

SEPTEMBER 2018

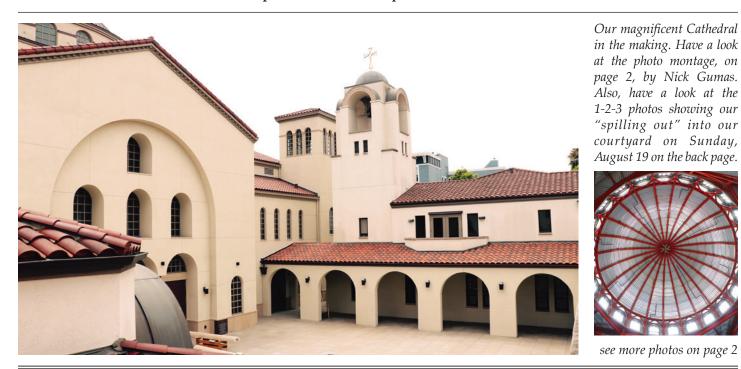
Counting Down to Festival 2018: September 21, 22, 23

In just two months, Annunciation will hold its food festival. It will take place on our grounds at 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, Friday, September 21, Saturday, September 22 and Sunday, September 23. By far the largest fund raiser for the Cathedral, it is also its largest social event, bringing together thousands of people for a weekend of food, fellowship, and faith. In recent years, social media has been the way people have been informed of the festival, and the growing crowds each year suggests we will expect to break another attendance record in 2018. But, we need volunteers. Volunteers to plan the festival. Volunteers to promote the festival. Volunteers to cook, organize and offer the various food items during the festival.

Cooking for the festival has been going on all summer, with the preparation of the pastitsio and the moussaka, not to mention koulourakia and kourambiedes.. Other food items will be prepared during the month of September, on the following days: September 4 (Galaktoboureko), 11 (Bell Peppers); 16 (Baklava), & 19 (Rizogalo). Please note the days and see whether you will be able to help out. Typically, cooking takes place between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Meanwhile, we are delighted to share with you: 1. That our courtyard is finished, so that the festival will take place, for the first



time, outdoors, as well as indoors and 2. That we will have valet parking, parking cars in our own parking structure, below the new Cathedral. Amazing progress. At long last! Due, of course, to your support and the support derived from events such as our Food Festival. A personal thank you to Deno Konstantinidis for stepping up to chair this year's Festival and to Grace Koutoulas, for stepping up, once again, to serve as co-chair. That's the Annunciation spirit!



Our Magnificent Cathedral in the Making Photo Montage by Nick Gumas

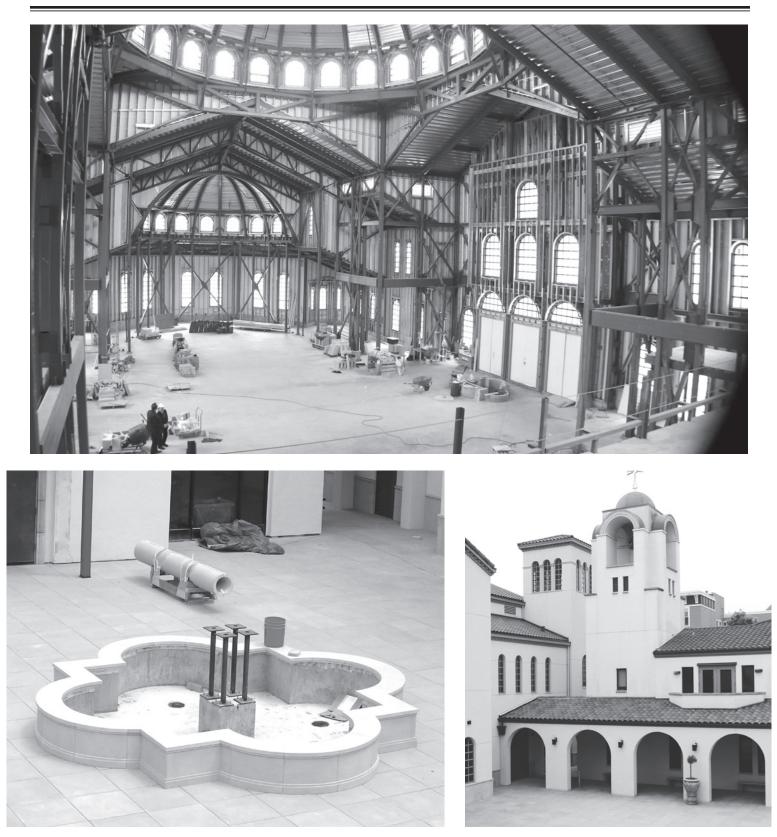






"Spilling Out into the Courtyard"

Ken Katen, our Owners Representative on the project, had a thought: How about having an "event" the latter part of August, whereby one Sunday our parishioners can "spill out" onto the courtyard, now that it's substantially finished, and celebrate the achievement...I'll even provide the champagne. So, he did. And Mariam Arsinoos provided the champagne flutes. Informally, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, August 19, Father Stephen invited the congregation to join Chris Kyriacou, Parish Council President; Janis Petrou, Philoptochos President; and Tom Nuris, Capital Campaign Chairman, led by our Grand Benefactors who happened to be in church, namely, Ethel Davies, Professor Nicholas and



Janine Economides, Tula Mouroufas, George Vlahos, and Cynthia (and, from heaven, John) Vlahos (Isidoros & Maria Garifalakis, Alexander & Mari Moulinos, Dean & Maria Nicolacakis, Connie Panagotacos, and Dean & Tami Rally are our other Grand Benefactors) to cut a symbolic red ribbon and spill out into the courtyard. What a space! Eventually, when the remaining columns are installed at the chapel entryway, the new Cathedral doors are in place, the landscaping has been done, and the fountain completed, it will be magnificent, indeed. We will be using the space for this year's festival, where we will continue to celebrate what the Good Lord has afforded us, individually, and as a community. See the back page for 3 photos: 1-2-3: before the ribbon cutting, during the ribbon cutting and after the ribbon cutting.

Thank You to All Who are Making this Possible

The construction of the Cathedral and its ancillary facilities would not have been possible without the faith, generosity, and vision of those who have contributed to make it a reality. Following is a list of the donors to date, in categories of giving, beginning at \$1,000., who are making the rebuilding of the Cathedral possible. Large or small, all gifts are appreciated. To date, some \$12,000,000. has been raised for the rebuilding of the Cathedral.

Pinnacle (\$5,000,000 + Plus)

Mountanos, Anne and Angelo

Founders (\$1,000,000 +) *Costopoulos, Katherine*

Cornerstone (\$250,000 - \$999,999) *Athan-Olin, Virginia* Mountanos, Michael S. & Erika Cathedral Philoptochos Society

Grand Benefactors (\$100,000 - \$249,999)

Anonymous Gift Christopher, Helen Davies, Mitchell & Ethel Economides,Prof. Nicholas & Janine Garifalakis, Isidoros & Maria Moulinos, Alexander & Mari Mouroufas, Tula Nicolacakis, Dean & Maria Panagotacos, Connie Rally, Dean & Tami Tsougarakis, Athena, Vlahos, George Vlahos, John & Cynthia

Major Benefactors (\$75,000 - \$99,999)

Aleck, Patricia & Demetria Bagatelos, Michael Kyriacou, Fr. Stephen & Presvytera Aliki *Helen Tsalamakos*

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Papageorge, Christos & Despina Poulakidas, Sakee & Irene Sarikakis, Mike & Katerina Sogotis, Paul & Eva Sogotis, Theodore & Thea Stathopoulos, Mr. & Mrs. Marios Tamaras, Nick & Joy *Tzekos, Loula Estate of* Tsifourdaris, Spiros & Aristea *Tentes, Beatrice*

Special Donors (\$15,000 - \$24,999)

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Ariadne & Epimenides Chapters Pan-Cretans of America Asimos, Dr. Chrisula Bissas, Maria Cocoles, Jim & Luba Curd, John and Vivian Dalianes, Thanos & Marguerite Duggan's Serra Mortuary

Elite, Dr. Anthony Fragakis, Charalabos & Marianthe Glafkides, Constantine & Joanne Homer Family Foundation in Memory of Tryphon Nichols Ivantcho, John Trust In Honor of the Baptism of James & Gia Costouros Ioannis D. Terzis Family Kallas, John & Kris Kastoras, Tom & Niki Koutoulas, Gus Kozak, Alexandros & Elisavet Lekas, Loula A. Makras, Sophie Makras, Elaine Mandylas, Thomas Manetas, Peter & Maria Mellos, Fave Milionis, Mary & Kosta Mitchel, Mary Moulas, Vasiliki Munguia, Helen Nager, Perri Novo, Dustin & Chrisoula Pacific Gas & Electric Co. Panas, Michael & Elaine Pantages, Gregory & Mary Pezo, Lester & Chrisoula Poulakidas, Dean Poulakidas, Irene & Manetas, Michael In Memory of Georgia & Harry Manetas Poulakidas, Jennifer Stathoudakis, Frosso Stratakis, Ari & Marcy Tonas, Basil & Mary Vallee, Katherine Vellis, Costas & Meena Vorrises, Vassiliki & Dionisios Vriheas, Loula

Special Patrons (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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Bozionelos, Sofia A.

Bright Funds Foundation (anonymous) Cardellini, Marie Carter, Eleni L. Chian Society of CA Agia Markela Cocoles, Stanley George Comba. Maria Diakakis, Alexandra (Merjano) Diakakis, Nick Michael Diakakis, Michelle Nicole Daskalakis, Christo & Olga Daughters of Penelope -EOS Decker, Christina Dekaristos, John & Anastasia Derdevanis, Philip Dimitrou, Agnes & Family Economidis, Theofanis & Roberta Eliopoulos, John & Annette Eritrean Orthodox Church of S. F. Fell, Jason & Tillie Fonti, George & Sophia Galifianakis, Dr. and Mrs. George Gardner, Brian & Eugenia Garefalos, James Georgatos, Nicko & Chrisoula George, Sam & Margaret Georgopoulos, Dennis Hamberis, Paul Hamberis, Stavroula Haramis, Peter & Maria Hodges, Violet In honor of Joanna Caravellas Ball In Honor of Victoria Liviakis & William Randolph Fry Johns, John & Christina Johnson, Nick Iust Give Kaimaki, Eirini Kalessis, Dimitrios & Catherine Kallas, Louise Karkazis, Lefty & Carole Kascampas, Giota Katsanis, Gari Kavounas, Edmond & Margaret Kireopoulos, Peter & May Kleinekorte, Richard & Alexia Kolokakis, Joseph & Anna Kontis, Mary Korpontinos, Bessie Kottas, Angelos Kounalakis, Diane & Baxter, Jeff Kyriacou, Panteleimon Kyriacou, Stelios Kyriacou, Thanos Kyriacou, Vasilia Kyriacou, Vlasis Lingas, Dr. Elena O. & Wiener, Zachary Lingas, Dr. John & Family In Honor of Catherine Lingas Liviakis, Vickie & Fry, William Randolph Lukehart, Ryan & Marie Manios, Franklin & Mary Marcopoulos, Cynthia Markanton, Helen Mavrakakis, Mary Mattis, George P. and Cleo Mavroudis, Aglaia Monolakis, John & Demetra Morales, Robert Moulas, Vicky A.

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italics=deceased

September is Stewardship Planning Month

During the month of September, we will be analyzing our stewardship program for 2018 with a view to an even more robust program in 2019. Stewardship is the means by which we, the members and parishioners of the parish, support the day-to-day work of the Church. This is different from the Capital Campaign, which raises funds specifically for the new Cathedral. Stewardship is ongoing. Capital Campaign is project-oriented. For 2019, we are adopting the Stewardship theme of the Archdiocese, which is: Stewards of the Faith: I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me.



Shown above is an icon of the multiplication of the five loaves, or the feeding of the 5,000. It shows Christ blessing the loaves and entrusting them to the disciples who, in turn, give distribute them to the people. This is a prefiguring of the Eucharist, where the clergy have been entrusted with the distribution of the Eucharist, i.e. the Body and Blood of Christ, which we receive as Holy Communion. As the stewardship material, which we have received, says: Unless our presentation of stewardship is grounded in the true meaning of the Eucharistic sacrifice, it remains a fragmented presentation.



When we help others to better understand the true meaning of the Holy Eucharist, we help them to

bridge the gap between liturgy and life, between the love of Jesus on the cross and our daily lives,

between our beautiful theology and spirituality and the practical stewardship to which we are called. In the words of Bishop Ireneos Pop, "As Orthodox Christians, we are Eucharistic because we are

capable of seeing the world as Gods' gift, as a sacrament of God's presence, and as a means of communion

with God. And, so, we are able to offer the world back to God as thanksgiving. Recall the intonation of

of the priest, as he raises up the gifts: "Thine own of Thine own we offer to Thee..." (from the Divine Liturgy).

Further on Stewardship

As the many programs offered by the Cathedral are funded by your stewardship, it is only appropriate that those participating in the programs are stewards of the parish. In order to be a steward, one needs to be 18 years of age and older. What, then, of those who are under 18? It stands to reason that their parents or guardians need to be stewards of the parish. So, then, the parents or guardians of those who participate in Sunday School, Greek School, dance, basketball, volleyball, etc., should be stewards of the parish.

We want to Say "Thank You-Ευχαριστώ"

In the November issue of the Herald, we will print a list of current stewards of the parish, both to say thank you $\varepsilon \upsilon \chi \alpha \varrho \iota \sigma \tau \omega'$ (it's only appropriate, as, during November, we observe the uniquely American holiday of "thanks giving." At the same time, we want to shake things up a little bit. We want those who are not on the list to ask, why am I not on the list. Why won't I join in and help fund the programs offered by the Annunciation Cathedral parish. After all, I, too, am a baptized Orthodox Christian and consider the Annunciation Cathedral my home parish. Many times, we Orthodox are lax when it comes to stepping up and supporting. We need to make it more of a priority.

THIS & THAT (Redux)

Streamlining our Mailing List

Our mailing list consists of about 800 names and addresses. That is, some 800 households receive the monthly Herald and other items mail, such as stewardship packets, Christmas and Easter mailings, along with the annual calendar. All this costs money. Meanwhile, our stewardship—those who send in an annual pledge to support the Cathedral's daily needs as well as its programs—is about 330. Somehow there's this disconnect. It's like Jesus asking the lepers who were cleansed, "where are the other nine?" Why is it we have 800 on our mailing list but only 330 stewards? Thought is being given to streamlining our mailing list. That is, at the beginning of 2019, we are considering eliminating from the mailing list the names of those who are not stewards. Before we actually do so, we would like to hear from you. Your input is, as always valuable. Actually, we have heard from some of you. What we've heard so far is that you would like us to streamline our list.

Stewardship – What we plan to do

As noted above, the Cathedral has about 330 active families. That is, families who support of the work of the church through stewardship. Every year, beginning in October or November, we've sent out stewardship pledge cards. We usually follow up with a reminder letter. By the end of the year, we reach our stewardship goal of \$300,000. For 2019, however, we are considering simplifying things. We are considering sending the 330 active families a letter confirming that your stewardship for 2019 will be the same as it is in 2018, thus eliminating the need to send out cards to everyone, along with a reminder e mail. We will have cards handy only for new members. For example, for those who are new to the community and which to participate in its stewardship program. Or those who've suddenly woken up and said, "you know, this is my church, and I have to support it." Once again, we invited your comments and we've been listening. We will be working with our Ladies Philoptochos to address this. God bless our Philoptochos. A few members have said, "sure, let's sit down and brainstorm." We will begin meeting in September and, more regularly, following our festival.

More on our Web Master

Last month we put out a blurb to the effect that we are looking for a web master. John Lampros, a lifelong member of the Cathedral, responded that he would like to assist us in this area. We are currently in the process of receiving the password and other protocols from our current web master. As noted, the reason for the shift is, frankly, spiraling costs. So, thank you, John, for joining the team. Nick Rally is heads our technology committee. Tony Kutulas is a consultant to the committee. And, as always, Jim Loukas, who was our first web master, once John Sooklaris secured our domain name, is always on hand, ready to assist. We are, indeed, blessed.



As everyone is busy now preparing for our festival, it was decided we should wait until after the festival to begin holding regular meetings. As noted, we have a commemorative book in the making, a banquet, and an "anniversary weekend." As always we are open to your suggestions and continued input. After all, we are a community, and it takes a community. The next meeting will take place on Sunday, September 30th and is open to the entire community. The meeting will take place in the Cathedral's conference room.

Just to reiterate, 2021 will mark the Cathedral's 100th anniversary. 100 years since it was established. Originally it was named St. Sophia Cathedral and was located at Hayes and Pierce Streets in San Francisco. In 1928, the Cathedral, as St. Sophia, was relocated to Valencia Street, It was renamed "Annunciation," in 1936. Its corporate name is United Greek Orthodox Community of San Francisco, The Annunciation.



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.

see page 8

from page 7

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 "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.

The class has been meeting on a weekly basis. Going forward, however, it will meet two times a month. In September, the class will meet on September 9 and on September 16, beginning at 9 a.m.



Health Goods Drive

Our Young Adults, in tandem with our Ladies Philoptochos, is conducting a "health goods drive," just as we're ending our very successful socks drive. What's a "health goods drive?" Well, it means picking up a toothbrush, a small tube of toothpaste, perhaps some mouthwash. Things like this. Like the socks, the health goods will be given out to our guests who come to Community Kitchen. The next Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, September 18. Won't you bring one of the above items with you the next time you come to church and leave it in the appropriate receptacle, located in the front office? The office is the first room on your right, as you enter the building, off Valencia Street. Thank you.



Some of those celebrating their Feast Day. As the Cathedral is named for the Theotokos, specifically, for the announcement that she would become the bearer of God in the flesh, it is a special place of gathering on all feast days honoring the Theotokos. One such feast is the day of her death, or falling asleep, the feast known as the Dormition. As is our custom, a luncheon follows the Divine Liturgy on August 15, and those who celebrate their name day—people with the name Maria, Mary, Marios, Despina, Panagiotis and Panagiota—are honored. Shown above are some of those celebrating their name day, at the conclusion of this year's luncheon.

Did you know? There are a number of Christian writings, outside the 27 books of the New Testament, that have influenced Christian writers through the ages? One of these is the Didache (literally, "The Teaching of the *Twelve Disciples"*). *Did you also* know that the Book of Revelation, while one of the 27 books of the New Testament, is not read publicly in Orthodox Christian worship? Also known as the Apocalypse, or Apocalypse of St. John, it nevertheless influenced Christian art and iconography.



Philoptochos News A Special Fund Raiser

The Ladies Philoptochos is proud to sponsor the sale of the official Annunciation Cathedral Christmas Ornament. This is an etched depiction of the new cathedral and is a limited edition 24k gold plate on brass ornament. Proceeds from the sale of the ornament go to the building fund.

This keepsake ornament is a tangible reminder of what we are building—the new Annunciation Cathedral. The ornament helps us reflect on the generations of faithful– those who immigrated and those born here–over the past several decades that dedicated themselves to creating the community we call the Annunciation Cathedral.

A special booth will be set up during the Festival. Do stop by and pick up one or several ornaments, for your own Christmas tree, or as gifts. The ornament makes a wonderful gift. Each ornament will be accompanied by a certificate of authenticity, as follows: (*see next column*)

⁶ πάσης δημιουργός τῆς κτίσεως, ὁ καιροὺς καὶ χρόνους ἐν τῆ ἰδία ἐξουσία θέμενος, εὐλόγησον τὸν στέφανον τοῦ ἐνιαυτοῦ τῆς χρηστότητός σου, Κύριε, φυλάττων ἐν εἰρήνῃ τοὺς βασιλεῖς καὶ τὴν πόλιν σου, πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, καὶ σῶσον ἡμᾶς. Τῆς Ἰνδίκτου. Ἡχος Β΄. FRONT: The Annunciation Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos Society Proudly sponsors the official Annunciation Cathedral Collector's Ornament

> This is to certify that This is a limited edition 24k gold plate on brass ornament

Ornament No.____ Certified by_____ Janis Petrou, Philoptochos President

> Annunciation Cathedral 245 Valencia Street San Francisco, CA 94103

All proceeds from the sale of this ornament go to the Building Fund

Ornament designed by Nicholas Balian Ornament Committee: Vivian Curd, Sophia Makras, Janis Petrou, Valerie Roumeliotes, Meena Vellis

BACK:

The Annunciation Cathedral came into being May, 1921. It built a temporary church and hall at property it purchased at Hayes and Pierce Streets. In 1928, it bought the <u>Valencia Street Theater</u>, and relocated there. It has been located there ever since.

On October 17, 1989, the Loma Prieta earthquake struck with a force of 7.1 on the Richter Scale. Devastating damage occurred to the Cathedral building and a portion was in imminent danger of collapse. The parishioners voted to demolish the church and construct completely new facilities.

In 1991 the parishioners voted to rebuild on the same site with work commencing in 1992. Phase 1 includes a 300-seat chapel, a multi-purpose hall, kitchen, classrooms and offices. Construction of the Cathedral (phase II) commenced in 2013.

This keepsake ornament is a reminder of the new Cathedral and of the faith, vision, and determination of this small but vibrant community, which has dedicated itself to creating and maintaining for us this place of worship we know today as The Annunciation Cathedral.



Philoptochos each year "adopts" a seminarian. Among other things, it remembers the seminarian during various holidays, by keeping in touch, often with some koulourakia and other remembrances. This year's seminarian is Christo Pappademos. Here, he is shown with Archbishop Demetrios of America and Hellenic College/Holy Cross President, the Reverend Christopher Metropoulos, as he receives his diploma.

Adopt a Seminarian Program

Christo Pappademos graduated this past May from the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Seminary in Brookline, MA with a Master's of Divinity. This four year program prepares young men for the Priesthood and through the support of the Annunciation Philoptochos of San Francisco throughout each four years, Christo was able to complete this program. Christo was born and raised in California, and though the Seminary is across the country in Massachusetts, the care packages and letters from the Ladies of the Annunciation Philoptochos were constant reminders of love and support that always made Christo feel at home despite being 3,000 miles away.

Now that Christo has graduated from the Seminary, he has returned home to the Metropolis of San Francisco and is working as a Pastoral Assistant in Elk Grove, CA at the parish of Saint Katherine. Christo is excited to take all he has learned and experienced at the Seminary and apply it to parish ministry. Though Christo's time at the Seminary is now over, throughout his future ministry he will always remember and be grateful for the love and support shown to him during his time at the Seminary by the Annunciation Philoptochos of San Francisco. He is looking forward to coming and visiting the Cathedral community soon!

"Creator of the universe, setting times and seasons by Your sole authority, bless the cycle of the year of Your grace, O Lord, guarding our rulers and Your nation in peace, at the intercession of the Theotokos, and save us."

Apolytikion of the beginning of the Indiction, that is, the New Year, Second Tone



Picking back up the items from a few months ago, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese (GOA) is working as part of the National Council of Churches to *A.C.T. to End Racism*. This movement was launched in Washington D.C. in April on the 50th anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. A quick summary of the movement can be found in this 2-minute video by Most Rev. Michael Curry, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, who gained fame when he provided the sermon at the May wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TKIO-zTKrI&t=10s</u>.

Faith communities, including the GOA, have historically been leaders in confronting racism in the U.S. As we have recently been reminded that racism and xenophobia are pervasive and systemic in every sector of society, faith communities are again taking the lead in addressing injustice and showing Christ's love for all people.

This past August was the one-year anniversary of the white supremacist march in Charlottesville, Virginia that resulted in a woman's death. At the time of this event, the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA put out a statement in response to the "racist violence" in Charlottesville (https://www.goarch.org/-/response-to-racist-violence-incharlottesville-va). It is worth taking a moment to revisit this statement as it grounds our work for social justice in the Orthodox faith; it is reprinted below.

"The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America stands with all people of good will in condemning the hateful violence and lamenting the loss of life that resulted from the shameful efforts to promote racial bigotry and white supremacist ideology in Charlottesville, Virginia.

The Orthodox Church emphatically declares that it does not promote, protect or sanction participation in such reprehensible acts of hatred, racism, and discrimination, and proclaims that such beliefs and behaviors have no place in any community based in respect for the law and faith in a loving God.

The essence of the Christian Gospel and the spirit of the Orthodox Tradition are entirely and self-evidently incompatible with ideologies that declare the superiority of any race over another. Our God shows no partiality or favoritism (Deuteronomy 10:17, Romans 2:11). Our Lord Jesus Christ broke down the dividing wall of hostility that had separated God from humans and humans from each other (Ephesians 2:14). In Christ Jesus, the Church proclaims, there can be neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male or female, but all are one (Galatians 3:28). Furthermore, we call on one another to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather to expose them (Ephesians 5:11). And what is darkness if not hatred? The one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness (1 John 2:11)!

Furthermore, in 1872, Hierarchs from around the world assembled in Constantinople and denounced all forms of xenophobia and chauvinism (phyletism). They agreed that the promotion of racial or national supremacy and ethnic bias or dissension in the Church of Christ is to be censured as contrary to the sacred teachings of the Christian Gospel and the holy canons of the Church. It is formally condemned as heresy, the strongest category of false teaching.

Finally, such actions as we have witnessed in recent days, by self-proclaimed white supremacists, neo-Nazis, and various racists and fascists, betray the core human values of love and solidarity. In this, we pray wholeheartedly for the families of those who lost their lives or suffered in these tragic events. In like manner, we cannot condone any form of revenge or retaliation by any group or individual. Therefore, we fervently appeal to every person of good will, and especially the leaders of our great nation, to consider and adopt ways of reconciling differences in order to rise above any and all discrimination in our history, our present, and our future."



Have you ever thought about serving on the Parish Council? Want to know more about serving on the Parish Council? We invite you to log on to the Archdiocese web site, **www.goarch. org**, and enter keyword Parish Council. You will find several articles about what service on the Parish Council entails and what is expected of a member of the Parish Council. Then, if you are still interested, please contact Father Stephen, **father-stephen@annunciation.org**. At the Annunciation Cathedral, elections for seven members of the 15-member Parish Council will take place on Sunday, December 16.

alzheimer's \mathfrak{B} association[®]



Dementia Caregiver Support Group to Start Operating at the Cathedral

Please join us for our first Dementia Caregiver Support Group. We are proud to partner with and sponsor the Alzheimer's Association monthly support group meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month from 11am-12:30pm. Our first group meeting will begin on Tuesday October 2, 2018 and will be held in the Cathedral's conference room, which is located on the second floor, to right of the elevator. Families providing care and support to a loved one diagnosed with a dementia and/or have concerns regarding their loved one's memory are welcome to attend. Space, however, is limited. For more information, please contact Heather Gray, Family Program Manager, at 1.800.272.3900 or email her at hgray1@alz.org.



Members of our Young Adults, who head Community Kitchen, strategizing with Janis Petrou, Philopotchos President about this premier ministry which feeds the hungry.

Community Kitchen

The Cathedral's 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 importantcleanup. 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. Shown above are just some of our Young Adults, who spearhead the Community Kitchen ministry. Won't you join them? Following each Community Kitchen, after cleanup, the Young Adults gather in the second-floor conference room for wine and cheese. They get to know one another better. They welcome new members. They address topical issues. And, of course, they plan for the following month's Community Kitchen. In November, the Young Adults teamed up with the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos and turned out a Thanksgiving feast! In December, the theme was Christmas. The Metropolis Young Adults contributed gift cards, which, in turn, were handed out to our guests. This month, Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, September 18. Our guests count on us to provide them with a hot meal, and fellowship. May we, in turn, count on you? Once again, that's Tuesday, September 18, 5:30 p.m. for set up and 6:30 p.m. for serving.

Amazon Smile

A lot of us buy books, household items, and what-have-you on Amazon. If you sign up, at no cost to you, Amazon will make a contribution, based on your purchases, to the Annunciation Cathedral. If you have not already done so, visit smile.amazon.com to enroll. It's as simple as that. Make sure you log on to Amazon Smile when ordering from Amazon and tell them Annunciation Cathedral is your charity of choice. Thanks.





GOYA News

We had a blast at the K1 Speedway as photos of our kids, together with Matia Kostakis, our GOYA advisor in the last Herald show. The next GOYA event will be attending a 49ers game. We've selected Sunday, October 7 (49ers and Arizona Cardinals). The game starts at 1:25 p.m., so there's time to come to church first. In order to get the group discount, we bought a block of tickets. All but 5 tickets have been accounted for. First come, first serve, please contact Matia and tell her you wish to join us. Matia's e mail is <u>MatiaK23@gmail.com</u>. Go, 49ers.



Our Young Adults are becoming increasingly involved in the life of the Church. They are worshiping on Sundays and, after a number of years, are still hands on in charge of our Community Kitchen, which is held the third Tuesday of every month. Hardly a Sunday goes by when we don't welcome a new Young Adult or two. Some come from parishes clear across the country. Others are more local. Some come immediately upon arrival. Others do so after months of living in the City. Some scope us out, visiting other Bay Area churches, to determine if we're a good fit for them. Let's face it, different strokes for different folks. Some like more Greek in the Liturgy, others less. Still others are looking for a more "spiritual" or "engaging" parish. Others show up when they need a certificate of membership because they want to baptize someone or because they're going to be married. No matter what, we are impressed by the genuine interest of our Young Adults and we welcome them. We're here to serve. And, we invite them to become involved in the life of the parish, certainly in the monthly Community Kitchen and our get-togethers afterwards, as

well as the following, designed exclusively for them, like the Labor Day Weekend Camping Trip and the Paraklesis/ dinner on October 26.

Young Adult Labor Day Weekend Camping Trip

Join Orthodox Young Adults from across the West Coast for the 2nd Annual Young Adult Camping Trip! This trip will be Labor Day Weekend (Aug 31-Sep 3, 2018) near Chico, CA on a private 500 acre property in the forest!

DATE: Aug 31- Sept 3, 2018

LOCATION: Maple Creek Ranch 165 Maple Creek Ranch Rd. Cohasset Ca, 95973

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE TIMES

You can start arriving Friday afternoon around 4pm. Departures will be on Monday morning around 11am.

AGES: For Orthodox Young Adults, ages 18-30's.

COST: \$100 (includes food, activities, and camp site fee)

REGISTER NOW: <u>http://gosfyouth.</u> <u>org/young-adult-camping-trip</u>

FACEBOOK EVENT PAGE:

https://www.facebook.com/events/175770043155062/

PACKING LIST

Sleeping Bag (and extra blanket for on top if you want) Sleeping pad or air mattress Pillow Towel for showering (and extra towel for swimming if you want) Sweater or jacket for evenings Comfy clothes for 3 days Flip flops for around the camp Pajamas Toiletries Flashlight Outfit for Liturgy on Sunday (We will attend a small Orthodox mission parish in Chico, so you can dress on the more causal side - Men, long pants and a nice button shirt are good - no need for a full suit and jacket. For women, a long

good - no need for a full suit and jacket. For women, a long skirt and modest shirt are great! You don't need to wear fancy high heels or anything like that. Simple and modest is good!

OPTIONAL PACKING LIST ITEMS:

Tent (Bring one if you have one, but we have extras to share)

Hammock Campfire/folding beach chair Small backpack for hike (to hold water bottle & snacks) A good book Swimsuit (if you want to swim in the pond) Hat Bug spray and sunscreen Fishing pole (they have a few for us to use, but feel free to bring your own!) Musical instruments Board games and cards Snacks to share

SHOWERS & BATHROOMS

There is a bathroom house near the pond with a flush toilet, private shower & sink.

ELECTRICITY

There are power outlets in the outdoor kitchen area and in the bathroom house. I will bring a power strip in case you need to charge your phones.

CELL PHONE RECEPTION

There is limited cell phone reception. Verizon and AT&T do okay in some spots, but other providers might not reach.

DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY

We will be attending Liturgy at the nearby Orthodox Church! It is called Sts. Cyril & Methodius Orthodox Church. The Priest there is Fr. Ian Shipley and here is their parish website: <u>http://orthodoxchico.com/</u>



The Cathedral Young Adults are responsible for starting the Soup Kitchen (now Community Kitchen) at the Cathedral. While others come and volunteer, it is the Young Adults who are spearheading this ministry. After everything is cleaned up, the Young Adults convene in the second-floor conference room for fellowship and discussion, over wine and cheese. The next Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, September 18.



Dance Group News

The Annunciation dance program resumed on Sunday, August 19. Our program encompasses dancers from Pre-K to adult. The goal of our program is to cultivate appreciation of Greek culture and heritage through dance while also fostering fellowship in our youth and community. Therefore, the families of our dancers are stewards of the parish. All groups attend the annual Folk Dance Festival (FDF), sponsored by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco. During the year, dance groups perform at Annunciation's Greek Festival as well as other special events.

With the exception of our Young Adults, our groups practice on Sundays, beginning at 12:30 p.m. We recognize that space constraints pose a challenge, but we have to make it work. So, we appear to be crowded on Sundays. We are. And we should be. After all, it's God's people, gathered in His temple, glorifying His holy Name. Interested in joining our award-winning groups? Contact Lea Lyberopoulos at <u>karthia808@yahoo.com</u>.

The Cathedral's dance groups are:

To Mellon: Pre-K-1st grade (must be at least 5 years old in Fall 2017)

Directed by Irene Kyriacou and Katerina Sarikakis

Revmata: 2nd-4th grade in Fall 2018 Directed by Katerina Sarikakis, Trina Misthos and Eleni Taptelis

Thisavri: 5th-7th grade in Fall 2018 Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou

Spithes: 8th -12th grade in Fall 2018 Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou

Atithasi: Young Adults Directed by Michael Garibaldi and Nicole Garibaldi



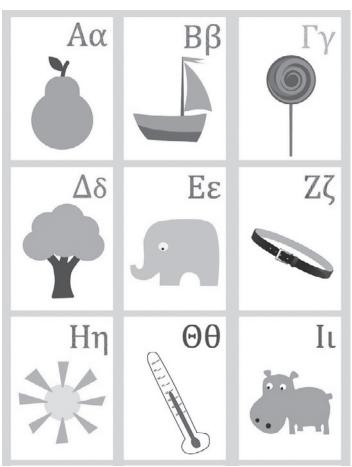
Sunday School News

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

~Saint Theophan the Recluse

Our Sunday School will resume on Sunday, Sepember 9, at 10:30 a.m. We cannot stress how important religious education is. We recognize the challenges posed by so many other pursuits—sports, dance, extracurricular activities. However, the Faith is taught in the home and is reinforced in the church. If not, then we risk raising a generation of young people whose only connection with the Church is that they played basketball or that they danced here. Parents: please take heed! Meanwhile, we need to grow, perhaps, rebuild our Sunday School program. We are in need of teachers committed to teaching our Faith to the next generation. Please give thought as to how, by teaching, you may make a difference, both in the lives of our children, as well as your own. If you are inclined to want to help teach, please contact Father Stephen, **fatherstephen@annuciation.org**.





Greek School News

We would like to welcome our students back from summer break. The 2018-2019 school year for Greek language classes starts on Saturday, September 29, the weekend after the festival. Classes occur on Saturdays from 10 am - 12:15 pm and run till June 8, 2019. Our teachers are very experienced and dedicated to our students' learning. If you would like to enroll your child in Greek school, please reach out to Shu Yeung at **shuh_yeung@yahoo.com** or at 415-518-8750. Inasmuch as our Greek School is not a stand-alone school, but is a ministry of the Annunciation Cathedral parish, it is incumbent upon parents of our Greek School children to also be pledged stewards of the parish. For further information about stewardship, please contact Father Stephen, **fatherstephen@annunciation.org**.

"Now about baptism: this is how to baptize. Give public instruction on all these points, and then baptize in running water, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. If you do not have running water, baptize in some other. If you cannot in cold, then in warm. If you have neither, then pour water on the head three times in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Before the baptism, moreover, the one who baptizes and the one being baptized must fast, and any others who can. And you must tell the one being baptized to fast for one or two days beforehand...You should fast on Wednesdays and Fridays." Didache 7.1-4, 8.1



New Head of Greek School

The Annunciation Cathedral has a new head of Greek School. It is Shu Yeung. She replaces Anthi Janssens, who has stepped down after a number of years heading our program. The Cathedral thanks Anthi for her dedicated efforts. During her tenure, our program grew into the vibrant program that it is today. In recognition, Father Stephen presented her with an icon of Christ the Teacher, on June 9, as the school ended for the summer recess.

Meanwhile, Shuisthenewhead of school. Shu Yeung was born and raised in New York City and holds a B.A. in Economics from Cornell University and an International M.B.A. from the University of South Carolina. Professionally, Shu works in the field of Human Resources. She enjoys learning languages and has taught English to children whose first language is not English. Shu is married to Peter Kotsonis, a Greek Australian and they have a daughter, Sophia who is attending Greek school at the Annunciation Cathedral. Before moving out to San Francisco in 2012, they were in a suburb of Boston, Massachusetts where they were active parishioners with the local Greek Orthodox Church. As they are now parishioners of the Annunciation Cathedral, Shu hopes to continue to guide the program to grow even more. Who knows; we may even add a level for adult Greek. In any case, Greek School resumes Saturday, September 29 (the Saturday following our Festival), beginning at 10 am. Shu and the staff look forward to welcoming our students.



Pangari Schedule

Serving on the pangari is a privilege, not only for Parish Council members, but for anyone who would like to be a part of the team of those who extend welcome to our services, especially for those who are visiting us from out of town and also people new to the community. The following teams, created so as to match up with their respective children, who will be serving in the altar on those days, consists of Parish Council members. Duties include the passing of the collection plate(s) and the seating of guests.

<u>Team #1</u> Deno Konstantinidis Philippos Athanasiades Christopher Kyriacou Dean Nicolacakis

Team #2 (Second Sunday Please)

Paul Sogotis George Ambus Mike Sarikakis

<u>Team #3</u> Nicholas Rally Nicholas Svetcoff Chris Ramos

<u>Team #4</u> Manoli Nuris Vasiliki Moulas George Gavros

Peter Manetas, Nick Kontonis, Michael Bagatelos, Gus Vellis also serve at the pangari, on a regular basis.

Philoptchos members and other members of the community are invited to participate, as well. Please speak to Paul Sogotis, our "chief of protocol," and indicate your willingness to be a part of the pangari team.



Shown above are some of the Young Adults who organized and served at the August 21, 2018 Community Kitchen, where some 120 to 150 dinners were served, to the point where we, literally, ran out of food. After our guests left, our Young Adults gathered in the Cathedral's conference room for wine and cheese, an opportunity to meet with Father Stephen and hold discussions on topical issues, as well as to foster fellowship. The group was joined by Johanna Duterte, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Metropolis of San Francisco. Among other things, the upcoming Young Adult Camping Trip over the Labor Day Weekend and the Young Adult Parklesis and dinner on October 26 were discussed. Interested in joining Community Kitchen? Contact Christinaarmatas@gmail.com, c.tsiatis@gmail.com,



Some of the parishioners who "spilled out" onto the courtyard on August 19. Shown with Father Stephen are (left to right): Zetta Ambus, Anthony Ambus, Professor Nicholas Economides, Tula Mouroufas, Joanne Glafkides, Ethel Davies, Constantine Glafkides, Presbytera Aliki, Janine Economides, Patricia Aleck, and Irene Poulakidas. serimitri@yahoo.com or AlaynaDunkerly@ gmail.com,

"I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Pantocrator and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its light is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by *day*—*and there is no* night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life."

Revelation 21.22-27

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 September is as follows:

Our altar schedule for September is as follows:

September 2	-	Group 1
September 9	-	Group 2
September 16	-	Group 3
September 23	-	Group 4
September 30	-	Group 1

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, Matheos Zarou (Niko Manetas- Group Leader)

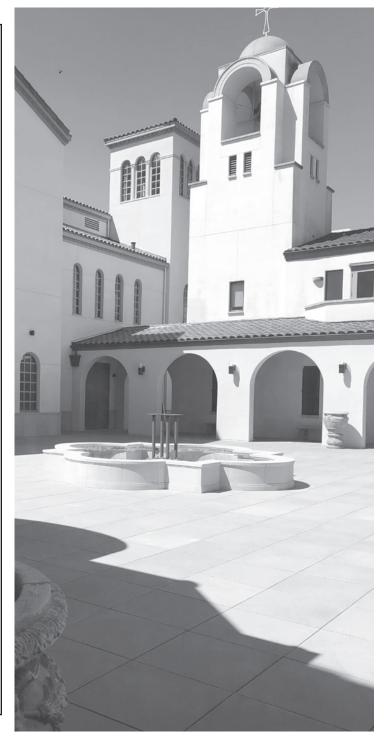
Group 3- Niko Pezo, Demetri Rally, Steven Chiappari, Gianni Kefalas, Nicholas Shatara (Demetri Kontonis- Group Leader)

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.

Interested in forming a group of girl altar servers, beyond the Myrrh Bearer's (Angels) program that we have during Holy Week and Pascha? Please contact Evangelia Raptis-Zarou, <u>erz.raptiszarou@gmail.com</u>





SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Orthros 9 a.m.		Galaktoboureko				
Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m		Baking, 9 am to 5 pm				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Orthros 9 a.m.		Bell Peppers			Elevation	
Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m		Cooking, 9 am to 5 pm			of the Holy Cross, Services at Holy Cross,	
Sunday School, 10: 30 am					Belmont	
Father Stephen Scott celebrating						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Orthros 9 a.m.	Baklava Baking,	Community	Rizogalo		Food Festival,	Food Festival,
Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m	evening	Kitchen 6:30 pm	Cooking 9 am to 5 pm		noon to 10 pm	noon to 10 pm
Sunday School, 10: 30 am		Young Adults wine & cheese gathering 8 pm				
Baklava Baking, 9 am to 5 pm		gaulering o pin				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Orthros 9 a.m.						
Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m						
Food Festival, noon to 8 pm						
30						
Orthros 9 a.m.						
Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m						
Sunday School, 10: 30 am						
100th anniversary committee, 12:30 pm						

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them."

Revelation 21.1-3

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

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1-2-3: before the ribbon cutting, during the ribbon cutting and after the ribbon cutting

Informally, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, August 19, Father Stephen invited the congregation to join Chris Kyriacou, Parish Council President; Janis Petrou, Philoptochos President; and Tom Nuris, Capital Campaign Chairman, led by our Grand Benefactors who happened to be in church, namely, Ethel Davies, Professor Nicholas and Janine Economides, Tula Mouroufas, George Vlahos, and Cynthia (and, from heaven, John) Vlahos (Isidoros & Maria Garifalakis, Alexander & Mari Moulinos, Dean & Maria Nicolacakis, Connie Panagotacos, and Dean & Tami Rally are our other Grand Benefactors) to cut a symbolic red ribbon and spill out into the courtyard.

