

## ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: MAY 15, 2016

### SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN

### PACHOMIOS THE GREAT; ACHILLIOS OF LARISSA

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 6, verses 1-7; it is found in our books on page 83.

**Ὁ Απόστολος, Πράξεων τῶν Αποστόλων τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 6, ἐδάφ. 1-7:** Ἐν ταῖς ἡμεραῖς ἐκεῖναις, πληθυνόντων τῶν μαθητῶν, ἐγένετο γογγυσμὸς τῶν Ἑλληνιστῶν πρὸς τοὺς Ἑβραίους, ὅτι παρεθεωροῦντο ἐν τῇ διακονίᾳ τῇ καθημερινῇ αἱ χήραι αὐτῶν. Προσκαλεσάμενοι δὲ οἱ δώδεκα τὸ πλῆθος τῶν μαθητῶν, εἶπον, Οὐκ ἀρεστὸν ἐστὶν ἡμᾶς, καταλείψαντας τὸν λόγον τοῦ θεοῦ, διακονεῖν τραπέζαις. Ἐπισκέψασθε οὖν, ἀδελφοί, ἄνδρας ἐξ ὑμῶν μαρτυρουμένους ἐπτά, πλήρεις πνεύματος ἁγίου καὶ σοφίας, οὓς καταστήσωμεν ἐπὶ τῆς χρείας ταύτης. Ἡμεῖς δὲ τῇ προσευχῇ καὶ τῇ διακονίᾳ τοῦ λόγου προσκαρτερήσομεν. Καὶ ἤρρεσεν ὁ λόγος ἐνώπιον παντὸς τοῦ πλήθους· καὶ ἐξελέξαντο Στέφανον, ἄνδρα πλήρης πίστεως καὶ πνεύματος ἁγίου, καὶ Φίλιππον, καὶ Πρόχορον, καὶ Νικάνορα, καὶ Τίμωνα, καὶ Παρμενᾶν, καὶ Νικόλαον προσήλυτον Αντιοχέα, οὓς ἔστησαν ἐνώπιον τῶν ἀποστόλων· καὶ προσευξάμενοι ἐπέθηκαν αὐτοῖς τὰς χεῖρας. Καὶ ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ ἤρξανεν, καὶ ἐπληθύνετο ὁ ἀριθμὸς τῶν μαθητῶν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ σφόδρα, πολὺς τε ὄχλος τῶν ἱερέων ὑπήκουον τῇ πίστει.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 15, Verses 43-47; Chapter 16, Verses 1-80. It is found in our books on pages 169-171.

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον, κεφ. 15, ἐδάφ. 43-47, κεφ. 16, ἐδάφ. 1-8. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 168-170.**

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

When You descended to the realm of death, You as life immortal rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all-radiant Divinity. And, when You, from infernal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead, all the hosts of heaven's powers did proclaim and cry out: O life-giving Christ and our God, we give glory [to You].

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἢ ζωὴ ἢ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν Ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεώτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, δόξα σοι.

**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.

**TODAY'S MNEMOSYNON:** Today's memorial services are being offered for the repose of the soul of our sister Emily Bagatelos, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago. Today's coffee hour is being sponsored by her family, in her memory.

**CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES TODAY:** The OYAA high school and adult teams which prevailed in this week's playoff games, will play for the championship. Annunciation Cathedral is proud to host this year's Championship Games. The games will take place today in our Korinthias Hall, beginning at 2:00 p.m.

**TODAY'S OIKOS LECTURE:** Today's OIKOS lecture by **Professor Martha Klironomos, Ph.D.** is being postponed. It will be delivered on Sunday, September 11, rtha has served as Director of the Center for Modern Greek Studies, the Nikos Kazantzakis Chair, at S.F. State University, where she has been teaching courses in Modern Greek language and literature and Comparative and English literature since 1996. She will speak on the Bloomsbury Group and how their travels to Greece and Italy inspired the integration of Byzantine motifs into their art.

**SOUP KITCHEN THIS TUESDAY:** Our Soup Kitchen will operate this Tuesday, May 17, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. We are grateful to our team of volunteers for seeing to the continuation of this vital ministry. In April, we were blessed with all the members of GOYA and their parents, who showed up to help and, afterwards, met with GOYA Advisor Matia Kostakis. We thank our Young Adults for spearheading and maintaining this ministry and look to other organizations to help take "ownership" of it, as we move forward. Meanwhile, we welcome your volunteer assistance and support, as we offer some sustenance to our special guests.

**THE CROSS TO GO UP OVER THE DOME SATURDAY, MAY 21:** Nine feet high and weighing 470 pounds, the cross over the new Cathedral dome will be hoisted up by helicopter on Saturday, May 21, at approximately 8 a.m. The reason for its installation on a Saturday morning is because traffic at that time is at a minimum, and the reason for its installation by helicopter is because this is the easiest, if challenging, and less expensive, but safest, way to do so. Meanwhile, electricians and other workers will be positioned atop the dome to guide the wires through the dome (the cross will be lit at night) and also to secure the cross to the base. As noted in the *Herald*, the cross is an adaptation of the Theodosian cross found on the columns and other artifacts of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia, built in 415. An earlier church, said to have been built by the Emperor Constantine, was destroyed by fire and the later, 6<sup>th</sup> century church, which still stands, was built by Justinian. Its crosses can be described as "elongated, flared, etc." The Theodosian cross, meanwhile, is more restrained. The Cathedral's cross was cast of solid bronze by a foundry in nearby Alameda. A similar, smaller cross (4 feet tall, weighing about 200 pounds), will be placed above the narthex, at the Valencia Street entrance of the Cathedral, once the tile roof has been completed. The May 21<sup>st</sup> date is significant, because it is the Feast Day of Sts. Constantine and Helen. The Emperor Constantine, the first Christian Emperor, is known, among other things, for seeing the cross midday in the sky and the writing, EN TOUTO NIKΑ (By this, you will conquer). His mother, Helen, meanwhile, found the Cross upon which our Lord was crucified, when she conducted an archeological tour of the Holy Land and built several churches, as Golgotha and the Holy Sepulchre, in Jerusalem, and the place of the Nativity, in Bethlehem. Following the installation, we will convene in the chapel for Orthros, at 9 a.m., and the Divine Liturgy, at 10 a.m. A historic day for us!

#### THE RAISING OF THE CROSS: MAY 21:

The large cross, which will go over the dome, and which measures 9 feet and weighs 470 pounds, will be raised over the dome on Saturday, May 21, at about 8 a.m. We had hoped to announce the exact day and time for this significant event on Palm Sunday. However, this did not happen, both because of determining the best and less expensive way of positioning the cross (by crane—which would necessitate closing of Valencia Street—or by helicopter, which has its own challenges), and also because of last minute wiring changes to enable the lighting of the cross on a permanent basis. The raising of the cross is a big deal for us, as it marks the firm “planting” of our Orthodox Christian faith, here in the heart of San Francisco, for all to see. Meanwhile, some one out there may want the privilege of placing the cross above the dome, thus essentially donating the dome. Father Stephen is looking for a donation of \$1 million and is confident one of you will step up for this honor. To mark the completion of the exterior of the building, later this year, and to celebrate our 95<sup>th</sup> year as a community, we will hold a **Gala event on November 5**. Now, for the interior of the Cathedral: with God’s help, we hope to be able to complete it 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. God will bless us, indeed, if it is His Will that His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who laid the cornerstone back in 1997, also consecrates it to God’s glory in 2021!

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



*“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)