedral, beginning with Great Vespers at 7 p.m., on the evening of the 24th, and continuing with Orthros at 9 a.m. on the 25th and the Divine Liturgy, beginning at 10 a.m. Following the services, the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos cordially invite you to a luncheon, to be held in our Korinthias Hall. Please refer to the flyer in this edition of the *Herald*, for the particulars. We take this opportunity to extend congratulations and best wishes to the entire community, and the community's best wishes to the world.

Sunday OIKOS Lecture Series News

Okios Lecture Series: Adult Education 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 on The Role of the Family in the Spiritual Development of Children. On February 19, Sunday after Church our Oikos committee is meeting during the coffee hour, anyone interested in joining our committee is welcome to come.



On Sunday March 12, 2017, immediately following Church during the coffee hour during a light lunch, we will hold a Panel Discussion headed by Dr. Barbara Karvelis. She and her team will share with us their experiences working with Syrian and other refugees in Lesbos Greece in panel discussion lasting about 30 minutes followed by question and answer from the audience for discussion and dialogue. Dr. Barbara Karvelis is a daughter of immigrant parents. She was born and raised in San Francisco and participated in Sunday and Greek School at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral. She has used her extensive educational background in her most recent work in the refugee camps to improve the education for refugee children. Her panel is Scholars and Educators as well who went with her to Lesbos to use their educational knowledge to improve the educational life of these children in the camps and their families.

On April 9th of this year, Dr. Martha Klironomos, a professor of Literature and past Director of the Center for

Modern Greek Studies at San Francisco State University, will present a lecture and slide presentation of her work. Both Lectures will be held following Divine Liturgy in the Community Center during a luncheon. Both events are free of charge.

In the Fall of 2017, Professor George Kordis, the iconographer who will write the icons for our new Cathedral will share after Divine Liturgy in the same format over an informal luncheon, his thoughts on the icon of the Annunciation and a brief question and answer period will follow his presentation. Our hope is that a Socratic dialogue between the presenters and the parishioners at all events will take place. The exact date for this event is to be determined and will be dependent on Dr. Kordis' travel schedule.

Our OIKOS committee is hoping, God willing, to self-publish the talks to be presented and presented so far in a publication called either OIKOS or Annunciation Press. We plan to sell this publication online on the Church web site and in our bookstore. And any proceeds will go to the Cathedral Building Fund. I would also like to publish in this collection three homilies—one from Father Stephen one from Father Niko, and one from Father Tom, who have served as our clergy during the rebuilding of our Cathedral, if they are willing to submit one.

Our goal in this adult education series is to provide interesting talks by people within our Orthodox Christian Community and from the Larger Orthodox Community on Spiritual, Educational and Cultural Topics.

So far, 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.

Notes on those who will speak on March 12.

Dr. Barbara Karvelis

Barbara Karvelis, daughter of immigrant Greek parents was born and raised in San Francisco and participated in Sunday and Greek School at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral. Barbara graduated from San Francisco State University with a B.A. in Psychology, M.A. in Special Education,

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Bartholomew: Apostle and Visionary, continued.

In our February Herald, we reprinted the foreword to the above volume, by John Chryssavgis. For the present Herald, we are reprinted a portion of the second chapter, entitled "Heart Wide Open." It's specifically about the Orthodox-Catholic dialogue: a microcosm of ecumenical relations.

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M.A. in Educational Administration and Ed.D. in Organization and Leadership from the University of San Francisco. She has had a career in education as teacher and principal for over 40+ years. Barbara visited Lesbos, Greece last September where she worked in the refugee camps to improve the education for refugee children. In addition, she raised money, which went to help the refugees. She would like to continue the journey of helping the Greek Schools in Greece, which serve the Greek children as well as the refugee children.

Dr. Cecelia Wambach

Dr. Cecelia Wambach is currently Professor Emeriti of Mathematics Education at San Francisco State University. During her active years, she was a teacher, principal, consultant and Professor. She is now seeking ways to make this world a better place.

Dr. Carolie Sly

Carolie Sly holds a doctorate degree in science education from U.C. Berkeley. As a former public school teacher, professor, and principal of an alternative high school, she has cultivated and understanding of ecological literacy among students and teachers. Dr. Sly's current passion is addressing the interconnections among global issues, such as climate change, the refugee crisis, and social inequality.

Michele Cobble

Michele Cobble has lived and worked in San Francisco for 30+ years, graduated from UC Berkeley with a B.A. in Applied Mathematics/Economics, and recently retired from the financial industry. She has participated in community efforts to feed the homeless, tutor grammar school children and last September spent a month on Lesbos beach cleaning and teaching refugee children in the camps. Michele continues to search for humanitarian opportunities.

Lydia Stack

Lydia Stack is an internationally known teacher educator and author. Her teaching experience includes twenty-five years as an elementary and high school teacher of English Language Learners in the San Francisco Unified School District. As a teacher educator, she has provided English teaching techniques, peace education curriculum, and anti-bullying strategies to teachers working in refugee camps in Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines. She is currently providing workshops and materials to Greek Teachers who are teaching English to Migrants and Refugees in six Greek Refugee Camps. The title of Prof. Klironomos' April 9 talk is "Bloomsbury Travellers to Greece and the Mediterranean". The talk explores how members of the Bloomsbury Group travelled to Greece, Italy and the Mediterranean, and how their travels inspired the integration of Byzantine motifs into their art. She will focus on Virginia Woolf's sister, the artist Vanessa Bell, as well as other influential artists in that group including Duncan Grant and Roger Fry. Time permitting, Prof. Klironomos will also show a few slides of public buildings in England that also were inspired by Byzantine architectural aesthetics and prototypes.

Prof. Martha Klironomos (PhD, Ohio State University, 1993) is Professor of English and Modern Greek Studies at San Francisco State University where she has been teaching courses in Modern Greek Studies, Comparative and English literatures since 1996. She directed the Center for Modern Greek Studies, the Nikos Kazantzakis Chair, at San Francisco State University from 1996 to 2015. She previously held an appointment as Assistant Professor of Modern Greek at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec from 1994-1996 and was a Canada Council Postdoctoral Fellow at the Seferis Chair at Harvard University from 1993-1994. She is currently working on a book on the Greek Nobel Prize-winning poet George Seferis for a series on Classical Reception in 20th Century Literature for Bloomsbury Academic Press in the UK. She, along with Prof. Yiorgos Anagnostou at Ohio State University, are co-founding a new, peer-reviewed, journal in Greek American Studies entitled "Ergon: Greek/American Arts and Letters," which will come out at the end of 2017, funded with generous support from Ohio State University and the Modern Greek Studies Association. It will feature articles on Greek American literature, history, immigration, book reviews on new titles in the field, reviews on museum exhibits, and serve as a venue for newly published works by Greek American writers and photographers.

April 2 is Godparents Sunday

Every year, the Sunday before Palm Sunday, Godparents Sunday is observed at the Cathedral. Godparents Sunday is an opportunity for all of us to reconnect with our Godparents and for Godparents to reconnect with those whom we've sponsored into the Faith—our Godchildren. The bond between Godparents and Godchildren is a sacred one, second only to the bond that exists between parents and children. This year, Godparents Sunday falls on April 2 (Palm Sunday falls on April 9 and Pascha falls on April 16). On that day, just prior to Holy Communion, we will be asked to recite our baptismal vows, as follows:








- 1. Do you renounce Satan? R: I renounce Satan.**
Ἀποτάσσει τῷ Σατανᾷ; Ἀποτάσσομαι.
- 2. Have you renounced Satan? R: I have renounced Satan.**
Ἀπετάξω τῷ Σατανᾷ; Ἀπεταξάμην.
- 3. Do you join yourself to Christ? R: I do.**
Συντάσσει τῷ Χριστῷ; Συντάσσομαι.
- 4. Have you joined yourself to Christ? R: I have.**
Συνετάξω τῷ Χριστῷ; Συνεταξάμην.
- 5. And, do you believe in Him? R: I believe in Him as King and as God.**
Καὶ πιστεύεις Αὐτῷ; Πιστεύω Αὐτῷ ὡς Βασιλεῖ καὶ Θεῷ.






Godparents: do call your Godchildren and arrange for you and your Godchildren to come to church that day and receive the Body and Blood of Christ together. Godchildren: call your Godparents and invite them to come to church with you on this special day, as we prepare to commemorate the events of Holy Week—the betrayal, Crucifixion, death, burial and Resurrection of our Lord God and Savior. At the conclusion of the Liturgy, we are all invited to break bread together in our fellowship hall. The meal is the offering of the Cathedral's Stewardship Committee.

Pascha: Everything's About Pascha!

As we know, there are two liturgical cycles during the year. One is centered around the *fixed feasts*. These are feast days whose days of celebration are fixed. Feasts like Christmas, which always falls on December 25 (regardless of the day of the week), or like Holy Theophany (January 6) or the Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15). The other cycle is centered around the *moveable feasts*. These are feasts whose dates vary from year to year. This consists of Holy Pascha (which commemorates the Resurrection of Christ) and the days which precede Pascha and also the days which follow it. Please see the chart below, entitled Lenten and Paschal Cycle. There, you can see when Pascha falls, through the year 2020, and all those feasts associated with it, from Zacchaeus Sunday through the Apostles' fast. Briefly, Holy Pascha is calculated according to the formula set down at the First Ecumenical Council, which was convened in Nicaea, in the year 325 AD: the first Sunday following the first full moon following the spring equinox. Depending upon the first full moon following the spring equinox, the first Sunday following can range from the end of March to the beginning of May. However, through the year 2020, Pascha will fall during the month of April. This year, the Eastern and Western Churches will celebrate Pascha together. For the next three years, however, primarily because of the adoption of the Gregorian calendar in the West (the East still bases the calculation of Pascha on the Julian calendar), Pascha will be celebrated one week apart.

Lenten and Paschal Cycle

| | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|  | Zacchaeus Sunday | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Feb 14 | Jan 29 | Jan 21 | Feb 10 | Feb 2 |
|  | Publican & Pharisee | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | Beginning of the Lenten Tridion | Feb 21 | Feb 5 | Jan 28 | Feb 17 | Feb 9 |
|  | Prodigal Son | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Feb 28 | Feb 12 | Feb 4 | Feb 24 | Feb 16 |
|  | Meatfare | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Mar 6 | Feb 19 | Feb 11 | Mar 3 | Feb 23 |
|  | Cheese fare | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | Forgiveness Sunday | Mar 13 | Feb 26 | Feb 18 | Mar 10 | Mar 1 |
|  | Beginning of Great Lent | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Mar 14 | Feb 27 | Feb 19 | Mar 11 | Mar 2 |
|  | Palm Sunday | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Apr 24 | Apr 9 | Apr 1 | Apr 21 | Apr 12 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
|  | PASCHA | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | Beginning of the Pentecostarion | May 1 | Apr 16 | Apr 8 | Apr 28 | Apr 19 |
|  | Midfeast | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | May 25 | May 10 | May 2 | May 22 | May 13 |
|  | Ascension | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Jun 9 | May 25 | May 17 | Jun 6 | May 28 |
|  | Pentecost | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Jun 19 | Jun 4 | May 27 | Jun 16 | Jun 7 |
|  | SS. Peter & Paul Fast Begins | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Jun 27 | Jun 12 | Jun 4 | Jun 24 | Jun 15 |
| | Length of Fast | 2 Days | 17 Days | 25 Days | 5 Days | 14 Days |
| | Western Easter | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| | | Mar 27 | Apr 16 | Apr 1 | Apr 21 | Apr 12 |



Honoring Those Who Serve:

Ted Leventis, John Panomitros and Annette Chiappari
April 30 Luncheon to Benefit Building Fund

On Sunday, April 30, the Cathedral will host a luncheon honoring Ted Leventis, John Panomitros and Annette Chiappari. The luncheon, to be catered by Angelo Koutoulas of Chick 'n Coop, will take place following the Divine Liturgy. With a carved roast beef station and all the trimmings, the meal, fit for a king, will honor three of the Cathedral's most dedicated workers.

Ted Leventis, who currently serves as a Cathedral chanter, has served as master chef, among other things. For years, he catered makaries for the Ladies Philoptochos, as a volunteer, and is still involved in food preparation for the annual food festival, his specialty being bell peppers. As for

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chanting, Ted reports for duty every Sunday, and virtually every weekday holy day service. When it comes to food and to chanting, Ted always accommodates; he never says no. He's never been heard to say he's tired, or that he can't do something. Indeed, Ted exemplifies the best in what it means to be a volunteer. Ted is married to Angie Leventis, former President of the Ladies Philoptochos, and is father to Kathy Truog and Allyson Montgomery. He is the proud grandfather of Chloe and Zachary Montgomery and Nicole and Alexander Truog.

John Panomitros, who currently serves as Annunciation's "head sous-chef," has assisted in the kitchen in every capacity imaginable. He is especially present throughout food preparation for the Festival, the Crab Feed, and other parish functions. As long as anyone can remember, John's "baby" has been the souvlaki, the preparation and cooking of which he oversees, along with a very dedicated group of volunteers. Cooking aside, John is a devoted churchman, present at virtually every Sunday or weekday worship service, living an exemplary life---an inspiration to family, friends, and fellow parishioners alike. Likewise, John exemplifies the best in what it means to be a volunteer. John is married to Helen Panomitros. He is father to Eugenia Gardner and Demetra Salles, and proud grandfather of Yiannaki and Katerina Gardner, and Vasiliki, Eleni and Zoe Salles.

Annette Chiappari, who has "forever" served as Sunday School teacher, is always involved in community life. For years, she has served as a member of the Board of Elections and collects names for the annual Christmas card appeal. Besides serving as an officer in the Daughters of Penelope, Annette is involved with the Cathedral Philoptochos. She is found everywhere. With her quiet demeanor, she is always in church on Sunday, always at every parish event, in the forefront of every community activity. Annette exemplifies the best in what it means to be a volunteer. Annette is married to Philip Chiappari. She is mother to Kathy Saucedo, Virginia Harwell, James Chiappari, and Christine Gatewood, grandmother to Jennifer, Kenneth, Yvonne, Michael, Chris, Anthony, and Steven and great-grandmother to Logan and Avelyn.

In their "former" lives, Ted and John were restaurateurs. Ted owned the Plaza Coffee Shop in San Francisco and John and Helen owned the Shop in Novato. Annette worked for San Francisco International Airport, in technology.

At their request, the April 30 luncheon is being held to benefit the Building Fund. Donation for the luncheon is \$35 per person. Reservations are required, so that we may be able to accommodate everyone. Reservation flyers will be mailed out shortly. The flyers will contain more information about making reservations for the event.



Parish Assembly: Sunday, March 26, 2017

Parishioners of the Annunciation Cathedral are invited to attend the first regular Parish Assembly for 2017, to take place in the Cathedral's Korinthias Hall on Sunday, March 26, following the Divine Liturgy. The Agenda is as follows:

Opening Prayer

1. Election of Assembly Chair
2. Reading/Approval of the October 30, 2016 Minutes of the Parish Assembly
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Rebuilding of the Cathedral: Where we are, where we are going
5. Report of the Board of Auditors
6. Election of Third Member of the Board of Auditors
7. Election of the Nominating Committee (The Nominating Committee effectively becomes the Board of Elections after the October 29 Parish Assembly. As such, it will oversee the Parish Council elections, which will take place on Sunday, December 10, 2017, following the Divine Liturgy. Those elected will serve a two-year term.)
8. Election of Delegates to the Metropolis Clergy-Laity Congress (St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center, April 26-27, 2017)
9. Old Business
10. New Business
Closing Prayer

Parishioners in good standing (that is, those who are ecclesiastically in good standing with the Orthodox Church, as defined in the Archdiocese Regulations, and who have met their stewardship obligations to the Cathedral) may participate in the Parish Assembly. Quorum requirements, as defined in the Parish By-Laws are: 75% of the Parish Council (i.e. 12 out of 15 members), an equal number of other parishioners in good standing, plus the Dean of the Cathedral or, if fewer than 12 members of the Parish Council are present, then 75 parishioners in good standing, plus the Dean of the Cathedral.

Celebrating the Feast Day of the Annunciation Cathedral

THE ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL LADIES'
PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO LUNCH



PHILOPTOCHOS



SATURDAY MARCH 25, 2017
FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICE
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL
KORINTHIAS HALL

\$25 Donation
to support
Philoptochos
Ministries

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 weekly "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.

I invite all of you to encourage spouses and relatives to visit our class if you think they might want to join the Orthodox Church. But just as importantly, please try to identify new visitors who show an interest in our faith and encourage them to be a part of "Introduction to Orthodoxy." I know from personal experience that Annunciation Cathedral is uncommonly welcoming to outside visitors, and we must all do our part to help people interested in joining us.

"Introduction to Orthodoxy" meets in the upstairs conference room (near Fr. Stephen's office) on Sundays from 9 a.m. until the beginning of the Liturgy. We are on a short hiatus due to winter holidays; classes resume January 8. Please direct any questions about the class to me at ortho-doxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com.

Social Justice Committee (Calling Young Adults)

As we mentioned in the last issue of the *Herald*, a parishioner recently asked whether the Church ever takes public stands on social justice issues and whether there has ever been a thought to forming a social justice committee. Notice, here, the word "Church" is capitalized, meaning it has to do with the entire Body of Christ, including the church at the parish level.

The answer to the first part of the question is a resounding yes. One may recall Archbishop Iakovos marching with Dr. Martin Luther King, or the stand the Archdiocese has taken on Cyprus and other issues, especially the recent plight of refugees and the persecution of Christians in the Middle East. The Church, both on its own and together with bodies as the World Council of Churches and other agencies, has often addressed issues of world hunger and other issues which may be considered to be social justice issues. The Bible regularly addresses social justice issues, as do the Fathers of the Church, especially St. John Chrysostom and St. Basil the Great. The foundational "for so God loved the world" (John 3:16) encompasses what is often called social justice. We must note that the Church [the Orthodox Church] never separates social justice concerns from theology, and takes a dim view of movements that claim to be concerned with social justice without a firm grounding in the Gospel. This said, let's go to the second part of the question. The part about forming a social justice committee. The Annunciation Cathedral is open to exploring this. In doing so, it extends an invitation to parishioners who might be interested in meeting and doing just this. The committee will do well to look at the Metropolis Strategic Plan, especially its singular outreach ministry program, as well as the work of the San Francisco Interfaith Council. At a recent prayer breakfast, congregations with Social Justice Committees were honored. On February 9, Father Stephen was asked to offer a reflection at that day's prayer breakfast. He read the Ecumenical Patriarch's statement to the Budapest Water Summit which was convened in November. The statement read, in part: "Almost two decades ago, we addressed the authorities and people of Budapest during our Third International, Inter-Religious and Inter-Disciplinary Symposium, entitled "The Danube: A River of Life." It was a unique event – sailing along the Danube from Germany to Romania in October of 1999, with religious and political leaders, as well as scientists, activists and journalists – highlighting the pollution of cities along this great river.

At that time, we underlined that the church cannot be solely interested in the salvation of the soul, but is deeply concerned with the transformation of God's entire creation. Therefore, what is a threat to nature is also a threat to humankind; just as what is for the preservation of the planet is for the salvation of the whole world.

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Building Update

The hookup to the sewers on the Stevenson Street side took place on December 18. On January 28, the hookup to the Valencia Street sewers took place. That is, the hookup from the sidewalk to the main sewer took place. The hookup from the new Cathedral to the sidewalk began on February 4. Now that we're hooked up to the sewers, the waterproofing of the deck and the garage can take place in earnest (weather permitting). Everything that follows, including installation of the elevator, will now take place.

A detailed survey of the evolving relationship between the Catholic and Orthodox Churches reflects the broader commitment of the Patriarch to ecumenism and dialogue with all the churches. In December 1963, Athenagoras sent Meliton to the Vatican, where he addressed Pope Paul VI: Perhaps it is a matter of divine inspiration...For centuries we have not communicated with one another. Behold, now we are revealing a mutual desire and wish for exchange and encounter. This wish is none other than the Lord's command and the Christian people's nostalgia.

Earlier, Athenagoras had commissioned Iakovos, newly elected and soon to be enthroned archbishop of North and South America to travel to Rome to meet with Pope John XXIII, who had just months earlier announced the convocation of the Second Vatican Council that began later in 1962. When Iakovos visited the pope on March 17, 1959, it was the first encounter between any representative

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I would like to give, but I don't have much to give.

Read on. We've been hearing a lot about pledging to the Building Fund over a five-year period. You may not be able to make a large one-time gift. But, what if you thought about giving the equivalent of a cup of coffee a day. Typically, a plain cup costs \$2. If you can put aside the equivalent of a cup of coffee, that's about \$730 a year. You do the math. The chart below shows how, by thinking in terms of a per person/per day gift of a few dollars and cents, one can make a meaningful gift over a 5-year period. Look it over and consider how you may become a part of this awesome undertaking of rebuilding the Cathedral. By doing so, you may also save on your taxes, as every cent given to the Building Fund is fully tax-deductible, to the extent allowed by law. And, every gift totaling \$1,000 or more will be acknowledged on the donor wall which will be placed in the new Cathedral. Let us know and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Meanwhile, if you would like to discuss donating something other than cash, something like stocks or bonds, or if you would like to learn about other donor opportunities, in addition to making your per person/per day gift of a few dollars and cents, contact the Cathedral, office@annunciation.org, or speak with Father Stephen or Tom Nuris.

| 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 |

Once Again, a Biblical Garden on Valencia Street?

Sure, why not? But, what's a "Biblical garden?" Well, if you look through the Old and New Testaments, you will find any number of plants mentioned, familiar plants like the olive tree (Judges 9:9), the fig tree (Joel 1:7), hyssop (Leviticus 14:52), pomegranate (Song of Solomon 7:12), and wormwood (Revelation 8:11), but also many unfamiliar plants, as terebinth (2 Samuel 18:9), spikenard (Song of Solomon 4:14, nigella (Isaiah 28:26), and boxthorn (Proverbs 22:5). The best known of all is, is perhaps, the burning bush, mentioned in the Book of Exodus (3:1). Now, some of the plants mentioned in Scripture will do well in the Mission District climate, others not so well.

A while back, thought was given to planning an urban garden in various areas around the new Cathedral, one that could support the Community kitchen. This would be primarily a vegetable garden and would, therefore, be seasonal. Our current thinking is that a Biblical garden could feature plants that would be in season the year round and, at the same time, connect us to our Scriptural roots. We welcome your suggestions, meanwhile. We have some time to go before planting begins, but it's not too early to ask, "a Biblical garden on Valencia Street?"

Parking during Construction (90 days and counting-thankfully)

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 discount card; the Cathedral will pay \$7 of the parking cost for Stewards. To pick up a parking pass or to discuss your stewardship, please see Gus Vouchilas, our Stewardship Chairman. If you are a supporting member of the Cathedral, in other words a Steward, you get the card. Street parking is also available on Sundays, especially along our white zone

in front of the Cathedral. For your convenience, an attendant is on hand each Sunday to monitor the drop off zone and direct parking to the parking 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. This parking arrangements with the lot behind the Cathedral will end as soon as our own parking structure is up and running.

Honor Roll of Stewards

Last month, we printed a list of our 2017 Stewards, as a way of saying thank you for your stewardship pledge for 2017 in support of the Cathedral's ministries. It is because of your commitment that the community is vibrant and active. This commitment is part of your faith. It's because you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and because you want His message to be lived and passed on—a message of peace, of love, of reconciliation. It's because you believe in the Church—a church that did not begin yesterday, but the Body of Christ, founded by the Lord Himself. It's because you believe in continuity. That your input counts. That your giving matters. Because, by giving, you enable the Word to be proclaimed...Orthodoxy to be a faith, not only of yesterday and today, but also a faith of tomorrow. God bless you for your Stewardship commitment. Indeed, you are honored Stewards.

A Word About Stewardship: Good News!

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. Hopefully, this trend continues throughout 2017. Currently, we list 343 Stewardship units (families, for the most part), pledging a total of \$289, 989 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). So far, in 2017, it is closer to \$1,000. With this level of support, we can easily attain our 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 | 168 | na/168 |
| Pledged Dollars | \$251,670 | \$299,637 | \$289,989 | \$167,448 | na/\$167,448 |
| Outstanding Balances 2017 | | | | \$86,594 | na/\$86,594 |
| Average Pledge | \$782.00 | \$854.00 | \$845 | \$997.00 | na/\$997 |
| Number of pledges at 1000.00 or above | | | | 72 | na/72 |
| Number of pledges between 601 and 999 | | | | 19 | na/19 |
| Number of pledges at 600.00 and below | | | | 76 | na/76 |
| Number of individual 2016 pledges that have not pledged for 2017 to date | | | | | 170 |

Unique 2017 Pledges :

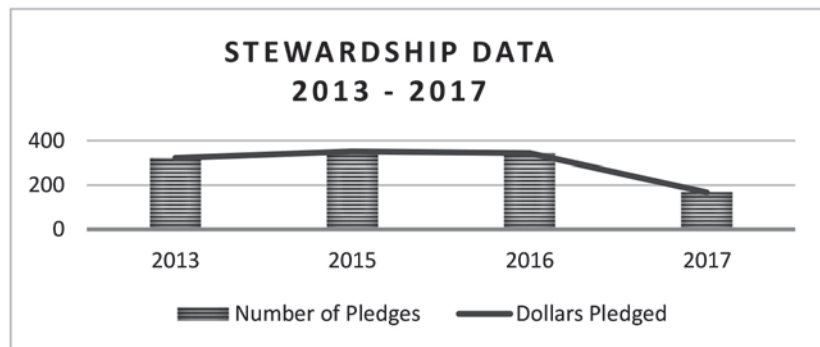
(no pledge 2013 - 2016)

None at this time

% Change TY/LY to Date

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Number of Pledges | -6% |
| Pledged Dollars | -3% |
| Average Pledge | 2.75% |

Period ending January 31, 2017





Community Kitchen

The 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. Won't you consider volunteering once in a while? All you have to do is show up. By the way, there's no age limit. We have teenagers volunteering and we have people "forever young" volunteering. Tots and teens. Seniors and all. Everyone turned out to make our Christmas Community Kitchen a true family event. How wonderful it would be for every month's Community Kitchen to be like this. We prayed and we sang. We ate and we connected. Guests and hosts alike. We thought, what if the entire world took notice and tried a little bit of outreach: the world would become a better place. How about it. It would be truly wonderful to expand our volunteer base, so we can do more. Please communicate your willingness to Father Stephen, fatherstephen@annunciation.org. He will put you in touch to those who've taken the lead and are coordinating this important ministry. Thank you.



Parish Council Names Committees, Invites your Participation

At a recent meeting, the Parish Council named various committees, in an effort to better serve our parishioners. These committees are: Stewardship, Technology, Hall Management, Youth, Protocol, and OIKOS, to name a few. The Stewardship Committee engages parishioners in the support of the ministries of the parish. It also plans two luncheons a year: one on Stewardship Sunday (in the fall) and one on Godparents Sunday (the Sunday before Palm Sunday). The technology committee oversees the Cathedral's technology program, from equipment to programs, from hardware to software. The Hall Management Committee oversees the hall use, its rental and management. (Currently, the committee is investigating removal of the temporary wall between the gym and the Kytherian Room and replacing it with movable panels.) The Youth Committee involves itself with all aspects of youth work, from JOY, GOYA, and

Young Adults, and various activities and ministries, from basketball, to Sunday School, Greek School and dance. Protocol has to do with staffing the pangari, ushering, and church decorum. Finally, OIKOS offers ongoing lectures and adult education.

The above committees are currently staffed, as follows: Stewardship: Gus Vouchilas, Philip Athanasiades, Chris Kyriacou, Nick Svetcoff, Perri Nager, Dean Nicolacakis; Technology: Nick Rally, Deno Konstantinidis; Hall Management: Dean Nicolacakis, George Gavros, Philip Athanasiades, Pat Aleck, Paul Sogotis; Youth: Tom Nuris, Manoli Nuris, Chris Ramos, GOYA Advisor, Dance Group Rep.; Protocol: Paul Sogotis, Nick Kontonis, Peter Manetas, Mike Bagatelos, Despina Kokalis; and OIKOS: Dr. Katina Kostoulas, Dr. Tony Elite. If you would like to be a part of the above-named committees, please see one of the current committee members. They will be happy to discuss scope, meeting dates and times with you.

Mocas for Missions

Until recently, a program existed in the Metropolis called "Pennies 'n Prayers." Basically, it worked in this way: at various parish meetings, such as Parish Council, Philoptochos, Bible studies, there was a jar into which people put spare change. This was collected over time and forwarded to the (then) Diocese, (now) Metropolis in support of its local missions program. With this money, the church "planted" and supported mission parishes. As a result, 10% of the current parishes in the San Francisco Metropolis began as mission parishes. More recently, it was the Philoptochos that sponsored Pennies 'n Prayers and remitted the collections to the Metropolis. Now, however, the Pennies 'n Prayers program has become Mocas for Missions. The idea is that, on occasion, one would give up ordering coffee out and, instead, would earmark, for missions, the money that would have been spent on the coffee. This concept caught on, especially among the younger crowd. In any case, a canister has been placed in the conference room next to the coffee maker, asking anyone who wishes to make a cup of coffee to donate \$1 for Mocas for Missions. In 2016, the Cathedral sent \$715. In 2017, let's make this \$1000. Mocas for Missions is a project of the Commission of Missions and Evangelism, Thomaida Hudanish, Assistant Director. C.O.M.E. is doing great things, as you've seen in more recent Heralds. Should you wish to contact Thomaida, her phone number is 503 277-3928

of the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Pope of Rome since May 1547.

Bartholomew was studying in Rome at the time; he was personally present at this historical meeting. Both Iakovos and Bartholomew were, therefore, present at this pioneering, preliminary meeting that prepared the ground and set the pace for Orthodox-Catholic relations.

The Ecumenical Patriarchate has long been ahead of its time in the area of ecumenical openness. And it has consistently paid the price within an Orthodox Church often obsessed with and suppressed by

see next box



From a recent meeting of the Metropolis Philoptochos Board. Members of the Metropolis Philoptochos Board, presided over by Jeannie Ranglas, shown with Bishop Apostolos and Father Stephen, view the rebuilding progress.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Greetings from Philoptochos! Wishing all our Church family joyous times as we begin the Spring season!

Another great event! Our Philoptochos members are to be congratulated for all their hard work in preparing for our annual 35th Crab Feed held on Friday, January 27, 2017. Outstanding, amazing delicious crab and "can't wait till next year" were among the comments we received. Over 500 attendees feasted on the full crab dinner prepared by our large committee of women and men who made this over the top event come to fruition.. Starting with kitchen prep, purchasing, reservations, cooking pasta, marinating the crab, garlic bread, bartending, to setting and dressing the 52 tables, cleanup and running our amazing raffle shows the hard work everyone did. The commitment of the team for this fundraising event is without parallel. Every year our members step up to the challenge to make this fund raising event profitable in support of charitable ministries and programs and in support of our Cathedral. A great team effort so kudos to you all!

Philoptochos Membership 2017 PHILANTHROPY – FAITH- FELLOWSHIP

When you join Philoptochos you are part of the arm of the Church that reaches to those in need through philanthropic projects that

continued next page

Philoptochos News, continued from page 13

reach to those in our communities and in the world. We give support through our faith and fellowship. Your membership is important to our communities and our Cathedral. You can be a member that attends meetings or one that gives time to the Chapter when you can due to time commitments. The great mission of Philoptochos is to reach out with faith, hope and love to all we encounter. "Membership is one woman asking another to truly care".

Join today and be part of a fun and loving group that reaches out to our fellow brothers and sisters in need. You will receive a membership form in the mail or you can pick one up in the Narthex of the Church. We look forward to growing our Chapter in love, fun and fellowship!

Celebrating the Feast Day of the Cathedral

This year the Feast Day of the Cathedral will be celebrated on Saturday, March 25, 2017. Philoptochos will prepare a luncheon following Church service. Please join us as we celebrate this special day. It is always a delight to break bread with all our members and friends.

Easter Bake Sale 2017

We will celebrate Orthodox Easter on Sunday, April 16, 2017. As we always do at this time of year Philoptochos will be preparing tsourekia, red eggs and cookies for our Easter Bake Sale. Please check the order form in the Herald and get your orders in early. The deadline for orders will be April 9, 2017. All funds raised from the sale will go to support children afflicted with Cancer.

Future Annunciation Philoptochos events to put on you calendar: Mother's Day Luncheon will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2017

Social Justice Committee, from page 8

Water is as life-giving and sacred as the blood that runs through our body. It does not belong to any individual or any industry, but is the inviolable and non-negotiable right of every human being.

Unless we appreciate the danger – perhaps even sinfulness – of refusing to share the planet's natural resources, we will inevitably face serious challenges and conflicts. Sustainability is not just sound technology and good business. Sustainability is the way to peaceful coexistence.

The reflection consisted in these points made by His All Holiness:

1. The Church cannot be solely interested in the salvation of the soul, but is deeply concerned with the transformation of God's entire creation.
2. Water...is the inviolable and non-negotiable right of every human being.
3. Sustainability is the way to peaceful coexistence.

Many of those at the prayer breakfast would never otherwise have heard the Orthodox Church's viewpoint outlined above, nor of its pioneering work in matters ecological, which earned the Ecumenical Patriarch the title "Green Patriarch." We can no longer live as isolated entities. It is time for Annunciation Cathedral to take its place among those congregations, addressing Social Justice issues from an Orthodox Christian point of view. The work is both challenging and vital and we invite your participation. If you are interested, please let us hear from you. Communicate with Father Stephen, fatherstephen@annunciation.org, initially, and, then, with the committee chair, Dr. Elena Lingas. We would like to bring together a group of at least ten people and get going. Young Adults: we especially address these thoughts to you and invite your involvement.

a narrow interpretation of truth and tradition. It is a cost—frequently a consequence of ignorant misinformation, consistent misinterpretation, and malignant misrepresentation—that Bartholomew is willing to pay out of a sense of Christian conviction and personal commitment. In an encyclical issued in 2010, at the outset of Great Lent, the Patriarch boldly responded to his detractors:

Critics of the restoration of unity among Christians do not hesitate to distort reality in order to deceive and arouse the faithful. Thus, they are silent about the fact that theological dialogues are conducted by unanimous decision of all Orthodox Churches. They disseminate false rumors that union between the Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches is imminent...They condemn those who conduct these dialogues as allegedly "heretics" and "traitors" of Orthodox, purely and simply because they converse with non-Orthodox, with whom they share the treasure and truth of our Orthodox faith. They speak

see next box



Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos Easter Bake 2017

— PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW —

| | <u>No. of Orders</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Easter Bread @ \$16.00 each | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Koulourakia @ \$8.00 per Dozen | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Red Colored Eggs @ \$7.00 per Dozen | _____ | \$ _____ |
| TOTAL Amount of Order | | \$ _____ |

NAME _____ TEL NO. _____

Your order will be ready for pick up on Friday, April 14, (10:00am to 3:00pm only)
and Saturday, April 15, (10:00am to 12:00pm only).

Please return completed form to the Cathedral Office or call (415) 864-8000 to place your order. Enclose payment with your order. All orders are prepaid.

DEADLINE TO PLACE ORDER IS SUNDAY APRIL 9, 2017

PHILOPTOCHOS



Check Received: _____

Amount: _____

YOUTH NEWS

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS

GOYA Lenten Retreat

The Bay Area GOYA Lenten Retreat will be held, once again, at the Marin Headlands March 10-12, 2017. This retreat is hosted by Holy Cross in Belmont, and open to all Orthodox Youth 6th grade - 12th grade.

DATE: March 10-12, 2017

LOCATION: NaturBridge in the Marin Headlands

PRICE: \$195

AGES: For Orthodox Youth, 6th grade - 12th grade

HOSTED BY: Holy Cross, Belmont

Additional information is available
at www.gosfyouth.org



Metropolis Summer Camp

It's hardly summer, yet space for the 2017 Metropolis summer camp at St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center is going is limited. For example, the July 9-15 session is sold out. 30 spots are left for session II, July 16-22, and 38 spots are left for session III, July 23-29. Each session has a maximum capacity of 115 campers. Due to high demand, campers are limited to registering for only one session of camp. To reserve, please visit gosfyouth.org



Ionian Village Summer Camp

Ionian Village offers two programs. There is a summer camping program for young people grades 8 through 12 and a Spiritual Odyssey program, open to young adults ages 19 to 24. Both programs are in demand. Registration opens March 1st, so early application is encouraged. Please visit www.ionianvillage.org for information about the programs offered and for on-line application.



OYAA Basketball

Girls and Boys Elementary and Middle School basketball games which will be played at the Annunciation Cathedral for the remainder of the season are as follows:

Sunday, March 4:

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 11 a.m. BES | Holy Cross vs. Annunciation |
| 12 p.m. GMS | Annunciation vs. St. Gregory 1 |
| 1 p.m. BMS | Annunciation vs. St. Nicholas SJ |
| 2 p.m. BMS | St. Gregory 2 vs. Holy Trinity |

Playoffs will be played Saturday, March 11 and Championships will be played Sunday, March 12. Times and venues to be announced.

Please refer to www.oyaasportscentral.com for game times and venues other than at the Annunciation Cathedral.



DANCE GROUP NEWS

FDF 2017 San Diego – Another Great Experience!

Four of our amazing dance groups participated in this year’s Annual Folk Dance Festival (FDF), which took place in San Diego, CA. Our 4 groups presented suites of dances from different regions of Greece. Our 4 groups are: To Mellon, Revmata, Thisavri, and Spithes. Out of over 70 dance program participants, 65 were able to attend. A great turnout. A photo montage of the groups preparing to participate, performing at the sneak preview brunch on February 12 and, variously, during FDF appears on the first two pages of the present Herald. We are very proud of our groups—their directors, parents, and young people.

To Mellon: Pre-K-K (must be at least 4 years old in Fall 2016) Directed by Irene Kyriacou and Katerina Sarikakis

Revmata: 1st-3rd grade in Fall 2016 Directed by Katerina Sarikakis, Eleni Taptelis, and Trina Misthos

Thisavri: 4th-6th grade in Fall 2016 Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou

Spithes: 7th-11th grade in Fall 2016 Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou

Megalopolis: 18 and up Directed by Michael and Nicole Garibaldi

Greek School News

Greek school held its annual Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 17. The students recited Christmas poems and sang Christmas songs, thereby extending our school wishes everyone for a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. Classes resume January 7, 2017.

If you would like more information about our school or would like to enroll your child for next year, please contact Anthi janssens at anthigj@gmail.com or 415-254-5458. We look forward to welcoming you.

Sunday School News

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

~Saint Theophan the Recluse

Our Sunday School students in grades 4th-High School will prepare for and participate in the annual Oratorical Festival named in honor of St. John Chrysostom, the greatest orator of the church. The students will have the opportunity to choose and write about one of the topics provided by the Archdiocese Religious Studies and then present their speech in front of the congregation after liturgy on **Sunday, March 12th**. Although, the oral presentation of the speech is optional, every student will participate in the writing assignment during class. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to express in writing and orally their feelings and beliefs about their Orthodox faith.

As we prepare for the Great and Holy Lent, our Sunday School students will also be learning about the journey through Holy Week and the symbolism of Forgiveness, Mercy, Sacrifice, and Love.

Sunday School Calendar March – June 2017

| | |
|----------|--|
| March 5 | Sunday of Orthodoxy - Iron Procession after Liturgy. Grades 4-High School - Oratorical speech writing/practice |
| March 12 | Present Oratorical Speeches - Immediately following Liturgy |
| March 19 | Music Lesson Lower Grades 1 st -6 th Sunday of the Holy Cross - Procession of the Cross |
| March 26 | Music Lesson – Upper Grades 7 th -HS |
| April 2 | Godparent Sunday |
| April 9 | Palm Sunday - Sunday School Class Photos |
| April 14 | TGI – Pascha - Good Friday Sunday School Program |
| April 16 | Holy Pascha - Easter Sunday – No Sunday School |
| April 23 | Music Lesson - Lower Grades 1 st -6 th |
| April 30 | Music Lesson - Upper Grades 7 th -HS |
| May 7 | Regular Classes |
| May 14 | Mother’s Day - Class Project |
| May 21 | Regular Classes |
| May 28 | Memorial Holiday - No Sunday School |
| June 4 | Last Day of Sunday School – Graduation Program |

Sunday School affirms the home as the center of our faith. Parents are the most important people in a child’s life, and learning about our Orthodox faith starts in the home. Teaching children about God is a seven-day-a-week effort, not something that can be done just an hour on Sunday morning. We pledge to do our best to support you in your child’s spiritual education but it is only with your active participation that we are able to share the importance and value of our Orthodox faith with your children.

“Please make every effort this year to get Sunday School and the children off to a good start by coming on time at 10:30 am.”

‘Like’
Annunciation
Cathedral Sunday
School!



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. 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 March is as follows:

March 5 – **Group 4**
March 12 – **Group 1**
March 19 – **Group 2**
March 26 – **Group 3**

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, (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.



Sacraments

Baptism

Christiana Michael, daughter of Nicolas William Wojczak and Anthoula Harrison, was baptized on February 11. Her sponsor is Eoanna Harrison.

Na Mas Zisi! Long Life!

Wedding

George Vathis and Irene Garibaldi were married on February 25. Their sponsor is George Vasiliou.

Na Mas Zisoun! Long Life!

Funeral

Lillian Stavroula Hamberis, who fell asleep in the Lord on February 15, was buried February 22. She is survived by children Paul, Mary, Alex, and Libby, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Aionia I Mnimi! Eternal Memory!

M A R C H C A L E N D A R

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Salutations, 7 p.m. | Greek School 10 a.m. Tax Aid, 10 a.m. Sat. of Souls at cemetery 10 a.m. OYAA Basketball Games, 11a.m. |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| Orthros 9 a.m. Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday of Orthodoxy Church Basketball 2 p.m. | | | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Salutations, 7 p.m. | Greek School 10 a.m. Tax Aid, 10 a.m. |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| Orthros 9 a.m. Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. OIKOS lecture Oratorical Festival | | | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Salutations, 7 p.m. | Greek School 10 a.m. Tax Aid, 10 a.m. |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| Orthros 9 a.m. Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Parish Council, 12:30 p.m. | | Community Kitchen 6:30 p.m. | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Annunciation Great Vespers 7 p.m. | Annunciation Orthros 9 am., Liturgy 10 am, Luncheon, noon Greek School 10 a.m. |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| Orthros 9 a.m. Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Parish Assembly | | | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Church Basketball, 7 p.m. | Akathist, 7 p.m. | |

condescendingly of every effort for reconciliation among divided Christians and restoration of their unity as “the pan-heresy of ecumenism.”

The Patriarch knows very well that the sustained efforts of the Ecumenical Patriarchate for the reconciliation of all Christians and the restoration of Church unity are ultimately a fundamental expression of obedience and loyalty to the exhortation and expectation of Christ immediately before his betrayal and crucifixion “that the disciples all may be one” (John 17:21). He is also well aware that these efforts have a long-standing history, especially during the twentieth century, sometimes called “the century of ecumenism.”

UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF
SAN FRANCISCO, THE ANNUNCIATION
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL
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*A record-breaking crowd turns out for our 2017 Crab Feed!
"The best crab ever!" was heard over and over again. Kudos, Philoptochos!*

