

Annunciation Cathedral Sunday Bulletin: March 16, 2014

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT LENT: ST. GREGORY PALAMAS

THE MARTYRS SAVVINOS, JULIANOS & ROMANOS

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Epistle Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Hebrews, chapter 1, verse 10 – chapter 2, verse 3. It is found in our books on pages 140-141.

Ὁ Απόστολος, πρὸς Ἑβραίους ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 1, ἐδάφ. 10 - κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 3:
Κατ' ἀρχάς, Κύριε, τὴν γῆν ἐθεμελίωσας, καὶ ἔργα τῶν χειρῶν σου εἰσιν οἱ οὐρανοὶ· αὐτοὶ ἀπολοῦνται, σὺ δὲ διαμένεις· καὶ πάντες ὡς ἱμάτιον παλαιωθήσονται, καὶ ὡσεὶ περιβόλαιον ἐλίξεις αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἀλλαγῆσονται· σὺ δὲ ὁ αὐτὸς εἶ, καὶ τὰ ἔτη σου οὐκ ἐκλείψουσιν. Πρὸς τίνα δὲ τῶν ἀγγέλων εἰρηκέν ποτε, Κάθου ἐκ δεξιῶν μου, ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου; Οὐχὶ πάντες εἰσὶν λειτουργικὰ πνεύματα, εἰς διακονίαν ἀποστελλόμενα διὰ τοὺς μέλλοντας κληρονομεῖν σωτηρίαν; Διὰ τοῦτο δεῖ περισσοτέρως ἡμᾶς προσέχειν τοῖς ἀκουσθεῖσιν, μήποτε παραρρῶμεν. Εἰ γὰρ ὁ δι' ἀγγέλων λαληθεὶς λόγος ἐγένετο βέβαιος, καὶ πάντα παράβασις καὶ παρακοὴ ἔλαβεν ἔνδικον μισθαποδοσίαν, πῶς ἡμεῖς ἐκφευξόμεθα τηλικαύτης ἀμελήσαντες σωτηρίας; Ἦτις, ἀρχὴν λαβοῦσα λαλεῖσθαι διὰ τοῦ κυρίου, ὑπὸ τῶν ἀκουσάντων εἰς ἡμᾶς ἐβεβαίωθη.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter 2, verses 1-12. It is found in our books on pp. 291-293.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 1-12, εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 290-292.

Today's *Apolytikon* (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 ἠυδόκησε σαρκὶ ἀνελεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείραι τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

PARISH ASSEMBLY SUNDAY, MARCH 30: This first Assembly of 2014, for which an Agenda may be found in the March *Herald*, will take place on Sunday, March 30, following the Divine Liturgy.

SUMMER CAMP AT ST. NICHOLAS: This exciting program is open to children 8 years of age (or entering 3rd grade in the fall) to 18 years of age (or graduating from high school this year). There will be three sessions this year. Session I: July 6-12; Session II: July 13-19; and Session III: July 26-26. The cost is \$450 for those who register during March (March 1-March 31). For those who register in April (April 1-April 30) the cost is \$475. And, for those who register late (May 1-May 31) the registration is \$500. (All siblings receive a \$25 discount). You are invited to take advantage of early registration pricing by going to www.gosfyouth.org asap

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL TODAY: We are very pleased that, as part of its curriculum, our Sunday School annually prepares young people to participate in the St John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival. This year's Festival is taking place today, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (the Lenten Liturgy). In lieu of a sermon, our young people will be delivering talks on a topic of their choosing, having to do with their faith, a passage of scripture, a contemporary moral issue, or the life of a Church saint. They will speak before the congregation, as well as a panel of judges, who will grade them (the participants in the junior division) and recommend them to go on to the regional Festival, which will take place at the Church of the Holy Cross, Belmont on March 30, and, as the case may be, to the Metropolis Festival, at St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center on May 3. This year, we are pleased that 8 young people will participate in the Elementary Division, and 3 in the Junior Division. Many thanks go to Denise Yeilding, our Sunday School Principal, for her oversight of the program, as well as to our teachers, for preparing, inspiring, and mentoring our young people.

WELCOME, NIKO PETROGEORGE OF FOCUS NORTH AMERICA: Focus is an Orthodox Christian charity that serves the working poor and homeless in the United States by providing jobs, housing, and other sustainable programs that help lift Americans out of poverty. It endeavors to fulfill Christ's commandment to help those in need by engaging Orthodox Christians, leveraging their time and talents to improve local communities in practical hands-on activities. **Niko Petrogeorge** is with us this morning to share with us the work of FOCUS and how we may become involved.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY: The Parish Council will meet today, at 12:30 p.m. in the second floor conference room.

DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19: The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is so called because the Gifts are consecrated as Body and Blood of Christ at the previous Sunday Divine Liturgy. Except for the Feast of the Annunciation, which falls on March 25, on which the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is celebrated, the normal Liturgy is not celebrated during Great Lent, underscoring its solemnity and mournful character.

3RD SALUTATIONS SERVICES THIS FRIDAY, MARCH 21: The *Akathist* is a special devotional, a four-part salutation, dedicated to the Theotokos. Its origin is attributed to the year 626, when in the reign of Heraclius Constantinople was attacked by the Persians and Scythians, but saved through the intervention of the Theotokos: a sudden hurricane dispersed the fleet of the enemy, casting the vessels on the shore near the great church at Blachernae, on the shores of the Golden Horn, whereupon the hymn *Ti Ypermacho* was composed. A fourth of the salutations portion is sung on the first four Fridays of Lent, all stanzas being sung together on the fifth Friday, when people normally stand, hence "akathist." Services are at 7 p.m.

GREEK SCHOOL INDEPENDENCE DAY PROGRAM THIS SATURDAY: Our Greek School invites you to its Greek Independence Day program, to be held this Saturday, March 22, at 11:15 a.m. Each class will sing a song/recite a poem and, at the conclusion, all classes will participate in the singing of the Greek National Anthem.

ANOTHER BUILDING UPDATE ON ITS WAY TO YOU:

The March building update, again featuring our children on the cover, and a narrative of our building project on the inside, is being sent to all of you, in an effort to keep you informed about our progress. The great news is that *excavation is nearing completion (the 850 yards left are clean soil!) and the mud slab will be poured in March!* We're proceeding with the rebuilding of the Cathedral, *because God has told us to do so!*

In the Book of Exodus (25:8) God says: "Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you." (Translated from the Septuagint: *Και ποιήσεις μοι ἁγίασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*). We've quoted this at least since the start of the Capital Campaign. And we can't stress it enough: *we're building the Cathedral because God has told us to do so*. In His infinite wisdom, the Lord knows what he has in store for us and for the future of our Faith, in this dynamic corridor of San Francisco's inner city.

MORE GOOD NEWS: OVER \$5.3 MILLION HAS BEEN RAISED DURING THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

The total raised during the Capital Campaign exceeds \$5.3 million (Over \$700,000 of this was raised since we began construction on October 17!) Of the \$5.3 raised, \$4.1 has been received; \$1.2 million is receivable (from those who are paying over a number of years, in some cases, up to five years.)

The total cost for completion, inside and out, is just over \$12 million. However, the contract we signed with McNely Construction (what we are building now) is a not-to-exceed \$10.7 million. This gets us the parking structure and a complete exterior, by year-end 2014 or the beginning of 2015. We are confident we will complete the interior in 2015, including iconography, pews and all interior appointments. This, at a projected cost of \$2 million. We have faith that we will get there and that the new Cathedral will soon be consecrated to the glory of God.



*We at the Annunciation
Cathedral
will grow
The Orthodox Christian Faith
in San Francisco through:
Stewardship, Worship,
Education, Evangelism and
Philanthropic Outreach*