

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles Chapter 6, Verses 1-7:** In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "it is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark Chapter 15, Verse 43 - Chapter 16, Verse 8:** At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**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, ἡ ζωὴ ἢ ἄθάνατος, τότε τὸν Ἀδὴν 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.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE:** Today's Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of **Katherine Mantzoros**, 40 days since her passing. May her memory be eternal! Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη!

**TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR:** Under our invitational program is being hosted by the **Kotsonis/Yeung family**. We thank you for your generosity!

**GOYA & JR GOYA:** Our GOYA and JR. GOYA are having a joint summer party in Cupertino on Saturday, May 25. Please email **Vicky Spachis** for more info at [vicky.spachis@annunciation.org](mailto:vicky.spachis@annunciation.org)

**HOPE MOVIE NIGHT:** We are happy to announce the kick off event for our HOPE program for all children in elementary school! Their first event will be a movie night at the Cathedral on Friday, May 31st. If your child would like to attend, please email **Natalia Mavroudis** at [Natalia.Mavroudis@annunciation.org](mailto:Natalia.Mavroudis@annunciation.org)

**REALM UPDATE:** Exciting news is on the horizon as we implement REALM Church Management Software to revolutionize the way we donate and manage our church finances. We're thrilled to announce that our transition to this powerful tool is fully underway and we have already securely processed thousands of dollars in gifts received through this system. We're excited to share the many benefits this innovative tool will bring to our community.

**AN INVITATION TO HOST COFFEE HOUR:** As part of our revitalized coffee hour program, we're calling on all ministries, organizations, and our parishioners (individually or in teams!) to sign up to host one or more coffee hours over the course of the year. We'll supply the coffee/ cream/ sugar, tablecloths, napkins, utensils – and you supply the goodies (e.g., pastries, donuts, bagels & cream cheese, small sandwiches, fruit/vegetable/cheese platters and assorted dips, or other similar items). We're currently seeking hosts for the following Sundays in June: the 9<sup>th</sup>, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the 30<sup>th</sup>. Please reach out to Irene Melitas ([irene.melitas@annunciation.org](mailto:irene.melitas@annunciation.org), or 925.212.8561) to sign-up and learn more.

**STEWARDSHIP CALL:** We are all blessed with certain gifts. It is important to develop these gifts, multiply them and offer them back to God. Please take a moment to fill out your annual Pledge card and don't forget to fill out the back offering your skills and talents!

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SAVE THE DATE:** Our next Men's Fellowship gathering will take place Thursday, May 23rd. Social hour at 6pm followed by dinner at 7pm. Please email Jim Rakos to RSVP if you would like to attend. There is no cost. [jim.rakos@annunciation.org](mailto:jim.rakos@annunciation.org)

