

Annunciation Cathedral Sunday Bulletin: March 2, 2014

CHEESE FARE SUNDAY

HESYCHIOS & THEODOROS; THE VIRGIN MARTYR EUTHALIA

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Epistle Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans, chapter 13, verses 11-14 and chapter 14, verses 1-4. It is found in our books on pp. 137.

Πρὸς Ῥωμαίους ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 13, ἐδάφ. 11-14, κεφ. 14, ἐδάφ. 1-

4: Ἀδελφοί, νῦν ἐγγύτερον ἡμῶν ἢ σωτηρία ἢ ὅτε ἐπιστεύσαμεν. Ἡ νύξ προέκοιψεν, ἡ δὲ ἡμέρα ἤγγικεν· ἀποθώμεθα οὖν τὰ ἔργα τοῦ σκότους, καὶ ἐνδυσώμεθα τὰ ὄπλα τοῦ φωτός. Ὡς ἐν ἡμέρᾳ, εὐσημῶνως περιπατήσωμεν, μὴ κώμοις καὶ μέθαις, μὴ κοίταις καὶ ἀσελείαις, μὴ ἔριδι καὶ ζήλῳ. Ἀλλ' ἐνδύσασθε τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν, καὶ τῆς σαρκὸς πρόνοιαν μὴ ποιήσθε, εἰς ἐπιθυμίας. Τὸν δὲ ἀσθενοῦντα τῆ πίστει προσλαμβάνεσθε, μὴ εἰς διακρίσεις διαλογισμῶν. Ὅς μὲν πιστεύει φαγεῖν πάντα, ὁ δὲ ἀσθενῶν λάχανα ἐσθίει. Ὁ ἐσθίων τὸν μὴ ἐσθίοντα μὴ ἐξουθενεῖτω, καὶ ὁ μὴ ἐσθίων τὸν ἐσθίοντα μὴ κρινέτω· ὁ θεὸς γὰρ αὐτὸν προσελάβετο. Σὺ τίς εἶ ὁ κρίνων ἀλλότριον οἰκέτην; Τῷ ἰδίῳ κυρίῳ στήκει ἢ πίπτει. Σταθήσεται δέ· δυνατὸς γὰρ ἐστὶν ὁ θεὸς στησαὶ αὐτόν.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 6, verses 14-21. It is found in our books on p. 285.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον, κεφ. 6, ἐδάφ. 14-21, εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 284.

Today's *Apolytikon* (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Three:

Let all things above in heaven rejoice, and let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm, an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet, He has trampled down death by death, and first-born of the dead has He become. From the depths of Hades has He delivered us, and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.

Eufrainevsqw ta; oujraunia, ajgalliavsqw ta; ejpivgeia, ofti ejpovhse kravto~ ejn bracioni auJtou` oJ Kuvrio~: ejpavthse tw/` qanavtw/ to;n qavnaton, prwtovtoko~ tw`n nekrw`n ejgevneto, ejk koiliva~ {A/dou ejrruvsato hJma~ kai; parevsce tw/` kovsmw/ to; mevga e[leo~.

A NOTE ON THE MIRACLE, THROUGH THE *KOLYVA*, OF ST. THEODORE: 50 years after the death of St. Theodore, the emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363), as part of his general policy of persecution of Christians, commanded the governor of Constantinople during the first week of Great Lent to sprinkle all the food provisions in the marketplace with the blood offered to pagan idols, knowing that the people would be hungry after the strict fasting of the first week of Great Lent. Thus he would force the Christians to unknowingly eat food "polluted" with the blood of idolatry. St. Theodore appeared in a dream to Patriarch Eudoxius, bidding him to inform all the Christians that no one should buy anything at the market, but rather to boil the wheat they had at home and eat it sweetened with honey. After the Divine Liturgy the first Saturday of Great Lent, the *kolyva* was, and still is, distributed to all who are present and,

SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS VESPERS AT ST. NICHOLAS SAN JOSE THIS EVENING: The Sunday of Cheese-Fare is known as "Forgiveness Sunday," in preparation for the Great and Holy Lent, which begins tomorrow. It has become a custom for the Vesper services on this day to take place at one of the Bay Area churches. This year, the services will be held at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in San Jose, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The homilist will be the **Reverend Deacon Dr. John Chryssavgis**. He will speak on the topic, *Forgiveness: Making Space for One Another*. Father Chryssavgis serves as theological advisor to the Ecumenical Patriarch on environmental issues.

TODAY IS ORTHODOX MISSION SUNDAY: Learn more about how you can plug into the Orthodox Christian Mission's work in spreading the Gospel, in the Orthodox Faith. Log on to www.ocmc.org/resources/sunday_schools.aspx where you can learn also download materials for use in Sunday School, young adults and other groups

BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS TODAY: Our boys and girls teams played yesterday at the playoffs in Castro Valley. When this bulletin was printed, however, we did not have the results of the playoffs. If our teams won at the playoffs, they will be playing in the Championships, which are taking place today at the Ascension Cathedral, Oakland, as follows: 2:30 p.m. Girls "C" Division; 3:30 p.m. Boys "C" Division; 4:30 p.m. Boys "B" Division.

GREAT AND HOLY LENT BEGINS TOMORROW; COMPLINE SERVICE AT 4 PM: As Great Lent begins, we pause to celebrate a special compline service. The service, over which **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos** will preside, will take place in our chapel at 4 p.m. Join us. Pascha this year falls on April 20.

DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5: The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is so called because the Gifts are consecrated as Body and Blood of Christ at the previous Sunday Divine Liturgy. Except for the Feast of the Annunciation, which falls on March 25, and on which the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is celebrated, the normal Liturgy is not celebrated during Great Lent, thus underscoring its solemnity and mournful character.

SALUTATIONS SERVICES THIS FRIDAY, MARCH 7: The *Akathist* is a special devotional, a four-part salutation, dedicated to the Theotokos. Its origin is attributed to the year 626, when in the reign of Heraclius Constantinople was attacked by the Persians and Scythians, but saved through the intervention of the Theotokos: a sudden hurricane dispersed the fleet of the enemy, casting the vessels on the shore near the great church at Blachernae, on the shores of the Golden Horn, whereupon the hymn *Ti Ypermacho* was composed. A fourth of the salutations portion is sung on the first four Fridays of Lent, all stanzas being sung together on the fifth Friday, when people normally stand, hence "akathist." Services are at 7 p.m.

DIVINE LITURGY/MEMORIAL SERVICES AT CEMETERY CHAPEL THIS SATURDAY MARCH 8: On the first Saturday of the Great and Holy Lent, we remember the miracle, through the *kolyva*, of St. Theodore Tyro (the Recruit). Services (Divine Liturgy and memorial services) will be celebrated at the Greek Orthodox Memorial Park, Colma, Chapel by Fr. Niko. Services begin at 10 a.m.

ANOTHER BUILDING UPDATE ON ITS WAY TO YOU:

The March building update, again featuring our children on the cover, and a narrative of our building project on the inside, is being sent to all of you, in an effort to keep you informed about our progress. The great news is that *excavation is nearing completion (the 850 yards left are clean soil!) and the mud slab will be poured in March!* We're proceeding with the rebuilding of the Cathedral, *because God has told us to do so!*

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 told us to do so.* 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 \$5.3 MILLION HAS BEEN RAISED DURING THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

The total raised during the Capital Campaign exceeds \$5.3 million (Over \$700,000 of this was raised since we began construction on October 17!) Of the \$5.3 raised, \$4.1 has been received; \$1.2 million is receivable (from those 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 (what we are building now) is a not-to-exceed \$10.7 million. This gets us the parking structure and a complete exterior, by year-end 2014 or the beginning of 2015. We are confident we will complete the interior in 2015, including iconography, pews and all interior appointments. This, at a projected cost of \$2 million. We have faith that we will get there and that the new Cathedral will soon be consecrated to the glory of God.



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