

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's letter to the Galatians Chapter 2, Verses 16-20: Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark Chapter 8, Verses 34-38, Chapter 9, Verse 1: The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

Apolytikion. For the Cross. Mode 1.

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS: Today all of the students in our community will bring their backpacks for a special blessing by Father Angelo to begin the new school year. Good beginning to all!

TODAYS COFFEE HOUR: Please join us in the courtyard for a special coffee hour in memory of Christina and John Johns. Αιωμία η μνήμη αυτών!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY: Our Parish Council will meet following Divine Liturgy in the Conference Room.

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, 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. 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!

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 to set your annual pledge and explore the benefits of this innovative system. For Realm inquiries, please contact 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 29th and the full month of October (the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th). Please reach out to Irene Melitas (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 17**. If you are interested in volunteering please contact **Maria Polyzos** at community.kitchen@annunciation.org or sign up at www.annunciation.org/community-kitchen-signup

PHILOPTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

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

