SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2020

THE PRODIGAL SON

PAMPHILIOS THE MARTYR; FLAVIANOS PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 6, Verses 12-20. It is found in our books on pages 134-5.

Ο Ἀπόστολος, Ποὸς Κοοινθίους Ποώτης Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 6, ἐδάφ. 12-20: Ἀδελφοί, πάντα μοι ἔξεστιν, ἀλλ' οὐ πάντα συμφέρει· πάντα μοι ἔξεστιν, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐγὼ ἐξουσιασθήσομαι ὑπό τινος. Τὰ βρώματα τῆ κοιλία, καὶ ἡ κοιλία τοῖς βρώμασιν· ὁ δὲ θεὸς καὶ ταὐτην καὶ ταῦτα καταργήσει. Τὸ δὲ σῶμα οὐ τῆ πορνεία, ἀλλὰ τῷ κυρίω, καὶ ὁ κύριος τῷ σώματι· ὁ δὲ θεὸς καὶ τὸν κύριον ἤγειρεν καὶ ἡμῶς ἐξεγερεῖ διὰ τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ. Οὐκ οἴδατε ὅτι τὰ σώματα ὑμῶν μέλη Χριστοῦ ἐστιν; Ἀρας οὖν τὰ μέλη τοῦ Χριστοῦ ποιήσω πόρνης μέλη; Μὴ γένοιτο. Οὐκ οἴδατε ὅτι ὁ κολλώμενος τῆ πόρνη ἐν σῶμά ἐστιν; Ἐσονται γάρ, φησίν, οἱ δύο εἰς σάρκα μίαν. Ὁ δὲ κολλώμενος τῷ κυρίω ἐν πνεῦμά ἐστιν. Φεύγετε τὴν πορνείαν. Πῶν ἀμάρτημα ὃ ἐὰν ποιήση ἄνθρωπος ἐκτὸς τοῦ σώματός ἐστιν· ὁ δὲ πορνεύων εἰς τὸ ἴδιον σῶμα ἀμαρτάνει. Ἡ οὐκ οἴδατε ὅτι τὸ σῶμα ὑμῶν ναὸς τοῦ ἐν ὑμῖν ἁγίου πνεύματός ἐστιν, οῦ ἔχετε ἀπὸ θεοῦ; Καὶ οὐκ ἐστιὲ ἐαυτῶν, ἡγοράσθητε γὰρ τιμῆς· δοξάσατε δὴ τὸν θεὸν ἐν τῷ σώματι ὑμῶν, καὶ ἐν τῷ πνεύματι ὑμῶν, ἅτινά ἐστιν τοῦ θεοῦ.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 15, Verses 11-32. It is found in our books on pages 277-281.

Ή σημεφινή εὐαγγελική πεφικοπή: ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν Εύαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 15, ἐδάφ. 11-32. Εὐφίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 276-280.

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SPANISH: Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo; danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día; perdona nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; no nos dejes caer en la tentación, y líbranos del Mal.

ADOPT A PAVER: As of today, we have 91 pavers "adopted." We are trying to schedule the inscription of the new pavers and a re-do of the old ones over a weekend when no rain is expected, as the paint cannot adhere to wet surfaces. We also need to wait until the courtyard drainage issues are resolved. The company will work with us as expeditiously as possible to get the work done. Meanwhile, we need someone to head this committee, which will reach out to other parishes and fellow Orthodox, both in our parish, the Bay Area, and throughout our Metropolis, and invite their participation. Our goal is to have all 750 pavers "adopted."

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY: This class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodoxy and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey. It is also open to people who are already Orthodox and who would like to deepen their understanding of their faith. We explore Christian theology and practice by reading selections from Scripture, the Church Fathers, the lives of the Saints, and other texts representative of the Orthodox worldview. These readings are the starting point for our discussions, which aim at clarifying doctrine and worship and helping us to discover (or rediscover) why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact **Alexandros Kozák** at orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com. Note: The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month. It meets in the second-floor conference room, beginning at 9 a.m. The group is meeting this Sunday, February 16 and will also meet next Sunday, February 23.

OFF TO FDF: It's that time of year. Some 75 members of our youth are attending the San Francisco Metropolis Folk Dance and Choral Festival this week. The event, which gathers some 2500 youth from throughout our Metropolis and beyond, is taking place in Anaheim, CA from Thursday, February 13 through Monday, February 17. Those who attended the luncheon in honor of Archbishop Elpidophoros of America on January 26 had occasion to see a preview of the dances to be performed at this year's FDF. We are grateful to our directors, our parents and, of course the dancers, who put in countless hours of practice in preparation for this competition. We wish them every success and look forward to their safe return.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN THIS TUESDAY: Our feeding the hungry program, known as Community Kitchen, takes place the third Tuesday of every month, at 6:30 p.m., preceded by set-up at 5:30 p.m. Community Kitchen is under the auspices of our Young Adults, who gather in the conference room after clean-up, at about 8 p.m., for wine and cheese and, of course discussion. Everyone is welcome to come and volunteer for Community Kitchen and all Young Adults are invited to participate and to attend the get-together at 8 p.m.

BASKETBALL PRACTICE THIS WEEK: Practice for Middle School will take this Wednesday, February 19.. Grade School practice will take place this Thursday, February 20, both practices at 7 pm.

SATURDAY OF SOULS: This Saturday, February 22, is known as the (First) Saturday of Souls. **Father Stephen** will celebrate the Divine Liturgy and the Memorial service following at the chapel of the Greek Orthodox Memorial Park Colma, beginning at 10 a.m. On Saturday, February 29 (remembrance of departed monastics) and on Saturday, March 7 (Miracle of St. Theodore, Tyro), the services will take place in our Cathedral chapel, also at 10 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PARENT SURVEY: As we are looking to develop our catechetical program further and to increase participation, all our parents are being invited to take part in a survey concerning aspects of this program. Our School committee, under the leadership of **Peter Cazanis**, has forwarded the survey by email. The following URL will take you to the survey, which should take only a few minutes to complete: <u>http://bit.ly/2TZkc91</u>. If you prefer, look for a QR code posted in the halls which will take you to the survey. In either case, we would appreciate hearing from you, as the last day of response collection is March 1.

SUNDAY STREETS: MARCH 8: MINI GREEK FESTIVAL: As noted, Valencia Street will be closed to through traffic on Sunday, March 8. However, you may still access the Cathedral for the Divine Liturgy. Simply come down 14th Street, and turn left onto Valencia Street, and into the parking lot. Upon exiting, please follow the signs. We are in the process of partnering with Sunday Streets in order to hold a "mini Greek festival" just outside the Cathedral, to encourage support and activity at this northern end of Valencia Street where, in the past, there is very little going on. By offering gyros and other delectable, and some music, we're hoping to draw attention to this northerly part of Valencia Street and, of course, to our vibrant community, which has existed on this spot for nearly 100 years.

STEWARDSHIP: Your support makes possible the very existence of this parish, and its ability to offer Liturgical services, educational, & philanthropic programs. Let's meet our goal of 400 Stewardship pledges for 2020. As of today, we have 120 2020 Stewards. We thank you for your support. In case you have misplaced your card, additional cards are available at the *pangari*. For questions about Stewardship, please see our Stewardship chair, **Dean Nicolacakis**.

PARKING: At long last! Our Final Fire and Electrical Inspections took place, December 3. 2019. We passed inspection! However, the holdup is in the Building Department. It needs to grant its approval so that we may take the final step-a hearing at our local Police Department, and the issuance of our occupancy permit for the garage and subsequent operation of the garage per our Conditional Use Permit agreement. The Building Department insisted we get the final doors and gates installed, as well as building up the lobby to meet a one hour burn criterion. The latter was recently done. Now we are waiting doors to come in. The installation of the gates, meanwhile, began this week. It will be a great day when the parking is up and running. As we go forward, let's stay positive and focused, considering all that you have accomplished so far! As with Moses, 3200 years ago, so in our own day we hear God speaking, telling us: "Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you." (from the Septuagint: Kai ποιήσεις μοι άγίασμα, καὶ ἀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν). (Exodus 25:8). All this requires vision, determination and faith. You have it all: keep reminding yourselves. You are accomplishing something extraordinary here, for you are building His sanctuary -- a great sacred space, right the heart of one of the world's premier cities. Here, our Orthodox Christian faith is poised to proclaim the Gospel message of salvation to a whole new generation of worshipers! May God remember you always, in His heavenly Kingdom!



"The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified."