



DECEMBER 2024

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

## THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS

The Feast of the Nativity of Jesus is one of the most joyful days of the Orthodox Church. It ranks next to the greatest holiday, the Resurrection of Jesus. The Feast of the Birth of Jesus is also known as the “Incarnation of Christ.” This means that Jesus became a man and came into the world to save us.

The story of the Nativity of Christ is beautifully told in the Holy Scriptures. The story is found in **Matthew 1:18-25** and in **Luke 2:1-20**. No matter how often the Birth of Jesus is told, we realize that it is an important event.

Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth and it was a great distance from Bethlehem. It was about 100 miles over very rugged roads. Moreover, Mary was expecting the baby and it was almost time for her to give birth. Bethlehem was a small town and by the time Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem there was no place for them to stay. Joseph tried very hard to find a place to sleep that evening.. Finally, Joseph found a cave-like place where they could rest. This place was used by shepherds to protect their sheep in stormy weather. It was here that Mary gave birth to

Jesus. The baby was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in the straw in the manger.

Now, that night the shepherds were out in the fields guarding their sheep. Suddenly, there was a bright light which startled the shepherds. The light was so bright that it turned the night into daylight. Of course, the shepherds were frightened. Nothing such as this had ever happened. Soon an angel appeared and calmed them. The angel said:

*“Fear not for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior; which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger”* (Luke 2:11-12).

Then a larger group of angels appeared. They praised and glorified God and sang, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will toward men” (Luke 2:14). When the angels finished singing,

they disappeared and the light began to fade. It became dimmer and dimmer until it was dark again. The shepherds were awed and didn’t know what to do. They decided to leave their flocks of sheep and go to Bethlehem. They



decided that they wanted to see for themselves what the angels had told them. When they got to Bethlehem, they found the infant Jesus and fell to their knees and adored Him.

Wise Men came from the East for they knew of the coming of Jesus. They had seen a star that told them that a new king had been born to the Jews. They followed the star and were looking for the child. The Star led them to Jesus and Mary. When the Wise Men found Jesus, they fell to their knees and worshiped Him. They gave Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The Wise Men left but did not return to Herod. They had a dream that warned them that Herod wanted to harm Jesus. Instead, they returned to their native country by a different route.

*For our December  
Schedule of Services,*

*please be sure to visit our church website*

[www.annunciation.org](http://www.annunciation.org)

*and check the weekly Church Bulletin.*

# Thank you members for a great 2024!

As we come to the end of another calendar year, We Thank You for your contributions to our Church Community. Your Time, Talent and Treasures have made this year one of Growth!

As we look forward to 2025, excitement fills the air! We are taking the bull by the horns and rolling up our sleeves. Won't you be a part of this Journey??

Watch as we unveil our New Team for Stewardship. Please consider stepping up for our Welcome committee or to be an Ambassador for parishioners. Stewardship Sunday will be held in Church January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

If we do our part in faith, God will lovingly return to us much more than we could ever imagine.

---

Name	Constantine & Joanne Glafkides	Basile Mavroudis
Demetria Aleck	Bonnie Grampsas	Michael & Gina Mavroudis
Patricia Aleck	Costas & Mary Grigoropoulos	Tasso & Natalia Mavroudis
Maria & Andrew Allen	Katie & Bob Grohs	Nektarios McKnight
Anthony & Zetta Ambus	Leo & Tiffany Haginicols	Asteris Megasthenis
Antonia Ambus	Costas & Ria Haralambopoulos	Irene Melitas
George & Tessa Ambus	George & Jaime Haras	Faye Mellos
Demetria Apostolopoulos	Panagiota Haras	Erini Misthos
Mariam Arsinoos	Craig Hedges	Michael & Christina Misthos
Athena & Nicholas Arvanitidis	Patrick Hillas	Monte Montgomery
Chrisula Asimos	Vicki Holloway	Helen Morales
Philippos & Diala Athanasiades	Louise Kallas	Vassiliki Moulas
Karen Bagatelos	George Kalligeros	Vicky Moulas
Margarita Bagatelos	Eleni Kalligeros-Lee & Robert Lee	Tula Mouroufas
Michael Bagatelos	Bill Karas	Perri Nager
Peter A. & Ann H. Bagatelos	Chris Karas	Bashar & Rada Nashawati
Annamarie Balian & Robert Ballian	Eva Karas	Nick Nicklas
Nicholas Balian	Kathy Karas	Dean & Maria Nicolacakis
Bradley Banks	Constantine Karsant	Victor Nicolacakis
John Bardis & Kathleen Courtney	Katerina Karsant	Dustin Novo & Chrisula Bissas
Constantine Barlas	Athanasios & Niki Kastoras	Andrew Nuris
George Bazgan	Gari Katsanis	Manoli Nuris
Maria Bissas	James & Joanne Kavalaris	Matthew Nuris
Mary-Anne & Andrew Boutiette	Saki Kavouniaris	Teia Nuris
Jim & Florika Bozionelos	Sophia Kleftogianne & Jose Hernandez	Thomas & Liberty Nuris
Peter & Katerina Cazanis	Alexandra Kleinekorte	Maria Orologas
Bryan Cheong	Richard Kleinekorte	Alexander & Lula Ossipoff
Luba & Jim Cocolos	Michael & Georgette Klobuchar	Anton & Sotiria Panagiotopoulos
Susan Condon	Despina Nick Kokalis	Magdalini Panagiotopoulos
Jimmy Consos	Deno & Bella Konstantinidis	John & Helen Panomitros
Chris Contos	Nicholas Kontonis	Peter Pantages
John & Vivian Curd	Paul & Irene Kosaris	Tom Papageorge
Elli Dakis	Angelos Kottas	Sophia Papageorgiou
Kleoniki & Paul Dakis	Georgia Kouropoulos	George & Lea Papavasiliou
Ethel Davies	Angelo & Victoria Koutoulas	Robert & Alma Papingu
Christina Decker	Dina Koutoulas	Rev. Angelo & Presv. Mary Pappas
Jenny Dedo & Greg Efstratis	Grace Koutoulas	Jonathan Pappas
Anastasia Dekaristos	Panagiota Koutoulas	Voula Pappas
Evangelos Dekaristos	Pete & Stavroula Koutoulas	Penny Pappas Walsh & Martin Walsh
Nicholas & Stephanie Delis	Alexander & Elisavet Kozak	Marion Parashis
Kathy Dermitzakis & Nicholas Dermitzakis-Pittler	John & Dina Kratsas	James & Vicki Parry
Anirudh & Brittany Dhawan	Chris & Irene Kyriacou	Joan Patropulos
Nicholas & Janine Economides	Stelios Kyriacou	Rose Pavliakos
John Eliopoulos	Rev. Stephen & Presv. Vasiliki Kyriacou	Robert & Catherine Peterson
Louie Eliopoulos	Aristotelis Lampros	Janis Petrou
Anthony Elite	John & Magdalene Lampros	Lester & Chrisoula Pezo
Mia & Mike Fanourgiakis	Maria Lezcano	Pamela Piccinini
Evgenia Fkiaras	Ryan Lukehart & Marie Vorrises	Maria & Jason Polyzos
George & Sophia Fonti	Lea & Bob Lyberopoulos	Dean Poulakidas
James Fotenos	Elaine Makras	Jennifer Poulakidas
Shareen & Spiros Fousekis	Sophie Makras	Sakee & Irene Poulakidas
Vlasis & Kalliope Fousekis	Thalia Makras	Despina Poulos
Marianthe & Charalampos Fragakis	Cynthia Marcopulos	Dimitri Prokopos
Michael & Sigrun Franco	Helen Markanton	Stavroula Prokopos & Ryan Belcher
David & Kathie Garibaldi	Christos & Melisa Mastrokyriakos	Georgia & Demetrios Prountzos
Theodore & Christine Gazulis	Nikolaos & Anna Mastrokyriakos	Alexis Rakos
John & Sophia Georgiadis	George & Cleo Mattis	Anastasia Rakos
Petros Giannikopoulos	Mary Mavrakakis	Jim & Kelly Rakos
Paul & Meltem Gikas	Aglaia Mavroudis	Niko Rakos

---



Nick & Patty Rally  
 George & Monica Rangaves  
 Kay Rangaves  
 Evangelia Raptis Zarou & Andrew Zarou  
 Hariklia Razis  
 Matthew Razis  
 Erica Roberts  
 Alexis Sarantinos  
 Emilia Sarikakis  
 Mike Sarikakis & Katerina Tsifourdaris  
 Nader & Sawsan Shatara  
 Michele Siouris  
 Paul & Evangelia Sogotis  
 Rose Sogotis  
 Jack Spachis  
 Mike & Vicki Spachis  
 Anna Stamatopoulos  
 Marios & Anastasia Stathopoulos  
 Peter & Barbara Stephens  
 George & Georgia Stratoudakis  
 Nicholas Svetcoff  
 Joy Tamaras  
 Helen & Tom Taptelis  
 Nick Tarlson  
 Jim Thomas  
 Stephanie & Jeffrey Thompson

Basil & Mary Tonas  
 Evangeline & Daniel Tostado  
 Michael Truog  
 Aphrodite Tsagaris  
 Eleni Tsagaris  
 Aphrodite Tsangaris  
 Athanasios & Christi Tsiatis  
 Irene Vafiadis  
 Konstantinos Vafiadis  
 Steve Vafiadis  
 Nickolas & Lourdes Varanis  
 Dimitri & Penelope Vardakastanis  
 Foula Vasiliogiorgis  
 James Vavuris  
 Maria Vavuris  
 Sally Vedros  
 Aris & Kathy Vellis  
 Costas & Meena Vellis  
 Adrienne Verreos  
 George Vlahos  
 Argyrios & Denise Vlasakakis  
 Angelo Vorrises  
 Denis & Renee Vorrises  
 George & Loula Vorrises  
 Jim & Louise Vorrises  
 Stephanie & Nanette Vorrises

Loula Vriheas  
 Denise Yeilding  
 Bessie York  
 Angie Zarikos  
 Anastasios Zografos  
 Evanthia Zografos

We are doing our best to ensure the accuracy of our stewardship list as we transition to our new church management software, Realm. We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions during this process.

If you have pledged and do not see your name on the list, or if there are errors in the spelling of your name, please contact the church office so we can promptly correct it.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support as we make this important transition.

## Reflecting on November's Elpida Events: Faith, Family, and Community

This past November, the Elpida program focused on the inspiring lives of Saints Anna and Joachim, the parents of the Panagia. Known for their steadfast faith and patience, these holy figures played a pivotal role in Orthodox tradition as examples of trust in God's plan. Their story encouraged children to explore and appreciate the relationships they have with their own grandparents, sparking meaningful conversations about faith, family, and legacy.

On November 10th, the Annunciation Cathedral hosted a joyous Grandparents Day celebration, creating memories that will last a lifetime. Guests enjoyed a delicious lunch, lovingly prepared by the queen of the kitchen, Vicky Spachis, and her incredible team of volunteers. The day's program included heartfelt service projects, such as creating handmade cards for nursing home residents, and engaging activities like interviews where children learned more about their grandparents' lives and wisdom.

The celebration was elevated by inspiring speeches from Stellios Vafiades and Lexi Efstratis, who shared touching stories about the importance of faith and family. The day concluded with a lively dance performance by the Orama dance group, whose energy and grace delighted the audience. Truly, it was a blessed day that brought together faith, love, and community.

### Save the Date: March 1<sup>st</sup>

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce the Elpida Lenten Retreat, scheduled for Friday, March 1st. This event is a cherished tradition, offering children an opportunity to

deepen their faith and connect with peers from across the Northern California metropolis. In past years, the retreat has welcomed around 120 children from various parishes, and we are aiming for an even larger turnout this year.

Parents, we urge you to mark your calendars and prioritize this day of faith, fellowship, and spiritual growth. Help us spread the word about this incredible opportunity to build community through Christ.

Let's make this year's Lenten Retreat the best one yet! Stay tuned for more details, and thank you for your continued support of the Elpida program. Together, we are raising a generation grounded in faith and love.



# Our Cathedral Dance Groups

On November 10th, our Elpida program hosted a delicious luncheon for Grandparents Day, where our youngest dance group, Orama, consisting of dancers in Kindergarten through 4th grade, performed in front of an adoring audience. Congratulations on a wonderful performance Orama!

In the months leading up to FDF 2025, which will take place in Anaheim, on February 14-17, dancers in Revmata (Grades 9-12) and To Mellon (Grades 5-8) have been prac-

ting diligently in preparation for the competition, while Orama continues to practice for additional upcoming performances. Wish them the best as they continue practicing!

Not able to attend FDF to watch the performances? Don't worry. All dance groups will be performing at our upcoming Dance Program Fundraiser Dinner Glendi on Saturday evening, February 8th, where musicians from Greece will also be featured. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening celebrating our culture and dance program that night. Be on the lookout for more details and the link to purchase tickets in the next few weeks. In addition, our dance groups will also be performing in a post-view performance during coffee hour following church services after FDF for all parishioners. Date will be announced next month! We look forward to celebrating our Faith Dance and Fellowship with our community!

If you are interested in donating to our Greek Dance program, please click on the link or scan the QR code below. All proceeds go to directly supporting instruction and performance needs for our dance groups, including musicians, costumes, workshops, etc. for current and future dancers.

Greek Dance Program Donation Link:  
<https://www.annunciation.org/dance-donations>

**Greek Dance Program  
Donation QR Code:**



# Celebrating a Year of Fellowship with JR GOYA

This year, the JR GOYA group of Annunciation Cathedral has been blessed with a vibrant calendar of events, each one filled with fun, faith, and fellowship. From delicious treats to memorable activities, our gatherings have brought our middle schoolers together to form lasting friendships and a deeper sense of belonging within our church community.

Our journey began with *Kolourakia and Karaoke*, a lively evening where the children sang their hearts out and enjoyed rolling and baking these beloved Greek cookies. Next came *Tiropitas and Trivia*, combining everyone's favorite cheese pies with a friendly battle of wits as teams answered questions about faith, history, and pop culture.

As summer approached, we cooled off with *Pool and Pagoto*, where swimming and ice cream made for the perfect combination. Then came the fall-themed *Costumes and Kolokithia*, where the kids got creative carving pumpkins and showing off their Halloween spirit. We wrapped up the year with *Kourabedes, Cocoa, and Christmas Classics*, a cozy night of holiday treats, warm cocoa, and festive movies that reminded us of the joy of the season.

These events would not have been possible without the incredible families who graciously opened their homes to our JR GOYA children. Your hospitality and dedication to fostering a welcoming environment have been the cornerstone of our success. We also thank the parents who participated and supported these gatherings, helping create a nurturing space for our young ones to grow in faith and friendship.

By fostering this sense of community, we are helping our middle schoolers feel a strong sense of belonging, both to their faith and to each other. This

connection is vital during these formative years and provides a foundation for their spiritual and social growth.

As we look ahead to 2025, we are eager to continue building on this momentum with more exciting events and opportunities to create cherished memories. JR GOYA is open to all 6th-8th grade children, and we aim to meet

monthly. If you are interested in hosting an event or want to get involved, please reach out to Mia Fanourgiakis at [mia.fanourgiakis@annunciation.org](mailto:mia.fanourgiakis@annunciation.org). Let's continue this journey together, strengthening our community and growing in faith as one JR GOYA family. Thank you for an incredible year, and here's to an even brighter 2025!

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

# GOYA WINTER FORMAL

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024

SAN FRANCISCO ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL  
245 VALENCIA ST, SAN FRANCISCO

PLEASE  
RSVP HERE



STARTS AT 8PM

BY 12-10-24

FOOD & DRINKS

ENDS AT 12AM

DJ



\$30  
ENTRY FEE



PAY HERE

Attire: Formal



# Community Kitchen



It's our birthday! This month the Community Kitchen turned ONE! To celebrate, we decided to keep our old Thanksgiving tradition alive and came together to serve our tastiest meal to date! All the classics were there, stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, green beans, rolls and pumpkin pie! While there were some complaints about using a potato ricer for 50 pounds of potatoes, I like to think everyone got a fabulous workout and our guests could tell all the food was made from scratch with love! A big shout out Dimitri Vardakastanis at Gus's market for the produce donation, and to our wonderful parishioners for donating the pumpkin pies! This month's volunteers were a force to be reckoned with, with enough extra hands to fill to-go bags of dry goods and socks for every guest that came to us.

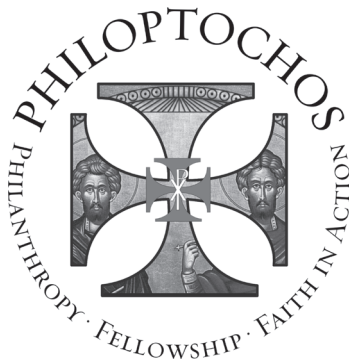
I would like to share a deep thank you to each and every volunteer over the last year. Even if you could only make it once, or couldn't physically be with us and donated to our efforts, believe me when I say it has gone a long way. Re-opening this ministry has had it challenging moments but I couldn't be more appreciative of the community effort to make it such a rousing success again. Each month we have the honor of serving our neighbors and truly putting others needs before ourselves. It brings such joy to share a warm meal and a smile with our regular guests, fostering a sense of community and compassion. We have created a safe, warm space for folks to hang their troubles at the door and enjoy a taste of what our culture is known for, empathy and generosity.

We have a new signup for the future of community kitchen to be found at [volunteerck.org](https://www.volunteerck.org)

Next month's kitchen will be on December 17<sup>th</sup> and we look forward to seeing old faces and new!

-Maria





# Philoptochos News

## Calendar 2024 - 2025

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



Dec	15th	Holiday Bake Sale & last day to place Vasilopita order
Dec	22nd	Holiday Bake Sale & Vasilopita order pickup
Dec	25th	Coffee Hour sponsored by the Cathedral
Jan	12th	Vasilopita Breakfast sponsored by the Cathedral
Jan	31st	CRAB FEED
Feb	2nd	Go Red Sunday / Women's Health Awareness

### Vasilopita

The Philoptochos Ladies will be making vasilopitas for the New Year. The cost is \$25/loaf. Last day to place an order is Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. Order pick up will be at church on Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> 10a-2p. See the order form.

### Crab Feed

Our annual crab feed will be held Friday, Jan 31, 2025. Reservations made during December 2024 will benefit from a special Early Bird price of \$90/person. The price will jump to \$100/person beginning January 1, 2025.

### Annual Membership Drive

We are inviting all women 18 years old to become members of Philoptochos. We ask for a small suggested annual pledge of \$50 to support our philanthropic endeavors. Share your time, talents and skills to make a difference in our parish and local community. We look forward to having you as a member and sharing your ideas. Renewal mem-

bership forms are located by the pangari or email Meena Vellis with any questions at mvellis@comcast.com

### Empowerment Through Faith and Philanthropy

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society is the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America that has offered over 90 years of philanthropy through a multitude of programs that make a difference in the lives of people in the United States and throughout the world. The National and Metropolis Philoptochos comprises of 26,000 members and over 400 active chapters.

Our Philoptochos Ladies Society of San Francisco, Chapter 4022 was founded in the 1930's. Over the decades we have embraced and expanded our humanitarian programs with a greater and broader scope. The ever-changing landscape in our neighborhood and abroad has presented us with new challenges requiring flexibility, adaptation and resilience.

In 2023-2024, our chapter distributed \$45,000 to over 25 various charities and organizations on a local, national and international setting. Specifically we sponsored various lunches and meals, purchased tables for Greek School, a new rug for the Narthax, gave a donation to the ad book, food festival, dance group and awarded academic scholarships. We gave generously to Sanchez School, Kids n' Cancer, Women's Health and Social Services, Holy Cross, Light the Path, the Monastery and to disaster relief funds. Philoptochos also strives to accommodate requests made by members of the Greek community facing adversity whether it be financial burdens or other hardships.

Our dedicated group of volunteers is a testament to the spirit, hard work and generosity of countless women as we set the course for future generations. Our success increases with the support of the community, our individual families and spiritual leaders.

*"And the virgin's name," it says, "was Mary" (Luke 1:27), which means "Lady." This shows the Virgin's dignity, how certain was her virginity and set apart was her life, exact in every respect and completely blameless. She properly bore the name of Virgin, and possessed to the full all the attributes of purity. She was a virgin in both body and soul, and kept all the powers of her soul and her bodily senses far above any defilement. This she did authoritatively, steadfastly, decisively and altogether inviolably at all times, as a closed gate preserves the treasures within, and a sealed book keeps hidden from sight what is written inside. The Scriptures say of her, "This is the sealed book" (cf. Rev. 5:1-6:1; Dan. 12:4) and "this gate shall be shut, and no man shall enter in by it"*

*(Ezek. 44:2). St. Gregory Palamas,  
Sermon on the Annunciation*





## Philoptochos December 2024

### Vasilopita Order Form

Order Deadline December 15th

Prepaid order pick up at SF Annunciation Cathedral

245 Valencia Street, SF

on Sunday, December 22nd between 10am-2pm

Name:	
Phone:	
Email:	

Item	Quantity	Price	Total
<i>Vasilopita</i>		\$25	

Mail order form with check or credit card information to Annunciation Philoptochos, 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Make check payable to Annunciation Philoptochos.

Credit Card Order:

CC Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

CVV \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Bake sale proceeds to benefit the many charities and ministries that our San Francisco Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos supports. Thank you for your order!

## Year-end Tax Planning

The final few months of the year often coincide with end-of-year tax planning, which for many includes finalizing annual charitable contributions. So as the year draws to a close, we kindly ask you to consider the Annunciation in your year-end tax planning activities. By making a special donation, you support the ongoing health and vitality of our parish

while gaining valuable tax benefits, too! And it's as easy as a click of the button (<https://onrealm.org/AnnunciationSF>). Please consult with your financial advisor to see how your generosity can benefit both you and our Cathedral. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our faith and community.

## *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 a coffee hour between now and the end 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 month of December (1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>) and January (19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>). Please reach out to Irene Melitas ([irene.melitas@annunciation.org](mailto:irene.melitas@annunciation.org), or [925.212.8561](tel:925.212.8561)) to sign-up and learn more.

## Notes from Our Ministries of Annunciation Cathedral

Icons/ Books will be sold at the Holiday Bazaar and various Sundays before Christmas. Great gifts!!

Adult Religious Education classes are offered online for all to attend. Please contact [Alex.Kozak@annunciation.org](mailto:Alex.Kozak@annunciation.org) for more information.

Our Greek School will be performing Saturday, Dec 7<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon Greek Christmas Carols at the Holiday Bazaar.

Our next Men's Fellowship meeting will be in January. Watch for information

Open Gym has begun for Basketball (all ages) Wednesday nights. [Deno.konstantinides@annunciation.org](mailto:Deno.konstantinides@annunciation.org) for more information.

## *Parish Council Update*

Dec. 8th is the deadline to turn in applications to run for Parish Council 2025-2026 year. We are looking for Members in Good Standing with time and Talent to help move us

forward! The Elections will be held Sunday, Dec. 15th immediately following the Divine Liturgy. For more information please contact the Church Office.

*However, God Who made us looked lovingly down on us in His mercy. He bowed the heavens and came down. Having taken our nature upon Him from the Holy Virgin, He renewed it and restored it. Or rather, He led it up to divine and heavenly heights. Wishing to achieve this, to bring to fulfillment on this day His pre-eternal counsel, He sent the Archangel Gabriel, as Luke the Evangelist tells us, "to Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary"*

*(Luke 1:26-27).*



## *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 actively recruiting 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](mailto:nick@tarlson.com) or **415-420-2724**.

*Basile the Comedian will be coming to Annunciation Cathedral April 25, 2025. Mark your calendars and get ready to laugh!! More details to come in January 2025.*

*"That is why neither an angel nor a man came to save us, but the Lord Himself, Who was conceived and took flesh in the womb from a virgin, while remaining unchanged as God."*

*St. Gregory Palamas, Sermon on the Annunciation*

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA  
PERMIT NO. 1734

SCAN HERE TO DONATE



*Christmas*  
**HOLIDAY  
BAZAAR**

**MUSIC, FOOD & GIFTS**

**DECEMBER 7, 2024**  
**10AM - 4PM**



**FREE  
ENTRY**

SHOP FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS,  
FOOD & DRINKS WHILE  
SUPPORTING LOCAL ARTISANS



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL  
245 VALENCIA ST, SF