

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's First Letter to the Philippians Chapter 4, Verses 4-9: BRETHREN, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John Chapter 12, Verses 1-18: Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazaros, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazaros also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazaros out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

Apolytikion of the Feast: Τὴν κοινὴν Ἀνάστασιν πρὸ τοῦ σοῦ Πάθους πιστούμενος, ἐκ νεκρῶν ἤγειρας τὸν Λάζαρον, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός· ὅθεν καὶ ἡμεῖς ὡς οἱ Παιῖδες, τὰ τῆς νίκης σύμβολα φέροντες, σοὶ τῷ Νικητῇ τοῦ θανάτου βοῶμεν· Ὡσαννὰ ἐν τοῖς ὑψίστοις, εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος, ἐν ὀνόματι Κυρίου.

To confirm the general resurrection before Your Passion, You resurrected Lazarus from the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore imitating the children, carrying the symbols of victory, we cry out to You the Victor over death: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You, the One, who comes in the name of the Lord."

PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH: We thank our Ladies' Philoptochos Society for hosting our Palm Sunday Brunch today. Join us for a Lenten buffet after the conclusion of Liturgy. \$20 adults, \$10 for children aged 10 and under.

MINISTRY FAIR: Today we are hosting a Ministry Fair in the hall after Divine Liturgy. Please be sure to visit the various tables stationed around the hall to find out about the exciting ministries we offer at the Cathedral.

LUMINARIES: Elpida is hosting its Luminary project again this year. These luminaries are not just lights; they are symbols of our enduring love, remembrance, and hope. By lighting these luminaries, we honor the memories of those who have left us and offer our prayers for the health and happiness of our loved ones who remain. Each luminary can be personalized with the name of your loved one, creating a touching tribute that will shine brightly throughout the Holy Friday Service. Luminaries will be available for purchase at \$20 each. Please contact Mia Fanourgiakis at mia.fanourgiakis@annunciation.org to place your order for your Luminary.

MAGIRITSA AFTER PASCHA: After our midnight Resurrection or Anastasi service this week, everyone is invited to enjoy some magiritsa soup and refreshments in the hall.

HOPE MOVIE NIGHT: We are happy to announce the kick off event for our HOPE program for all children in elementary school! Their first event will be a movie night at the Cathedral on Friday, May 31st. If your child would like to attend, please email Natalia Mavroudis at Natalia.Mavroudis@annunciation.org

REALM UPDATE: Exciting news is on the horizon as we implement REALM Church Management Software to revolutionize the way we donate and manage our church finances. We're thrilled to announce that our transition to this powerful tool is fully underway and we have already securely processed thousands of dollars in gifts received through this system. We're excited to share the many benefits this innovative tool will bring to our community. Come visit us at our table during Ministries Sunday after today's Liturgy for more information and to sign up.

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 following Sundays in May: the 12th, and in June: the 2nd, the 9th, and the 16th. Please reach out to Irene Melitas (irene.melitas@annunciation.org, or, 925.212.8561) to sign-up and learn more.

STEWARDSHIP CALL: We are all blessed with certain gifts. It is important to develop these gifts, multiply them and offer them back to God. Please take a moment to fill out your annual Pledge card and don't forget to fill out the back offering your skills and talents!

PHILOPTOCHOS UPDATES: 1)Epitaphios-We are collecting donations that will go toward the purchase of flowers for the Epitaphios. 2)Easter Bake Sale-Place orders for koulourakia and tsoureki by April 19th. Pick up date is Palm Sunday, April 28th, 12-2p. 3)Mother's Day Luncheon-Make your reservations for this wonderful annual event to be held on May 11th at the Crystals Springs Golf Course in Burlingame. The cost is \$85/person, \$65/children ages 4-10. 5)Father's Day June 16th Coffee Hour

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SAVE THE DATE: Our next Men's Fellowship gathering will take place Thursday, May 23rd. Social hour at 6pm followed by dinner at 7pm. Please email Jim Rakos to RSVP if you would like to attend. There is no cost. jim.rakos@annunciation.org

