



# ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



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JANUARY 2015



## BUILDING UPDATE - GARAGE CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

Our Construction manager, Ken Katen, who normally writes our building updates, is recovering from extensive knee surgery, but should be back to updating us of the project's progress next month. In the meantime, construction on the garage is nearly finished. Our dome is being fabricated, as well, to be shipped to San Francisco when time comes to install it on top of the finished Cathedral!

Please keep the building project, and Ken, in your prayers as we go forward in building this temple to God's glory, and for the good of His people. More details to come!





**WHAT DOES MY GIFT TO THE BUILDING FUND REALLY AMOUNT TO OVER A FIVE YEAR PERIOD?**  
Below are some different ways to look at how you can make a meaningful gift.

AMOUNT	PER YEAR OVER 5 YEARS	PER MONTH OVER 5 YEARS	PER DAY OVER 5 YEARS	2 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)	3 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)	4 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)
\$100,000	\$20,000	\$1,666.00	\$54.80	\$27.40	\$18.26	\$13.70
\$50,000	\$10,000	\$833.00	\$27.40	\$13.70	\$9.13	\$6.85
\$30,000	\$6,000	\$500.00	\$16.43	\$8.22	\$5.48	\$4.10
\$25,000	\$5,000	\$416.00	\$13.70	\$6.85	\$4.56	\$3.42
\$20,000	\$4,000	\$333.33	\$10.95	\$5.49	\$3.65	\$2.74
\$15,000	\$3,000	\$250.00	\$8.22	\$4.11	\$2.74	\$2.05
\$10,000	\$2,000	\$166.66	\$5.47	\$2.75	\$1.82	\$1.36

The building of the new Cathedral is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity which has presented itself to us as a Community and can be accomplished very easily if we all are willing to do our part to give as much as we can for this short period of time.

We must ask ourselves the question – How much do we spend on other things each month that are important to us? Can we add a donation

to the Cathedral Building Fund as well? Many people have set up a monthly auto debit plan on their credit cards so that gift can be made automatically and spread out over time in order to fit into their budgets.

Your thoughtful consideration is appreciated by us today and your children and grandchildren tomorrow!!

## **Gift Giving to the Capital Campaign**

For those parishioners or friends of the Cathedral who wish to make a donation, you may consider donating funds from your stock portfolio. If you were to sell this stock on the open market most likely you will pay capital gain taxes. To avoid paying capital gain taxes, you simply donate the stock to the Annunciation Cathedral, a non-profit 501(c)3 religious corporation.

The stock needs to be publicly traded on one of the exchanges (NY, NASDAQ, etc) then you simply report it on your tax return as a noncash charitable contribution. You get the appreciated value for the donation and do not pay tax on the capital gain. Then all you will need for taxes is a letter of acknowledgment from the Cathedral, with the name of the stock, date of donation and number of shares received. For additional information regarding the transfer of stock to the Cathedral, please contact Father Stephen at [fatherstephen@annunciation.org](mailto:fatherstephen@annunciation.org) or Angie Leventis at [aleventis3@comcast.net](mailto:aleventis3@comcast.net).

## **Purchase on Amazon.com and Support the Cathedral!**

The Cathedral is now enrolled in the AmazonSmile program, whereby Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible Amazon Smile purchases to charitable organizations selected by Amazon.com customers. This would be a tremendous help to the Cathedral as we shop on one of the biggest online businesses in the world!!

When making online purchases from Amazon, just select "Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral" as your charity of choice. Here's how to enroll in this program:

- Go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and log in with your Amazon account (if you don't have an Amazon account, you can create one from that web page by clicking on the 'Create an account' link)

- Enter 'Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral San Francisco' in the search field and hit 'Search'

- You should see a single result of 'Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral'. If you see more results, locate the one with 'San Francisco, CA' next to it.

- Hit 'Select' to make the Annunciation your charitable organization choice for your Amazon account.

That's it! When shopping on Amazon this Christmas season, simply sign into <https://smile.amazon.com> for the Annunciation to receive 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases. You'll know you're in the AmazonSmile program because the top left corner of the web page will show 'amazonsmile' instead of 'amazon'.



## FATHER APOSTOLOS ORDAINED BISHOP: AXIOS!

On November 28, 2014 His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco announced the election to the Holy Episcopate of Father Apostolos. The ordination took place at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York City on Saturday, December 20. The newly ordained Bishop celebrated his first Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at the St. Demetrios Cathedral in Astoria, NY, where he served as Proistamenos before coming to San Francisco three years ago. We are reprinting His Eminence's letter, as it clarifies the duties of our new Auxiliary Bishop, and how he is addressed hereinafter.

Dearly Beloved,

It is with great joy that I wish to announce to all our clergy and faithful in the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco that the Holy Synod of our Ecumenical Patriarchate has elected the Very Rev. Archimandrite Apostolos Koufallakis, the Chancellor of our Metropolis, as Bishop of Medeia.

His Grace Bishop-elect Apostolos shall serve under the Archbishop of America, as do all auxiliary bishops of our Archdiocese; however, he has been appointed by the Archbishop to serve the specific needs of our Metropolis, according to the regulations of our Holy Archdiocese. Thus, Bishop-elect Apostolos will occupy the position of Acting Chancellor of the Metropolis of San Francisco and be responsible to

the Metropolitan, while continuing his active involvement in the various ministries, committees and programs of our Metropolis.

As your Metropolitan I have often noted that it is impossible for me to attend all the events that are taking place in our Metropolis. There are too many important activities throughout our Metropolis that require attention and prompt response. The geography of our Metropolis is quite vast and our parishes are very active, thus our Metropolis would be enhanced by the addition of a bishop. It is worth noting that adding a bishop to serve in our Metropolis was a goal of our Metropolis Strategic Plan, and one that should, over time, assist our Metropolis to grow and strengthen the ministries of our Church.

An auxiliary or titular bishop is not elected to an extant diocese of the Church. Medeia is an ancient city, where there once was a Christian community, but no longer. An auxiliary bishop is greeted as "His Grace" (Theofilestatos). When he celebrates the Divine Liturgy, he commemorates the ruling hierarch of the Metropolis. With the permission of the Eparchial Synod he, like all bishops, may perform all services that are reserved for the hierarchy.

Bishop-elect Apostolos has many desirable characteristics for a hierarch. Foremost is his faith in the Lord, and his love and fidelity to His Holy Orthodox Church and our Archdiocese. His care and concern for the clergy and the faithful of our

*see next page*





Bishop Apostolos of Medeia shown here with His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Demetrios of America at the time of his election by the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate on November 28, 2014. Bishop Apostolos was ordained a bishop at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity on December 20, 2014. He is serving the Metropolis of San Francisco as Acting Chancellor and assistant to His Eminence.

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Church is evident at every occasion.

Bishop-elect Apostolos will be ordained to the Episcopacy on Saturday, December 20, 2014 at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York. Meanwhile I ask that you include Bishop-elect Apostolos in your prayers, asking our Lord and all the Saints to strengthen him and keep him worthy of his new ministry.

With Love in Christ,

+Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

*"You can tell the child to pray, and say, 'The talents you have, have been given to you by God. Pray and God will give you strength to cultivate them and in that way you will succeed. God will give you His grace.' That is the best way. Children should learn to seek God's help in everything."*

- Saint Porphyrios, On the Upbringing of Children

*"We need to teach our children to live humbly and simply and not continually to seek praise and applause. We need to teach them that there is humility and that this is the healthy state of life."*

- Saint Porphyrios, On the Upbringing of Children

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that, in Syria, there are more than 10.8 million people who are currently in need of assistance, 6.5 million of whom are internally displaced? In addition, there are more than 3.2 million refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Armenia as well as people in need in those host countries.

Responding to one of the worst humanitarian and refugee crises in history, IOCC is one of the few international nongovernmental organizations working on the ground in 27 offices across Syria to provide aid to people who have been displaced inside the country by the civil war. In providing this aid, IOCC works in close partnership with the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and All the East. Additionally, IOCC serves people in need in the following countries: Armenia, Bosnia, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Greece, Haiti, Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon, Romania, Serbia, Uganda and the United States. Please visit the IOCC web site and learn more about its work and its programs, and how you may help.

#### New Catechism Class Begins at the Cathedral in 2015

Beginning in January of 2015, a new catechism (religious education) class will begin at the Annunciation Cathedral, to be taught by Marcelo Souza! The Cathedral has had a pre-marriage program for the last five years, which often includes many individuals who have not been baptized in any Christian faith but would like to learn more. Given that Marcelo has an extensive theological education and is himself a recent convert to Orthodox Christianity, this ministry has a great deal of potential.

The class will meet every other Tuesday and will be the second religious education class offered at the Cathedral on a regular basis, in addition to the Intro to Orthodoxy class taught by Alexander Kozak on Sunday mornings at 9 am. Please keep our catechumens, a key part of the future of our church, in your prayers!

## Cathedral Holds Second Annual Family Seminar

Last November 16, Dr. Katina Kostoulas, a new member of our parish, held a seminar in the chapel following Divine Liturgy whose topic was "Raising Teenagers in Difficult Times." The seminar was well attended and received extremely positive feedback.

In 2013, the Cathedral held a Lenten Family Retreat with guest speaker George Papageorge, MFT, which was also well attended and well received. God willing, with the efforts of devoted profes-

sionals like Dr. Kostoulas, this seminar will be one of a continuing series of seminars the church will offer on a variety of topics related to marriage and family throughout the church year. You may have also seen Katina's proposal for the OIKOS (Orthodox in Koinonia Outreach Services) ministry, which she organized in Southern California and hopes to replicate in the Bay Area this year. Thank you, Katina, for your wonderful efforts!



### St Gregory the Theologian on Baptism

by Marcelo P. Souza

St Gregory of Nazianzus' Oration on Holy Baptism (381 AD) follows the Oration on the "Holy Lights" which was preached on the Festival of the Epiphany 381. The Festival of Epiphany, to this day, is that of the Baptism of Jesus.

The name "Holy Lights," is derived from Baptism, which was often then called Illumination, in reference to which name lighted torches or candles were carried by the neophytes.

The Festival lasted two days, the second being devoted to the conferring of the Sacrament. Thus we find two Orations belonging to

the Festival. In the first he emphasizes the Feast and the Mystery of our Lord's Baptism commemorated; in the second Oration, delivered next day, he focuses on the Sacrament of Baptism and its spiritual effects.

He says,

*"If I yet worshiped a creature, or were baptized into a creature, I should not be made divine, nor have changed my first birth . . . I protest before God and the elect Angels, be thou baptized in this faith . . . let us hasten your salvation. The Spirit is eager, the Consecrator is ready, the Gift is prepared . . .*

*I will baptize you and make you a disciple in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost; and These Three have One common name, the Godhead. . . .*

*Believe that all that is in the world, both all that is seen and all that is unseen, was made out of nothing by God, and is governed by the Providence of its Creator, and will receive a change to a better state.*

*Believe that evil has no substance or kingdom, either unoriginate or self-existent or created by God; but that it is our work, and the evil one's, and came upon us through our heedlessness, but not from our Creator.*

*see next page*

**"Love for enemies is not a moral injunction, it is the fundamental criterion for the Christian way of life. This is Salvation."**

- St. Silouan the Athonite

*Believe that the Son of God, the Eternal Word, Who was begotten of the Father before all time and without body, was in these latter days for your sake made also Son of Man, born of the Virgin Mary ineffably and stainlessly (for nothing can be stained where God is, and by which salvation comes), in His own Person at once entire Man and perfect God, for the sake of the entire sufferer, that He may bestow salvation on your whole being, having destroyed the whole condemnation of your sins: impossible in His Godhead, possible in that which He assumed; as much Man for your sake as you are made God for His.*

*Believe that for us sinners He was led to death; was crucified and buried, so far as to taste of death; and that He rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven, that He might take you with Him who were lying low; and that He will come again with His glorious Presence to judge the quick and the dead; no longer flesh, nor yet without a body, according to the laws which He alone knows of a more godlike body, that He may be seen by those who pierced Him, and on the other hand may remain as God without carnality.*

*Receive besides this the Resurrection, the Judgment and the Reward according to the righteous scales of God; and believe that this will be Light to those whose mind is purified (that is, God-seen and known) proportionate to their degree of purity, which we call the Kingdom of heaven; but to those who suffer from blindness of their ruling faculty, darkness, that is estrangement from God, proportionate to their blindness here.*

*Then, in the tenth place, work that which is good upon this foundation of dogma; for faith without works is dead, even as are works apart from faith.*

*This is all that may be divulged of the Sacrament, and that is not forbidden to the ear of the many. The rest you shall learn within the Church by the grace of the Holy Trinity; and those matters you shall conceal within yourself, sealed and secure."*

- Gregory of Nazianzus, Oration on Holy Baptism (Preached at Constantinople, Jan. 6, 381), XLII-XLV.

## Xronia Polla for Namedays in January!

Best wishes to the following individuals who celebrate their namedays this month:

Anthony Ambus	William Mares
Antonia Ambus	Basile Mavroudis
Vasiliki Chapralis	John Monolakis
Anthony Chiappari	Vasiliki Moulas
John Curd	John Nichols
Athan Dalianes	Joanne Nieder
John Dekaristos	John Panagulias
Joanne Drogitis	John Panomitros
John Eliopoulos	Joan Patropulos
John Eliopoulos, Jr.	Rudy Vasilis Peters
Dr. Anthony Elite	John Rally
Joanne Glafkides	John Ward Rotter
John Johns	Billie Salevouris
Bill Karas	Yianni Sarikakis
Joanna Karas	Yianni Sogotis
Athanasiос Kastoras	Basil Tonas
Joanne Kavalaris	Athanasiос Tsiantis
Pres. Aliki Kyriacou	Vasiliki Tzafopoulos
Vasilia Kyriacou	Antonios Vozaites
John Lampros	John Zambelis
Tom Lazarakis	

Saint Basil the Great, January 1

Feast of Theophany, January 6

Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist, January 7

Saint Anthony the Great, January 17

Saint Athanasios the Great, January 18

You may wish to consider sponsoring a coffee hour on the Sunday closest to your nameday, as a way of celebrating with our parish family. For more information, please contact Mike Canellos at (415) 864-8814.

\*\* The information above was taken from the data submitted on our 2014 stewardship pledge cards. If your name does not appear on this list, please feel free to give your information to our stewardship data table in the gallery, or by filling out a 2014 stewardship pledge card. \*\*

*"When only a spark of love for God shines in the heart of man, he should not extinguish it but let it burn, and he will see a miracle."*

- St. Nicholas the Serb



## Soup Kitchen Finishes 2014 Strong!

The Cathedral held its last soup kitchen of 2014 last December 16. The meal was prepared by Chef Harry Madeckas and Chef Athena Palombi! Needless to say, the food was wonderful.

Despite the rain, over 20 volunteers and roughly 30 homeless came to take part in this ministry, now finishing its first year in existence. In addition, the soup kitchen committee met during the course of the evening to continue planning ways to grow this ministry, and plan to begin a food pantry (to distribute staples and produce) in late January, which would run on a weekly basis! Some of our wonderful young adult volunteers in the medical field have also offered their services to do free check-ups for some of the attendees of the soup kitchen in the near future!

The Lord has blessed the efforts of those organizing our soup kitchen ministry, and the future is very promising. Partnerships with

the SF Food Bank and Food Runners have been firmly established, which have helped tremendously. Now in its tenth month, the soup kitchen is one of (God willing!) several ministries that our community can offer our neighborhood as we go forward building our new church in downtown San Francisco.

Many thanks to all our volunteers and especially our hard-working committee of Christina Tsiatis, Maryann Boosalis, Andrew Christofas, Presbytera Stella Bekris and Ariana Alex! Many, many thanks to Mike Canellos and Antonio Perez for procuring items from the SF Food Bank, as well. Please keep the soup kitchen program in your prayers, and many thanks again for everyone's support!

\*\* The Annunciation Cathedral's soup kitchen is currently held on the third Tuesday of every month. If you'd like to volunteer at the next soup kitchen on December 16 or have any questions, please contact [soupkitchen@annunciation.org](mailto:soupkitchen@annunciation.org) \*\*



The deck is fully prepared to receive a total of about 1.5 million pounds of concrete. The first pour took place just before Christmas; the second pour will take place around Epiphany. Then, the vertical steel begins to be erected. Notice the shape of the courtyard fountain. It is modeled after the remains of the courtyard fountain of Agia Sophia in Constantinople.



Shown at the job site, from left to right: John Goldman (architect), Dan McNely (contractor), Father Stephen, Gordana Dunic (architect's office), and Jim MacDonnell and Craig Horton (contractor's office).



# Christmas Pageant





## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Our Philoptochos members wish our Annunciation Family a joyous and happy New Year! We have just embraced one of the most glorious seasons of the year dedicated to the birth of our Lord. And now we hope you will embrace this New Year 2015 with peace, hope and love and a renewed commitment to the building of our Cathedral and to helping those less fortunate in our communities and in the world.

The Metropolis Light the Path luncheon held at St. Basil Church



in Stockton, California was a great success with more than 300 attendees. Those of us who attended from Annunciation were treated to a room filled with gorgeous decorated trees that surrounded the room and called us to join the raffle and take them home. Our own Nicoletta Ketchum won the beautiful "Bejeweled Tree" decorated all in white and silver. In addition to a donation to the Bishop Anthony Student Aid Endowment Fund, our Philoptochos donated a tree titled "Angels in Angelic Flight" which was greeted by lots of accolades. The angels and the colors of gold, white and bronze were admired by all. The warmth of the day was added to by the entertainment provided by singer Jim Pappas. What a treat to hear him sing. But nothing can match the excitement of knowing that the event provides for the scholarships for our San Francisco Metropolis Seminarian/Students from Hellenic College/Holy Cross in Brookline, Massachusetts. Included in the Herald are pictures showing our members enjoying the event.

On December 18th our Annual Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos Christmas luncheon was held at Harding Park Golf Course Club House in San Francisco. About 35 members enjoyed the day

*"If a man weeps in repentance at night, then he will rejoice during the day. He will rejoice as a newborn, as one bathed, as one alleviated from the burden of sin."*

- St. Nicholas the Serb



with food, carols and lots of camaraderie. A group of young men from the School of Arts sang a medley of Christmas carols that truly inspired all in attendance. It was a fun day!

### Looking Ahead to Our Events in 2015

Philoptochos will celebrate with our Church members our Annual Vasilopita on Sunday, January 11, 2015 with our usual brunch. We hope that all will join us to sample the delicious breads that our Ladies prepare in addition to brunch. This tradition has come down through the years as we look to see who wins the coin in the bread at each table. Our members ask for a nominal donation to the support of our ministries. Please join us at this event which is chaired by Vicky Moulas and Soso Dekaristos.

It's crab season and it promises to be one of the best ever! This year we are preparing for annual Crab Feed which will be held on Friday, January 30, 2015. This is the 33rd year of this great event that is organized and prepared by Philoptochos. Chairs Annamarie Balian, Teia Nuris and Rose Sogotis ask you to invite friends and family to join you to taste this gastronomic meal. Get your reservations in early to enable us to order the right amount of crab. If you have any questions contact Angie Leventis at Aleventis3@comcast.net. Our members look forward to seeing you there. See the flyer in the Herald or in the mail.

Again, may the New Year bring every good thing to you, your family, and to our Cathedral community. *Kalo Neo Etos!*

*Patricia Aleck  
Philoptochos President*

### Cathedral GOYA Show Off Ugly Christmas Sweaters!

Our Cathedral GOYA joined up with several other NorCal groups at Holy Trinity last December 19 for the annual Metropolis GOYA Ugly Christmas Sweater Party! As usual, there was a great turnout, which will hopefully continue into 2015!

The Metropolis GOYA event for January will be "IV On The Go," a day-retreat which will take place at the Church of the Holy Cross, Belmont, run by the staff of Ionian Village!

\*\* GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America) is open to all youth grades 7-12\*\*



### Community Link Continues Ministering to Those in Need

Community Link, now in its ninth year of existence, is a group of Annunciation parishioners who meet once a month on a drop-in basis to visit members of our community who may be confined due to illness or age. We travel to hospitals, nursing homes and private residences. Many of those we visit no longer have family or friends to support them and just need to know there is someone who cares. A short visit or phone call can lift one's spirits a great deal. If anyone in the community knows of any other home bound parishioners to add to our list or would like to join us for a visit, please contact Pauline Oetzel at poetzel@hotmail.com. Upcoming community link dates are January 17, February 21, and March 21.



## Metropolis Summer Camp 2015 Registration Open!

Online camper registration and staff applications for the 2015 Metropolis Summer Camp are now available at [www.gosfyouth.org](http://www.gosfyouth.org)! The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco is proud to announce the 35th year of its Summer Camp ministry at Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, CA. Organized by the Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, this program has grown to be one of the most successful youth ministries of the Metropolis. All three sessions of Summer Camp are for campers ages 8 – 18.

### Summer Camp Dates for 2015:

Staff Orientation Week:	June 30 – July 4
Session 1:	July 5-11
Session 2:	July 12-18
Session 3:	July 19-25

### Pricing for 2015:

- \$475 Early Registration (December 1 – February 28)
  - \$500 Normal Registration (March 1 – April 30)
  - \$525 Late Registration (May 1 – June 15)
- All siblings receive a \$25.00 discount.

### Online Registration:

Camper Registration is NOW available online. You can make a deposit today to lock in the “Early Registration” pricing and make payments until June 15.

### Camp Director & Management Team:

The Camp Director will be Johanna Duterte, Director of the Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. The Summer Camp Management Team will be comprised of the following

individuals: Jacob Saylor, Program Director; Chris Retelas, Boys' Director; and Kalli Retelas, Girls' Director.

### Camp Theme:

Building on the success of the themes from the last two years, the commandment of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to “Love One Another” and “As I have loved you”, the theme for next summer is “Be Holy” taken from 1 Peter 1:16, “You shall be holy, for I am Holy.”

### Staff Applications:

New and returning staff applications are available online now and will be accepted until Friday, January 23, 2015.

For both staff applications and camper registration, please visit [www.gosfyouth.org](http://www.gosfyouth.org)

For questions please contact Johanna Duterte, Director, Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, (415) 814-1187, [jduterte@sant-fran.goarch.org](mailto:jduterte@sant-fran.goarch.org).

## Cathedral Office Team Formed!

Many, many thanks to our new team of office volunteers! This year, several Cathedral parishioners have generously volunteered their time and commitment to several of the bigger mailings in 2014. Our fantastic team of Al and Loula Ossipoff, Alexia Kleinekorte, Carl Weiner, and Paul Hamberis have been a HUGE help in putting together mailing materials, specifically, the Easter, Stewardship, and Christmas mailings, a massive task which they continue to do capably and with joy. Thank you!

\*\*If you'd like to join the Cathedral's office team, please call (415) 864-8000\*\*

## YOUTH NEWS

### Sunday School Korner

As we complete another year, I look back and reflect on the many blessings of our Sunday school program. In 2014 we accomplished so many things. We have increased our class sizes of regular attendance (especially in our upper school), our special programs continue to draw families from all over the Bay Area, and we have a strong group of committed Sunday School teachers.

Our Christmas program was a huge success! Thank you to Chrisoula Pezo for her efforts spearheading the NEW program in the Chapel. Gus Vouchilas added many wonderful insights for décor and set up, as well.

January 2015 promises to be the beginning of a great year! We begin the year with plans for a fruitful Oratorical Festival. Topics are already available online at [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org). Parents are encouraged to get their children involved in this very rewarding program. Details will be forthcoming next month, with our festival scheduled for March.

Calling for help and parent/grandparent volunteers to help with Easter activities. Please contact Denise Yeilding at [dyeilding@yahoo.com](mailto:dyeilding@yahoo.com). Our Easter Activities will require 12 -15 volunteers.

Please make an effort to bring your children/ grandchildren to Sunday School on time. Lessons and art projects begin at 10:30am. Instruction is for one hour and then the children are escorted to communion. Think about including a New Year's resolution for spirituality and religion to be a top priority in your family's busy list of things to do. A strong spiritual base is important in this day for our children, as there are so many temptations in school.

*Happy New Year!*

Denise Yeilding  
Sunday School Principal

#### Upcoming Sunday School Dates

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| January 11  | Classes resume / Vasilopita Sunday                                    |
| January 18  | Oratorical Festival Work in Upper Classes                             |
| January 25  | Oratorical Work in Upper Classes                                      |
| February 1  | Presentation of the Lord lessons                                      |
| February 8  | Lessons of Love   |
| February 15 | No classes held/ President's Holiday<br>FDF Weekend for Greek Dancers |
| February 22 | Family Worship in Chapel / No classes held                            |

'Like'  
Annunciation  
Cathedral Sunday  
School!



### Greek School Going Strong!

Greek School continues going strong! Should you have any questions about the program or would like to sign your child up for the 2014-2015 year, you may contact Anthi Janssens at [anthij@comcast.net](mailto:anthij@comcast.net).



### JOY Celebrates Christmas Season at Nicolacakis Home

The Cathedral JOY group met at the Nicolacakis home on December 2 and had a wonderful time. Despite a rainy night in San Francisco, there was a great turnout, and those who came had a blast, children and parents alike. Many thanks to Dean and Maria for opening their home to us, and to Erica Roberts, one of our very dedicated and talented young adults, who led the kids in a Christmas ornament project. Thank you!

Our January JOY event will be held at the Novo home on January 13. Hope to see you there!

\*\*JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth) is open to all youth grades 3-6\*\*



## Young Adults Hold Annual Dinner and Gift Exchange

Our Young Adults held our annual Dinner and White Elephant Gift Exchange on Thursday, December 11 at the Grove in Hayes Valley, and despite taking place the night of the Bay Area's first rainstorm, over 20 young adults attended! In addition to taking home a fun gift, we enjoyed a great night of fellowship, dinner and hot apple cider.

On January 29, our young adults will meet at the Cathedral for dinner and discussion with Father Niko.

Hope to see you there!

\*\* Our Young Adult group is open to all youth age 22-35(ish)\*\*

More information for all of our youth group events can be found on our "Youth of Annunciation Cathedral San Francisco" Facebook page.

## Altar Groups in January

Our altar schedule for January is as follows:

**January 4- Group 1**

**January 11- Group 2**

**January 18- Group 3**

**January 25- Group 4**

Our altar groups for the 2014-2015 school year are as follow:

**Group 1-** Niko Manetas, Stelio Kyriacou, Kosta Lyberopoulos, George Tsokas, Victor Nicolacakis

**Group 2-** Demetri Kontonis, Andrew Vellis, Panagiotis Sogotis, Yianni Sogotis, Steven Monolakis, Sean Souza

**Group 3-** Niko Pezo, Demetri Rally, Steven Chiappari, Gianni Kefalas

**Group 4-** Jonas Tesfai, Nathan Tesfai, Bobby Kontonis, Hari Manetas, Matthew Nuris

Serving in the altar is a wonderful way for our young people to participate in the worship of our church, and learn more about our faith. If any families are interested in their boys joining an altar group, who are above the age of 10, feel free to contact **Father Niko Bekris** at [fatherniko@annunciation.org](mailto:fatherniko@annunciation.org). Thank you also to **Nektarios McKnight** for guiding and instructing our altar servers each Sunday. As always, if anyone has any questions or suggestions, feel free to let us know. Thanks!



## SACRAMENTS AND SERVICES

### FUNERALS

The Cathedral extends sympathies to the **Lyberopoulos** family upon the recent passing of **papou Kostas Lyberopoulos**, who fell asleep in the Lord on December 1 and was buried on December 8.

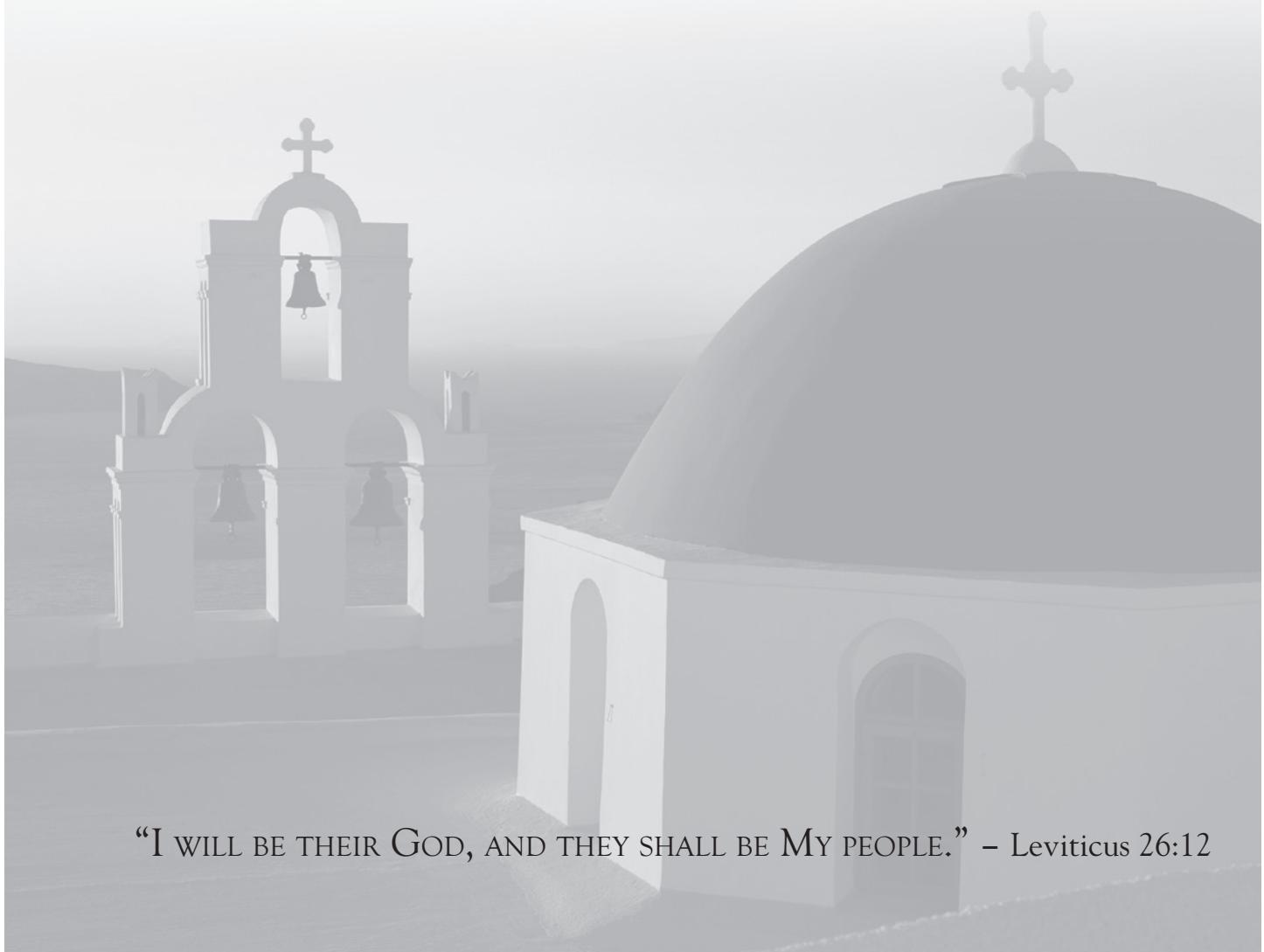
*Aionia I Mnimi! Eternal Memory!*

## J A N U A R Y   C A L E N D A R

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				Feast of Saint Basil, Orthros 9 am; Divine Liturgy 10 am Basketball Practice, 7 pm		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Orthros, 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am Dance Practice noon Parish Council Oath of Office, Election of Officers	Eve of Theophany, Orthros 9 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am, followed by Blessing of the Waters	Feast of Theophany, Great Hours 9 am, Blessing of the Waters 10 am, followed by Divine Liturgy Basketball Practice, 7 pm Pre-Marital Program, 7 pm; Catechism Class, 8 pm	Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist, Divine Liturgy 10 am Construction Meeting, 10 am	Basketball Practice, 7 pm		IV On the Go (GOYA) (Holy Cross, Belmont)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Orthros, 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am Dance Practice noon		JOY, 6:30 pm Basketball Practice, 7 pm	Construction Meeting, 10 am	Basketball Practice, 7 pm	Metropolis Young Adult Winter Retreat, Lake Tahoe	Community Link, 9 am; Saint Anthony, Divine Liturgy 10 am Metropolis Young Adult Winter Retreat, Lake Tahoe
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Orthros, 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am Dance Practice noon Metropolis Young Adult Winter Retreat, Lake Tahoe	Metropolis Young Adult Winter Retreat, Lake Tahoe	Soup Kitchen, 6:30 pm Basketball Practice, 7 pm	Construction Meeting, 10 am	Basketball Practice, 7 pm		Cretan Glendi, 6 pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Orthros, 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am Dance Practice noon		Basketball Practice, 7 pm	Construction Meeting, 10 am	Young Adult Dinner/ Discussion, 6:30 Basketball Practice, 7 pm	Three Hierarchs, Divine Liturgy, 10 am; Crab Feed 6 pm	

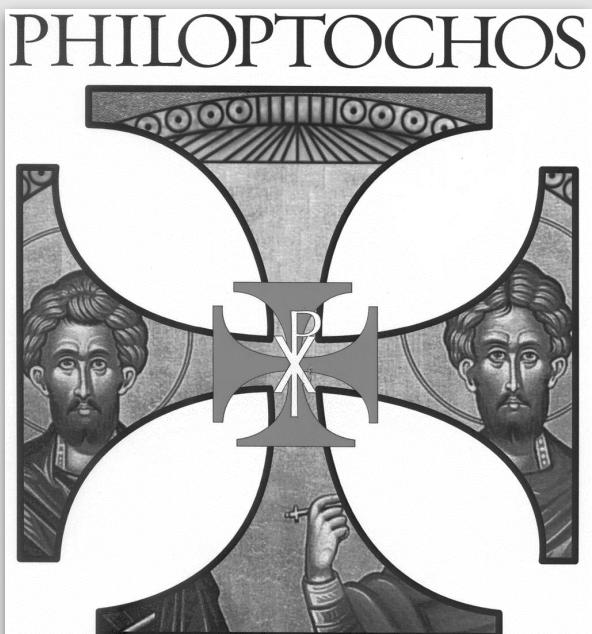
UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF  
SAN FRANCISCO, THE ANNUNCIATION  
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL  
245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-2320

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“I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.” – Leviticus 26:12

# **Annunciation Ladies Philoptochos Annual Vasilopita & Brunch**



**The Annunciation Ladies  
Philoptochos  
invites you to our  
Annual Vasilopita & Brunch**

**Sunday January 11, 2015  
Following Divine Liturgy**

**Your donation will help our  
ministries**

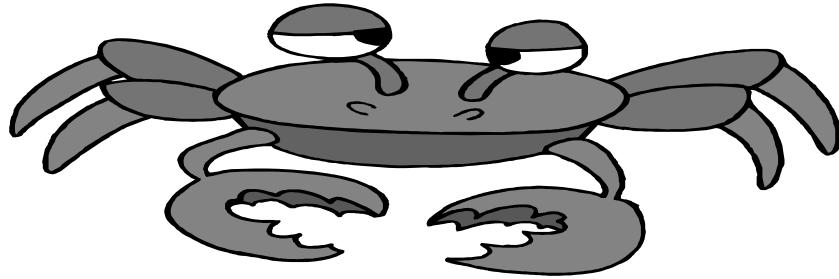
The Annunciation Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos Society  
presents its:

## 33nd Annual Crab Feed

Friday January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Cocktail Reception: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 7:30 pm



\$55 per person

Reservations will be secured only by receipt of payment

For Information & Reservations notify:

Angie Leventis at

[Aleventis3@comcast.net](mailto:Aleventis3@comcast.net)

or

Annunciation Cathedral at 415.864.8000

Attended Parking Available

(Please see directions to parking on the back)

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) and/or \_\_\_\_\_ table(s)

(Maximum 10 people per table. Include the names of all guests to  
be seated at the table)

Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Annunciation Philoptochos, Attn: Crab Feed

Please mail completed reservation form and check by January 24<sup>th</sup> to:

Annunciation Cathedral: 245 Valencia Street San Francisco, CA 94103

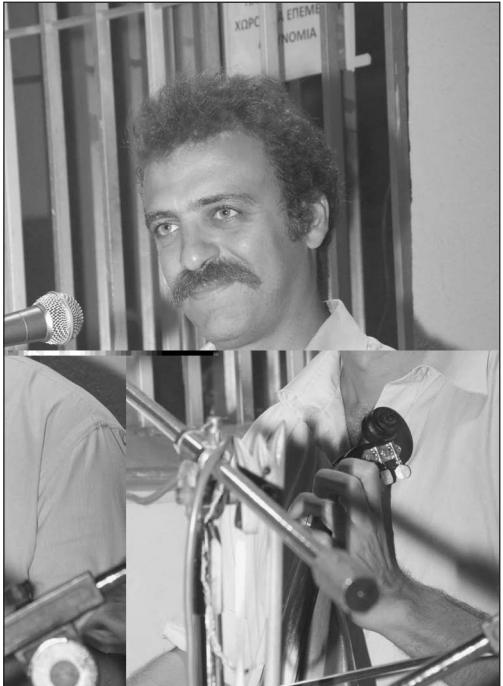
The PAA Chapter of Epimenides/Ariadne Proudly presents

# A CRETAN GLENDI

Live Music Directly from Crete

FEATURING

Alexandro  
Papadakis



Ioannis Vergadis



Georgios  
Psarakis



**SATURDAY**  
**January 24, 2015**

**Ticket Prices:**  
**\$60 / \$30 (under 12)**

Reserve your tickets by calling, emailing or sending in the RSVP below by January 17, 2015

**Annunciation Cathedral**

245 Valencia St, San Francisco

6:00 p.m. cocktails (no-host Bar)

7:00 p.m. dinner and dancing

*See Back for Public Parking Guide*

Diane Kounalakis at [Kounalakis@comcast.net](mailto:Kounalakis@comcast.net) or call 650-343-6214 / John Monolakis at [delphi2881@sbcglobal.net](mailto:delphi2881@sbcglobal.net) or call 415-244-4534

Kathy Roque at [kroque@serrahs.com](mailto:kroque@serrahs.com) or call 650-740-0567 / Voula Fanourgiakis at [boukabeach@yahoo.com](mailto:boukabeach@yahoo.com) or call 650-873-7299

Please RSVP by January 17th

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to put a table together,  
please list the names of your guests here:

Number of tickets: Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Under 12 \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **Epimenides/Ariadne Chapter** and mail to  
2463 Royal Oaks Dr, Alamo, CA 94507

**Public Parking at:  
ZENANLI Parking lot  
344 14th Street  
San Francisco, CA**

