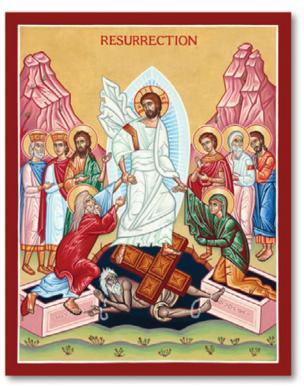


APRIL 2019

Pascha: Why We Are Christians

April 28 this year is Pascha. Next year, Pascha will fall on April 19 and in 2021, when the Cathedral celebrates its 100th anniversary, it will fall on May 2. Pascha is also called Easter. We prefer Pascha to Easter because it maintains the Aramaic word, which is Pascha, related to the Hebrew word Pesach, which means Passover. Passover recounts how the angel of death passed over the homes of the Hebrews, when they were in Egypt. They marked their homes with lamb's blood, and they were spared from death. Therefore, they were able to leave Egypt and go into the promised land. According to the Scriptures, Jesus was crucified at the time of the Passover. He died and was buried. But, on the third day, He rose from the dead. In writing to the Christians at Corinth (1 Cor. 15:3-8) St. Paul says, "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve..." Not only did Jesus rise from the dead; He was seen. In fact, the Scriptures even record how He sat down with his disciples and even ate with them. He empowered them. He taught them how to fish more effectively. But, above all, he sent them out as Apostles, to preach the Gospel. Gospel means "good news." The good news is that Jesus Christ died for us. He was raised from the dead. He is with us "until the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20). And, He will come back. When he returns, "He will



judge the living and the dead" (2 Timothy 4:1; Nicene Creed). We are Christians because of the Resurrection. Those before us heard the Good News from those who came before them. And those who come after us should hear the Good News from us. A Christian, then, is one who hears the Good News, who believes the Good News, who lives the Good News, and who tells others the Good News. With this, we wish you all, a blessed Pascha.

Let's Raise \$1 Million this Year!

Last month, we informed you that we've signed two agreements, one with Golden State Parking for the purpose of operating our parking lot, as "third party operator," as approved by the Planning Department in January of 2018. The second is with Albert Electric. They are general contractors. They will do work required in order for us to get to the point where the lot is fully operational, 7 days a week. Meanwhile, as we know, we open the lot for Sunday services. In April, we will also open it for Good Friday, and also on Holy Saturday night, for the Anastasis service. In addition to finalizing the electrical work in the garage, Albert Electric will finish the elevator lobbies, including the stairway between them, and install final rear garage level doors. Then, we need to procure the final gates, clad the planter wall, and



see page 2

from page 1

get the elevator inspected. We are looking at \$183,000 for the contract with Albert Electric, plus about \$250,000 for the final gates and stone work. Add to this the balloon payment of \$400,000 which is due the bank in July and some monies still outstanding to McNely Construction, which were not advanced by the bank, and we're looking at having to raise \$1 million this year. The good news is we've re-started our Capital Campaign. There's a lot of enthusiasm out there. On March 20, the Capital Campaign Committee convened and considered a number of items, including: 1. Collecting the \$235,000 which is still outstanding, from people who have made pledges to the Capital Campaign and who still have open balances; 2. Creating an Advisory Board, by inviting those who have made six-figure gifts to the Campaign and a few others, with expertise in finances, to serve; 3. Embarking upon a Paver Program, whereby parishioners and friends of the Cathedral have their names inscribed in the 750 pavers in the courtyard and around the Cathedral; and 4. Begin an Endowment Fund for the purpose of maintaining the Cathedral once it has completed, and supporting it and future programs. Meanwhile, the committee is working with the Architect to identify a Needs List of specific items which parishioners and friends may wish to donate, such as pews, the icon screen, the icons, the narthex furniture, the altar table, cantors' stands, choir seating, the organ, bishop's thrones (there will be two-one on the soleas, and one behind the altar table), and the like, down to the tabernacle, chalices, and altar coverings. This is a very exciting time, as we complete phase one of the construction, and begin work on the interior of this landmark house of worship. We invite your participation and support.

Father Stephen's Paschal letter to the Community

Holy Pascha 2019

Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Cathedral,

As we prepare to celebrate the holiest of Christian days—the day of the Resurrection of our Lord—I write to commend you upon our spiritual journey of 40 days. A journey that takes us to the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ (which, this year, falls on April 28), but also a journey that takes us to a higher level of personal awareness. Awareness of who we are, why we are born, what it is we should be doing all the years given to us in this life, and where we go, following our earthly death.

These are profound questions. They are, however, necessary questions, as we journey. Questions that are asked by us "moderns." Questions that have been pondered since the beginning of creation, by all people, and especially by Christian writers. It is for this reason I recommend you do some additional reading this Great and Holy Lent. I recommend the Ladder of Divine Ascent, written by St. John Climacus, or St. John of the Ladder, as he is called. St John died in 649 AD, while serving as abbot of St. Catherine's Monastery, on Mount Sinai. His Ladder of Divine Ascent engages us in our struggles, inviting us to raise our soul to God, in steps, as if on a ladder. I also recommend On the Soul and the Resurrection by St. Gregory of Nyssa. St. Gregory, who lived in the 4th century AD, was brother of St. Basil the Great, whose Divine Liturgy we celebrate on Sundays during Great Lent. The resurrection of the body, perhaps more than any other Christian doctrine, requires us to face the implications of faith for our personal lives and for our understanding of the world. Indeed, it helps us understand that we are immortal beings.

All this is firmly rooted in Scripture, as I shared with you at this time, last year. Specifically, it is based on the Lord's words in the Gospels, having to do with the life hereafter and our own "resurrection," in bodily form, at the end of time, when the Resurrected Lord will return to judge the living and the dead, as we profess every time we recite the Nicene Creed. St. Paul emphasized this foundational teaching in his first letter to the Corinthians, especially in 1 Corinthians 15:14, where he proclaims, *if Christ has not been raised* [from the dead] *our preaching is worthless, and so is your faith.*

The Resurrection of our Lord, therefore, is much more than a remembrance of what occurred 2,000 years ago. It is the apex of our existence. For, it is in the Risen Christ, in the Living God, that we live and move and have our being, as St. Paul preached in Athens, following the Resurrection (Acts 17:28). This is precisely why we proclaim: Χριστός Ἀνέστη! Christ is Risen! And not just once, but countless times, for 40 days following Pascha. This year's celebration of Pascha will be especially meaningful for, following the lighting of our paschal candles, in the chapel, we will process to the new Cathedral (though unfinished), where we will hold the Anastasis service, after which we will return to the chapel for the Pascha Divine Liturgy. In this way, we will also reflect on why we are rebuilding the Cathedral at all, and why we need to complete it. Why? So that we may proclaim the Resurrection, from the heart of the City, to the City, the Bay Area, and to all the world!

Faithfully yours in the Risen Lord,

to Stintan 11. Lucion

Rev. Stephen H. Kyriacou



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

REMINDER: Membership cards were mailed out in February. Please renew or join today to support our ministries. If you did not receive a membership card, please pick one up in the Narthex or call the Philoptochos office and we will get one to you.

Highlights of donations in 2018:

National commitments total ministries = 18 including Saint Basils Academy, Social Services & Cancer and General Medical Fund

Metropolis commitments total ministries = 6 including Kids 'n' Cancer and St. Nicholas Ranch

San Francisco Annunciation commitments = 14 including Sanchez School, Community Kitchen and Disaster Relief (at home and abroad)



Easter Bread (Tsoureki) @ \$20.00 Each Quantity (1 Loaf)_____ X \$20.00 = Koulourakia Quantity (1 Dozen)_____ X \$10.00 = **Red Colored Eggs** Quantity (1 Dozen)____ X \$ 8.00 = Total Amount of Order \$ Name: Address: Telephone___ Please mail completed order form along with your payment to: Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos 245 Valencia Street San Francisco, CA 94103 All orders must be prepaid. Make checks payable to Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos.

Your order will be ready for pickup on Friday, April 26th before 3:00 P.M. and/or Saturday, April 27th before Noon.

Deadline to Place Orders is Sunday, April 21st



Godparents Sunday-April 14

Godparents Sunday is a Cathedral tradition. Every year, Godchildren invite their Godparents, or vice versa, to come to church for the purpose of "renewing" our baptismal vows. At the time of our baptism (most of us were baptized as infants) our Godparents spoke for us. When the priest asked, in the service, "Do you renounce Satan/have you renounced Satan," our Godparents answered on our behalf: "I do/I have." Or, when they were asked, "Do you join/have you joined Christ," they answered, "I do/I have." They recited the Creed, that is, the summary of what it is we believe as Orthodox Christians. The Creed as we know it. came to us from the First Ecumenical Council, which took place in Nicaea in 325 AD and also the Second Ecumenical Council, which took place in Constantinople in 381 AD. Following the answering of the questions and the recitation of the Creed, we were baptized. We were chrismated. That is, we were confirmed in the Faith. And, therefore, as full members of the Body of Christ, we received Holy Communion for the first time. Being a Godparent is very special, because we get to mentor our Godchild. Being a Godchild is also very special, because we grow up having, in addition to our physical parents, a spiritual parent. And, so, as we prepare to celebrate Holy Pascha-the Resurrection of Christ-we gather together, Godparents and Godchildren, recite the baptismal vows, and receive Holy Communion together. Godparents Sunday this year will take place on the Sunday before Palm Sunday. That is, it will take place on Sunday, April 14.

With your precious blood You redeemed us from the curse of the law. Nailed to the Cross, pierced by a spear, you shed immortality upon humanity, our Savior: glory to You.

> -Apolytikion of Holy Thursday, 4th tone



12:00 Cocktail Reception ~ 12:30 Lunch Donation: Adults \$65.00 Children \$25.00

PARKING IN ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL PARKING GARAGE \$5

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PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE BY MAY 1, 2019 Make checks payable to: Ladies Philoptochos					
Name					
Address					
Telephone No Email					
Please reserveAdult @ \$65 and Children under 12 years @ \$25 Total amount enclosed \$					
RATATOUILLE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST WITH RESERVATION ONLY. Please communicate all dietary restrictions/allergies ahead of time					
Please list all attendees' names on the back of this form. Tables of 10 available. Seating is limited.					
TICKET AND SEAT ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE HELD FOR YOU AT THE DOOR.					
I am unable to attend and would like to make a donation to Philoptochos Charities of \$					
For reservations or information, please call Sophia Makras (650)784-1775 or contact: smakras@aol.com Irene Kyriacou ~ sassygrk@aol.com					



Social Justice

As discussed in the February 2019 Herald, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s statement about community--"We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single *garment of destiny"*—vividly expresses the idea that we are all interconnected. However, it can be a challenge to put this sense of interconnection into practice. How do we break out of our usual patterns to engage with individuals in the wider community who are not part of our social circle, and to see them as truly our sisters and brothers in Christ? In his sermons, Father Stephen often mentions the people who come to the door of the Cathedral, looking for help. Do we consider our lives to be connected to the lives of the people we pass on the street? How can we bridge this gap? One way to break out of our routines and change our perspectives is to take a mission trip, either through the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) or by going on a homebuilding trip with Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage.

Many years ago, I went on a trip with OCMC to the West African nation of Cameroon. Our team was there to help build a church in a town in the lush forests of Southern Cameroon. The Orthodox community there was small and growing, and our labor wasn't really needed—there were Cameroonian construction workers building the church. But the important part was that we were there. We had come all the way from the U.S., we were there working side-by-side, getting dirty and sweaty in the high humidity, mostly with people who were not Orthodox Christians. I think it was the first time that I really understood the power of witness: the power of being present, and demonstrating care for others just by showing up.

OCMC trips occur throughout the year, and the projects include construction, teaching, providing health care, and working with children and youth—often running summer camps for kids. Teams are being sent this year to Albania, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Sweden, and the U.S. (to Appalachia and Alaska). The trip to Appalachia is a homebuilding project open to high school students in particular—see **www.oymt.info** for more informa-

tion. Some of the trips are open to families, and more information can be found here: <u>https://www.ocmc.org/about/</u><u>open_teams.aspx</u>

It would be wonderful if our Annunciation community could put together a group of people to participate in a homebuilding project in Mexico in 2020. It isn't too far to travel and it can be transformative for those who participate. I know many churches on the West Coast regularly send teams to Project Mexico, including families and GOYA groups. Further information about the homebuilding program can be found here: <u>https://www.projectmexico.org/</u> <u>homebuilding/</u>

I highly encourage everyone in our parish to consider participating in one of these trips. A change from our daily routines can open our eyes, hearts, and minds, and remind us that we are all interconnected, that we are truly sisters and brothers in Christ. Travel to another place can also allow us, upon our return home, to see our "regular" life with new eyes, and to see with greater clarity how we can put our faith into action every day in our homes, schools, workplaces, churches, and communities.

Winterfaith Shelter Walk-A-Thon

A local event where we can put our faith into action is the "Winter Faith Shelter Walk 2019" on Sunday April 7th at 1:30 pm at Lake Merced in San Francisco. The walk is 4.5 miles, ending around 4 pm. The Interfaith Winter Shelter provides food and shelter for 100 men each night from Thanksgiving to the end of February. Four congregations serve as host sites, and 50 other congregations provide food. The walk is an opportunity to raise funds for this worthy program to help our fellow residents of San Francisco. It would be terrific if some members of our parish participated—you can register and gather sponsors for your walk at https://winterfaithshelterwalk.dojiggy.com/ng/index. cfm/af29b98/reg-pages/home

All creation was changed when in fear it beheld You hanging upon the Cross, O Christ. The sun was darkened and the earth's foundations were shaken. All things suffered together with the Creator. You who for us willingly endured, Lord, glory to You.

> –Aposticha of Holy Thursday, 1st tone

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of San Francisco: The First 100 Years Book Project

The Cathedral will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2021. In honor of this important milestone, a beautifully bound hardcover book will be produced. A committee has been formed chaired by Jim Lucas to oversee the project. This book will be a tribute to what makes Annunciation Cathedral special; its history, our ministries, and our parish family.

This book will be funded in part by those of you that wish to include your family in this book. You may choose to include your family history or a family profile or a tribute to Cathedral. We encourage anyone with a connection to the Cathedral to be a part of this keepsake book.

The donation varies depending on the amount of space you wish to purchase.

½ page	\$150
1 page	\$300
2 pages	\$450
3 pages	\$600
4 pages	\$750

The book will be sold at a pre-issue price of \$75. This project will last about 18 months as materials are gathered.

We are also seeking historical photographs and memorabilia. Please look through your family photo albums for anything related to the Cathedral. The committee is very interested in looking at anything related to the history of the Cathedral.

OIKOS News

We are pleased to announce the third Icon Painting Workshop to be held at the Cathedral. The workshop will take place June 17-22. This is a six-day intensive course, under the direction of master iconographer and teacher Theodoros Papadopoulos. This year, we will "write" the icon of Archangel Michael as we are guided step by step, through the ancient techniques of Byzantine iconography. This workshop is open to everyone. There is a tuition fee of \$685., which includes most supplies, as boards, pigments, brushes, etc. To enroll, please visit www.theodoreicons.com/sf or contact the instructor at his e mail, theodoreicons@gmail.com. In October of this year, Professor George Kordis will visit the Cathedral and speak to us on the topic of writing the icons for the Cathedral, when the interior is completed and, especially, the icon of the Annunciation, which has been featured, in various forms, on our community Christmas card in recent years. The iconography is a very special step in the completion of the Cathedral, as we will be praying before the icons and inspired by them in our liturgical worship for many generations to come. We have set a tentative date of October 20, 2019 as the date for Dr. Kordis' visit. Note, it coincides with the 30th anniversary of Loma Prieta, the earthquake which claimed the old Cathedral, back in 1989.

General Guidelines for Submissions:

If you need to scan your photographs, photographs must be scanned at 300 dpi or higher and scanned from the original photograph (not from a photocopy).



All text will be reviewed by professional authors serving on the committee.

If you need assistance with scanning photographs please let the committee know. We will gladly help. Any photographs or memorabilia entrusted to the committee will be scanned and promptly returned. Please email scanned images to Jim Lucas, email: **jim@loukas.com**

The Next Step

Contact the committee to get the process started! Contact Jim Lucas, email: **jim@loukas.com** or Kathy Dermitzakis, email: **creta2000@aol.com** with your questions. Please forward this document to anyone that maybe interested. We want to reach as many people as possible over the next 18 months. Thank you for your help to make this book a keepsake that our parish family will enjoy for years.

Meanwhile we were honored to have Metropolitan Nikitas of the Dardanelles (director of PAOI, at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley), preside at the Great Vespers for the Feast of the Annunciation and celebrate the Divine Liturgy on the day of the Feast. At the conclusion, during the luncheon offered by the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos, His Eminence spoke to us about contemporary issues, as



that of human trafficking, after which he fielded questions. We not only learned more about the issues, but were invited to think and, hopefully, to act creatively and prayerfully in addressing them. We would like to offer many more such opportunities for learning and spiritual growth. We invite you to participate in the work of OIKOS by assisting in the coordination of such enriching events and talks, as those noted above. We look forward to hearing from you. Please contact Dr. Katina Kostoulas, <u>katinakost@aol.com</u>.

We want to Keep Saying "Thank You-E $v\chi\alpha$ o $\sigma\tau\omega$ " For Your 2019 Stewardship. We also want to say how important it is for you, as the Church, to support the Work of the Church

As of this writing, March 15, 224 Stewardship Pledge cards for 2019 have been received. This is a 24% increase over the same period 2018. (Of course, we expect to receive 300-400 Pledge Cards by the end of the year.) We are well on our way to making 2019 a banner year and we thank you for your support. For, without you, we would not be a community. Only with you, every one of you participating, is it possible for us, as a community, to exist and to grow. This is why we make such a big deal about Stewardship. Dean Nicolacakis has accepted the position of chairmanship of our Stewardship committee. He and his team have been analyzing, overseeing, and maintaining our Stewardship program, which aims at growth in commitment and also in participation. They have delineated the various groupings in the community, i.e. cradle Orthodox, converts, new to the community, Young Adults, etc. and are in the process of identifying the leadership of each of the groups, with a view to more efficient education and invitation to participation. As we have pointed out before, practically speaking, the strength of the family depends upon the participation of everyone. If we don't do it, who will? This is our mission as a church community: we belong to Christ. And because we belong to Christ Jesus, as St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Galatian Christians, "let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Gal. 6:10). Back to being there for one another, supporting one another. In our February issue, we said "thank you – $\varepsilon \vartheta \chi \alpha \varrho \iota \sigma \tau \omega$ " to those who have heeded the call, so far, and have listed their names as a way of motivating and encouraging others. Are you new to Annunciation? Do find out more about being a part of this vibrant community and supporting the work of the Church, through Stewardship, by calling us at 415 864-8000, visit us at www.annunciation.org, or e mail us: office@annunciation.org

Icon Painting Workshop Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral, San Francisco

Experience the unique spiritual world of the Byzantine Era through icon painting



June 17-22, 2019 Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral San Francisco

Join us on this six day intensive course under the direction of visiting master iconographer and expert instructor Theodoros Papadopoulos from Greece. This Archangel Michael icon will "come alive" as he will guide you step by step, through the ancient techniques of Byzantine Iconography. Let us journey together, discovering anew, this traditional artistic expression of theology and spirituality often called the "meeting place of the Divine". Whether you are beginner or a professional, this workshop offers the opportunity to learn or refine your techniques.

Your tuition fee of \$685 includes most supplies including boards, pigments, brushes, etc.

Space is limited and early registration is suggested.

For enrollment and information, visit the website www.theodoreicons.com/sf

or contact the instructor Mr. Theodoros Papadopoulos at the email: theodoreicons@gmail.com



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 "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 meets two times a week. The meetings take place in the Cathedral's conference room, locate on the second floor, adjacent the elevator. The times are 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. In April, the class will meet on Sunday, April 14 and on Sunday, April 21.

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



Dementia Caregiver Support Group News

While it may not show, in attendance, our parishioners and friends have taken note of the fact that a Dementia Caregiver Support Group is operating at the Cathedral. As the general population is aging, and as we are living longer and longer, we are all subject to the impact of cognitive issues. The Cathedral is pleased to partner with and host the Alzheimer's Association monthly support group meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month from 11am-12:30pm. The group meets in the Cathedral's conference room, which is located on the second floor, to right of the elevator. We encourage your attendance, as you encounter loved ones affected by memory loss. Meet others who are going through exactly what you are going through. There is no cost to attend, and the support you receive is not only helpful; it can also be life-changing. The April meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 2. For more information, please contact Heather Gray, Family Program Manager, at 1.800.272.3900 or email her at hgray1@alz.org.

Η ζωὴ ἐν τάφωκατετέθης Χριστέ, καὶ Ἀγγέλων στρατιαὶ ἐξεπλήττοντο, συγκατάβασιν δοξάζουσαι τὴν Σήν.

-Lamentations, 1st plagal tone

Why Go to Church?

A parishioner sent this in. They think, and we think, it is fantastic. We love the guy's answer, and his use of the word "BIBLE," as an acrostic. Enjoy, and pass it on.

"If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this! If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it.

If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time, I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all".

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column.

Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals.

But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something!

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible & receives the impossible!

Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!

IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL, YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL!

B. I. B L. E. simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!

When you are about to forward this to others, the devil will discourage you

So go on! Forward this to people who are DEAR to you and TRUST GOD.



2019 Taste of Greece Food Festival September 20, 21 & 22

Thanks to all our 2018 Festival Volunteers that made our 2018 Food Festival a success. Building on this success, we are beginning to plan our 2019 Greek Food Festival.

The Festival is entirely managed and staffed by volunteers, which means we simply cannot pull this off without your input and participation. Energetic, friendly volunteers are needed for a variety of jobs. Opportunities abound: there's plenty for you to do. Won't you join us? We are even open to welcoming and/or training a new Chairperson and Co-Chairperson. For more information about how you can get involved, please contact Deno Konstantinidis, **denocom@ hotmail.com** or Grace Koutoulas, **gmkoutoulas@yahoo. com.**

Χριστὸς ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτφ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι, ζωὴν χαρισάμενος.

-Paschal troparion

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 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. 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 for a Thanksgiving feast! In December, an entire class of middle school kids joined our young parishioner and his parents and helped set up, serve, and clean up. This participation by our younger kids was very moving. In April, our GOYA, under the direction of Matia Kostakis, will join in with our Young Adults. This month, Community Kitchen will take place on Tuesday, April 16. Our guests count on us to provide them with a hot meal, and fellowship. May we, in turn, count on you? It is a commitment; it does take a few hours of your time. But, think about how much good you can do for others by showing up and volunteering





Some 100 guests come to the Cathedral's Community Kitchen, to be fed, to get out of the cold, to feel acceptance and warmth by people who care. The Cathedral, through its Young Adults, is honored to be able to host this event the third Tuesday of every month.



God bless our faithful volunteers!



GOYA News

Get Ready for Summer Camp (even as we are involved in so many church activities, among them helping at the Community Kitchen in April)

Spots are quickly filing up for our Metropolis Summer Camp 2019. We would encourage your applying as soon as possible. Monthly payment plans are available, as this will help families spread out the cost for camp over the next 4 months. All payments are due in full by June 1, 2019. To register, a \$100 nonrefundable deposit is required. To register, please



visit our Summer Camp website:<u>http://gosfyouth.</u> org/summer-camp/. Fees and space availability is as follows:

2019 REGISTRATION FEES

\$525 Normal Registration (January 1 – January 31)\$550 Late Registration (February 1 – May 31)

2019 SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION UPDATE:

Staff Orientation Week: July 1 – 6 Session I: July 7 – 13 (51 spots available)* Session II: July 14 – 20 (51 spots available)* Session III: July 21 – 27 (76 spots available)*

**Campers are limited to registering for only one session of camp*

2019 STAFF APPLICATIONS:

If you know of any young adults who would make a great summer camp counselor, please encourage them to apply here: http://gosfyouth. org/summer-camp/#/staff-applications/



Other GOYA activities: Under the direction of Matia Kostakis, GOYA will be participating in the April Community Kitchen as an act of community service. The date is Tuesday, April 16th. We start setting up at 5:30 pm, and begin serving at 6:30 pm. We are done by 8 pm. This gives us ample time to get down to the Cathedral in time and to get home in time to get a good night's rest.

Just a few days ago, in March (the 16th to be exact), we held a movie day. We went to watch the new Captain Marvel movie (rated PG13). It was a lot of fun. We had a great time with kids and parents alike. We will post pics on Facebook and in the next issue of the Herald. Our goal is to do at least one activity a month, for fun, and one service-related activity. In April, specifically on April 20, the Saturday of Lazarus, we will gather at church to fold palms for Palm Sunday, which is the next day. The Divine Liturgy, which we should attend, begins at 10 am. Our palm tying will take place afterwards. Meanwhile, we are also planning to bring Thomaida Hudanish, Director of our Department of Outreach and Evangelism to meet with our youth the weekend of May 19. She will meet with our youth, speak to our congregation, and also attend the Community Kitchen on Tuesday, May 21.



Not too early to think about Graduates, Scholarships

We have begun collecting the names of our young people who will be graduating this May or June. In order to avoid leaving the name of a graduate out, inadvertently, when we list our graduates in the June Herald, we invite you to assist us. If you or your child are graduating from elementary, middle, or high school, or from a college or university, please drop us a line: <u>fatherstephen@</u> <u>annunciation.org</u>. We thank you and look forward to hearing from you.

Meanwhile, as we've noted before, as tuition for college becomes more and more expensive, funding becomes more and more of a challenge. We have been asked to announce that the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation is offering a total of \$250,000 to 40 Greek American undergraduates. Twenty awards of \$10,000 will be given based on academic achievement and financial need, two of which are allocated solely for the Music and Arts fields. Twenty awards of \$2,500 will be awarded based solely on academic achievement. The application is available on the Foundation's web site, <u>www.</u> <u>panhellenicscholarship@org</u>.

Meanwhile, the Cathedral has a few scholarships, including the Bagatelos Scholarship, which is earmarked for those planning to become physicians, and the Vavuris Scholarships, which is earmarked for those planning to become attorneys. The Tsikitas, Pappas and Coundouris Scholarships have been offered intermittently, as income on these funds warrants bestowal of the scholarships. This is in addition to a Philoptochos Scholarship, given each year, and a Vellis Scholarship, given until the funds are exhausted, to individuals who participated in the Cathedral's Sunday School program. For 2019, the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation will provide four (4) scholarships, as follows on page 12

from page 11

- 1. 1. The John N. Pappas Scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000.00
- 2. The Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos Scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000.00
- 3. The S. Lee Vavuris Legal Scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000.00

4. The Dr. Anthony P. Bagatelos Scholarship, in the amount of 75% of interest earned, and

Applications for one of the above scholarships must be received by May 24, 2019

Applications must be accompanied by the following:

* An Official Transcript_from the Office of the Registrar at your High School or College (University/ Vocational School) AND Recent SAT or ACT Scores.

* **A Letter of Recommendation** from ONE (1) Member in Good Standing with the Cathedral of the Annunciation OR the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos.

* A brief resume (2 page maximum) about yourself including: honors/awards, special skills, extracurricular information, education, and life goals.

* Additionally, the applicant (or, if the applicant is under 18 years of age, the applicant's parent(s)/guardian(s) must be a member of the Annunciation Cathedral. A member of the Cathedral includes support of the Cathedral through Stewardship. A 2019 Stewardship Pledge Card must have been filed with the Cathedral in order for the scholarship application to be considered.

* Relative to the Bagatelos/Vavuris Scholarships: Applicants for the Dr. Anthony P. Bagatelos and the Judge S. Lee Vavuris Legal Scholarships must be of Greek descent or of the Greek Orthodox faith. These scholarships are awarded to students who matriculate at and attend medical/law school, preferably at Stanford University/ University of San Francisco and intend to practice medicine/law within the nine county area, surrounding San Francisco Bay, preferably San Francisco.

Up to 75% of the income earned by the Bagatelos Scholarship Fund is awarded in the form of a scholarship for tuition or other schoolrelated expenses. Typically, the scholarship is awarded to the same student until that student graduates from medical school, provided that, after submitting the initial application, the student requests the medical school to verify to the Annunciation Cathedral, in writing, by June 1, that the student has satisfactorily completed course work for the year. As for the Vavuris Scholarship, the scholarship is awarded by the Annunciation Cathedral, in concert with the Hellenic Law Society.

* All Applicants: Applicants will be notified as soon as possible following the May 24 deadline. Certificates of scholarship will be presented at the Graduation Day Program, which will follow the Divine Liturgy, on Sunday, June 2 and which the scholarship recipients are expected to attend.

An application may be requested by contacting the Cathedral: <u>office@</u> <u>annunciation.org</u> or 415 864-8000.

Scholarships Offered Through the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America announces that applications for the Scholarship and Fellowship programs administered by the Archdiocese are now available. Applications can be accessed by visiting <u>http://www.goarch.org/</u>. For more information, please email <u>scholarships@go-arch.org</u> or call 212-774-0283. The deadline for submitting an application for any of these scholarships is May 3, 2019.

GEORGE & NAOUMA (GIOULE) GIOLES SCHOLARSHIP KATINA JOHN MALTA SCHOLARSHIP PALEOLOGOS SCHOLARSHIP

Applications and instructions for these three scholarships administered by the Department of Philanthropy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America are available for awards to be made for the 2019-2020 academic year. The George & Naouma (Gioule) Gioles Scholarship and the Katina John Malta Scholarship are for undergraduate studies, and the Paleologos Scholarship is awarded for

Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night. Blessed is the servant whom He shall find awake. Unworthy shall be he whom He finds indolent. Watch, my soul, be not weighed down with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and shut out of the Kingdom. But, rise, crying out "Holy, holy, holy, are You are God." By the protection of the bodiless powers of heaven, save us.

–From the Bridegroom service, in 4th plagal tone

graduate work of a non-theological nature. Each of these scholarships was established through generous gifts from dedicated Greek Orthodox Christians who wanted to provide financial assistance towards the education of young people from our Orthodox Christian community.

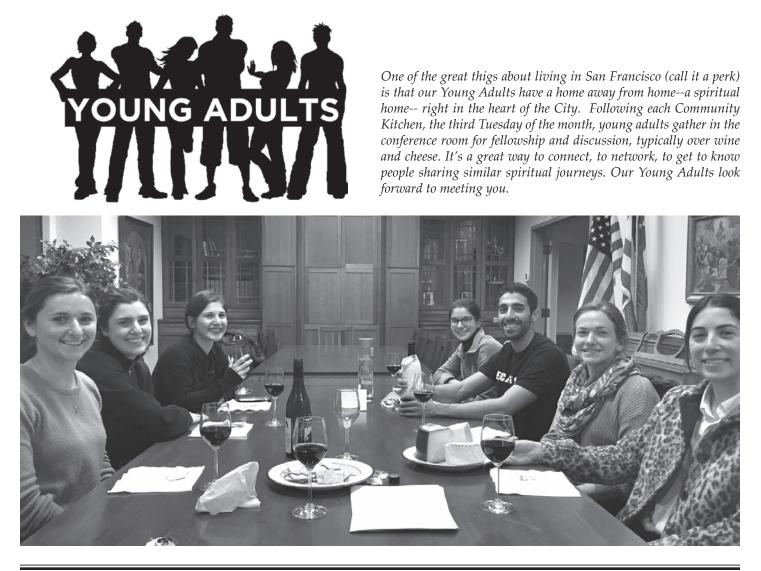
THE CHRISTOS AND GEORGIA TRAKATELLIS FELLOWSHIP

Applications are also available for a fellowship from The Christos and Georgia Trakatellis Fellowship Fund for the 2019-2020 academic year. This Fund was established in 2011 by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios and his brother, Prof. Antonios Trakatellis, in memory of their parents, Christos and Georgia.

The Fund, overseen by the Chancellor's Office, offers fellowships to graduates of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology to study Greek language, Hellenic culture and liturgical practice. These studies can take place in the United States or, preferably, in Greece or at the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. The study could be part of an established academic program (Doctoral or Master Levels) or part of a free program, which should be well structured and clearly defined in view of the above stated purpose of the Fund. Candidates shall be chosen based on merit and need. The amount of the fellowship is \$3,000 per semester for up to two semesters. One or more full or partial fellowships will be awarded annually.

THE 2019 S. GREGORY TAYLOR SCHOLARSHIP

The Taylor Scholarship Fund offers financial assistance to students pursuing a post-graduate degree in the areas of the ology, religious studies, or pastoral training. The Chancellor's Office of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America oversees the Fund and awards scholarships on an annual basis. Awarding of scholarships will be determined based on program of study, financial need, previous academic work, recommendations, availability of funds and how the applicant intends to serve the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America after receiving this degree. Scholarships are awarded for actual course work being done towards a post-graduate degree (an initial graduate-level degree is required). As per the guidelines of the Fund, preference will be given to graduates of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology.



Labor Day Weekend 2018 Metropolis of San Francisco to host Young Adult League Conference

Labor Day Weekend 2019 in southern California is the place to be for young adults ages 18 - 35 at the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Young Adult League Conference. This event will offer a wide array of activities including engaging workshops, inspiring speakers, worship, fellowship, and a community service project. Mark your calendars for August 29 - September 2, 2019 because the YAL Conference is where you will want to be!

"I am excited that we are offering this opportunity for our young adults to come together for this weekend conference and participate in an uplifting program designed to both deepen their faith and cultivate friendships with other Greek Orthodox young professionals," remarked His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco. "There is a great need to expand our efforts in the area of Young Adult ministry, and this conference will be a catalyst for even more programs to come."

Calling Young Adults 21+ Apply to be on the YAL Conference Steering Committee

The Metropolis YAL Conference is a great way to share your time and talents as a young adult and emerging leader of the Church. You have the opportunity to be part of the planning team for this Conference and making it a spiritually uplifting, memorable, motivating and fun weekend!

Applications are being accepted for the Steering Committee and can be found <u>online</u> and must be submitted by March 1, 2019. All applicants must be 21 years of age by August 1, 2019. Volunteers are needed to work in a variety of areas including: Events, Finance, Communications and Marketing, Worship, Registration and more. Share your talents, gain valuable experience, and build up this powerful ministry!

For more information, please email: yalconf2019@gmail.com

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco | 415-753-3075 metropolis@sanfran.goarch.org | www.sanfran.goarch.org



Show your Greek Pride while you cheer on the San Francisco Giants!

Please join the Annunciation Dance Groups for a fun night cheering on our San Francisco Giants against the rival LA Dodgers on Friday, September 27th at 7:15pm at Oracle Park. This is a very special night as the Giants are hosting their first ever "Greek Heritage Night". Let's show the Bay Area our Greek Pride at a Giants game! Tickets are \$47 each in the Bleacher Section 137 and includes a special Giants Greek t-shirt. The sale of every ticket will contribute \$5 in support of our Annunciation dance groups.

If you are interested, please email Stephanie Thompson at <u>sotiria@gmail.com</u>. There are a limited number of tickets in our section of the bleachers for this special first-time event, so act fast and come join the fun!

It is the day of Resurrection: let us be glorious in splendor for the festival. Let us embrace one another. Let us say brother and sister to those who hate us. Let us forgive everything, on account of the Resurrection. And, so, let us cry out: Christ is risen from the dead, by death he has annihilated death, bestowing life to those in the graves.

-Doxastikon of Pascha

Dance Group News

The Dance Board has purchased a block of tickets to the San Francisco Giants vs. LA Dodgers on Friday, September 27th at 7:15pm Oracle Park.

This is a special night as the Giants have designated this game Greek Heritage night! Let's show the Bay Area our Greek Pride at a Giants game.

Tickets are \$46 each in the bleacher section 137 and will include a special Giants Greek t-shirt. Additional information follows.





Following another successful Folk Dance Festival, our dance groups will take a long-needed rest. They will regroup and resume practice for next year's FDF, sometime in August. Dancers of all ages are encouraged to attend Sunday School on Sundays. Those registered to serve in the altar as acolytes are invited to do so in accordance with the schedule found elsewhere in this *Herald*. Should you wish information about joining our program, we invite you to contact Lea Lyberopoulos at **karthia808@yahoo.com**.



Our groups, as presently composed, are as follows:

To Mellon: Pre-K-1st grade Directed by Irene Kyriacou and Katerina Sarikakis

Revmata: 2nd-5th grade Directed by Katerina Sarikakis, Trina Misthos and Eleni Taptelis

Thisavri: 5th-8th grade in Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou

Spithes: 9th -12th grade Directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, and Lea Papavasiliou



Basketball News: Adult Basketball

The youth basketball teams completed successful seasons representing the Annunciation Cathedral. Both our Boys Elementary and Boys Middle school teams posted winning records and we wish them luck in the playoffs.

The Annunciation Boys High School Basketball team, which is open to all boys attending 9-12 grade, has begun practicing. The first practice was held on Thursday, February 21, and continues every Thursday, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at Jefferson High School Gymnasium located at 6996 Mission Street, Daly City, Ca. Practice continues every Thursday night at this time and location for this season. The reason for the selection of Jefferson for practices is that most high school boys live on the Peninsula and travel to the City can be challenging. For further information, please contact coaches Tom Nuris at (650) 520-6963/ tomnuris@gmail.com or Nick Kontonis at (415) 706-1545/ nickkontonis@gmail.com.

The Orthodox insist on reading and hearing Scripture within the context of worship, showing their fidelity not to an individualistic intellectual approach, but to participating in the ecclesial life of the Church. We understand Scripture when we share in it, in the mode of communion which constitutes the Church as a body, the mode of worship.

-Christos Yannaras, Orthodoxy and the West



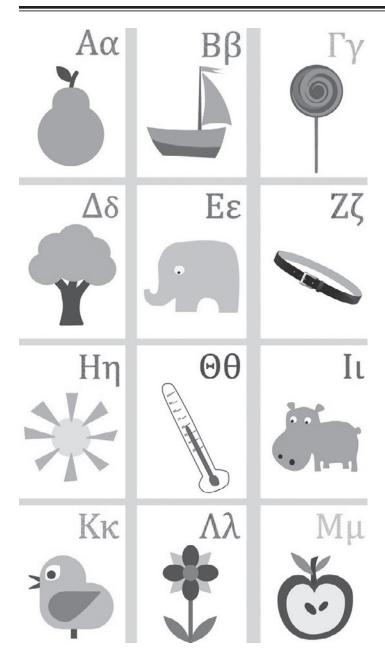
Sunday School News

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

– Saint Theophan the Recluse

Sunday School notes the efforts made by the dance group directors to require dancers, all of whom are of Sunday School age, to attend Sunday School. We eagerly look forward to your participation in this program, where you will learn the fundamentals of what it means to be Orthodox Christians. After all, we are people of faith. This is why we have ordered new Sunday School materials for you, materials like prayer books, and age-specific books, ranging from our journey through Great Lent to how to go about establishing (or discovering) heaven on earth. Then, we would like for you to participate in a time-honored program known as TGI Pascha on Holy and Great Friday, April 26. Our last day of Sunday School this year is June 2. We look forward to engaging with you. So, do give Sunday School a try. Try to be there by 10:30, so we can get in a full hour of teaching before coming down for Holy Communion and dismissal.





Greek School News

On Saturday, March 23, Greek School presented a Greek Independence Day celebration/performance followed by a potluck. Our presentation included the play that the performing arts class students have been practicing. This play was described in the February Herald. It is that which entitled To Krifo Scholio (the Secret School). The production included a kalamatiano dance, songs about freedom, and acting. The Greek School presented the same play on Sunday, March 24, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, for the rest of the congregation to enjoy. Meanwhile, we are very proud of our Greek School, which continues to grow and thrive. Our last day of Greek School for the 2018-2019 school year is Saturday, June 8. For questions or to request additional information about our program, please reach out to Shu Yeung **shuh_yeung@yahoo.com**.



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

<u>Team #2 (Second Sunday Please)</u> Paul Sogotis George Ambus Mike Sarikakis

<u>Team #3</u> Nicholas Rally Nicholas Svetcoff John Lampros

<u>Team #4</u> Manoli Nuris Peter Cazanis George Gavros

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

Philoptochos members and other members of the community are invited to participate, as well. Please speak to Dr. George Ambadiotakis, Ambus, Chair of our Pangari protocol committee, and indicate your willingness to be a part of the pangari team.

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 April is as follows:

April 7 - Group 2 April 14 - Group 3 April 21 - Group 4 April 21 evening Group 1 April 22 evening - Group 2 April 23 evening- Group 3 April 24 evening- Group 4 April 25 evening- Group 1 April 26 1 p.m.- Group 2 April 26 evening-All Groups April 27 morning- Group 3 April 27 - All Groups (for the midnight Pascha service)

Our altar groups are as follow:

Group 1- Stelios Kyriacou, Kosta Lyberopoulos, Andrew Vellis, George Tsokas, Victor Nicolacakis, Justin Perez, Christian Kleinekorte

Group 2- Christopher Apostolos Percia, Panagiotis Sogotis, Yianni Sogotis, Steven Monolakis, Matheos Zarou, Andonis Ambus

Group 3- Steven Chiappari, Gianni Kefalas, Nicholas Shatara, Michael Kamenis, Vlasis Kyriacou, Thanos Kyriacou, Nathanael Shatara (Micahel Kamenis, 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. Ecclesiarch Nektarios notes: We have two Permanent Leaders in the Altar, and they are Nathan Tesfai and Michalis Kamenis. We anticipate a maximum of six additional servers in the Altar; any more than six will need to attend Sunday School. Altar servers are required to be vested and ready to serve by 10:30 a.m. Late comers will need to attend Sunday Schoool if they cannot arrive early enough to serve.

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, erz.raptiszarou@gmail.com



From the March 19 Community Kitchen: Young adults, joined by parishioners, feed the hungry.

A P R I L C A L E N D A R

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
JUNDAT	1	2	3	4	5	6	
		Dementia Support Group 11 am		Adult Basketball in Gym, 7 pm HS Basketball at Jefferson, 7 pm	4 th Salutations, 7 pm	Greek School 10 am	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Orthros, 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Oratorical Festival				Adult Basketball in Gym, 7 pm HS Basketball at Jefferson, 7 pm	Akathist, 7 pm	Greek School 10 am	
	Kitchen Cleaning • Kitchen Cleaning						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Godparents Sunday Introduction to Orthodoxy 9 am Orthros 9 am; Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Philoptochos		Community Kitchen 6:30 pm; Young Adult Get- together 8 pm		Koulourakia Bake 9 am; Adult Basketball in Gym, 7 pm; HS Basketball at Jefferson, 7 pm		Saturday of Lazarus, Divine Liturgy 10 am Palm Tying	
12:30 pm	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Palm Sunday Introduction to Orthodoxy 9 am Orthros 9 am; Divine Liturgy 10:30 am; Parish Council 12:30 pm Nymphios Service 7 pm	Holy Monday, Egg Dying 9 am; Nymphios Service 7 pm	Holy Tuesday,	Holy Wednesday, Holy Unction 7 pm	Holy Thursday, Vesoeral Liturgy 10 am the 12 Gospels 7 pm	Holy Friday, TGIF 10 am Great Hours 10 am; Apokathylosis 1 pm Lamentations 7 pm	Holy Saturday, Vesperal Liturgy 8 am Vigil 11 pm ANASTASIS Midnight	
28	29	30					
Holy PASCHA, Agape Vespers 11 am	St. George, Divine Liturgy 10 am						

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

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Shown above is a wedding photo of James & Panagiota Psaltis, taken the day of the wedding, January 22, 1923. James & Panagiota were the parents of Anna Mountanos.

What makes the photograph historically significant is that the couple were married by Athenagoras Kavadas when he was a priest at Holy Trinity. He is seen in the photo as a young man. He went on to do many wonderful things on behalf of the Church, including Dean of the Theological School, when it was first established in Pomfret, Connecticut