



# ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



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MARCH 2014

## CATHEDRAL GROUPS PERFORM MAGNIFICENTLY AT FDF 2014!!!

Our Cathedral dance groups once again brought back several awards after a very successful FDF! Last February 13-17, in Anaheim, California, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco held its 38th Folk Dance Festival (FDF), and all of our Annunciation Cathedral dance groups were a joy to watch. First, our youngest group, Thisavri, performed magnificently in the Primary category, their first year competing at FDF, and brought home a silver medal! Spithes, also won an impressive second place in the highly-competitive Junior category, in which they were one of the youngest groups. Ekrixi, our high-school/college age group, received the Choral Award in the very competitive Senior category.



As always, our community is very proud of all our dancers who participated in this wonderful ministry, showing that our Greek Orthodox faith and culture are alive and well today in San Francisco. Many thanks to all our directors: Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos, Lea Papavasiliou, Shareen Fousekis, Michael Garibaldi and Nicole Georgiou Garibaldi, as well as our 2014 Dance Board and parents. We are very proud of all of you, congratulations!



## BUILDING PROJECT EXCAVATION NEARING COMPLETION

The new Cathedral construction has completed its first phase - the shoring and excavation are substantially complete! As part of the excavation, all the lead-contaminated soil under the building site has been removed and properly disposed. The next task will be compacting the bottom of the excavation so that it will support the Cathedral's structural foundation slab. That should take several weeks, and by late March, the working slab will be in place. This thin working slab provides a level, dry work surface for constructing the two-foot thick foundation slab. The foundation slab will be constructed in layers: first the waterproofing (to keep Mission Creek from wandering into the parking garage), then the rebar, and then the structural concrete will be poured. The finished foundation slab will be two feet thick. Once the foundation concrete has cured, the garage walls will be constructed, again with waterproofing on the outside to keep it dry on the inside. Then, once the walls have cured, the upper slab (the "podium") will be constructed. It is expected that the podium will be complete and cured by the end of July, ready to start erecting the steel frame for the new Cathedral. The project is now on track to complete Phase I (completely finished parking garage, Cathedral shell, and all landscaping) by May 2015.

## Matching Gifts for the Building Project

A few months ago, one of our dedicated parishioners informed us that the company she works for offered to match any contributions made by any of their employees to non-profit organizations. The individual had already pledged \$25,000 over five years to the building project, and had already submitted one payment in the amount of \$5,000. This year. Recently, we were notified that the company would be sending a check for the same amount. This means that, potentially, this individual's pledge will go from \$25,000 to \$50,000!



If you have already pledged to the Capital Campaign and submitted a payment this year, or are planning to do so in the future, please inquire if your employer has a similar policy of matching gifts to non-profits. Please join us as we embark on this historic time in the history of our community. Every bit helps!

**WHAT DOES MY GIFT TO THE BUILDING FUND REALLY AMOUNT TO OVER A FIVE YEAR PERIOD?**

**Below are some different ways to look at how you can make a meaningful gift.**

AMOUNT	PER YEAR OVER 5 YEARS	PER MONTH OVER 5 YEARS	PER DAY OVER 5 YEARS	2 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)	3 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)	4 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)
\$100,000	\$20,000	\$1,666.00	\$54.80	\$27.40	\$18.26	\$13.70
\$50,000	\$10,000	\$833.00	\$27.40	\$13.70	\$9.13	\$6.85
\$30,000	\$6,000	\$500.00	\$16.43	\$8.22	\$5.48	\$4.10
\$25,000	\$5,000	\$416.00	\$13.70	\$6.85	\$4.56	\$3.42
\$20,000	\$4,000	\$333.33	\$10.95	\$5.49	\$3.65	\$2.74
\$15,000	\$3,000	\$250.00	\$8.22	\$4.11	\$2.74	\$2.05
\$10,000	\$2,000	\$166.66	\$5.47	\$2.75	\$1.82	\$1.36

**Annunciation Sunday School Building Project**

If you've been attending service over the past couple of months it's hard to miss the building enthusiasm shared by the youth of our church. This enthusiasm is more formally known as the Annunciation Sunday School Building Project.

During the school year there will be a variety of projects presented in church that allow the youth to interpret what building a new church means to them. Presentations are grouped in several ways including age, activity, or child's interest

The aim of the Sunday School project is to allow the youth to take part in the historic building process of the Annunciation Cathedral. Just as many of you hold memories of the devastating 1989 earthquake, we want our youth to hold memories of building the new cathedral.

All pictures will be displayed on our building project shutterfly share site: [https://annunciationsf.shutterfly.com/#:emid=site\\_calendarreminder&cid=SHARE3SXXXX](https://annunciationsf.shutterfly.com/#:emid=site_calendarreminder&cid=SHARE3SXXXX) . All members of the share site can view, copy, post, and order pictures of the projects. If you wish to be added to the share site, email Anastacia Ambus at: [Tashaugr@yahoo.com](mailto:Tashaugr@yahoo.com).



**2014-2015 Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships Available**

Applications and instructions for three scholarships administered by the Department of Philanthropy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America are now available for awards to be made for the 2014-2015 academic year. The George & Naouma (Gioule) Gioles Scholarship and the Katina John Malta Scholarship are for undergraduate studies, and the Paleologos Scholarship is awarded for graduate work of a non-theological nature. Each of these scholarships was established through generous gifts from dedicated Greek Orthodox Christians who wanted to provide financial assistance towards the education of young people from our Orthodox Christian community.

Applications can be downloaded from the website of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America at [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org). For more information, please email [scholarships@goarch.org](mailto:scholarships@goarch.org) or call 212-774-0283. The deadline for submitting an application for any of these scholarships is April 25, 2014.

**2014 Elios Grants for Heritage Greece**

The Elios Charitable Foundation is partnering with The American College of Greece and the National Hellenic Society to provide three (3) Elios Grants for 2014 Heritage Greece. You can find more information attached and on our website. Applications and essays are due by March 7th.

Heritage Greece is a once in a lifetime opportunity to explore Greek heritage, culture and identity with a peer group of students from the US and Greece. Students travel to Greece for two weeks to learn Modern Greek and visit important archaeological sites to facilitate strong connections with students' Greek roots and identity.

Two students from the Bay Area (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma

counties) and one student from the Western Metropolis (Alaska, Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington) will be awarded Elios Grants.

Please contact Jennifer Carlin, Executive Director, for more information (elios.org).

Jennifer M. Carlin  
Executive Director  
The Elios Society & Elios Charitable Foundation  
99 Shotwell Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

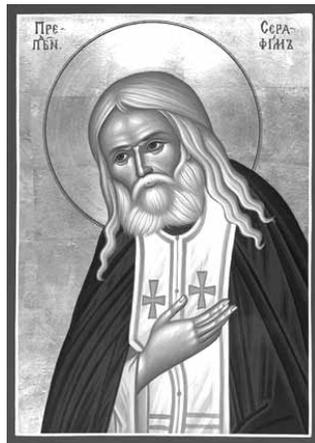
Ph: 415-602-1996  
Fax: 415-381-5205

## St Seraphim of Sarov and the Vision of the Uncreated Light (Part 1)

“For the sheer benefit of spiritual edification I wanted to reproduce here the section from Valentine Zander’s *Life of St Seraphim of Sarov*, where we have the description of the uncreated light of the grace of God.” – Marcelo P. Souza

### St Seraphim of Sarov

“[T]he Lord has frequently demonstrated before many witnesses how the grace of the Holy Spirit acts on people whom He has sanctified and illumined by His great inspirations. Remember Moses after his talk with God on Mount Sinai. He so shone with an extraordinary light that people were unable to look at him. He was even forced to wear a veil when he appeared in public.



Remember the Transfiguration of the Lord on Mount Tabor. A great light encircled Him, “and His raiment became shining, exceedingly white like snow” (Mk. 9:3), and His disciples fell on their faces from fear. But when Moses and Elijah appeared to Him in that light, a cloud overshadowed them in order to hide the radiance of the light of the divine grace which blinded the eyes of the disciples. Thus the grace of the All-Holy Spirit of God appears in an ineffable light to all to whom God reveals its action.”

“But how,” I asked Father Seraphim, “can I know that I am in the grace of the Holy Spirit?”

“It is very simple, your Godliness,” he replied. “That is why the Lord says: ‘All things are simple to those who find knowledge’ (Prov. 8:9, Septuagint). The trouble is that we do not seek this divine knowledge which does not puff up, for it is not of this world. This knowledge which is full of love for God and for our neighbour builds up every man for his salvation.

Of this knowledge the Lord said that God wills all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth (I Tim. 2:4). And of the

lack of this knowledge He said to His Apostles: Are you also yet without understanding (Mat. 15:16)?

Concerning this understanding [15], it is said in the Gospel of the Apostles: Then opened He their understanding (Lk. 24:45), and the Apostles always perceived whether the Spirit of God was dwelling in them or not; and being filled with understanding, they saw the presence of the Holy Spirit with them and declared positively that their work was holy and entirely pleasing to the Lord God.

That explains why in their Epistles they wrote: It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us (Acts 15:28). Only on these grounds did they offer their Epistles as immutable truth for the benefit of all the faithful. Thus the holy Apostles were consciously aware of the presence in themselves of the Spirit of God. And so you see, your Godliness, how simple it is!”

“Nevertheless,” I replied, “I do not understand how I can be certain that I am in the Spirit of God. How can I discern for myself His true manifestation in me?”

Father Seraphim replied: “I have already told you, your Godliness, that it is very simple and I have related in detail how people come to be in the Spirit of God and how we can recognize His presence in us. So what do you want, my son?”

“I want to understand it well,” I said.

Then Father Seraphim took me very firmly by the shoulders and said: “We are both in the Spirit of God now, my son. Why don’t you look at me?”

I replied: “I cannot look, Father, because your eyes are flashing like lightning. Your face has become brighter than the sun, and my eyes ache with pain.”

Father Seraphim said: “Don’t be alarmed, your Godliness! Now you yourself have become as bright as I am. You are now in the fullness of the Spirit of God yourself; otherwise you would not be able to see me as I am.”

Then, bending his head towards me, he whispered softly in my ear: “Thank the Lord God for His unutterable mercy to us! You

*continued next page*

“O Christ our God... Who love the just and show mercy to the sinners; Who call all men to salvation through the promise of blessings to come...”

– Prayer from the Great Compline service

saw that I did not even cross myself; and only in my heart I prayed mentally to the Lord God and said within myself: 'Lord, grant him to see clearly with his bodily eyes that descent of Thy Spirit which Thou grantest to Thy servants when Thou art pleased to appear in the light of Thy magnificent glory.'

And you see, my son, the Lord instantly fulfilled the humble prayer of poor Seraphim. How then shall we not thank Him for this unspeakable gift to us both? Even to the greatest hermits, my son, the Lord God does not always show His mercy in this way. This grace of God, like a loving mother, has been pleased to comfort your contrite heart at the intercession of the Mother of God herself. But why, my son, do you not look me in the eyes? Just look, and don't be afraid! The Lord is with us!"

After these words I glanced at his face and there came over me an even greater reverent awe. Imagine in the center of the sun, in the dazzling light of its midday rays, the face of a man talking to you.

You see the movement of his lips and the changing expression of his eyes, you hear his voice, you feel someone holding your shoulders; yet you do not see his hands, you do not even see yourself or his figure, but only a blinding light spreading far around for several yards and illumining with its glaring sheen both the snow-blanket which covered the forest glade and the snow-flakes which besprinkled me and the great Elder. You can imagine the state I was in!

"How do you feel now?" Father Seraphim asked me.

"Extraordinarily well," I said.

"But in what way? How exactly do you feel well?"

I answered: "I feel such calmness and peace in my soul that no words can express it."

"This, your Godliness," said Father Seraphim, "is that peace of which the Lord said to His disciples: My peace I give unto you; not

*"Almighty Lord, You have created all things in wisdom. In Your inexpressible providence and great goodness You have brought us to these saving days, for the cleansing of our souls and bodies, for control of our passions, in the hope of the Resurrection."*

*- Prayer from the Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts*

*"And now I bend the knee of my heart, beseeching Your goodness."*

*- A prayer of Manasseh, King of Judah, from the Great Compline service*

as the world gives, give I unto you (Jn. 14:21). If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hates you (Jn. 15:19). But be of good cheer; I have overcome the world (Jn. 16:33).

And to those people whom this world hates but who are chosen by the Lord, the Lord gives that peace which you now feel within you, the peace which, in the words of the Apostle, passes all understanding (Phil. 4:7). The Apostle describes it in this way, because it is impossible to express in words the spiritual well-being which it produces in those into whose hearts the Lord God has infused it.

Christ the Saviour calls it a peace which comes from His own generosity and is not of this world, for no temporary earthly prosperity can give it to the human heart; it is granted from on high by the Lord God Himself, and that is why it is called the peace of God. What else do you feel?" Father Seraphim asked me.

"An extraordinary sweetness," I replied.

And he continued: "This is that sweetness of which it is said in Holy Scripture: They will be inebriated with the fatness of Thy house; and Thou shalt make them drink of the torrent of Thy delight (Ps. 35:8) [16]. And now this sweetness is flooding our hearts and coursing through our veins with unutterable delight. From this sweetness our hearts melt as it were, and both of us are filled with such happiness as tongue cannot tell. What else do you feel?"

*"An extraordinary joy in all my heart."*

## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

"This event is truly amazing! I have not missed this crab feed ever! This is the best deal in town! You should sell the salad dressing and the crab marinade! This event is a wow! Can't wait till next year!"

These are some of the comments said to me at our 32nd annual Philoptochos sponsored crab feed event held on January 31, 2014. The members of the Philoptochos truly outdid themselves and the crab was outstanding and the event, from the comments given, was a great success. Close to 500 attended! Leading chairs Rose Sogotis, Teia Nuris and Annamaria Balian and their many team members organized, cleaned, prepared the salad dressing and the crab marinade and garlic spread all week. You walked into the Kitchen on Friday morning and there were more than 20 people laying out the crab trays, marinating, preparing the salad, making the garlic bread in such a manner that you just had to stop and take it all in. What a team effort! Just look at the pictures taken that day and the



happy looks on the faces of many who worked. The commitment of the women and men who worked to make this day possible was truly remarkable. There is no way to thank them enough for their dedication to this wonderful fundraiser. In addition those who came in Friday evening to prepare the pasta, who led the raffle, served at the bar, did reservations, setup and cleanup all worked to make this an outstanding evening. Reservations Chair Angie Leventis stated there was not one complaint. So kudos to all who worked and on to next year!

### Celebrating March 25th!

In March our community celebrates the Feast day of our Cathedral. This year March 25 falls on a Tuesday. Following Church service Philoptochos will sponsor a luncheon on this special day. We hope everyone can join us to celebrate with our Church family.

### Philoptochos Membership 2014

Our Philoptochos Membership Drive began on February 9 on Go Red Sunday. Through membership Philoptochos has been a beacon of Faith, Hope and Love to all those in need of our services, both spiritually and financially. As members of this National organization we reach out and give solace to those less fortunate in our communities and in the world. This is the great mission of Philoptochos and membership is asking "one woman asking another to care." When you join you help meet the mission set so many years ago. In our changing world the needs of those less fortunate are greater and more demanding. Many of you have submitted your membership and I thank you for your prompt response. We need every woman in our Church community to support this important organization in whatever capacity you can give. The faces of Philoptochos are many from older to younger women. All are important and all insure our legacy of hope and vision. Be part of a wonderful

group of Philoptochos members that embraces, evolves and gives to others. Join today! If you have any questions please contact me by emailing me at [P\\_aleco@sbcglobal.net](mailto:P_aleco@sbcglobal.net) and we can chat.

### More Upcoming Events

This year Easter will be held on Sunday, April 20, 2014. As we do every year Philoptochos will be preparing breads, eggs and cookies for our Easter Bake Sale. Order forms will be distributed for you to order. We will also be celebrating Mother's Day on May 11, 2014. A committee is being formed and we are looking for a new format for us to celebrate this special day.

Our members look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at our events.

*With warm regards,  
Patricia Aleck, Philoptochos President*

*"Though a person may run as fast as he can away from Christ, if it is toward what he considers true, he runs in fact straight into the arms of Christ."*

*- Fr. Alexander Schmemmann*





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## YOUTH NEWS

### Sunday School Korner

March is a busy month for our Sunday School classes. Lent begins. It is a great time to bring your children/grandchildren to classes (10:30 am) for Lenten lessons and much more. Share the gift of Faith with our youth. Please volunteer to help in the classrooms, with Oratorical festival, TGI Pascha or our Angels during Holy Week.

**March 2nd**      **Make Invitations for Godparents Sunday/Mail**  
\*\*\*Practice and Preparation for the Oratorical Festival

**March 9th**      **Sunday of Orthodoxy**  
\*\*\*Children should bring an icon from home to participate in the procession at the end of the Liturgy

**March 16th**      **Parish Oratorical Festival**  
Held immediately after Divine Liturgy in Chapel  
\*\*\*Students in grades 4th - High School give prepared speeches & poems as outlined by the Archdiocese. There is opportunity for students to go on to participate in Metropolis competition. Join us in supporting our youth in expressing their faith.

**March 23th**      **Veneration of the Cross**  
\*\*\*Sunday School will participate in the procession of Crosses at the end of Liturgy.

**March 25th**      **Annunciation**

**April 6th**      **Godparents Sunday**  
\*\*\*Godparents are invited into the Sunday School class with students to participate in the lesson and project for the day, and then partake of Communion with Godchild. Luncheon to follow.

We will sign up girls to be Angels during Holy Week, beginning March 23th. All girls in 3/4th grade and above will be eligible to be an angel. They must be able to attend at least 3 of the services in which Angels participate to be eligible.

I am asked frequently during lent about fasting, so I have taken an excerpt from the archdiocese website to help answer common questions:

*“I consecrated this house you built to place My name there forever, and My eyes and My heart will be there all days.”*

- 3 Kingdoms 9:3

*“Rejoice! Our Lady, Purest and most beautiful among women are you who have known no sin.”*

- Hymn from the Salutations service

“The Great Lent begins Monday after Sunday of Cheese, the fifth week before Holy Week, and lasts through Saturday of Lazarus, and continues through Holy Week. Abstention from meat, fish and dairy products is observed, except on Palm Sunday and the Annunciation, March 25, when fish may be eaten. On Saturday and Sunday of Lent, wine, oil and shellfish may be eaten. This selection of foods is applied to the other fast periods, below, except when indicated otherwise.

Children should be instructed (both at home and in Sunday School) as to the purpose and meaning of church observances such as the procedures of fasting. Children should be taught the ideals of abstention from foods and from iniquities and their relationship to prayer, alms-giving, self-control and love. Children of sound health should fast. The main purpose of children fasting is to make them aware that fasting is a dedication and pledge to obey the principles of faith in Christ. Infants are not required to fast. However, the feeding of infants should take place at least two or three hours before Holy Communion.

The archdiocese website, [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org), is a great wealth of information for families.

Join the Annunciation Sunday School Facebook page. Like Us. Updates posted regularly about our classes. Great information from our Metropolis, Archdiocese and many other orthodox Christian pages. I look forward to seeing our many families participate in our many programs over the next two months. This is a wonderful time of year. Thank you for your support.

*Denise Yeilding*  
*Sunday School Principal*

### Other Important Dates for 2014

April 13	Palm Sunday (class photos taken)
April 18	TGI Pascha - Good Friday
April 20	Easter/ no classes held
May 4	Mother's Day projects
May 11	Mother's Day
May 18	Regular classes
May 25	No classes/Memorial Day
May 29	Ascension
June 1	Last day of classes Graduation/Luncheon

\*\*Our Sunday School program is currently looking for a volunteer to coordinate the angels program during Holy Week, as well as a teacher for grades 3-4 and Pre-K/K. It is a rewarding a fulfilling experience to share religious education with our children. Please feel free to contact us if you are interested\*\*

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## Greek School Going Strong

Many thanks to the talented staff and parents that have made this year's Greek School program a success already! Classes will resume after the Christmas break on January 4. If you have any questions about the program or would like to sign your child up for the 2014-2015 year, please contact Anthi Janssens (anthij@comcast.net) or Philip Athanasiades (philippos1cy@yahoo.com).

### Some noteworthy dates are as follow:

- April 19: Greek Easter, no class
- May 24: Memorial Day, no class
- June 7: Last day of Greek school!

*“Lord of the Powers, be with us.  
For in times of trouble we have  
no other help but You. Lord of  
the Powers, have mercy on us.”*

– Hymn from the Great Compline service

## JOY to Resume in March!

**\*\*JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth) is open  
to all youth between grades 3-6\*\***

## Young Adults Enjoy an Evening of Discussion/Dinner

On February 27 our Cathedral young adult group held a dinner and discussion night, where our guest speaker was Jedeiah Estevez. Jed is a former navy officer and currently is enrolled in Masters courses at Dominican School of Theology, Berkeley. His topic was “Evidence of Things Unseen.”

Next month, our young adults will hold a food pantry at the Cathedral during Great Lent, on March 27. More details to come!

**\*\*The Cathedral Young Adult group is open to all young adults  
22-35(ish)\*\***

For more information on any of our youth groups, feel free to contact Father Niko at fatherniko@annunciation.org, or visit the “Youth of Annunciation Cathedral San Francisco” Facebook group page.

## PARISHIONERS INVITED TO FIRST PARISH ASSEMBLY OF 2014, SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Parishioners of the Annunciation Cathedral are invited to attend the first regular Parish Assembly for 2014, to take place in the Cathedral's Korinthias Hall on Sunday, March 30, following the Divine Liturgy. The Agenda is as follows:

### Opening Prayer

1. Election of Assembly Chair
2. Reading/Approval of the November 10, 2013 Minutes of the Parish Assembly
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Reports:
  - a. Stewardship
  - b. 2014 Festival
  - c. Youth
5. Election of representatives to the Archdiocese Clergy-Laity Congress (To be held in Philadelphia, PA July 6-9, 2014)
6. Rebuilding the Cathedral Church: Progress Report
7. Report/Election of the Board of Auditors
8. Election Nominating Committee (Parish Council elections will take place on Sunday, December 14, 2014)
9. Old Business
10. New Business

### Closing Prayer

Parishioners in good standing (that is, those who are ecclesiastically in good standing with the Orthodox Church, as defined in the Archdiocese Regulations, and who have met their stewardship obligations to the Cathedral) may participate in the Parish Assembly. Quorum requirements, as defined in the Parish By-Laws are: 75% of the Parish Council (i.e. 12 out of 15 members), an equal number of other parishioners in good standing, plus the Dean of the Cathedral or, if fewer than 12 members of the Parish Council are present, then 75 parishioners in good standing, plus the Dean of the Cathedral.

## ΚΟΙΝΟΤΙΚΗ ΣΥΝΕΛΕΣΗ ΣΤΙΣ 30 ΜΑΡΤΙΟΥ

Καλούνται τα μέλη του Καθεδρικού Ναού όπως παρευρεθούν και λάβουν μέρος εις την πρώτη συνέλευση των μελών την Κυριακή 30 Μαρτίου ε.έ. μετά από τη Θεία Λειτουργία. Τα θέματα συζητήσεως, αφού πρώτα γίνει προσευχή και εκλεγεί ο πρόεδρος της συνελεύσεως είναι:

Τα πρακτικά της 10ης Νοεμβρίου 2013

Οικονομικός απολογισμός ταμίου

Αναφορά επιτροπής Stewardship

Αναφορά επιτροπής Φεστιβάλ

Αναφορά επιτροπής νεολαίας

Εκλογή εκπροσώπων εις την Κληρικο-λαϊκή

συνέλευση (Φιλαδέλφια, 6-9 Ιουλίου, 2014)

Αναφορά επί της οικοδόμησης-εράνου

Αναφορά Εξελεγκτικής Επιτροπής

Εκλογή Ονομαστικής Επιτροπής (Οι κοινοτικές

εκλογές θα λάβουν χώραν εις τις 14 Δεκεμβρίου ε.έ.)

Παλαιά θέματα

Νέα Θέματα

Προσευχή

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## Xronia Polla for Namedays in March!

Best wishes to the following individuals who celebrate their namedays in March:

Angelo Karas  
Angelo Kottas  
Angelo Koutoulas  
Evangelia Sogotis  
Angelo Vorrises  
Evangelia Karas

### The Annunciation of the Theotokos, March 25

You may wish to consider sponsoring a coffee hour on the Sunday closest to your nameday, as a way of celebrating with our parish family. For more information, please contact **Mike Canellos** at (415) 864-8814.

*\*\* The information above was taken from the data submitted on our 2014 stewardship pledge cards. If your name does not appear on this list, please feel free to give your information to our stewardship data table in the gallery, or by filling out a 2014 stewardship pledge card. \*\**

## Altar Group Schedule for March

The schedule for the month will be as follows:

March 2- Group 1  
March 9 (Sunday of Orthodoxy)- Group 2  
March 16- Group 3  
March 23- Group 4  
March 30- All welcome

The 2014 altar group rosters are as follow:

**Group 1-** Niko Manetas, Stelio Kyriacou, Kosta Lyberopoulos, George Tsokas  
**Group 2-** Anthony Obester, Demetri Kontonis, Andrew Vellis, Panagioti Sogotis, Yianni Sogotis  
**Group 3-** Niko Pezo, Demetri Rally, Steven Chiappari, Steven Monolakis  
**Group 4** Jonas Tesfai, Nathan Tesfai, Bobby Kontonis, Hari Manetas, Matthew Nuris

If any families are interested in their boys joining an altar group, who are above the age of 10, feel free to contact Father Niko Bekris at [fatherniko@annunciation.org](mailto:fatherniko@annunciation.org). Thank you also to Nektarios McKnight for guiding and instructing our altar servers each Sunday. As always, if anyone has any questions or suggestions, feel free to let us know. Thanks!

## Community Link Continues Ministering to Those in Need

Community Link, now in its ninth year of existence, is a group of Annunciation parishioners who meet once a month on a drop-in basis to visit members of our community who may be confined due to illness or age. We travel to hospitals, nursing homes and private residences. Many of those we visit no longer have family or friends to support them and just need to know there is someone who cares. A short visit or phone call can lift one's spirits a great deal. If anyone in the community knows of any other home bound parishioners to add to our list or would like to join us for a visit, please contact, please contact Pauline Oetzel at [poetzel@hotmail.com](mailto:poetzel@hotmail.com). Upcoming Community Link dates are: March 15, April 19, and May 17.

## SACRAMENTS AND SERVICES At the The Cathedral

### FUNERALS

The Cathedral extends condolences to the family of Steven Anthony Monolakis, who fell asleep in the Lord on February 16, 2014. Funeral services were celebrated at his home parish of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, Belmont, on February 21, 2014.

*Aonia I mnimi (Eternal memory)!*

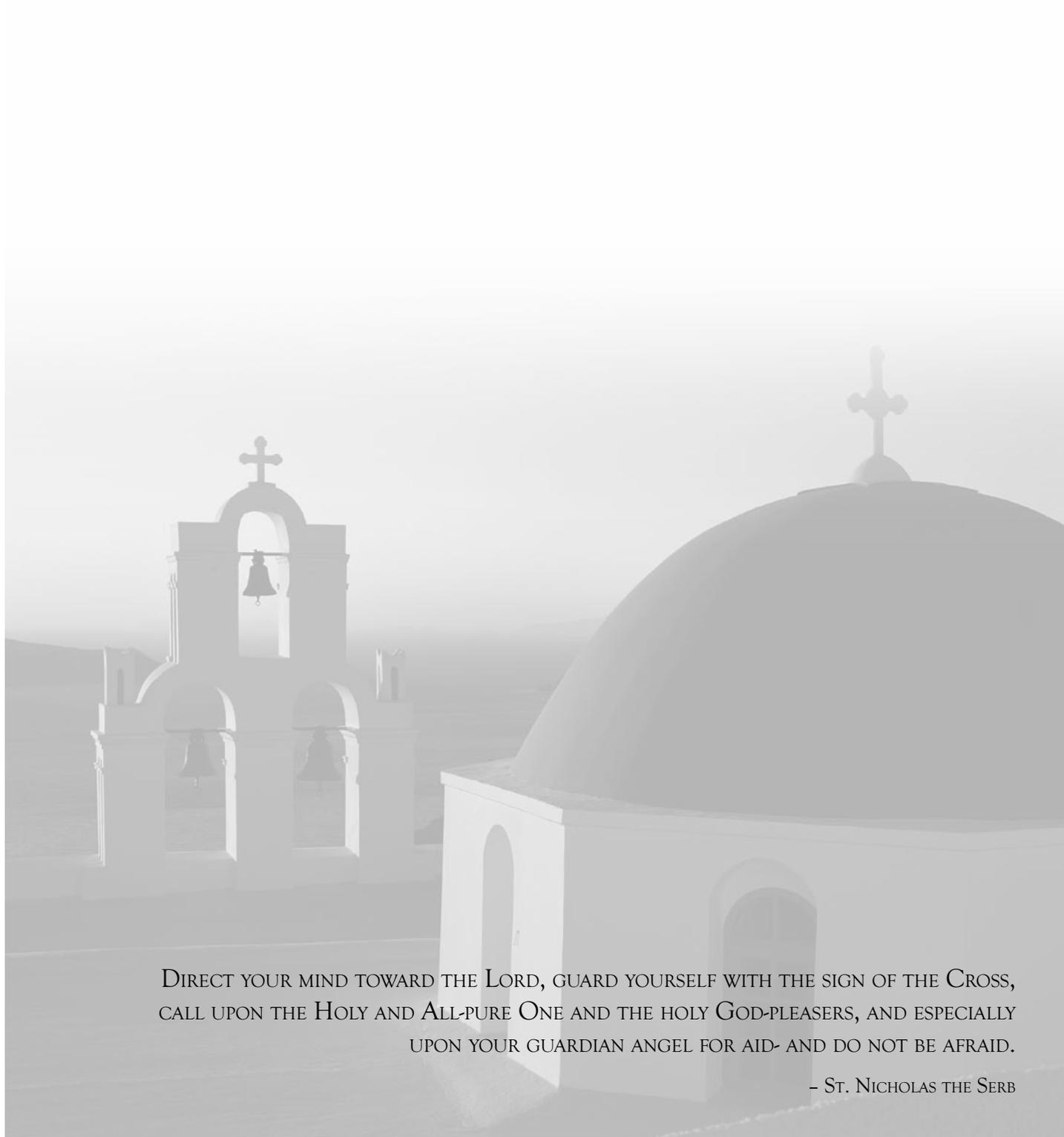


# M A R C H C A L E N D A R

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
						Greek School, 10 am Saturday of Souls, Divine Liturgy, 10 am (cemetery)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Orthros, 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Dance Practice Vespers of Forgiveness, 5:30 (St. Nicholas, San Jose)	Clean Monday, Great Compline, 4 pm		Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 10 am Construction Meeting, 10 am		First Salutations, 7 pm	Greek School, 10 am Saturday of Souls, Divine Liturgy 10 am (cemetery)
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Orthros, 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Dance Practice		JOY, 6:30	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 10 am Construction Meeting, 10 am		Second Salutations, 7 pm	Greek School, 10 am
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Orthros, 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Dance Practice			Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 10 am Construction Meeting, 10 am		Third Salutations, 7 pm	Greek School, 10 am
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Orthros, 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Dance Practice	Eve of the Feast of the Annunciation, Great Vespers, 7 pm	Feast of the Annunciation, Orthros 9 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 10 am Construction Meeting, 10 am	Young Adult Food Pantry/ Soup Kitchen	Fourth Salutations, 7 pm	Greek School, 10 am
30	31					
Orthros, 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Dance Practice Parish Assembly, 12:30 pm						

UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF  
SAN FRANCISCO, THE ANNUNCIATION  
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL  
245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-2320

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DIRECT YOUR MIND TOWARD THE LORD, GUARD YOURSELF WITH THE SIGN OF THE CROSS,  
CALL UPON THE HOLY AND ALL-PURE ONE AND THE HOLY GOD-PLEASERS, AND ESPECIALLY  
UPON YOUR GUARDIAN ANGEL FOR AID- AND DO NOT BE AFRAID.

- ST. NICHOLAS THE SERB