

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's first letter to the Corinthians Chapter 1, Verses 10-17:** Brethren, I appeal to you by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius; lest any one should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any one else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew Chapter 14, Verses 14-22:** At that time, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

#### Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἦχος α΄:

Ἐν τῇ Γεννήσει, τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας. Ἐν τῇ Κοιμήσει, τὸν κόσμον οὐ κατέλιπες Θεοτόκε. Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωὴν, Μήτηρ ὑπάρχουσα τῆς ζωῆς, καὶ ταῖς πρεσβείαις ταῖς σαῖς λυτρομένη, ἐκ θανάτου τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Mode 1. You gave birth yet preserved your virginity. You fell asleep in death yet did not desert the world, O Theotokos. You were transported to life, as you are Mother of Life and, by virtue of your intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

**40 DAY BLESSING:** Today we welcome Stellen George Belcher into the church for his 40 Day Blessing. Να ζήσει το παιδί! Long life to the child!

**TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR:** Under our invitational program is being hosted by the family of Sakee and Irene Poulakidas in celebration of their parents' 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary, which falls on this day. We wish Sakee and Irene χρόνια πολλά and one of many more happy anniversaries to come.

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR AUGUST:** Divine Liturgy for Beheading of St. John the Baptist Aug 29 at 10am

**STEWARDSHIP / REALM** – We have revolutionized how we manage donations and finances at The Cathedral. Already securely processing thousands of dollars in gifts, Realm offers convenience and transparency in your stewardship and giving journey. For those preferring traditional methods, stewardship cards are still available. Sign up for Realm at [www.annunciation.org/realm](http://www.annunciation.org/realm) to set your annual pledge and explore the benefits of this innovative system. For Realm inquiries, please contact [realmhelp@annunciation.org](mailto:realmhelp@annunciation.org). Join us as we embrace this new era of faith and community stewardship together.

*Grant us Your blessing, Lord our Savior, that we may always be faithful stewards, continuing to share the gifts You have given us, by the power of Your grace, mercy and love. May Your name be glorified forever.*

**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 August 25<sup>th</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup> and 9<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.

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN:** Every third Tuesday of the month, we come together to prepare, serve, and share a hot meal with those in our neighborhood. Our next Community Kitchen will be this **Tuesday, August 20**. If you are interested in volunteering please contact **Maria Polyzos** at [community.kitchen@annunciation.org](mailto:community.kitchen@annunciation.org) or sign up at <https://annunciation.org/community-kitchen-signup>

**ELPIDA BACKPACK FUNDRAISER:** Elpida, our vibrant new religious education program, is seeking 35 donors to give \$100 each. Can we count on you? The funds will go towards Elpida's next community service project on August 24 in which the children of our Metropolis will be filling high-quality backpacks with essential school supplies to be distributed to students in need in our surrounding Mission District. We have partnered with the amazing Sydney Paige Foundation to conduct this community service project. Please help us secure the necessary supplies and meet our goal of empowering students in school and in life by donating today: @<https://donate.sydney Paige.org/elpida>

#### PHILOPTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

##### Educational Scholarships

The Ladies Philoptochos Society is offering scholarships for graduating senior high school students and college students. Should you have any questions, contact [christo.pappademos@annunciation.org](mailto:christo.pappademos@annunciation.org)