

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: JUNE 5, 2016

SIXTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

DOROTHEOS THE HIEROMARTYR; THE 10 MARTYRS OF EGYPT

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 16, verses 16-34; it is found in our books on pages 88-89.

Ὁ Απόστολος, Πράξεων τῶν Ἀποστόλων τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 16, ἐδάφ. 16-34: Ἐν ταῖς ἡμεραῖς ἐκεῖναις, ἐγένετο δὲ πορευομένων ἡμῶν εἰς προσευχὴν παιδίσκην τινὰ ἔχουσαν πνεῦμα πύθωνος ἀπαντῆσαι ἡμῖν, ἣτις ἐργασίαν πολλὴν παρεῖχε τοῖς κυρίοις αὐτῆς μαντευομένη αὐτὴ κατακολουθήσασα τῷ Παύλῳ καὶ τῷ Σίλῳ ἔκραζε λέγουσα· οὗτοι οἱ ἄνθρωποι δοῦλοι τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ὑψίστου εἰσίν, οἵτινες καταγγέλλουσιν ἡμῖν ὁδὸν σωτηρίας. τοῦτο δὲ ἐποίει ἐπὶ πολλὰς ἡμέρας· διαπονηθεὶς δὲ ὁ Παῦλος καὶ ἐπιστρέψας τῷ πνεύματι εἶπε· παραγγέλλω σοι ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐξελθεῖν ἀπ' αὐτῆς. καὶ ἐξῆλθεν αὐτῇ τῇ ὥρᾳ. Ἴδόντες δὲ οἱ κύριοι αὐτῆς ὅτι ἐξῆλθεν ἡ ἐλπίς τῆς ἐργασίας αὐτῶν, ἐπιλαβόμενοι τὸν Παῦλον καὶ τὸν Σίλαν ἐλκύσαν εἰς τὴν ἀγορὰν ἐπὶ τοὺς ἄρχοντας, καὶ προσαγόντες αὐτοὺς τοῖς στρατηγοῖς εἶπον· οὗτοι οἱ ἄνθρωποι ἐκταράσσουσιν ἡμῶν τὴν πόλιν Ἰουδαῖοι ὑπάρχοντες, καὶ καταγγέλλουσιν ἔθνη ἃ οὐκ ἔξεστιν ἡμῖν παραδέχεσθαι οὐδὲ ποιεῖν Ῥωμαῖοις οὖσι. καὶ συνεπέστη ὁ ὄχλος κατ' αὐτῶν. καὶ οἱ στρατηγοὶ περιρρήξαντες αὐτῶν τὰ ἱμάτια ἐκέλευον ραβδίσειν, πολλὰς τε ἐπιθέντες αὐτοῖς πληγὰς ἔβαλον εἰς φυλακὴν, παραγγείλαντες τῷ δεσμοφύλακι ἀσφαλῶς τηρεῖν αὐτοὺς ὡς παραγγέλιαν τοιαύτην εἰληφῶς ἔβαλεν αὐτοὺς εἰς τὴν ἐσωτέραν φυλακὴν καὶ τοὺς πόδας αὐτῶν ἠσφαλίσατο εἰς τὸ ξύλον. Κατὰ δὲ τὸ μεσονύκτιον Παῦλος καὶ Σίλας προσευχόμενοι ὕμνου τὸν Θεόν· ἐπηκροῶντο δὲ αὐτῶν οἱ δέσμοι. ἄφνω δὲ σεισμός ἐγένετο μέγας, ὥστε σαλευθῆναι τὰ θεμέλια τοῦ δεσμοτηρίου, ἀνεψύχθησαν δὲ παραχρῆμα αἱ θύραι πάσαι καὶ πάντων τὰ δεσμά ἀνέθη. ἔξυπνος δὲ γενόμενος ὁ δεσμοφύλαξ καὶ ἰδὼν ἀνεφωγμένας τὰς θύρας τῆς φυλακῆς, σπασάμενος μάχαιραν ἐμέλλεν ἐαυτὸν ἀναρεῖν, νομίζων ἐκπεφευγέναι τοὺς δεσμίους. ἐφώνησε δὲ φωνῇ μεγάλῃ ὁ Παῦλος λέγων· μηδὲν πράξης σεαυτῷ κακόν· ἅπαντες γὰρ ἔσμεν ἐνθάδε. αἰτήσας δὲ φῶτα εἰσεπήδησε, καὶ ἔντρομος γενόμενος προσέειπε τῷ Παύλῳ καὶ τῷ Σίλῳ, καὶ προαγαγὼν αὐτοὺς ἔξω ἔφη· κύριοι, τί με δεῖ ποιεῖν ἵνα σωθῶ; οἱ δὲ εἶπον· πιστεῦσον ἐπὶ τὸν Κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν, καὶ σωθήσῃ σὺ καὶ ὁ οἶκός σου. καὶ ἐλάλησαν αὐτῷ τὸν λόγον τοῦ Κυρίου καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ αὐτοῦ. καὶ παραλαβὼν αὐτοὺς ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ τῆς νυκτὸς ἔλουσεν ἀπὸ τῶν πληγῶν, καὶ ἐβαπτίσθη αὐτὸς καὶ οἱ αὐτοῦ πάντες παραχρῆμα, ἀναγαγὼν τε αὐτοὺς εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ παρέθηκε τράπεζαν, καὶ ἠγαλλίασατο πανοικί πεπιστευκῶς τῷ Θεῷ.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 9, Verses 1-38. It is found in our books on pages 181-187.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην, κεφ. 9, ἐδάφ. 1-38. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 180-186.

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.

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.

DIVINE LITURGY ON THURSDAY: Thursday, June 9, is the Feast of the Ascension. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated, beginning at 10 a.m.

ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΠΕΜΠΤΗ: Τὴν Πέμπτη, 9 Ἰουνίου, Ἑορτὴ τῆς Αναλήψεως, ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία θὰ τελεσθῇ, 10 π.μ.

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL: While today is the last day of Sunday School, and certificates of attendance will be awarded at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, it is not the last day of church. Sunday School students are invited to worship with their families during the summer months. Sunday School will resume on September 26, the Sunday following our Food Festival.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: The Cathedral is pleased to award the 2016 Andreas and Niki Coundouris Scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000., to **Dimitri (James) Kontonis**. Dimitri is graduating Mills High School in Millbrae and, in the fall, will be attending Saint Mary's College, planning for a career in politics. Dimitri has been team captain for Varsity Basketball and for Varsity Water Polo. He is also Captain of our Team I Acolytes. We congratulate him and wish him well in his educational pursuits. Axios!

AMAZING TURNOUT OF YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE DANCE PROGRAM: Once again, we take this opportunity to welcome back all the children who are participating in the dance program and also welcome all those who are new to our program here at the Cathedral. It's wonderful to see this enthusiasm, as dance practice continues today.

PHILOPTOCHOS MEETING TODAY: The Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos will meet today in the second floor conference room, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

GREEK SCHOOL ENDS SATURDAY, JUNE 11: Our Greek School will recess, beginning this coming Saturday, June 11, and will resume, following our Food Festival, on Saturday, September 24.

LOOK UP AT THE CROSS: It is an amazing sight, to see the cross above the dome of the new Cathedral, as well as over the narthex. Both crosses were set on the Feast of Saints Constantine & Helen, "God-crowned," "Equal to the Apostles." The Christian Emperor Constantine is known for having seen the cross in the midday sky, along with the writing, EN TOUTO NIKA (By this, you will conquer). He had the cross placed on his army's flags, and overcame his opponents. This ushered in the Edict of Milan, in the year 312 and ended the on-off three centuries of persecution against Christians. In 325, Constantine convened the First Ecumenical Council, at Nicaea (then the provincial capital), and in the year 330 he moved the capital of the Roman Empire from Rome to New Rome, on the shores of the Bosphorus. The City quickly became known as "Constantine's City," or Constantinople. Meanwhile, Constantine's mother, Helen, found the Cross upon which our Lord was crucified, when she conducted an archeological pilgrimage of the Holy Land and built several churches, as Golgotha and the Holy Sepulchre, in Jerusalem, and the place of the Nativity, in Bethlehem. The Cathedral's crosses are adaptations of the "Theodosian" crosses found on the columns and other artifacts of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia which was built in 415. (This was the second Hagia Sophia.) An earlier church, said to have been built by the Emperor Constantine, was destroyed by fire and the later, 6th century church, which still stands, was built by Justinian. We invite you to view the video of the placement of the dome cross, by helicopter, filmed by Kostas Petrakos: <https://vimeo.com/167581393> We also invite you to view photos and videos taken by Barker/O'Donoghue (the company which arranged for the placement of the Crosses), Goldman Architects (the Cathedral's Architect), and Ken Katen (the Cathedral's construction representative) <https://goldmanarchitects.egnyte.com/fl/hHYjaE9ezM>

THE CROSS: SYMBOL OF GOD’S SACRIFICIAL LOVE, SYMBOL OF HOPE:

The raising of the cross has been a big deal for us, as it marks the firm “planting” of our Orthodox Christian faith, here in the heart of this great City. We are reminded of the words of St. Paul: “We preach Christ crucified...” (1 Cor. 1:23). Some may say, “don’t we emphasize the Resurrection?” As Metropolitan Hierotheos of Nafpaktos has said, “the Cross and the Resurrection go hand in hand.” Yes, we are people of the Resurrection—we affirm Christ is Risen. But risen from what? From death. And death from what. From the Cross. The Cross, therefore, is a symbol of God’s sacrificial love, for He voluntarily died in the flesh, out of love for us. The Cross, therefore, is the symbol of our salvation and the symbol of hope for the world. We are one step closer to completing the exterior of the building and to having our parking structure operational. To mark this achievement, and to celebrate our 95th year as a community, we will hold a **Gala event on November 5. Look the particulars.** As 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 100th 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, protecting His Commonwealth, unto the ages. Amen.
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)