

## ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: MARCH 20, 2016

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews, chapter 11, verses 24-26, 32-40. It is found in our books on pages 138-139.

**Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 11, ἐδάφ. 24-26, 32-40:**  
Ἀδελφοί, πίστει Μωϋσῆς μέγας γενόμενος ἠρνήσατο λέγεσθαι υἱὸς θυγατρὸς Φαραώ, μᾶλλον ἐλόμενος συγκακουχεῖσθαι τῷ λαῷ τοῦ θεοῦ ἢ πρόσκαιρον ἔχειν ἀμαρτίας ἀπόλαυσιν· μείζονα πλουτὸν ἠγησάμενος τῶν Αἰγύπτου θησαυρῶν τὸν ὄνειδισμόν τοῦ Χριστοῦ· ἀπέβλεπεν γὰρ εἰς τὴν μισθοποδοσίαν. Καὶ τί ἔτι λέγω; Ἐπιλείπει γὰρ με διηγούμενον ὁ χρόνος περὶ Γεδεών, Βαρὰκ τε καὶ Σαμψὼν καὶ Ἰεφθάε, Δαυὶδ τε καὶ Σαμουὴλ καὶ τῶν προφητῶν· οἱ διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰργάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβεσαν δύναμιν πυρός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίρας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυροὶ ἐν πολέμῳ, παρεμβολὰς ἔκλιναν ἄλλοτριῶν. Ἔλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκροὺς αὐτῶν· ἄλλοι δὲ ἐτυμπανίσθησαν, οὐ προσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, ἵνα κρείττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν· ἕτεροι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστίγων πείραν ἔλαβον, ἔτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς· ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπίρσθησαν, ἐπειράσθησαν, ἐν φόνῳ μαχαίρας ἀπέθανον· περιήλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέρμασιν, ὑστερούμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι - ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἄξιός ὁ κόσμος - ἐν ἐρημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὄρεσιν καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὄπαις τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὗτοι πάντες, μαρτυρηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως, οὐκ ἐκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρείττον τι προβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωρὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσιν.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter 1, verses 43-51. It is found in our books, on pages 289-291.

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην, κεφ. 1, ἐδάφ. 43-51. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 288-290.**

**Today's Apolytikion (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 Σωτὴρ, 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.

**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](mailto:orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com).

**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.

**TODAYS MNEMOSYNA:** Today's Memorial Services are being offered for the repose of the soul of our brother **Petros Haramis**, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago and for the repose of the soul of our brother **John Sarikakis**, who fell asleep in the Lord 14 years ago. .

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY:** The meeting will take place in the second floor conference room, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

**TODAY IS THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY:** What does this mean? Following a period of about 150 years, known as the Iconoclastic Controversy, the Church, at the Seventh Ecumenical Council, convened in Nicaea in the year 787, decreed that icons have a legitimate place in our worship of God. As John of Damascus put it, the honor we accord to the icon is directed to God. We venerate icons; we don't worship them. We worship God alone. Later, in the year 843, the icons were officially restored and the first Sunday of the Great Lent was designated as the "Sunday of Orthodoxy." Our acolytes and Sunday School children will lead a procession at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, and a brief portion of the original declaration will be read.

**SERVICES THIS WEEK:** This week we celebrate the great feast of the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary. It is also the Feast Day of the Annunciation Cathedral Parish, which is named after this salvific event. Great Vespers will be celebrated on Thursday, March 24, beginning at 7 p.m. Bishop Apostolos of Medeia will preside. Dinner will follow. On Friday, March 25, the Orthros will begin at 9 a.m. followed by the Divine Liturgy, at 10 a.m. His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerasimos will preside. A luncheon, sponsored by the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos, will follow. The donation is \$20. At 7 p.m., the Second Stasis of the Salutations to the Virgin Mary will take place. Following the Salutations service, the Young Adults will host a gathering in the second floor conference room. Many blessings on all.

**OIKOS LECTURE SERIES CONTINUES:** Following the recent successful lecture by Alexander Kozak on the topic, "What if the Fall Had Never Happened?", we look forward to the continuation of the lecture series, aimed at informing, engaging, and edifying our parishioners in any number of areas involving individual and communal spiritual growth, family dynamics, and parish life. On Sunday, April 3, we will hear from Basil Crow, our accomplished chanter. His topic will be "On the Spirituality of Greek Orthodox Ecclesiastical Chant," which boasts an uninterrupted history that stems from the local chant traditions of the ancient Eucharistic communities throughout the Christian world. For May (May 15), because of Pascha and Mother's Day, we will hear from Professor Martha Klironomos, Ph.D., head of the Modern Greek Studies Program at SF State. Future lectures will include Janine Economides, Dr. Katina Kostoulas, and Steven Harris, Ph.D. OIKOS (Orthodox in Koinonia Outreach Services), is under the direction of Dr. Katina Kostoulas, Ph.D., and of Dr. Anthony Elite, M.D., as moderator. We are grateful to OIKOS for this initiative. The lectures take place as noted, typically the first Sunday of each month, during the coffee hour.

**THE WINDOWS ARE IN!** Well, almost. About 125 have been installed, and are now being tested against leaks, before we proceed with the stucco. We look forward to the installation of the copper domes (the large, central dome, as well as the *ieron* half dome), the tile roofs, the stone along the base of the new Cathedral as well as the planted areas and, of course, the completion of the parking component. Meanwhile, we are planning for the placement of the cross over the entrance and the cross on the dome.

The large cross, which will go over the dome, measures 9 feet and weighs 470 pounds. The smaller cross, which will go over the entrance, above the Narthex, is 4'10" and weighs less. We will make an announcement as soon as we learn when the crosses are going to be installed. Meanwhile, some one out there may want the privilege of placing the cross above the dome, or above the narthex, thus essentially donating the dome or the narthex. Father Stephen is looking for a donation of \$1 million and is confident one of you will step up for this honor. Now, we've projected a timetable for completion of the project. As announced, we are planning to hold a **Gala event**, to celebrate a great accomplishment, this 95<sup>th</sup> year of our existence as a community, and to kick off the work on the interior. **The Gala will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2016.** With God's help, we hope to be able to complete the Cathedral by the end of 2017, and to consecrate the Cathedral to the glory of God to coincide with our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021.

May God bless our undertaking, and may God continue to inspire you and generations to come through this landmark house of worship, which you are building to His glory.



*"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)