

Annunciation Cathedral Sunday Bulletin: November 23, 2014

NINTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

AMPHILOCHIOS OF ICONIUM, GREGORY OF AKRAGAS, DIONYSIOS PATRIARCH OF C/PLE

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Epistle Reading is from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians, chapter 2, verses 14-22. It is found in our books on page 124.

Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 14-22:
Ἀδελφοί, Χριστὸς ἐστὶν ἡ εἰρήνη ἡμῶν, ὁ ποιήσας τὰ ἀμφότερα ἕν, καὶ τὸ μεσότοιχον τοῦ φραγμοῦ λύσας, τὴν ἔχθραν ἐν τῇ σαρκί αὐτοῦ, τὸν νόμον τῶν ἐντολῶν ἐν δόγμασιν, καταργήσας· ἵνα τοὺς δύο κτίση ἐν ἑαυτῷ εἰς ἓνα καινὸν ἄνθρωπον, ποιῶν εἰρήνην, καὶ ἀποκαταλλάξῃ τοὺς ἀμφοτέρους ἐν ἐνὶ σώματι τῷ θεῷ διὰ τοῦ σταυροῦ, ἀποκτείνας τὴν ἔχθραν ἐν αὐτῷ· καὶ ἔλθων εὐηγγελίσατο εἰρήνην ὑμῖν τοῖς μακρὰν καὶ τοῖς ἐγγύς· ὅτι δι' αὐτοῦ ἔχομεν τὴν προσαγωγὴν οἱ ἀμφότεροι ἐν ἐνὶ πνεύματι πρὸς τὸν πατέρα. Ἄρα οὖν οὐκέτι ἐστὲ ξένοι καὶ πάροικοι, ἀλλὰ συμπολιταὶ τῶν ἁγίων καὶ οἰκεῖοι τοῦ θεοῦ, ἐποικοδομηθέντες ἐπὶ τῷ θεμελίῳ τῶν ἀποστόλων καὶ προφητῶν, ὄντος ἀκρογωνιαίου αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἐν ᾧ πᾶσα οἰκοδομὴ συναρμολογουμένη αὖξει εἰς ναὸν ἅγιον ἐν κυρίῳ, ἐν ᾧ καὶ ὑμεῖς συνοικοδομεῖσθε εἰς κατοικητήριον τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν πνεύματι.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 12, verses 16-21. It is found in our books, pages 259-261.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ.12, ἐδάφ. 16 - 21, εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 258-260.

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Seven (Grave):

O Lord, by your sacred Cross You abolished death and granted to the thief blessed paradise. The myrrh bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The Apostles did preach the Good News at your command—that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing your mercy on the world evermore.

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέωξας τῷ ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας. Ὅτι ἀνέστης, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων 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.

THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON TODAY: The Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos invites you to its annual pre-Thanksgiving Day luncheon, which will take place today, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. The proceeds help fund the Philoptochos' efforts to assist the poor.

FOOD DRIVE BEGINS TODAY: The Annual Food Drive, spearheaded by our Sunday School, begins today. Please donate generously, but please bring dry goods only. Place your food items in the bins provided by the San Francisco Food Bank. The bins will be picked up prior to Christmas.

THREE DIVINE LITURGIES THIS WEEK: On Tuesday, November 25, the Church commemorates St. Katherine the Great Martyr, and St. Stylianos of Paflagonia on Wednesday November 26. Thursday, November 26 is Thanksgiving Day. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated all three days, beginning at 10 a.m.

2015 STEWARDSHIP MAILING HAS GONE OUT: This year, in the interest of simplicity (i.e. cost-savings) our 2015 Stewardship Campaign is simple: PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH. The timing is critical. It's easy to put church on the back burner, so to speak, or to let others worry about it. Yet, every one of us has been called to be a Steward. Every one of us has been baptized into Christ. Every one of us has put on Christ. Every one of us has been called to proclaim Christ.

When you receive your stewardship letter (and the enclosed refrigerator magnet as a thank you from your Stewardship Committee), please read the letter. Read it aloud. Read it to your spouses and to your children. Then, pray about it and decide your level of support for 2015. Recall the words of St. Paul to the Church in Corinth: *Give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* (2 Cor. 9:7).

What we are asking for 2015 is that you also consider what you might be able to give *each month* to support your community and its ministries. This will greatly help the Cathedral with its budget management. On November 12, the Stewardship Committee will convene to further consider our stewardship goals for 2015 and to plan Stewardship **Sunday, December 7**, which will be offered through the generosity of **Gus and Georgia Vouchilas**.

A thought: In their book on Orthodox Christian leadership, entitled *Oriented Leadership*, Williams and McKibben, the authors, define stewardship as the call of the faithful to share willingly the gifts that God has bestowed on them. It is not simply the giving of a monetary sum. Rather stewardship is our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH: As part of the program of our National Philoptochos, our Philoptochos chapter is making available fact sheets that everyone should know, including signals, preventative measures and treatments. Please pick up your fact sheets during the coffee hours in November.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD 2014: Collection of names and donations for this year's Community Christmas Card will begin today. Please see **Annette Chiappari** or **Kalliopi Fousekis**. As in the past, they have agreed to collect names and receive your donations, \$25. per line. We thank them and thank you for your support.

LIGHT THE PATH: A CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON: The Luncheon, which is being held in support of the Bishop Anthony/Philoptochos Student Aid Endowment Fund, will take place on Saturday, December 6 at the Church of St. Basil, Stockton. Register online at sfphiloptochos.org or call 415 431-2600.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21: The program will take place in the chapel, immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

WE MADE IT TO \$1 MILLION! Together with the most recent gift to the Capital Campaign of our Ladies Philoptochos, we made it to \$1 million. That's a million dollars given and pledged since the October 17, 2013 issuance of our building permit—25 years to the day of Loma Prieta Wow! What an accomplishment. Go ahead and applaud yourselves. A job well done. If we keep doing this year after year, we will finish and pay off our building in no time.

Meanwhile, things are moving along and, now, quite rapidly. We have received all the rebar. The last delivery was on Friday. The rebar is being laid over the deck forming, now that the mechanical, electrical and plumbing conduits are in place. On December 8 (God willing, and weather permitting) we will have the first of two pours of concrete. The parking structure ceiling (which is also the Cathedral floor deck) will now be complete and the vertical steel will start going up. In the November Herald you no doubt saw photos of the dome steel. We can't wait to get to that point. However, we need you're your monetary support and we need your prayers. To date, we have just under 300 donors. This list needs to grow to at least 500. The donors' names (\$1,000 gift minimum) will be inscribed on the dedication wall in the new Cathedral, where prayers will be constantly offered "for the blessed and ever-memorable founders and benefactors of this Holy Church." Ask yourself, as you read this, is your name among them?

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 ἅγιασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*). We've quoted this at least since the start of the Capital Campaign, and we are keeping this "immovable before our eyes," as Deut. 6:8 states, as we rebuild the Cathedral to God's glory, to serve our faithful and all God's people in this blessed dynamic heart of San Francisco.



*The Church is here to heal,
To reconcile,
To connect with Christ,
To become partakers of the
divine glory,
To worship God,
To proclaim the Gospel, in the
original Christian way,
That the world may be saved.*