

Annunciation Cathedral Sunday Bulletin: January 19, 2014

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE: THE 10 LEPERS

MAKARIOS OF EGYPT; MAKARIOS OF ALEXANDRIA

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Epistle Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians, chapter 3, verses 4-11. It is found in our books on p. 149.

Πρὸς Κολοσσαεῖς ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 4-11: Ἀδελφοί, ὅταν ὁ Χριστὸς φανερωθῆ, ἡ ζωὴ ἡμῶν, τότε καὶ ὑμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ φανερωθήσεσθε ἐν δόξῃ. Νεκρώσατε οὖν τὰ μέλη ὑμῶν τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, πορνείαν, ἀκαθαρσίαν, πάθος, ἐπιθυμίαν κακὴν, καὶ τὴν πλεονεξίαν, ἣτις ἐστὶν εἰδωλολατρεία, δι' ἣ ἐρχεται ἡ ὀργὴ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐπὶ τοὺς υἱοὺς τῆς ἀπειθείας· Ἐν οἷς καὶ ὑμεῖς περιεπατήσατέ ποτε, ὅτε ἐζήτε ἐν αὐτοῖς. Νυνὶ δὲ ἀπόθεσθε καὶ ὑμεῖς τὰ πάντα, ὀργὴν, θυμὸν, κακίαν, βλασφημίαν, αἰσχρολογίαν ἐκ τοῦ στόματος ὑμῶν· μὴ ψεύδεσθε εἰς ἀλλήλους, ἀπεκδυσάμενοι τὸν παλαιὸν ἄνθρωπον σὺν ταῖς πράξεσιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐνδυσάμενοι τὸν νέον, τὸν ἀνακαινούμενον εἰς ἐπίγνωσιν κατ' εἰκόνα τοῦ κτίσαντος αὐτόν· ὅπου οὐκ ἔστι Ἕλλην καὶ Ἰουδαῖος, περιτομὴ καὶ ἀκροβυστία, βάρβαρος, Σκύθης, δούλος, ἐλεύθερος· ἀλλὰ τὰ πάντα καὶ ἐν πᾶσιν Χριστός.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 17, verses 12-19. It is found in our books on pp. 265-267.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 12-17, εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 264-266.

Today's *Apolytikon* (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Five (Plagal 1):

Eternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation. As the faithful, we both praise and worship Him for, in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross, and death did He endure, and the dead He raised unto life though His all-glorious Resurrection.

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν· ὅτι ἠυδόκησε σαρκὶ ἀνελεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείραι τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

OUR CHILDREN ARE TALKING: ANNUNCIATION SUNDAY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

One of the most wonderful things that has happened as a result of the start of construction is that our children are expressing their feelings about building our new church, in pictures and in words. The Sunday before last, our children spoke to us for the second time, and inspired us, yet again. "Out of the mouth of babes," the Scripture reminds us (Matthew 21:16). We featured a photo of the children on our latest *Building Update*, which was recently mailed to all households on the Cathedral's mailing list. We will include the most recent photos in our next update, along with photos of the excavation and construction. Thank God for our children! And God bless **Tessa Ambus**, who is coordinating all of this, on behalf of our Sunday School and our youth, in general. Thank you, Tessa.

WELCOME METROPOLITAN GERASIMOS His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos is worshiping with us this morning and conferring his blessings, as we begin the New Year. Welcome, Your Eminence.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY For 2014, the Parish Council will be meeting on Sundays (typically, the third Sunday of the month), following the Divine Liturgy. The Parish Council will meet today, in the conference room. They will be joined by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, who will begin by cutting the Vasilopita and who will be briefed on the Cathedral's building progress.

MESSINIAN VASILOPITA TODAY The Navarino Messinian Society will cut the Vasilopita and hold a meeting, following the Divine Liturgy. The meeting will take place in the smaller conference room, adjacent the elevator on the second floor.

DANCE PRACTICE TODAY Our dance groups will be practicing today, following the Divine Liturgy, in preparation for FDF, which will take place in Anaheim February 14-17.

BASKETBALL GAMES TODAY Our Boys C Team will play Holy Trinity's Boys C team at 3:00 p.m.; our Boys B team will play Holy Trinity's Boys B team at 4:00 p.m. Both games will take place at Holy Trinity.

CRAB FEED JANUARY 31 On Friday, January 31 the Annunciation Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos will hold its Crab Feed, one of the year's premier events. Reception at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. The donation is \$55. per person. For reservations, please call the Cathedral, 415 864-8000.

BUILDING, BUILDING, AND MORE BUILDING Sunday after Sunday people peer through the holes in the plywood, along the gallery, on their way to the chapel, and watch the progress being made. They see digging, placement of pipes all over, and moving of earth. For the last several weeks, the construction company has been stabilizing the soil, so that the ground on which the garage floor lies will be as strong and stable as possible. This is a painstaking process, as is the excavation of some 12,500 tons of soil and the delivering of that soil to various dump sites. Some of the soil, which was found to have lead, from fill that was put in there from the 1906 earthquake, was even taken out of state (an expensive, but required way of disposing of this soil). The soil stabilization process is now complete. Tomorrow, we continue with excavation. Once the excavation is complete, the parking garage and foundation walls and mat slab will be laid, with lots of reinforcing steel. Then, in the spring, when all this is done, and the plumbing and electrical are in place, we will be able to see some above ground construction. Keep peering and take lots of pictures, for this is a wonderful thing to watch—the development of the new Cathedral and the parking component below. As his schedule allows, **Ken Katon**, our project manager and a member of the Cathedral, updates the congregation with respect to what is happening.

Meanwhile, all this costs money. And our people are responding. For example, since construction began on October 17, over \$600,000.00 has been received in the form of gifts and pledges. (\$160,000 last week, alone!) This is very encouraging, as we canvass the community, inviting your gifts and pledges. The last couple of weeks we've been inviting you to consider giving **appreciated assets, even though we are well into 2014**. Appreciated assets are stocks or other securities you may have acquired years ago, but now are worth a lot more. By donating appreciated assets, you are actually **giving more** (since the assets originally cost you less) and you can derive a benefit in the form of a **tax deduction**. For example, if you bought a stock for \$10,000 in 2011, today that stock could be worth \$13,000. If you give the stock to the church, you get an income tax deduction of \$13,000 (not of \$10,000 that you actually paid for it, if you are in the 40% bracket). The church then sells the stock for \$13,000 but does not pay taxes (because it is tax-exempt). Besides the tax advantages, you have the satisfaction of making a more substantial gift. Πιάνει τόπο, as we say. Of course, please do not let what we said here sway you, one way or the other. Check with your accountant or financial officer for advice before deciding to make a gift of stock or other securities. Even though we are in calendar year 2014, speak with your financial advisor, as you may still be able to take advantage of a significant tax deduction for calendar year 2013.

BUILDING UPDATE ON ITS WAY TO YOUR HOMES: A

building update, featuring our children on the cover, and a narrative of our building project on the inside, was sent to the Cathedral's parishioners and friends, in an effort to keep you informed about our progress. (Another update is about to go out this week.) The great news is that *construction has begun!* We started construction 24 years (to the day) of Loma Prieta, the earthquake which claimed the old Cathedral. We're building, *because God has asked us to!*

In the Book of Exodus (25:8) God says: "Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you." (Translated from the Septuagint: *Και ποιήσεις μοι ἁγίασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*). We've quoted this at least since the start of the Capital Campaign. And we can't stress it enough: *we're building the Cathedral because God has asked us to.* In His infinite wisdom, the Lord knows what he has in store for us and for the future of our Faith, in this dynamic corridor of San Francisco's inner city.

MORE GOOD NEWS: OVER \$5.2 MILLION HAS BEEN RAISED DURING THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

The total raised during the Capital Campaign exceeds \$5.2 million (Over \$600,000 of this was raised since we began construction on October 17!) Of the \$5.2 raised, \$3.9 has been received; \$1.3 million is receivable (from parishioners who are paying over a number of years, in some cases, up to five years.) The total cost for completion, inside and out, is just over \$12 million. However, the contract we signed with McNely Construction is a not-to-exceed \$10.7 million. This gets us the parking structure and a complete exterior. We are confident we will complete the interior, as well, iconography, pews and all. We have faith that we will get there and that the new Cathedral will be consecrated to the glory of God. You will see it. You will be a part of it...through your prayers, your faith, and your giving. Be excited...it's happening!



*We at the Annunciation
Cathedral
will grow
The Orthodox Christian Faith
in San Francisco through:
Stewardship, Worship,
Education, Evangelism and
Philanthropic Outreach*