

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's letter to the Galatians Chapter 6, Verses 11-18:** Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John Chapter 3, Verses 13-17:** The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

#### Apolytikion of the Feast. Mode 4.

Ἡ γέννησίς σου Θεοτόκε, χαρὰν ἐμήνυσε πάση τῇ οἰκουμένη· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, καὶ λύσας τὴν κατάραν, ἔδωκε τὴν εὐλογίαν· καὶ καταργήσας τὸν θάνατον, ἔδωρήσατο ἡμῖν ζωὴν τὴν αἰώνιον.

Your Nativity, O Theotokos, imparted joy to the entire earth, for out of you has risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. He nullified the curse and instead gave His blessing; and causing death to be neutralized, He granted us eternal life

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS:** Next **Sunday, September 15th**, all of the students in our community are invited to bring their backpacks for a special blessing by Father Angelo to begin the new school year. Good beginning to all!

**SAVE THE DATE:** SAVE THE DATE for our 35th Anniversary Commemoration of the Loma Prieta Earthquake, which will take place on Sunday, October 20, 2024, with a luncheon immediately following Divine Liturgy. Further details will follow. We are also seeking sponsors for this important event. If you or your business are interested in donating or sponsoring, please contact Tasso Mavroudis at [tasso.mavroudis@annunciation.org](mailto:tasso.mavroudis@annunciation.org), or reach out to the church office at (415) 864-8000. Additionally, we ask that anyone with photos from the old Cathedral bring them to church or email them to [photos@annunciation.org](mailto:photos@annunciation.org). These memories are an important part of our history, and we hope to include them in our commemoration.

**HELP US MARKET OUR GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL:** We're excited that our Greek Food Festival is just around the corner on September 20, 21 and 22. Our marketing team is busy at work spreading the word about our amazing event...and hopes YOU will, too! So, when you're next in church, please pick up a few posters and postcards that are below the display board just outside of the chapel. Hand them out to your friends, neighbors, and work colleagues – and ask them to post on their storefronts or within their businesses, too. Let's make this the best attended festival ever!

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER:** Divine Liturgy for the Elevation of the Holy Cross Saturday, September 14 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 September the 29<sup>th</sup> and the full month of October (the 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<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. The next Community Kitchen will be held on **Tuesday, September 16**. If you are interested in volunteering please contact **Maria Polyzos** at [community.kitchen@annunciation.org](mailto:community.kitchen@annunciation.org) or sign up at [www.annunciation.org/community-kitchen-signup](http://www.annunciation.org/community-kitchen-signup)

#### 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)

**NEXT MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Thursday, October 3rd.** Social hour begins at 6pm, program/dinner at 7pm. RSVP to **Jim Rakos** [jim.rakos@annunciation.org](mailto:jim.rakos@annunciation.org)

