## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023**

13TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
PROTOMARTYR THEKLA

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians Chapter 16 Verses 13-24:** Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew Chapter 21 Verses 33-42: The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"

**FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Festival Volunteers are highly needed for kitchen help and also other much needed areas. Volunteer forms will be available in the Narthex and for any questions please contact Deno Konstantinidis or Grace Koutoulas. <a href="Deno.konstantinidis@annunciation.org">Deno.konstantinidis@annunciation.org</a> grace.koutoulas@annunciation.org

HELP US MARKET OUR GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL: We're excited that our Greek Food Festival is just around the corner on September 15, 16 and 17. Our marketing team is busy at work spreading the word about our amazing event...and hopes YOU will, too! So when you're next in church, please pick up a few posters and postcards that are on the display board just outside of the chapel. Hand them out to your friends, neighbors, and work colleagues – and ask them to post on their store-fronts or within their businesses, too. Let's make this the best attended festival ever!

**STEWARDSHIP:** We invite you to prayerfully consider sharing the resources given to you by God by filling out our Stewardship card and pledge for 2023 today! Cards are available at the pangari and information wall. "All things are possible to the one who believes in Christ." Mark 9:23

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP - SAVE THE DATE: We will resume our monthly Men's Fellowship meetings this Thursday September 7th following a short break for the summer. The program consists of a social hour, a short prayer service in the chapel, and dinner followed by a spiritually centered discussion. These meetings provide a great opportunity for us to reconnect with our friends, our community, and our faith. Our last two meetings had over three dozen attendees including several men from neighboring parishes and even inquirers to Orthodox Christianity! The meetings are open to all men ages 18 and up. If you are interested in joining this new and growing ministry or would like to RSVP to attend our next event, please contact Jim Rakos at jim.rakos@annunciation.org.

## PHILOPTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

• Pastry baking schedule for food festival

9/7 (Thurs) Galaktoboureko assemble

Please contact Grace Koutoulas at Grace.Koutoulas@annunciation.org to help

"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."

