

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's letter to the Ephesians Chapter 2, Verse 14-22 : Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke Chapter 13, Verses 10-17: At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

PHILOPTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Christmas Bake Sale-Philoptochos will be selling premade boxes of pastries after church beginning December 8th. \$25/box. No preorders.

Vasilopita Orders-Place your order for vasilopita prior to Dec 15th. Pick up date is Dec 22nd. Order forms available near the pangari or place your order after church at the Philoptochos table.

Vasilopita Breakfast-The breakfast is hosted by the Cathedral and will be catered by Stella's Catering. Come celebrate the New Year.

Crab Feed-Our annual crab feed will be held **Friday, Jan 31, 2025**. An Early Bird special price of \$90/person during the month of December 2024 is being offered. The price will jump to \$100/person beginning January 1, 2025. Pick up a flyer near the pangari or place your reservation after church at the Philoptochos table.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: Today's Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of **Vicky Jean Henderson**, 2 years since her passing. May her memory be eternal!

COFFEE HOUR: Today's Coffee hour is being jointly hosted by **Brittany Henderson** in memory of the two-year passing of her mother (αιωνία η μνήμη!), and **Joanne and Con Glafkides** in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary (we wish you χρονιά πολλά and many more blessed anniversaries to come!)

CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS CARD FUNDRAISER: We invite you to include your name in our yearly Cathedral Christmas Card. **Kalliope Fousekis** and **Irene Kyriacou** will be gathering names and donations following Divine Liturgy on Sundays. Please stop by their table to include your name and make your donation. We are accepting donations at a minimum of \$35. You can also email Irene Kyriacou at irene.kyriacou@annunciation.org

MATCHING DONATION OPPORTUNITY: An anonymous donor has generously contributed \$50,000.00 to the Annunciation Cathedral Building Fund and challenged our community to match this amount by **December 31, 2024**. This is a unique opportunity to raise at least \$100,000.00 toward the completion of our new Cathedral. Every dollar donated will be fully restricted to the Building Fund and used exclusively to bring our shared vision to life. Contributions made during the 2024 calendar year may also provide tax benefits. Join us in meeting this challenge and help us create a lasting legacy for future generations! Donate today and double your impact.

STEWARDSHIP – As the year comes to a close, we are thankful for your support of the Cathedral. Now is the time to review your statements that arrived in the mail and finish your pledging for 2024. We will launch our 2025 Stewardship on **Sunday, January 12**.

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 month of December (15th, 22nd, and 29th) and January (19th and 26th). Please reach out to **Irene Melitas** (irene.melitas@annunciation.org, or, 925.212.8561) to sign-up and learn more.

GOYA WINTER FORMAL: On **Saturday, December 14**, we will be hosting a Bay Area-wide Goya Winter Formal dance featuring the musical stylings of **DJ G Stav**. Tickets are \$30. If your Goya-age child would like to attend please contact **Vicky Spachis** at vicky.spachis@annunciation.org

COMMUNITY KITCHEN: Every third Tuesday of the month, we come together to prepare, serve, and share a hot meal with those in our neighborhood. If you are interested in volunteering please visit www.annunciation.org/community-kitchen-signup. You can also support this ministry by making a financial donation at <https://www.annunciation.org/community-kitchen-donate>