

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2017

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Book of Acts, Chapter 26, Verses 1, 12-20: IN THOSE DAYS, King Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense: "I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining round me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and bear witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from the people and from the Gentiles—to whom I send you to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' "Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those at Damascus, then at Jerusalem and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and perform deeds worthy of their repentance."

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος: Πράξεις τῶν Ἀποστόλων τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 26, ἐδάφ. 1, 12-20.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 9, Verses 1-38. It is found in our books on pages 181-187.

Ἡ σημερινή εὐαγγελική περικοπή ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην, κεφ. 9, ἐδάφ. 1-38, εὑρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 180-186.

Today's *Apolytikion* (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Five (Plagal 1):

Eternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation. As the faithful, we both praise and worship Him for, in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross, and death did He endure, and the dead He raised unto life though His all-glorious Resurrection.

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν· ὅτι ἠδύοκῆσε σαρκὶ ἀνελεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείραι τοὺς τεθνεώτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

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, but 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 through reading selections of 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), week after week, why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact **Alexandros Kozák** at orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com.

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.

SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN, EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES

HAPPY NAME DAY: To all Constantines (Gus, Dean, Deno), Konstantines, and Helens, on the occasion of their Name Days today, the Great Feast of Constantine & Helen, Equal to the Apostles.

CALLING ALL PARENTS: OPEN FORM TODAY: In an effort to improve the Cathedral's Sunday School program, we invite all the parents to an open forum, during today's coffee hour, to discuss and give feedback on this ministry. As many of you know and have seen, our Sunday School has been struggling with attendance for the last couple of years. Today's meeting will be an opportunity for you, the parents, to have open dialogue with us, the Sunday School teachers and leadership, on how to improve our Sunday School ministry and bring it back into the position it should be within the parish, actively preparing our parish children with an education in their faith, our collective traditions, and an understanding of how to be a Christian in our difficult and changing world. At this meeting, we will also be discussing some of the upcoming changes/needs for the Sunday School 2017-2018 school year: ·Leadership changes ·Attendance Policy·Proposal for a new Sunday School start time ·Need for additional Sunday School teachers ·Parent Volunteers / Coordinators for Sunday School special events and services

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY: The meeting will take place in the conference room, 12:30 pm

CHAMPIONS! Congratulations to our High School team, coached by **Tom Nuris** and **Nick Kontonis**. They won the OYAA League Championship last Sunday. They will be presenting their trophy on Sunday, June 4.

DANCE PRACTICE: Dance practice will take place today, in the Kytherian Room and in the Chapel.

WINDING DOWN THE SCHOOL YEAR: Saturday, June 3 marks the last day of Greek School, while Sunday, June 4 marks the last day of Sunday School. We will have an end of the year program on the 4th, with the distribution of photos and certificates. Both schools will resume in September. Greek School will resume Saturday, September 9, while Sunday School will resume Sunday, September 10. Next Sunday, May 21, parents of all children will be asked, during a meeting with Sunday staff, to consider, among other things, whether to continue Sunday School at 10:30 or, perhaps, to change it to follow the Divine Liturgy. All this, to enhance attendance and renewed interest and commitment to our religious education program.

ICON WORKSHOP AT ANNUNCIATION JUNE 19-24: Iconographer **Theodoros Papadopoulos** will hold an icon workshop June 19-24, 9 am. To 4 am. Each day. If you are interested in participating, please call **Pat Preble**, at 415 440-8565.

CALLING FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS: Last Sunday, the Festival Committee held a very productive meeting relative to the organization of this year's Food Festival, which will take place on our grounds, September 22, 23, and 24. Basically, the committees are in place. However, we still need volunteers to step up and lend your assistance. Some of the Committees are: Food Preparation, Loukoumades, Taverna, Set-up, Food Procurement, Music, Permits, Gyro, Lamb and Pastry and Coffee Booths. Please contact **Chris Kyriacou**, Parish Council President, chris_kyriacou@mac.com

WE WISH IT WERE FASTER: But, with the current building boom in San Francisco, the Contractor is having trouble getting subs to do the work. We're in the home stretch, though. Our landmark Cathedral, which is shaping up to be a center of our faith in the heart of the City, is nearing **completion of the exterior**. The archways have been constructed. We are now waiting for construction of the entrenchment drain, the housing for the garage exhaust ducts, completion of the stonework, the pavers, completion of stucco, some electrical, completion of the garage, so we can begin using it, and the temporary doors. (The permanent doors will be added when the interior is completed, before using the space). That's about it for the **exterior**. As for the **interior**: we hope to begin the upper wall installation by the end of 2017. However, in order for us to continue, we need your prayers and your continued financial support. Some \$4 million is needed for the interior. Eventually, it will get done. You should be very proud of what you are doing, for you are responding to God's invitation, *"Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you."* (from the **Septuagint**: *Καὶ ποιήσεις μοι ἅγίασμα, 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 100th anniversary, in 2021. God will bless us, indeed, if His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who laid the cornerstone back in 1997, also consecrates it to God's glory! The cornerstone will be positioned shortly on the exact spot where it was originally laid: the southwestern side of the new Cathedral.



"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)