

Annunciation Cathedral Sunday Bulletin: February 2, 2014

YPAPANTI: PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

THE MEETING OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Epistle Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter

to the Hebrews, chapter 7, verses 7-17: BRETHREN, it is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. Here tithes are received by mortal men; there, by one whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not according to a legal requirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of him, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 7, ἐδάφ. 7-17: Ἀδελφοί, χωρὶς δὲ πάσης ἀντιλογίας, τὸ ἕλαττον ὑπὸ τοῦ κρείττονος εὐλογεῖται. Καὶ ὧδε μὲν δεκάτας ἀποθήσκοντες ἄνθρωποι λαμβάνουσιν· ἐκεῖ δέ, μαρτυρούμενος ὅτι ζῆ. Καί, ὡς ἔπος εἶπεν, διὰ Ἀβραάμ καὶ Λευὶ ὁ δεκάτας λαμβάνων δεδεκάτωται· ἔτι γὰρ ἐν τῇ ὄσφρῳ τοῦ πατρὸς ἦν, ὅτε συνήνησεν αὐτῷ ὁ Μελχισεδέκ. Εἰ μὲν οὖν τελειώσις διὰ τῆς Λευϊτικῆς ιερωσύνης ἦν - ὁ λαὸς γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτῆ νενομοθέτητο - τίς ἔτι χρεία, κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδέκ ἕτερον ἀνίστασθαι ἱερέα, καὶ οὐ κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Ἀαρὼν λέγεσθαι; Μετατιθεμένης γὰρ τῆς ιερωσύνης, ἐξ ἀνάγκης καὶ νόμου μετᾴθεσις γίνεται. Ἐφ' ὃν γὰρ λέγεται ταῦτα, φυλῆς ἑτέρας μετέσχηκεν, ἀφ' ἧς οὐδεὶς προσέσχηκεν τῷ θυσιαστηρίῳ. Πρόδηλον γὰρ ὅτι ἐξ Ἰούδα ἀνατέταλκεν ὁ κύριος ἡμῶν, εἰς ἣν φυλὴν οὐδὲν περὶ ιερωσύνης Μωϋσῆς ἐλάλησεν. Καὶ περισσώτερον ἔτι κατάδηλόν ἐστιν, εἰ κατὰ τὴν ὁμοίτητα Μελχισεδέκ ἀνίσταται ἱερεὺς ἕτερος, ὃς οὐ κατὰ νόμον ἐντολῆς σαρκικῆς γέγονεν, ἀλλὰ κατὰ δύναμιν ζωῆς ἀκαταλύτου· μαρτυρεῖ γὰρ ὅτι Σὺ ἱερεὺς εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδέκ.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel

according to St. Luke, chapter 2, verses 22-40: At that time, the parents brought the child Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtle doves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Symeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; and Symeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Today's Apolytikion (of the Feast) in Tone One:

Hail, O Theotokos Virgin full of grace: for from you has shone forth the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, giving light to those in darkness. Be glad also, righteous Elder, for you have received in your arms the Deliverer of our souls, who bestows upon us resurrection.

Χαῖρε, κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε παρθένε· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, φωτίζων τοὺς ἐν σκότει. Εὐφραίνου καὶ σύ, πρεσβύτα δίκαιε, δεξιόμενος ἐν ἀγκάλαις τὸν ἐλευθερωτὴν τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν χαριζόμενον ἡμῖν καὶ τὴν ἀνάστασιν.

ARTOKLASIA Today's *Artoklasia* (The Breaking of the Bread Service, i.e. the Blessing of the Five Loaves) is being offered by the Navarino Messinian Society, which celebrates the Feast Day of its Organization, as *Panaghia Ypapanti* (the Virgin of the Presentation of the Lord) is the name of the icon of the Virgin in the Cathedral Church of Kalamata (Ypapanti tou Sotiros), the capital of the prefecture (nomos) of Messinia.

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.

MAYOR CALLS FOR END TO SUNDAY METERED PARKING As announced in the *Chronicle*, Mayor Lee has called for reversal of the City's recent policy of enforcing metered parking on Sundays. It's now up to SFMTA and whoever else has to make the decision to lift this law. As we tweeted to Annunciation's web site, www.annunciation.org, *Cathedral hails Mayor's reversal on Sunday metered parking. Year-long law has caused hardship for church-goers.* The "hardship" we refer to has to do with the issuance of parking tickets for worshipers, who are hit with hefty fines at the stroke of noon, when the metered parking takes effect and, the reality is, we are still in worship at noon. We pray the appropriate agencies support the Mayor's call to lift this ill-conceived law. We will keep you posted on this. Meanwhile, we encourage you to utilize the Zenanli lot on 14th street. Stewards of the Cathedral pay only \$5 to park in the Zenanli lot.

PHILOPTOCHOS TO SPONSOR COFFEE HOUR NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9: FOCUS ON NEW MEMBERSHIP AND "GO RED SUNDAY" "Go Red Sunday" is the American Heart Association's national call to increase awareness and help prevent heart disease, the number one killer of American women. This is a call for women by women to take charge of their wellbeing and live stronger, healthier lives. The National Philoptochos Society has designated February 9 as "Go Red Sunday" in support of this program. On this day, the Philoptochos women will be wearing red, and a fact sheet regarding heart disease will be made available. Meanwhile, the Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos is conducting its annual membership drive, inviting all women to become a part of this most dynamic philanthropic organization of Orthodox Christian women.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 22-40: Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἀνήγαγον αὐτὸν εἰς Ἱερουσόλυμα παραστήσαι τῷ Κυρίῳ, καθὼς γέγραπται ἐν νόμῳ Κυρίου ὅτι πᾶν ἄρσεν διανοίγον μήτραν ἅγιον τῷ Κυρίῳ κληθήσεται, καὶ τοῦ δοῦναι θυσίαν κατὰ τὸ εἰρημένον ἐν νόμῳ Κυρίου, ζευγὸς τρυγῶνων ἢ δύο νεοσσούς περιστερῶν. Καὶ ἰδοὺ ἦν ἄνθρωπος ἐν Ἱερουσόλυμοις ᾧ ὄνομα Συμεὼν, καὶ ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὗτος δίκαιος καὶ εὐλαβής, προσδεχόμενος παράκλησιν τοῦ Ἰσραήλ, καὶ Πνεῦμα ἦν ἅγιον ἐπ' αὐτόν· καὶ ἦν αὐτῷ κερηματοσιμένον ὑπὸ τοῦ Πνεύματος τοῦ ἁγίου μὴ ἰδεῖν θάνατον πρὶν ἢ ἰδῆ τὸν Χριστὸν Κυρίου. καὶ ἦλθεν ἐν τῷ Πνεύματι εἰς τὸ ἱερόν· καὶ ἐν τῷ εἰσαγαγεῖν τοὺς γονεῖς τὸ παιδίον Ἰησοῦν τοῦ ποιῆσαι αὐτοὺς κατὰ τὸ εἰθισμένον τοῦ νόμου περὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ αὐτὸς ἐδέξατο αὐτὸν εἰς τὰς ἀγκάλας αὐτοῦ καὶ εὐλόγησε τὸν Θεὸν καὶ εἶπε· νῦν ἀπολύεις τὸν δοῦλόν σου, δέσποτα, κατὰ τὸ ῥῆμά σου ἐν εἰρήνῃ, ὅτι εἶδον οἱ ὀφθαλμοί μου τὸ σωτήριόν σου, ὃ ἠτοίμασας κατὰ πρόσωπον πάντων τῶν λαῶν, φῶς εἰς ἀποκάλυψιν ἐθνῶν καὶ δόξαν λαοῦ σου Ἰσραήλ. καὶ ἦν Ἰωσήφ καὶ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ Ἄννα· ἡ ἄννα ἡ ἀποκαλυφθῶσα ἐκ πολλῶν καρδιῶν διαλογισμοί. καὶ ἦν Ἄννα προφῆτις, θυγάτηρ Φανουὴλ, ἐκ φυλῆς Ἀσῆρ· αὕτη προβεβηκυῖα ἐν ἡμέραις πολλαῖς, ζήσασα ἔτη μετὰ ἀνδρὸς ἐπτά ἀπὸ τῆς παρθενίας αὐτῆς, καὶ αὕτη χήρα ὡς ἑτῶν ὀγδοήκοντα τεσσάρων, ἢ οὐκ ἀρίστατο ἀπὸ τοῦ ἱεροῦ νηστειᾶς καὶ δεήσεσι λατρεύουσα νύκτα καὶ ἡμέραν· καὶ αὕτη αὕτη τῆ ὥρα ἐπιστάσα ἀνωμολογεῖτο τῷ Κυρίῳ καὶ ἐλάλει περὶ αὐτοῦ πᾶσι τοῖς προσδεχομένοις λύτρωσιν ἐν Ἱερουσαλήμ. καὶ ὡς ἐτέλεσαν ἅπαντα τὰ κατὰ τὸν νόμον Κυρίου, ὑπέστρεψαν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν εἰς τὴν πόλιν αὐτῶν Ναζαρέτ. τὸ δὲ παιδίον ἠῤῥξανε καὶ ἐκραταιοῦτο πνεύματι πληρούμενον σοφίας, καὶ χάρις Θεοῦ ἦν ἐπ' αὐτό.

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*