

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL

HERALD



OCTOBER 2024

245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 • (415) 864-8000 • WWW.ANNUNCIATION.ORG

Join Us for the 35th Anniversary Commemoration of the Loma Prieta Earthquake

Sunday, October 20, 2024 – Luncheon following Divine Liturgy

We invite you to join us on Sunday, October 20, 2024, as we come together for a special luncheon immediately following Divine Liturgy to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Loma Prieta Earthquake. This event marks an important milestone in our church's history, remembering the day when the Annunciation Cathedral, the only house of worship in San Francisco destroyed in the earthquake, was forever changed.

The luncheon will be free of charge for all parishioners as a gesture of gratitude for your continuous support and involvement in our community. However, as we reflect on our past and look towards the future, we kindly ask for donations—not only to help underwrite the costs of this event but also with the hope of raising significant funds towards the completion of our new Cathedral. Your generosity will help us continue the work of rebuilding our beloved church, both physically and spiritually.

We are also reaching out to those who may wish to contribute as donors or sponsors for this important event. If you, your business, or someone you know is interested in sponsoring, please contact Tasso Mavroudis at tasso.mavroudis@annunciation.org or reach out to the church office at (415) 864-8000.

Additionally, we are looking to collect old photos of the church and the community from before the earthquake. If you have any pictures you would like to share, please bring them to the church office or email them to photos@annunciation.org. These memories will be an integral part of our commemoration.

We look forward to celebrating this meaningful anniversary with you as we continue the work of rebuilding, preserving our history, and strengthening our future. Thank you for your continued support, and may our efforts bring us closer together in faith and purpose.



FOOD FESTIVAL A SUCCESS! – PAGE 11



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2024

Sunday, October 6:

Apostle Thomas
Orthros 9am, Divine Liturgy 10am

Sunday, October 20:

Grerasimos of Kefalonia
Orthros 9am, Divine Liturgy 10am

Sunday, October 27:

Martyr Nestor of Thessaloniki
Orthros 9am, Divine Liturgy 10am

Sunday, October 13:

Martyrs Karpos, Papyrus, & Agathodoros
Orthros 9am, Divine Liturgy 10am

Saturday, October 26:

Saint Dimitrios the Myrrh-Streamer
Divine Liturgy 10am

"No one shall appear before the Lord empty-handed, but each of you with as much as he can give, in proportion to the blessings which the Lord, God has bestowed on you"

(Deut. 16:10, 16-17)

Have you Joined Us: Pledge 2024 NOW!

If you haven't already, please scan the QR code from your mobile device, or visit www.annunciation.org/ to set up your individual REALM profile. This personalized profile will empower you to manage your giving, stay updated on Cathedral events, and track your giving in real time — all in one convenient platform.

If you have already returned your Stewardship card for 2024, we thank you for your donation and support! Your stewardship donation will soon begin to be processed through REALM. We are in the middle of the conversion as we speak. To pledge your stewardship for 2024 through REALM,

please scan the QR code from your mobile device, or visit www.annunciation.org/donate

Let's embrace this exciting new chapter together as we harness the power of technology to strengthen our Cathedral community. For more information, or for assistance in setting up your profile, reach out to us by email at: RealmHelp@annunciation.org or a Parish Council Member at Church on Sundays. We can help!

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our Annunciation Cathedral. Together, we are making a difference.

PLEDGE YOUR STEWARDSHIP
<https://onrealm.org/AnnunciationSF/AddPledge/stewardship>



STEWARDSHIP
<https://onrealm.org/AnnunciationSF/give/stewardship>



An invitation to host Coffee Hour!

Earlier in the year we launched our new invitational coffee hour program, which provides a more complete offering for our parishioners to enjoy and the fellowship that goes alongside it. And the response has been overwhelmingly positive! We thank all the parishioners who have embraced this as an opportunity to commemorate loved ones; celebrate various special occasions - including birthdays, name days, anniversaries, and chrismations; or, simply share their love for our community.

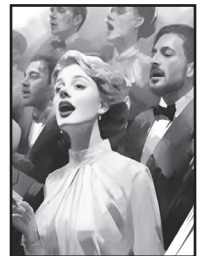


Let's keep the momentum going! We're calling on all ministries, organizations, and our parishioners (individually or in teams!) to sign up to host one or more coffee hours over the course of the year. We'll supply the coffee/ cream/ sugar, tablecloths, napkins, utensils – and you supply the goodies (e.g., pastries, donuts, bagels & cream cheese, small sandwiches, fruit/vegetable/cheese platters and assorted dips, or other similar items).

Looking ahead, we're seeking hosts for the following dates: **October the 6th and November the 24th.** Please reach out to Irene Melitas (irene.melitas@annunciation.org, or, 925.212.8561) to sign-up and learn more.

Join The Choir

Do you like to sing? Would you like to learn more about our rich liturgical practice? A great way to do that is to participate in the dialogue which is the Divine Liturgy. The Annunciation Cathedral Choir is accepting new members to participate in the music ministry by singing at the Sunday Divine Liturgy. If you are interested in joining us or learning more about what we do, please contact our Choir Director, Nick Tarlson, on Sunday at the Cathedral or at nick@tarlson.com or 415-420-2724.



Community Kitchen

The crowds are growing and so is our volunteer base! Thank you to everyone who helped us in September for a record breaking service! We appreciated being able to share the kitchen with festival prep and we made it work, grateful to our church community for helping us out! We served over 120 meals to folks and are prepping next month for even more! We are now cooking most of our food, so please reach out to community.kitchen@annunciation.org if you can join during the day to hang and cook!

One of our steadfast volunteers, Steven, a poet, penned this beautiful piece as he watched folks digging into their meals last Tuesday and we felt like this would be a nice place to share it.

*The stainless steel knife slices melons;
Slices brussel sprouts; watermelons
Heavy kitchen stoves bring to a boil
Tomato paste; back, two-tier ovens bake,
Chicken, pork, bread pans; salads toss
Tomatoes, lettuce leaves, sprouts mix with oil;
Yellow-bedecked serving tables conceive
The metallated festal trays so arrayed,
Over sterno cans once lit upon waters...
Xeroxed, or printout flyers, fly back,
Handouts to hand back, street-crowd-feet;
Under the air condition hum and backdrop
Live guitar strums over servers orders,
Annunciation Soup Kitchen brought to a boil."*

Parish Council Update

We're Back In Hot Water

Not exactly... but we'd like to let you know that a new gas boiler was installed in September prior to the food festival weekend. Our facility has two gas boilers, one providing hot water for heating the building and one providing hot, potable water for our commercial kitchen and all the hot water faucets. The new boiler is for the latter purpose and replaces the boiler installed when the community center was built. The boiler, a high-efficiency 500 MBH Laars Mighty Therm2 unit (model number MT2H0500), was installed by Bay City Boiler. This, along with the building heat boiler installed in early 2023, should serve the needs of our community for decades to come.

Attention all!!!

We are having a parking issue with so many attending Church and parking downstairs. Thank you for coming to Church. PLEASE PLEASE when parking in a tandem stall, please pull all the way up so as to insure two cars may park in the row. Another suggestion is to write your name and cell phone number on a piece of paper to put on your dashboard. This way when someone comes down to the parking lot after church, they can call you to move your car. Thank you so much!! This is greatly appreciated.

Our Parish Assembly will be held Sunday, Nov 17 immediately following the Divine Liturgy. In addition we will also display all our **ministries** for you to see and ask questions. Everyone is welcome to attend and please look at all the ministries offered!!

To be a voting member of our Parish, please pledge your stewardship ASAP for 2024. Please review your payments for 2024 and make a payment today!

SAVE THE DATE!!

Annunciation Cathedral is proud to offer it's 2nd **Annual Holiday Bazaar** Saturday, Dec 7th. Please mark your calendars to attend. If you are a ministry of the Church wanting to participate in selling food, and such for a fundraiser, please contact Denise Yeilding to get more information and sign your group up. Want to help with Decor, Set up, Raffle, Planning?? Please contact Denise Yeilding.

Looking for Artisans! If you are an Artisan/ Crafter or know of a business that would be great to include in our event, please contact Denise Yeilding or look to our Website for more information.

Festival Volunteer Appreciation

Thursday, October 10, 2024 5pm-10pm We will be grilling and drinking and enjoying TNF Niners vs Seahawks, Thursday, 10/10 starting at 5pm (appetizers/drinks, dinner ~6:45pm) in appreciation of all of you for your outstanding efforts in making this year's Food Festival such an epic

success. This event is open to you and your families so please come enjoy, and spread the word to your teams, as we celebrate you and all the work you did. Thank you all so much and look forward to toasting our collective efforts next Thursday.

Philoptochos News

Greetings from Philoptochos! It is always exciting as we begin a new Ecclesiastical Year. As strong Philoptochos women we do much on our own but when we work together the possibilities are endless. May this year be one of limitless possibilities!



Calendar 2024 - 2025

The Annunciation Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos invites you to note its activities over the next few months.

Oct	TBD	Holiday Pastries assemble / bake
Nov	TBD	Holiday Pastries assemble / bake
Dec	12th	Christmas Party @ Nick's Rockaway in Pacifica
Dec	18th	Vasilopita assemble / bake
Dec	22nd	Holiday Pastries & Vasilopita pickup
Dec	25th	Coffee Hour sponsored by the Cathedral; Philoptochos will help
Jan	12th	Vasilopita Breakfast sponsored by the Cathedral; Philoptochos will help
Jan	31st	CRAB FEED
Feb	2nd	Go Red Sunday / Women's Health Awareness

Food Festival Greek Pastry Booth

Thank you to each and everyone of the volunteers that worked so hard giving their time and talent to make our booth such a tremendous success. A lot of work went into making this year's delicious pastries, setting up the booth beforehand and staffing the booth for 3 days. It all came together because of your love and dedication to Annunciation and Philoptochos.



Philoptochos Christmas Party

Save the date for December 12th. We will be holding our Christmas Party at Nick's Rockaway Beach Restaurant in Pacifica. The cost will be \$75/person. The festivities start at 11am with a meet n' greet, followed by lunch at 12noon. We will hold a raffle as well as a centerpiece auction, wrapping up the event by 3pm. More details to follow on reservations and entrée choices.

Crab Feed

Our annual crab feed will be held Friday, Jan 31, 2025. This is a wonderful fund raising event that includes salad, pasta, crab, dessert, wine and raffle prizes. This year a special Early Bird price of \$90/person will be offered during the month of December 2024. The price will jump to \$100/person beginning January 1st 2025. More information will be available soon on the SF Philoptochos newsletter Focus, annunciation.org and flyers at church regarding reservations, start times, parking. The proceeds from the crab feed accounts for 80% of the funds raised that are then distributed. There are over 25 ministries, initiatives and projects nationally and internationally that the Metropolis and National Philoptochos supports in addition to our charitable giving on a local level. Please join us!

SAVE
THE DATE

**Annunciation Cathedral
Philoptochos**

Crab Feed

**Friday, January 31, 2025
245 Valencia Street, SF**

Dinner includes salad, pasta, crab, dessert and wine.
 Early-bird special for December \$90 per person.
 Prices jump to \$100 per person on January 1, 2025.

More information coming soon at
annunciation.org

Exciting Updates for Our Elpida Program

After much prayerful consideration, numerous meetings with the Elpida board, and thoughtful collaboration with both our clergy and parish council, we're excited to announce a new chapter for the Elpida Program! These changes reflect our commitment to strengthening our community and addressing the practical challenges we've faced over the years.

Introducing Elpida Families!

In this new format, children will be placed into mixed-age "Elpida Families," allowing younger and older students to connect, learn from one another, and build a sense of belonging. No child will ever feel left out, even in smaller class sizes. This new structure also simplifies scheduling, making it easier for everyone to participate, especially when our teachers aren't always available.



Classes will now be held once a month after Holy Communion and will last about an hour.. We encourage every child to attend! Father Angelo has made it clear that Elpida attendance is a requirement for children participating in ministries like Greek dance, sports, GOYA, JR GOYA and HOPE.. It's important for our children to stay engaged in their faith so they can proudly represent Annunciation in their activities.

Parents: We Need Your Help to Make This Work!

We've worked hard to restructure the program, but we can't succeed without you. Please make Elpida a priority for your family. Together, we can foster a cultural shift that makes church attendance and faith formation central to our lives. Without increased participation, we simply won't be able to continue.

Let's unite as a community for our children. Your support means everything, and we're so grateful for your commitment!

Mark Your Calendars!

The next few Elpida classes will be held on:

October 6th

November 3rd

December 1st

January 5th

February 2nd

We also plan to offer classes in March, April, and May. Moving forward, classes will typically be held on the **first Sunday of every month**, so please plan accordingly.

Grandparents' Day Luncheon – Sunday, November 10th

We're thrilled to bring back our beloved **Grandparents' Day** on Sunday, November 10th! After Divine Liturgy, we'll gather for a special luncheon in the Fellowship Hall, followed by a meaningful service project where we'll assemble meal packages for families in need of a Thanksgiving meal. Tickets for the luncheon will be pre-sold online and during coffee hour.

How Can You Support Elpida?

Donate raffle items for our Grandparents' Day Luncheon!
Attend the luncheon and bring friends and family!

Spread the word to help us make this event a success!
If you have any items you'd like to donate for the raffle, please contact Mia Fanourgiakis at mia.fanourgiakis@annunciation.org. Every little bit helps, and we truly appreciate your generosity.

We look forward to growing in faith and serving our community alongside you!

Elpida



Join Us for a Fun-Filled Pumpkin Patch Night!

We are excited to announce that our Annunciation HOPE group, which includes elementary school children from **kindergarten through 5th grade (K-5)**, will be hosting a special **Pumpkin Patch Night** on **Saturday, October 12th** at **ABC Tree Farms and Pick of the Patch Pumpkins** (located at 1863 S Norfolk Street, San Mateo, CA 94403). This is a wonderful opportunity for families to come together and enjoy a fun evening with our church community.

From **6:00 PM to 9:00 PM**, the kids will have plenty of activities to enjoy, including exciting **inflatables!** Pizza, dessert, and drinks will be provided for all to enjoy throughout the

night. The cost of the event is **\$25 per child**, and **siblings are welcome** to join in on the fun.

We kindly ask parents to **RSVP by October 7th** to confirm their child's attendance. You can RSVP by emailing **natalia.mavroudis@annunciation.org**. Space is limited, so be sure to reserve your spot early!

This is a fantastic chance for children to make lasting memories while celebrating the fall season together. We look forward to seeing you there for a night of family fun and fellowship! - See ad on page 8!



JOIN ELPIDA FOR A

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Luncheon & Service Project

November 10th | 12 PM

Before gathering to eat with our grandparents, we will assemble meal packages full of food for families in need for Thanksgiving.

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL'S FELLOWSHIP HALL

245 Valencia Street, San Francisco

Tickets will be available Online and during Coffee Hour.


Adults \$25 Kids 12 and under \$15

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to celebrate our grandparents on Grandparents' Day, and we cherish their presence in our lives.





Annunciation's HOPE presents:
A Night At The Pumpkin Patch



Saturday, October 12th
6pm - 9pm

ABC Tree Farms and Pick of the Patch Pumpkins
1863 S. Norfolk St. San Mateo, CA 94403

***We are asking parents to cover the admission
cost of \$25 per child.***

HOPE will provide pizza, drinks, and dessert.

Please RSVP to Natalia at
natalia.mavroudis@annunciation.org
by 10/7 so we can plan accordingly.

Siblings are welcome!



Jr. GOYA

This past weekend, our JR GOYA kids celebrated the last few days of summer with a fantastic “Pool and Pagoto” party! The children had a blast swimming and cooling off with delicious pagoto (ice cream). It was the perfect way to enjoy the lingering warm weather.

A special thank you to Chris and Irene Kyriacou for their generous hospitality in hosting this event. Their beautiful home and welcoming spirit made the day even more enjoyable.

As a parent, it's heartwarming to see how close-knit these kids have become. The friendships they share are truly special, and events like this highlight the sense of community we strive to foster within our parish.

Upcoming Event: Costumes and Kolokitha

Mark your calendars for our next JR GOYA event, “Costumes and Kolokithia,” on Friday, October 25th! Hosted by John and Magda Lampros, this fun-filled evening will include Halloween costumes, pumpkin carving, dinner, and plenty of parea. We're grateful to the Lampros family for graciously opening their home to us, and we can't wait for another great time together.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there!



THE ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL'S JR. GOYA PRESENTS

BOO!



COSTUMES

&

Κολοκύθια!

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS FESTIVE NIGHT OF PUMPKIN CARVING!
COSTUMES ARE WELCOME . PUMPKINS AND DINNER WILL BE
PROVIDED! THE FUN WILL BEGIN AT 6:00PM!**

**FRI-25
OCT**

THE LAMPROS RESIDENCE

RSVP TO MIA BY OCTOBER 18TH



A Heartfelt Thank You for Your Support of Our 2024 Greek Food Festival

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our sponsors and volunteers for your invaluable contributions to the success of our recent Greek Food Festival. Your generosity and dedication were immeasurable in making this year's festival a resounding success.

Each year, our annual festival is a vibrant celebration of our Greek heritage made possible because of your support. Your efforts resulted in an inspiring expression of our culture through delicious food, lively dancing, and beautiful music enjoyed by thousands. Every aspect of the festival reflected the love, kindness and generosity of our Annunciation Cathedral family and we could not be prouder.

There are so many individuals to thank and we want you all to be recognized. Once we have had the opportunity to compile the final donor contribution list and financial results, we will provide more detailed thanks and information in our upcoming Herald. Until then, once again thank you for your unwavering support. All gratitude and congratulations go to you for making this possible.

Deno Konstantinides Mike Spachis
Co chairs of the 2024 Food Festival

We'll have much more about the Greek Food Festival in the November edition of the Herald.

UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF
SAN FRANCISCO, THE ANNUNCIATION
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL
245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-2320

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SCAN HERE TO DONATE



You Are Invited
To A Special
Free Luncheon

Sunday, October 20th

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

DIVINE LITURGY

PHOTO SLIDESHOW ◆ DANCE GROUP PERFORMANCES ◆ RAFFLE

Celebrating our Community