

Annunciation Cathedral Sunday Bulletin: December 7, 2014

TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

AMBROSE, BISHOP OF MILAN; GERASIMOS OF EUBOIA

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Epistle Reading is from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians, chapter 5, verses 8-19. It is found in our books on page 126.

Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 5, ἐδάφ. 8-19: Ἀδελφοί, ὡς τέκνα φωτὸς περιπατεῖτε - ὁ γὰρ καρπὸς τοῦ πνεύματος ἐν πάσῃ ἀγαθωσύνῃ καὶ δικαιοσύνῃ καὶ ἀληθείᾳ - δοκιμάζοντες τί ἐστὶν εὐάρεστον τῷ κυρίῳ· καὶ μὴ συγκοινωνεῖτε τοῖς ἔργοις τοῖς ἀκάροισι τοῦ σκότους, μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ ἐλέγχετε· τὰ γὰρ κρυφῆ γινόμενα ὑπ' αὐτῶν αἰσχρὸν ἐστὶν καὶ λέγειν. Τὰ δὲ πάντα ἐλεγχόμενα ὑπὸ τοῦ φωτὸς φανεροῦνται· πᾶν γὰρ τὸ φανερούμενον φῶς ἐστίν. Διὸ λέγει, Ἔγειρε ὁ καθεύδων καὶ ἀνάστα ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, καὶ ἐπιφαύσει σοι ὁ Χριστός. Βλέπετε οὖν πῶς ἀκριβῶς περιπατεῖτε, μὴ ὡς ἄσοφοι, ἀλλ' ὡς σοφοί, ἐξαγοραζόμενοι τὸν καιρὸν, ὅτι αἱ ἡμέραι πονηραὶ εἰσιν. Διὰ τοῦτο μὴ γίνεσθε ἄφρονες, ἀλλὰ συνιέντες τί τὸ θέλημα τοῦ κυρίου. Καὶ μὴ μεθύσκεσθε οἴνῳ, ἐν ᾧ ἐστὶν ἄσωτία, ἀλλὰ πληροῦσθε ἐν πνεύματι, λαλοῦντες ἑαυτοῖς ψαλμοῖς καὶ ὕμνοις καὶ ᾠδαῖς πνευματικαῖς, ᾄδοντες καὶ ψάλλοντες ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ ὑμῶν τῷ κυρίῳ.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according Luke, chapter 13, verses 10-18. It is found in our books on pages 261-263.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 13, ἐδάφ. 10 – 17. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 260-262.

Today's *Apolitikion* (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone One:

The stone that had been sealed before your tomb by the Jews, and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred Body, O Savior, the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ, glory unto your Kingdom, glory to your Dispensation, O You who alone love mankind.

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντον σου Σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι, Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου, Χριστέ· δόξα τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου· δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

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.

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

TODAY IS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY: It is the day when we focus on what it means to give, from a Christian point of view. By now, you have all received your 2015 Stewardship packets. We thank those who have already sent in their 2015 Stewardship pledge (by returning the cutoff found at the bottom of the letter which was sent to you). We thank those who have brought their 2015 Stewardship pledge cards with them this morning. And, we thank those who will be sending in their cards over the next few weeks. Meanwhile, tomorrow morning, we will send out a follow-up letter as a reminder. The letter will go to the remaining members on our list of 748 from whom we have not yet heard.

In making your Stewardship pledge for 2015, we ask you, first and foremost, to pray and then to 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). If the early returns are any indication (we've received about 50 2015 Stewardship pledges so far), 2015 will be a good year of support for the Cathedral and the ministries offered. We are also asking you (if you have not already sent or brought in your 2015 Stewardship pledge card) to 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. Please note that your 2015 Stewardship pledge supports the ongoing ministries of the Cathedral. It is separate from the Building Fund, which is used for the rebuilding of the Cathedral.

Following today's Divine Liturgy, you are invited to attend a luncheon in our community center. The luncheon is being offered through the generosity of **Gus and Georgia Vouchilas**. We thank Gus and the Stewardship Committee for all their hard work during the course of the year, overseeing this program of giving, which connects us with the Church, with one another, and, ultimately, with our Lord.

2014 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD: Collection of names and donations for this year's Community Christmas Card continues today and next Sunday. Please see **Annette Chiappari, Kalliope Fousekis or Annamarie Balian**. As in the past, they are collecting names and receiving your donations \$25. per line is the suggested donation. We thank them for their efforts and thank you for your support. Next Sunday is the last day for the collection of names for the Christmas card, as the card goes to the printers on Monday.

FOOD DRIVE: THANK YOU FOR SHARING: The Annual Food Drive, spearheaded by our Sunday School, is under way. Bins, supplied by the Marin-San Francisco Food Bank, are found at either end of the gallery. Please donate generously, but please bring dry goods only. Thank you for your response to date. It is heartening to see, for even one can or one box of something alone can make the difference in helping alleviate hunger.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS NEXT SUNDAY: There are five (5) candidates for Parish Council who signed a declaration of candidacy and also attended last Sunday's seminar, as required by the Archdiocese Regulations. They are: **Patricia Aleck, George Ambadiotakis Ambus, S. Christopher Kyriacou, Bashar Nashwati, and Nicholas J. Rally**. Inasmuch as there are seven (7) openings, once the above take their oath of office on January 4 and the 2015 Parish Council is constituted, immediately following, the Parish Council will elect two (2) additional members in good standing from among the Parish. The Council consists of the Dean and fifteen (15) elected members.

AXIOS: As **Father Stephen** announced last Sunday, referring to an encyclical message of **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco**, the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate elected **Father Apostolos Koufallakis** as Bishop-eof Medeia. Father Apostolos will be ordained at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York City on Saturday, December 20, 2014. He will serve as Auxiliary Bishop and return to serve the Holy Metropolis of San Francisco, assisting **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos**. Axios! Worthy!

BASKETBALL PRACTICE: Basketball practice, as scheduled, will take place in our gym on Tuesday, December 9 and Thursday, December 11, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

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! What an accomplishment! If we keep doing this year after year, we will finish and pay off our building in no time.

Meanwhile, we have received all the rebar steel. The rebar (along with the tension cables) has been laid over the deck forming, now that the mechanical, electrical and plumbing conduits are in place. On December 8 (God willing, and weather permitting)—that's next Monday--we will have the first of two pours of concrete. The parking structure ceiling (which is also the Cathedral floor deck) will then be completed and the vertical steel will start going up. In the current Herald, we featured photos of the dome steel. (The photos also appear in the December Herald.) The day the dome goes up will be an historic day, indeed. However, for all this to happen, we need your monetary support and we need your prayers. To date, we have 300 donors. This list needs to grow to at least 500. All 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." We want to see everyone's name up on the dedication wall.

In the Book of Exodus (25:8) God says: "Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you." (Translated from the Septuagint: *Kai ποιήσεις μοι ἁγίασμα, 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.*