

Annunciation Cathedral Sunday Bulletin: January 12, 2014

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

TATIANA THE MARTYR; MERTIOS THE MARTYR

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Epistle Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, chapter 4, verses 7-13. It is found in our books on p. 155.

Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 7-13: Ἀδελφοί, ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ ἡμῶν ἐδόθη ἡ χάρις κατὰ τὸ μέτρον τῆς δωρεᾶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Διὸ λέγει, Ἀναβάς εἰς ὕψος ἠχμαλώτευσεν αἰχμαλωσίαν, καὶ ἔδωκεν δόματα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις. Τὸ δέ, Ἀνέβη, τί ἐστιν εἰ μὴ ὅτι καὶ κατέβη πρῶτον εἰς τὰ κατώτερα μέρη τῆς γῆς; Ὁ καταβάς, αὐτὸς ἐστὶν καὶ ὁ ἀναβάς ὑπεράνω πάντων τῶν οὐρανῶν, ἵνα πληρώσῃ τὰ πάντα. Καὶ αὐτὸς ἔδωκεν τοὺς μὲν ἀποστόλους, τοὺς δὲ προφήτας, τοὺς δὲ εὐαγγελιστάς, τοὺς δὲ ποιμένας καὶ διδασκάλους, πρὸς τὸν καταρτισμὸν τῶν ἁγίων, εἰς ἔργον διακονίας, εἰς οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ σώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ· μέχρι καταστήσωμεν οἱ πάντες εἰς τὴν ἐνότητα τῆς πίστεως καὶ τῆς ἐπιγνώσεως τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, εἰς ἄνδρα τέλειον, εἰς μέτρον ἡλικίας τοῦ πληρώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 4, verses 12-17. It is found in our books on pp. 323.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 12-17, εὕρσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 322.

Today's *Apolytikon* (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 καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

OUR CHILDREN ARE TALKING: ANNUNCIATION SUNDAY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

One of the most wonderful things that has happened as a result of the start of construction is that our children are expressing their feelings about building our new church, in pictures and in words. Last Sunday, our children spoke to us, again, and inspired us. "Out of the mouth of babes," the Scripture reminds us (Matthew 21:16). We featured a photo of the children on our latest *Building Update*, which was recently mailed to all households on the Cathedral's mailing list. We will include last week's photos in our next update, along with photos of the excavation and construction. Thank God for our children!

GYM FLOORS BEING NEWLY REFINISHED No doubt, you've noticed that the Gym and Kytherian Room floors have been refinished. Please make every effort to help keep the floors clean.

PARISH VASILOPITA AND BRUNCH The Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos invites you to celebrate the New Year by participating in the *Vasilopita* and Brunch, today, following the Divine Liturgy. A major portion of the proceeds goes to support St. Basil's Academy, in Garrison, New York.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2014 Following last Sunday's administration of the oath of office to the newly elected members, the Parish Council convened and elected officers for 2014. The officers are: **Dean Nicolacakis**, President; **Thomas A. Nuris**, Vice-President; **Gus Vouchilas**, Secretary; **Philippos Athanasiades**, Treasurer; and **Nicholas J. Rally**, Assistant Treasurer.

CRETAN GLENDI THIS SATURDAY The event—always a sell-out—will benefit the Cathedral's Dance Group Program. For reservations, please call **John Monolakis**, at 415 244-4534 or delphi2881@sbc-global.net

SERVICES THIS WEEK Friday, January 17 is the Feast of **St. Anthony the Great** and Saturday, January 18 is the Feast of **Athanasios and Cyril, Patriarchs of Alexandria**. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated both days, beginning at 10 a.m. Ἀύριο ἡ Ἐκκλησία εορτάζει τὰ ἅγια Θεοφάνεια τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία θα τελεσθεῖ στις 10:30 π.μ., ἀφοῦ πρῶτα τελεσθεῖ ὁ Ὁρθρος, στις 9 π.μ., καὶ στη συνέχεια ὁ Μεγάλος Ἀγιασμός, στις 10 π.μ. Τη Τετάρτη, Συναξὶς τοῦ Προδρόμου, ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία θα τελεσθεῖ στις 10 π.μ.

CRAB FEED JANUARY 31

On Friday, January 31 the Annunciation Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos will hold its Crab Feed, one of the year's premier events. Reception at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. The donation is \$55. per person. For reservations, please call the Cathedral, 415 864-8000.

BUILDING, BUILDING, AND MORE BUILDING Sunday after Sunday people peer through the holes in the plywood, along the gallery, on their way to the chapel, and watch the progress being made. They see digging, placement of pipes all over, and moving of earth. For the last several weeks, the construction company has been stabilizing the soil, so that the ground on which the garage floor lies will be as strong and stable as possible. This is a painstaking process, as is the excavation of some 12,500 tons of soil and the delivering of that soil to various dump sites. Some of the soil, which was found to have lead, from fill that was put in there from the 1906 earthquake, was even taken out of state (an expensive, but required way of disposing of this soil). After the soil stabilization and, once the excavation is complete, the parking garage and foundation walls and mat slab will be laid, with lots of reinforcing steel. Then, in the spring, when all this is done, and the plumbing and electrical is in place, we will be able to see some above ground construction. Keep peering and take lots of pictures, for this is a wonderful thing to watch—the development of the new Cathedral and the parking component below.

Meanwhile, all this costs money. And our people are responding. For example, since construction began on October 17, over \$500,000.00 has been received in the form of gifts and pledges. This is very encouraging, as we canvass the community, inviting your gifts and pledges. The last couple of weeks we've been inviting you to consider giving **appreciated assets**. That's stocks or other securities you may have acquired years ago, but now are worth a lot more. If you donate these appreciated assets, you are actually **giving more** (since the assets originally cost you less) and you can derive a benefit in the form of a **tax deduction**.

Suppose you bought a stock for \$10,000 in 2011. Suppose now it is worth \$13,000. If you give the stock to the church, you get an income tax deduction of \$13,000 (not of \$10,000 that I actually paid for it, if you are in the 40% bracket). The church then sells the stock for \$13,000 but does not pay taxes (because it is tax-exempt). Besides the tax advantages, you have the satisfaction of making a more substantial gift. Πιάνει τόπο, as we say. Of course, please do not let what we said here sway you, one way or the other. Check with your accountant or financial officer for advice before deciding to make a gift of stock or other securities. Even though we are in calendar year 2014, speak with your financial advisor, as you may still be able to take advantage of a significant tax deduction for calendar year 2013.

BUILDING UPDATE ON ITS WAY TO YOUR HOMES: A

building update, featuring our children on the cover, and a narrative of our building project on the inside, was sent to the Cathedral's parishioners and friends, in an effort to keep you informed about our progress. (Another update is about to go out this week.) The great news is that *construction has begun!* We started construction 24 years (to the day) of Loma Prieta, the earthquake which claimed the old Cathedral. We're building, *because God has asked us to!*

In the Book of Exodus (25:8) God says: "Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you." (Translated from the Septuagint: *Και ποιήσεις μοι ἁγίασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*). We've quoted this at least since the start of the Capital Campaign. And we can't stress it enough: *we're building the Cathedral because God has asked us to.* In His infinite wisdom, the Lord knows what he has in store for us and for the future of our Faith, in this dynamic corridor of San Francisco's inner city.

MORE GOOD NEWS: OVER \$4.9 MILLION HAS BEEN RAISED DURING THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

The total raised during the Capital Campaign exceeds \$5.1 million (Over \$500,000 of this was raised since we began construction on October 17.) Of the \$5.1 raised, \$3.8 has been received; \$1.3 million is receivable (from parishioners who are paying over a number of years, in some cases, up to five years.) The total cost for completion, inside and out, is just over \$12 million. However, the contract we signed with McNely Construction is a not-to-exceed \$10.7 million. This gets us the parking structure and a complete exterior. We are confident we will complete the interior, as well, iconography, pews and all. We have faith that we will get there and that the new Cathedral will be consecrated to the glory of God. You will see it. You will be a part of it...through your prayers, your faith, and your giving. Be excited...it's happening!



*We at the Annunciation
Cathedral
will grow
The Orthodox Christian Faith
in San Francisco through:
Stewardship, Worship,
Education, Evangelism and
Philanthropic Outreach*