

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's first letter to the Corinthians Chapter 6, Verse 12-20: Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke Chapter 15, verses 11-32: The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

STEWARDSHIP: Stewardship is the foundation of everything we do as a parish. It supports our ministries, programs, outreach, and the care and maintenance of our beloved Cathedral. Your commitment is not only vital to sustaining our work but also to building a stronger future for our community. Visit www.annunciation.org/pledge or if you prefer, you can still complete a Stewardship card for 2025 at the Cathedral, and we continue to accept cash and check donations. Your support makes everything we do possible, and together we can continue to build a parish that honors our faith, supports our families, and serves as a beacon of Orthodoxy for the San Francisco Bay Area.

ELPIDA LENTEN RETREAT: We will be holding our annual Elpida Lenten Retreat on **Saturday, March 1st** this year! For more information and to register, please email Elpida Director Mia Fanourgiakis at mia.fanourgiakis@annunciation.org

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 new 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 March (16th and 23rd). 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. **Our next gathering will take place on Tuesday, February 18.** If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at www.annunciation.org/community-kitchen-signup. If you are unable to volunteer but would like to support this important ministry, please consider making a financial donation at www.annunciation.org/community-kitchen-donate

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone One:

The stone that had been sealed before your tomb by the Jews, and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred Body, O Savior, the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ, glory unto your Kingdom, glory to your Dispensation, O You who alone love mankind.

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντον σου Σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτὴρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι, Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου, Χριστέ· δόξα τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου· δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.