

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: OCTOBER 25, 2015

SIXTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

THE MARYTRS MARKIANOS & MARTYRIOS, THE NOTARIES

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Galatians, Chapter 2, Verses 16-20. It is found in our books, on page 121.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 16-20: Ἀδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ δικαιούται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων νόμου, ἐὰν μὴ διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐπιστεύσαμεν, ἵνα δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ πίστεως Χριστοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων νόμου· διότι οὐ δικαιωθήσεται ἐξ ἔργων νόμου πᾶσα σὰρξ. Εἰ δέ, ζητοῦντες δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ, εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοὶ, ἅρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; Μὴ γένοιτο. Εἰ γὰρ ἂ κατέλυσα, ταῦτα πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ, παραβάτην ἐμαντὸν συνίστημι. Ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον, ἵνα θεῶ ζήσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταύρωμαι· ζῶ δέ, οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῆ δὲ ἐν ἐμοὶ Χριστός· ὁ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῆ τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading, from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 8, verses 26-39, is found in our books on pages 249-253.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 8, ἐδάφ. 26-39, εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 248-252.

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

When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore, and Christ our God has risen from the dead, and granted to the world His great mercy.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου μαθήτριά, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμενα ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγγέρθη Χριστός ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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.

Catechism Class: Six months ago we began a second catechism (religious education) class at the Annunciation Cathedral, taught by **Marcelo Souza**. Over the last few months, we had three adult baptisms! This class serves as preparation for those seeking baptism – not only those entering the Church through marriage, but any other inquirers, as well as Orthodox people desiring to learn more about our Faith, or a refresher course. We are now using two introductory books – *Introducing Eastern Orthodox Theology* by Fr. Andrew Louth, and *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis – in addition to investigating our Creed as the summary of the Faith. We are also reading through the Gospel of Mark. Please keep our catechumens – a key part of the future of our church! – in your prayers.

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.

FATHER NIKO NAMED PASTOR OF THE CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION, CASTRO VALLEY: His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerasimos has announced that, on November 15, 2015, Father Niko Bekris will take up his new duties as Pastor of the Church of the Resurrection in Castro Valley. This is a bittersweet moment for the Annunciation Cathedral community, where Father Niko and Presbytera Stella have served for the last seven years. In addition to mentoring our youth and, especially, our young adults, Father Niko began the Soup Kitchen and other urban church ministries. He has been a seminal part of our Capital Campaign, and was influential in the rebuilding of the Cathedral on our present site. While we will feel the loss, we nevertheless wish Father Niko Godspeed as he takes up his new pastoral duties. *Axios!* On November 8, when we welcome Father **Metropoulos**, the new President of Hellenic College/Holy Cross, we will also have the opportunity to congratulate and extend best wishes to **Father Niko and Presbytera Stella**. A luncheon will be held following the Divine Liturgy, to which all are invited. The donation is \$20 per person, \$10 for children 12 and under. Proceeds will go to the Building Fund, in honor of **Father Niko, Presbytera Stella and Baby Christo**. To indicate your attendance, please call the Cathedral, at 415 864-8000.

40 DAY BLESSING: Today, we welcome 40 day old Sophia, daughter of Dennis and Amy Stefanitsis.

PHILOTOCHOS MEETING FOLLOWING TODAY'S LITURGY: The Philoptochos will convene in the second floor conference room, following today's Divine Liturgy.

DIVINE LITURGY TOMORROW: Tomorrow is the Feast of St. Demetrios, Exuder of Myrrh. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated beginning at 10 a.m., preceded by Orthros, at 9 a.m.

LUNCHEON, BOOK SIGNING AND SALE NEXT SUNDAY, NOV. 1: Next Sunday, immediately after the Divine Liturgy, we will have a lunch in our community center, followed by a talk by Her Excellency **Eleni Tsakopoulos Kounalakis** who served as U.S. Ambassador to Hungary. Following her talk, she will sign her new book, *Madam Ambassador*. Proceeds will go to the Annunciation Cathedral Building Fund. Do plan on attending. The presentation should be very informative. The Cathedral is very proud to present **Ambassador Eleni Tsakopoulos Kounalakis**, the first Greek-American U.S. Ambassador, ever! And one of the very few Americans of Greek descent to have been named U.S. Ambassador. Recall, Her Excellency presided over the Cathedral's 85th anniversary gala, which was held under the rotunda of San Francisco's City Hall in 2006. We are very proud of her accomplishments!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7: HONORING THE TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN GERASIMOS WITH A DINNER: A dinner will take place at the Church of the Holy Cross, Belmont. The donation is \$75 per person. Proceeds will benefit the ministries of St. Nicholas Ranch & Retreat Center. Vespers at 5, Reception & Fellowship at 6; Dinner & Presentations at 7. To reserve, please call the Cathedral at 415 864-8000. We note the Cathedral has already fulfilled one table and is in the process of filling a second table.

WELCOME OUR NEW HELLENIC COLLEGE/HOLY CROSS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY PRESIDENT: On Sunday, November 8, The Very Reverend Christopher T. Metropoulos, D.Min., newly named President of HC/HC, will concelebrate the Divine Liturgy with us and offer the homily. The Divine Liturgy that day will be celebrated by **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco**. 9:00 a.m. Orthros; 10:30 a.m. Liturgy; Luncheon to follow.

IOCC REMEMBERING HOME FUND RAISER SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8: The event will take place at the Ascension Cathedral, Oakland. The donation is \$65 per person. This is a unique opportunity to show your support of International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), and their work at home and abroad, especially in war-torn countries, those hit by famine or any number of natural disasters. For reservations, please call 510 531-3400.

2015 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD: **Annette Chiappari, Kalliope Fousekis, and Annamarie Balian** will be on today and throughout November, collecting names for this year's Christmas Card. No doubt, you will want to be listed, as the community extends greetings and best wishes to one another on the occasion of Christmas and the New Year. The donation is, as it has been for years, \$25.

DONE:THE EXTERIOR WALL! It seems like only yesterday that we began and, here we are, putting up the exterior wall, to be followed by the windows, the gutters, downspouts, the dome metal, and the clay tile roof. Then, the stucco will be applied; pavers, stonework, and doors will be installed. The outside will be virtually complete. The fountain will be working and we will have plants.

Excitement mounts as we watch this magnificent structure evolve, as it represents everything we are and everything we believe as Greek Orthodox Christians. It is also a symbol of the faith that our own generation has cultivated, and what we hope to leave behind, to inspire the generations to come.

We've noted on a number of occasions that we have raised \$6 million towards this project, with another \$4.7 to go. And we have explained how much has been spent and on what. (For specific information, please refer to the recent issues of the *Herald*.) Additionally, we have projected a timetable for completion of the exterior, the summer of 2016. This includes the normal functioning of the garage. At that point, we are planning to hold a **Gala event**, to celebrate a great accomplishment, as we turn to phase two, the completion of the interior. Work on the interior, including appointments and iconography, should take another year or so. Certainly, we hope to be able to plan for the consecration of the Cathedral well before our 100th anniversary in 2021. All this, of course, will depend upon your prayers and continued support.

May God bless our undertaking, for God is the one who spoke to Moses, then, and who speaks to us, today, saying: *"Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you."* (Translated from the Septuagint: *Και ποιήσεις μοι άγίασμα, και όφθήσομαι έν ύμιν*). (Exodus 25:8). May we prove worthy of



"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)