

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians, Chapter 3, Verses 4-11. It is found in our books on page 129.

**Ὁ Ἀπόστολος:** Πρὸς Κολοσσαεῖς Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 3, ἐδάφ. 4-11: Ἀδελφοί, ὅταν ὁ Χριστὸς φανερωθῆ, ἡ ζωὴ ἡμῶν, τότε καὶ ὑμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ φανερωθήσεσθε ἐν δόξῃ. Νεκρώσατε οὖν τὰ μέλη ὑμῶν τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, πορνείαν, ἀκαθαρσίαν, πάθος, ἐπιθυμίαν κακῆν, καὶ τὴν πλεονεξίαν, ἣτις ἐστὶν εἰδωλολατρεία, δι' ἣ ἐρχεται ἡ ὀργὴ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐπὶ τοὺς υἱοὺς τῆς ἀπειθείας· Ἐν οἷς καὶ ὑμεῖς περιεπατήσατέ ποτε, ὅτε ἐζήτε ἐν αὐτοῖς. Νυνὶ δὲ ἀπόθεσθε καὶ ὑμεῖς τὰ πάντα, ὀργὴν, θυμὸν, κακίαν, βλασφημίαν, αἰσχρολογίαν ἐκ τοῦ στόματος ὑμῶν· μὴ ψεύδεσθε εἰς ἀλλήλους, ἀπεκδυσάμενοι τὸν παλαιὸν ἄνθρωπον σὺν ταῖς πράξεσιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐνδυσάμενοι τὸν νέον, τὸν ἀνακαινούμενον εἰς ἐπίγνωσιν κατ' εἰκόνα τοῦ κτίσαντος αὐτόν· ὅπου οὐκ ἔστι Ἕλλην καὶ Ἰουδαῖος, περιτομὴ καὶ ἀκροβυστία, βάρος, Σκύθης, δούλος, ἐλεύθερος· ἀλλὰ τὰ πάντα καὶ ἐν πάσιν Χριστός.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 14, Verses 16-24. It is found in our books on pages 263-265.

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 14, ἐδάφ. 16-24. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 262-264**

**Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Three:**

Let all things above in heaven rejoice, and let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm, an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet, He has trampled down death by death, and first-born of the dead has He become. From the depths of Hades has He delivered us, and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.

Εὐφροαινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ ὁ Κύριος· ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιτίας Ἀδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**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.

**INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY:** (*Sundays, 9 a.m., upstairs*). 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](mailto:orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com). **Note:** The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month (rather than every Sunday). The schedule for the next two months is: January 7, 14, February 4, 11.

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN THIS TUESDAY:** Community Kitchen invites your volunteer participation. It will take place this Tuesday, December 19 (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month), beginning at 6:30 pm.

**TODAY'S MNEMOSYNON:** Today's memorial services are being held for the repose of our sister **Popi (Kalliopi) Tarlson**, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago. *Aionia I Mnimi!* Memory Eternal!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM TODAY:** Today our Sunday School will present its Christmas program. This will take place in the chapel, in lieu of a homily, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. At the conclusion, everyone is invited to our parish hall for something to eat.

**PHILOPTOCHOS BAKE SALE:** Last Sunday, the Cathedral Philoptochos held its Christmas Bake Sale, as outlined in the December *Herald*, to benefit its ministries, especially those people impacted by the recent fires. We are pleased to share with you that the Bake Sale was very successful; all the baked goods, beautifully boxed and wrapped for the holidays, sold out.

**STEWARDSHIP AND YOU:** Two Sundays ago, the Cathedral officially launched its 2018 Stewardship Campaign. We've had a great response so far: we've received back some 150 completed cards, either through the mail or, as was the case on December 3, through the church collection at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. We cannot stress how important it is for everyone, age 18 and above, who considers the Cathedral to be your home parish, to support its ministries through Stewardship. For, we are a family, and a family needs all its members doing their part, in order for it to be a happy, functioning family. In an effort to properly acknowledge and thank you for your support, we will list the names of all Stewards in our February *Herald*. In case you've misplaced your card or if you wish additional cards for family members, these, as well as information about our Stewardship program, may be found at the *pangari*. They are in an envelope marked "Stewardship." We also invite you to direct any questions you may have concerning our Stewardship program, to Father Stephen or a member of the Parish Council Stewardship Team. Let's make 2018 a banner year for Stewardship for the Cathedral. Together, we can do it!

**DANCE PRACTICE TODAY:** Dance practice will take place today, as well as this Friday, December 22, beginning at 6:15 p.m.

**YOUNG ADULT DANCE PRACTICE:** The newly formed group of Young Adults will practice this Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**BASKETBALL PRACTICE THIS WEEK:** Basketball practice will take place this Wednesday, December 20, and also Thursday, December 21, beginning at 7 p.m., both evenings.

**GREAT HOURS OF CHRISTMAS:** As Christmas, this year, falls on a Monday, the service of Hours will be celebrated on Friday, December 22 beginning at 10 a.m. The service lasts about one hour.

**GREEK SCHOOL RESUMES JANUARY 6:** Greek School classes will not take place this Saturday, as the new school is in the process of refurbishing the classrooms, nor the following Saturday, because of the Christmas break. Classes will resume Saturday, January 6 and will go through 1 pm, both on January 6 and also January 13.

**CLOSER AND CLOSER:** We're in the home stretch. As you can see, we are nearing **completion of the exterior**. We are waiting for our conditional use permit, which will enable us to secure a third-party operator to run the parking. Tentatively, we've been given February 1, 2018 for utilization of our parking. As for the **interior**: we hope to locate a contractor by the end of 2017 for the upper interior wall installation. However, in order for us to continue, we need your prayers and your continued financial support. First, we have outstanding pledges, to the tune of \$550,000. May we ask you to make good on your Building Fund pledges by the end of 2017? This will enable us to continue rebuilding. If you have not yet contributed, won't you consider making your gift this calendar year, before December 31, as your gift is fully tax deductible, to the extent allowed by law? More importantly, you will experience the joy of giving (and to such a historic undertaking!), helping make firm our presence as a Greek Orthodox house of worship in the *heart of our Great City*. In this way, we will be answering the call by God to Moses, when he said *"Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you."* **(from the Septuagint: Καὶ ποιήσεις μοι ἅγιασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν). (Exodus 25:8)**. When everything is completed, we will be able to consecrate the new Cathedral to the glory of God. More than likely, this will take place to coincide with our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, in 2021. We're in the home stretch, Annunciation!



*"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."*

(Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, Ground breaking, November 6, 1997)