



# ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



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APRIL 2015

## CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

“Is there anyone who is a devout lover of God? Let him enjoy this beautiful bright festival! Is there anyone who is a grateful servant? Let her rejoice and enter into the joy of her Lord!

Are there any weary with fasting? Let them now receive their wages! If any have toiled from the first hour, let them receive their due reward. If any have come after the third hour, let them with gratitude join



in the Feast! And he that arrived after the sixth hour, let him not doubt; for he too shall sustain no loss. And if any delayed until the ninth hour, let him not hesitate; but let him come, too. And she who arrived only at the eleventh hour, let her not be afraid by reason of her delay.

For, the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first. He gives rest to the one that comes at the eleventh hour, as well as to the one that toiled from the first. To this one He gives, and upon another He bestows. He accepts the works as He greets the endeavor. The deed He honors and the intention He commends.

Let us all enter into the joy of the Lord! First and last alike, receive your reward. Rich and poor, rejoice together! Sober and slothful, celebrate the day!

You that have kept the fast, and you that have not, rejoice today, for the Table is richly laden! Feast royally on it: the calf is a fatted one. Let no one go away hungry. Partake, all, of the cup of faith. Enjoy, all, the riches of His goodness!

Let no one grieve at his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one mourn that she has fallen again and again, for forgiveness has risen from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the death of our Savior has set us free. He has destroyed it by enduring it.

He destroyed the abode of the dead when He descended into it. He put it into an uproar even as it tasted of His flesh. Isaiah foretold this when he said, ‘Hades was in an uproar when it encountered you below.’

The abode of the dead was in an uproar because it was done away with. It was in an uproar because it is mocked. It was in an uproar, for it is destroyed. It is in an uproar, for it is annihilated. It is in an uproar, for it is now made captive.

It took a body, and discovered God. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it did not see.

Death, where is thy sting? Hades, where is thy victory?

Christ is Risen, and you, death, are annihilated!

Christ is Risen, and the evil ones are cast down!

Christ is Risen, and the angels rejoice!

Christ is Risen, and life is liberated!

Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ, having risen from the dead, is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!”

With these words—the Paschal sermon of our Father among the Saints John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople—my beloved brothers and sisters, I greet you with the resounding message of the Resurrection—Χριστός Ἀνέστη—Christ is risen!

On behalf of His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, Father Niko Bekris, the Parish Council and the Philoptochos, the Choirs and the Youth, Community Link, Soup Kitchen, OIKOS, and all our other parish ministries, I wish you a most blessed and joyous Pascha and remain,

Faithfully,

Rev. Stephen H. Kyriacou  
Dean



The first shipments of steel arriving to begin construction on the new Cathedral itself

Our dome being fabricated.

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!!

**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

**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 or Angie Leventis at aleventis3@comcast.net.

**Parking During Construction**

Parking for up to 70 cars is available in the lot behind the Cathedral, at 334 14th Street and on the street. Stewards of the Cathedral are charged only \$5 to park, by showing their card; the Cathedral will pay \$7 of the parking cost for Stewards. To pick up a parking pass or to discuss your stewardship, please call Marcelo Souza in the church office. Street parking is also available on Sundays, especially along the 217' construction zone in front of the Cathedral. For your convenience, an attendant will be on hand each Sunday to monitor the drop off zone and direct parking to the Zenanli lot behind the Cathedral. We kindly ask our parishioners to be considerate of those with disabilities, giving them parking preference in the spaces on Valencia Street.

*“He is not here, He is Risen.”*  
- Luke 24:6

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## LOOKING GOOD

Exciting things are going on! What blessings God is showering upon us! We are doing our best to keep you up to date about the progress with the rebuilding the Annunciation Cathedral. Things are taking shape. The parking structure is now complete. That is, the shell of the structure is complete. The electrical and plumbing will be installed as the steel for the Cathedral goes up so that, by the end of construction (estimated to be January 2016) the garage will be fully operational. We will

be able to use the garage, even as the interior of the Cathedral is being worked on. Meanwhile, the vertical steel is about to be erected, beginning mid-March. A crane will be visible on-site. It will sit on the slab and lift the steel as welders and other iron workers affix it to the base plates. We invite you to stop by and view the progress, as the building takes shape. Now, let's look ahead. Once constructed, we will have to pay attention to exterior details, such as the wall along Stevenson Street.

Pictured here are two renderings: one is a map of Constantinople (Constantinople, modern-day Istanbul is the seat of the Ecumenical Patriarch. As a Church, our Archdiocese is under the direct jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate). The map of Constantinople shows the City following the construction of the Great Church,



Hagia Sophia, which is shown in the lower center. The gate leading to it has been known for nearly two millennia as the “Golden Gate.” Well, we thought this would be an appropriate graphic to put along the Stevenson Street side of the new Cathedral and our existing facilities, so as to address the ongoing problem of graffiti along that wall, and also to give it historic context. Peter Misthos has been kind enough to adapt the map of Constantinople, shown below. The second rendering shows what the Stevenson Street side may look like once the mural is applied, according to Peter's calculations. Please take a few minutes to study it and to give thanks to God, Who is making it possible for you to reestablish the Orthodox Faith in San Francisco, by rebuilding His church in this City of the Golden Gate.

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## Our Stewards are Talking

Recently, the Cathedral received a commitment card for 2015 with the following, heartfelt comments:

“Manuel and I were baptized, married, and had our children baptized at Annunciation, and our children were married at our church. We have been active in our church all our lives. Our parents, Anna and Arsenis Tamaras, and all our grandchildren are active and our children are also very active members of our Annunciation Cathedral. We pray that we will be able to see our church built and see our family, Tom and Liberty and their children Manoli, Andrew, and Matthew, and also Annamarie, Robert, Nicole, Petraki and Nicolas bring their families here, as well.”

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

The Cathedral recently received a small donation from Amazon.com's AmazonSmile program, which the Cathedral has been enrolled for almost a year now. If you sign up for AmazonSmile (free), Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to a non-profit of your choice, in this case Annunciation Cathedral! Growing this program would be a tremendous help to the Cathedral while shopping 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'.

*“Let us arise in the early dawn,  
and instead of myrrh, offer a hymn  
to the Master; and we shall see  
Christ, the Sun of Righteousness  
dawning life to all.”*

*- 5<sup>th</sup> Ode, Anastasis Service*

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## Ongoing Catechism Class

Three months ago we began a new catechism (religious education) class at the Annunciation Cathedral, 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. This class serves as preparation for those seeking baptism – not only those entering the Church through marriage, but any other inquirers, as well as Orthodox people desiring to learn more about our Faith, or a refresher course.

The class is meeting every other Tuesday. We are now using two introductory books – *Introducing Eastern Orthodox Theology* by Fr. Andrew Louth, and *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism* by Timothy Keller – in addition to investigating our Creed as the summary of the Faith. We are also reading through the Gospel of Mark.

Please keep our catechumens – a key part of the future of our church! – in your prayers.

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## Lenten Presentation on the Prayer Rope by Monk Antony

On March 8, the Cathedral was pleased to welcome Monk **Antony Balnaves**, who gave a beautiful presentation on the tradition of the *koboskini*, or prayer rope, in the Orthodox Tradition. It was an inspiring lecture which was well attended in the Korinthias Hall following Divine Liturgy.

Dr. Katina Kostoulas, who invited Father Antony to come speak, is now the Retreat Coordinator of the church, in addition to spearheading OIKOS (Orthodox in Koinonia Outreach Services). We thank her for her efforts in providing this spiritual food for thought during this beautiful season.

For additional information on retreats or topics related to OIKOS, please contact Dr. Katina Kostoulos, Ph.D., [katinakost@aol.com](mailto:katinakost@aol.com)

*Dr. Kostoulas has run parenting groups and taught parenting at Various Orthodox Churches in Southern California for the past 20 years, and has been in private practice with children, adolescents and adults for over 25 years. She recently moved to San Francisco and practices psychology and psychoanalysis in San Francisco, California.*



## Metropolis Offers Camperships for Summer Camp 2015

This year the Metropolis will offer “camperships” to once again assist families experiencing financial challenges. In prior years most camperships covered the full price of camp registration. Due to the extremely high demand for financial assistance in the last few years, the majority of camperships will cover 25% or 50% of camper registration, with a very limited number covering full registration. This is being done in order to assist financially more families throughout the Metropolis. This year we have also improved the process by creating an online form for the parish priest to fill out.

### Campership Application Process:

1. Families fill out the online Campership Application (link found at [gosfyouth.org](http://gosfyouth.org))
2. Families will ask their parish priest to fill out the online Parish Priest Recommendation.
3. Once the campership application and Parish Priest recommendations are reviewed by the Metropolis, the family will be contacted by email.

Please note: Applications are accepted on ongoing basis and camperships are awarded on a first-come first-served basis until camp sessions are full, or available funds are distributed. Submission of an application does not guarantee that a campership will be granted, or that the entire amount requested will be awarded.

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## Glorious Beyond Compare Than the Seraphim”? – Part 3

*by Marcelo P. Souza*

Thankfully, it is not up to individual Christians to judge the Church’s doctrines against a Scripture that is already given by the Church, and using an independent, sovereign hermeneutic that puts oneself as the final authority on what the Bible means (and thereby what God says). I have written a short blurb on that a while ago on my blog:

<http://luminousdarkcloud.wordpress.com/2012/04/03/some-thoughts-on-fundamentalism/>

Once again, to address your example (that angels are higher than human beings) it is precisely the point of Hebrews 2, citing Ps. 8, that Jesus Christ became incarnate and a “little lower than the angels” (in a limited sense) so that he could, through his death, burial and resurrection, bring humanity to the very presence of God, deified, with all enemies under His feet, and thereby under the Church’s feet. It is a human nature which is enthroned at the right hand of the Father, not a seraph. It is a human being who is chosen to bear God in herself, not a cherub.

As we discussed, to no angel (as again, the author of Hebrews states) has God ever said “you are my Son, today I have begotten you.” And yet this God deified human nature. In the same way, to no angel, cherub or seraph, God has ever said, my Spirit will come

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upon you because you are the Chosen One to bear the infinite God in your womb and become God's Mother. To no other creature God has given the full measure of the Holy Spirit so that her own soul, flesh and blood are united forever with the eternal, incomprehensible, infinite God. No seraph ever burned brighter than the true Burning Bush that contains the living God and is never consumed. Not all the angels of creation, together, could become more spacious than the heavens to contain God himself.

Further, as we also discussed, from the totality of Scripture (see, e.g., Rev. 12) and Tradition, no creature has ever been described as "a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." She is indeed Mother and Bride, because she is the Mother of God and the embodiment of the Church. If I recall correctly, you seemed to think that to be Mother and and Bride at the same time would be a weird confusion of categories; but in fact, this is basic Christian theology. Jesus Christ is our Brother and our Bridegroom. We are his brothers and his Bride. She is his Mother and our Mother - "behold your Mother!" She is the Mother of the King, and thereby the Queen, the lowly maidservant elevated to the highest heavens, just like lowly fallen human nature has been deified.

You also state that, in practice, worship and veneration are the same thing. I think that is a very bad misunderstanding, one that has been clearly and exhaustively addressed many centuries ago in the Church. This strikes at the heart of Christian life and worship. I trust this is an overstatement on your part, because if one thinks the veneration of the Saints is idolatry, one is not really Orthodox, because then one would reject the life of the Church in the communion of Saints.

#### **Pentecost**

Christ has destroyed death, and those who have died in Him are alive. As universally attested by all Christians since the first century, beginning with the martyrs, those who are recognized by the Church as being Saints with a capital "S" are those who have united themselves to the Trinity in the fullest way in this life (a life of holiness and self-giving love) and now live to intercede and assist the rest of the Body just as they did in their earthly lives (except that now they are glorified and have no hindrances, fully transfigured and linked to the rest of the Church in the Holy Spirit). We venerate them as holy, as models, as inspiration, as helpers, as loved ones.

They are our Fathers and Mothers. They are not our buddies and fellow beggars. They are not beset by sin anymore, and they are no longer limited by human frailty. They don't eat, don't sleep, don't forget. We don't just "like" them and hang out with them. We venerate them. We bow before them, much like the Old Testament people bowed before their fathers, their prophets, their kings. Except that the Saints are much more than those people. We bow and venerate them. That is by no means polytheistic worship. It is Christian love and unity in the Holy Spirit. And only one of them is the one who has given soul, flesh and blood to God as his Mother - the one before whom the demons tremble and flee.

*(Conclusion Next Month)*

## ***Xronia Polla for Namedays in April!***

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

George Ambus  
Anastasia Athanasiades  
George Bobas  
Anastasia Dekaristos  
George Diamantopoulos  
Georgia Efstratis  
Anastasia Flynn  
George Galifianakis  
George Gavros  
Tom Karas  
George Koche  
George Mourgos  
George Papavasiliou  
Anastasia Pezo  
George Polyzos  
Anastasia Raggio  
Georgia Spanos  
George Stamatopoulos  
Anastasia Stathopoulos  
George Tacticos  
George Vorrises  
Georgia Vouchilas

**Great and Holy Pascha, April 12**

**Saint George the Standard Bearer, April 23**

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. The suggested donation for sponsorship is \$100. For more information, please contact **Mike Canellos** at (415) 864-8814.

*\*\* The information above was taken from the data submitted on our 2015 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 2015 stewardship pledge card. \*\**

*"It is the Day of Resurrection! O people, let us glory in its splendor! Pascha, the Lord's Pascha! For Christ our God has transported us who sing the triumphal hymn from death to life, and from earth to Heaven."*

*- 1<sup>st</sup> Ode, Anastasis Service*

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## 2015-2016 Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships Available

Applications and instructions for three scholarships administered by the Department of Philanthropy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America are available for awards to be made for the 2015-2016 academic year. The George & Naouma (Gioule) Gioles Scholarship and the Katina John Malta Scholarship are for undergraduate studies, and the Paleologos Scholarship is awarded for graduate work of a non-theological nature. Each of these scholarships was established through generous gifts from dedicated Greek Orthodox Christians who wanted to provide financial assistance towards the education of young people from our Orthodox Christian community.

Applications can be accessed here or by visiting [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org) (scholarships are listed in the 'SPOTLIGHT' section on the homepage). For more information, please email [scholarships@goarch.org](mailto:scholarships@goarch.org) or call 212-774-0283. The deadline for submitting an application for any of these scholarships is April 27, 2015.

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## Give up Mochas for Missions to fuel Missions & Evangelism!

The Mochas for Missions campaign (formerly Pennies & Prayers) will begin very soon at Annunciation Cathedral. This is an opportunity to learn about and support Missions & Evangelism work taking place in our very own Metropolis and renew our commitment to being evangelists in our own community. The idea is to sacrifice a coffee drink or other treat for the sake of making a donation to this worthwhile campaign. Mochas for Missions is the main income source for the Commission for Orthodox Missions & Evangelism, or C.O.M.E., which offers support and mentoring to 14+ parishes in our Metropolis. More information can be found at <http://sanfran.goarch.org/ministries/missions-and-evangelism/>.

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## 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](mailto:poetzel@hotmail.com). Upcoming community link dates are April 3 (10 am), May 16, and June 20.

## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Greetings from Philoptochos as we enjoy the great days of Pascha!

**Philoptochos is Philanthropy - Fellowship - Faith in Action**

We invite all women of the Church to experience the pleasure found in a life of service to others. We need all to accomplish the mission of this beautiful ministry. The vitality and relevance of Philoptochos has enabled us to be a very valuable part of the Church. As the Ambassadors of Faith we are keeping strong and alive the work begun by those who came before us so many years ago. Join today and give us your thoughts and ideas on new philanthropic endeavors. As National President Maria Logus stated in her first address, Philoptochos is capable of boundless good works but needs an army of women willing to participate. Be a part of this ministry in any capacity you can and the rewards of giving will allow you to live your faith. Talk to our members and join today! We will be sending membership cards out in the month of April.

### National Philoptochos Donations

Because we are part of a National movement our donations as a chapter are part of our Philanthropic endeavors. National Treasurer Martha Stefanidakis has reported that in 2014 the Society has disbursed a total of \$1,475,349. National Social Services Chair, Lily Katos, reported that National awarded \$116,682 in financial grants to individuals in need throughout the country. Philoptochos is truly an organization that keeps on giving!

### Mother's Day 2015

We are delighted to announce our annual Mother's Day Luncheon and Fashion Show to be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, May 9, 2015. Chairs of this event **Irene Kyiacou** and **Foula Vasilogiogi** and committee are already in planning mode. The event will provide fun, music, fashions, good food and a great raffle. We will be honoring to super Moms, **Annette Chiappari** and **Niki Kastoras**, on this special day. They will represent the day for all mothers, grandmothers, daughters, godmothers and friends. Look for the flyer in the April Herald or your invitations in the mail. For further info contact our event chairs or reservations chair **Angie Levantis**. They will be delighted to answer any questions you have. I look forward to celebrating with you and our two honorees!

### Easter Bake Sale

Our Easter Bake is in progress and all orders have to be submitted by April 3. As the Herald may come to you after this date our members thank those who have ordered. Our proceeds from this sale always go to one of the charities that we help. So we thank you for helping us sponsor and help those in need.

I wish to thank all the members who helped with our March 25th luncheon which celebrates the feast day of our Cathedral. A special thank you to **Yvonne** and **John Stamatakis** from Stella's Catering who helped with the cooking and to **Joy Tamaras** and **Despina Kokalis** who made substantial donations to the luncheon in memory of their husbands of blessed memory.

Our members wish you a blessed Pascha and may our Resurrected Lord bless us all.

Yours in Christ,  
Patricia Aleck

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## Cathedral Office Team Formed!

Many, many thanks to our new team of office volunteers! Over the last year, these beloved Cathedral parishioners have generously volunteered their time and commitment to several of our bigger mailings. 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. We are grateful for their assistance and look forward to their help the remainder of this year, as well. Thank you!

*\*\*The Cathedral office team always welcomes additional assistance from those who are able and willing to offer. If you'd like to join the office team, please call (415) 864-8000\*\**

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## Introduction to Orthodoxy Class

The Cathedral's Intro to Orthodoxy class, taught by Alexander Kozak, has now entered its eighth year! The class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodoxy and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey, but it is also open to people who are already Orthodox and who would like to deepen their understanding of their faith.

The class explores Christian theology and practice through reading selections of Scripture, the Church Fathers, the lives of the Saints, and other texts representative of the Orthodox worldview. These readings are the starting point for our discussions, which aim at clarifying doctrine and worship and helping us to discover (or rediscover), week after week, why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Alexandros Kozák at [orthodoxy@agkozak.com](mailto:orthodoxy@agkozak.com).

*“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures...”*

*- 1 Corinthians 15:3-4*

*“A Pascha of delight; a Pascha, the Lord’s Pascha; an all-venerable Pascha has dawned for us; a Pascha on which, let us embrace one another with joy.”*

*- Excerpt from the Anastasis Service*

## 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:

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



## YOUTH NEWS

### Sunday School Korner

Sunday School has a very exciting month ahead of us! So many things happening in our classrooms during lent. Our children are participating in Lenten lessons each Sunday. Learning about fasting and how we should treat others at this time. New this year for our upper school is a complete lesson plan and workbook on confession. We encourage parents/grandparents to bring children to Sunday School at 10:30am each Sunday.

Our Oratorical Festival was a great success! Congratulations to **Yonas Tesfai**, who wrote about "What Really is a Prophet" in our Junior Division. Congratulations to all our Elementary Division speakers for a job well done: **Anastasia Pezo, Daphne Gavros, Zoe Gavros, & Danait Fesehaye**. A special thank you to **Tina Kontonis and Gus Vouchilas** for all their efforts with our students. All students in 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th grade wrote speeches in class. Presenting speeches to our community was optional. Thank you for our volunteer judges who gave comments and evaluation to our Junior Division speakers. They were: **Patricia Aleck & Michael Canellos**.

#### Calling all Angels!

Now is the time for all girls to sign up to be an Angel (Myrrh Bearers) during Holy Week. Please contact **Denise Yeilding** to sign up and be part of this wonderful Annunciation tradition. Girls in 4th grade and older are eligible for participation. We welcome College Students home for Holy Week to take the lead. This is a wonderful tradition at Annunciation! Let's get everyone involved.

Help needed: Volunteers to help with Angels are needed to facilitate the program.

April 5th is Palm Sunday. All Sunday School classes will take class photos. Remember to wear your Sunday best!

#### TGI Pascha

Our traditional TGI Pascha will be held Friday, April 10th at 9am – 1pm. We are looking for volunteers to help with our classes and for kitchen help to prepare lunch for our children. After the program the children will attend the 1pm church service and the learning

'Like'  
Annunciation  
Cathedral Sunday  
School!



will be meaningful. A favorite activity is the planting of the Basil seeds and the egg hunt. Sign up to help today!

We invite all families to participate in the services on Easter Sunday. Father Stephen and Father Niko will be looking for volunteers to speak in foreign languages during the service. No classes will be held Easter Sunday.

Looking ahead...Applications are now available for the Sunday School Vellis Scholarship. The first scholarship was awarded June 5, 2011. The Sunday School of Annunciation Cathedral created a scholarship in memory of **Andrew and Efrosine Vellis** for their dedication to both the Sunday School and their Church. Please contact the Church office for criteria and application to apply for this year's scholarship. Reminder: Must have attended Sunday School. Applications, and support materials, should be sent to the Church office (Attention Vellis Scholarship) by May 15th, 2015. The Vellis Scholarship will be awarded at Sunday School Graduation on June 7th. The applicant should be available to receive the Scholarship in front of the community.

As always we would love to encourage the community to help participate, not only in the classroom, but also in preparation of events & programs. Please contact **Denise Yeilding** at [dyeilding@yahoo.com](mailto:dyeilding@yahoo.com) to get involved. Our future, our youth.

Denise Yeilding  
Sunday School Principal



Middle school basketball players with their coaches, Tom Nuris and Nick Kontonis, at the basketball awards dinner, ending a successful season. Players, left to right: A J Pakos, Panagiotis Sogotis, Haris Manetad, Matthew Nuris, Yianis Sogotis, Bobby Kontonis, Stelios Kyriacou and Andrew Vellis

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## Annunciation Dance Year Kicks off April 26th

Our dance groups will be starting up again so don't miss your chance to be a part of this award winning program. Our directors teach the history of Greek culture through traditional songs and dances, at the same time promoting faith and fellowship in our church. We are happy to announce the addition of two amazing directors to our team this year, **Katerina Sarikakis** and **Eleni Taptelis**. They will join existing directors, **Michael & Nicole Garibaldi**, **Irene Kyriacou**, **Lea Lyberopoulos** and **Lea Papavasiliou**. The new dance year will begin with a kickoff party on April 26th after liturgy in the hall. This will be a great time for incoming dancers and parents to meet and get acquainted with the program and its participants. The following Sunday, May 3rd will begin regular dance practice with practice times starting between 12 and 12:30 following liturgy.

There are 5 dance groups at the Cathedral:

Pre-K group, turning 3 1/2 - 4 in 2015,  
or entering PreK or Kindergarten in fall 2016

Beginning elementary group,  
Kindergarten-2nd grade in Fall 2015

Thisavri, 3rd -5th grade in Fall 2015

Spithes, 6th-10th grade in Fall 2015

Ekrixi, 18 and up.

Please contact **Lea Lyberopoulos**, President dance board,  
at [karthia808@yahoo.com](mailto:karthia808@yahoo.com) for further information.

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## 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 Meets at Lyberopoulos Home!

After another memorable FDF, our JOY resumed in March at the Lyberopoulos home! Our JOY kids split into two groups to compete in a song game, which was followed by dinner and an “Ask Father” session. We thank Bob and Lea for opening their home to us for the first time of hopefully many years to come!

JOY will skip April for Holy Week and Pascha, but will go to a Giants game on May 5! Hope to see you there!

## Altar Groups in April

Our altar schedule for this month is as follows:

**April 5, Palm Sunday- All altar servers over 12**

**April 12, Pascha- All altar servers over 12**

**April 19- Group 3**

**April 26- 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, Nicholas Shatara**

**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!

## Young Adult Ministry Going on Seven Years!

March of 2015 saw the conclusion of six years of regular young adult events at Annunciation Cathedral! The milestone seemed only appropriate, as the month also saw the first anniversary of the soup kitchen ministry. Our young adult group is thriving and shows no signs of slowing down in the professional hub of San Francisco. Glory to God!



Our young adults will hold two events in April- first, our annual Presanctified Liturgy and Dinner on April 3 (the Friday before Holy Week), and then a Sunday Brunch on April 26! Looking forward to seeing everyone there!



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

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

*\*\* 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.

You can also find more information on the NorCal GOYA events by contacting Johanna Duterte on “Metropolis of San Francisco Youth and Young Adult Ministries.”

## SACRAMENTS

### BAPTISM

**Leia Marie**, daughter of **John and Valerie Cruz**, was baptized at the Cathedral on March 1. Her sponsor is **Antoinette Pope**.

*(Na mas zisi! Long life!)*

### FUNERAL

**John George Calofonos**, who fell asleep in the Lord on March 3, was buried on March 10. He is survived by his wife, **Helen**, and their daughters, **Anna Noetzel** and **Angie Konstantinides**.

*Aionia i Mnimi! (Eternal Memory!)*

## A P R I L C A L E N D A R

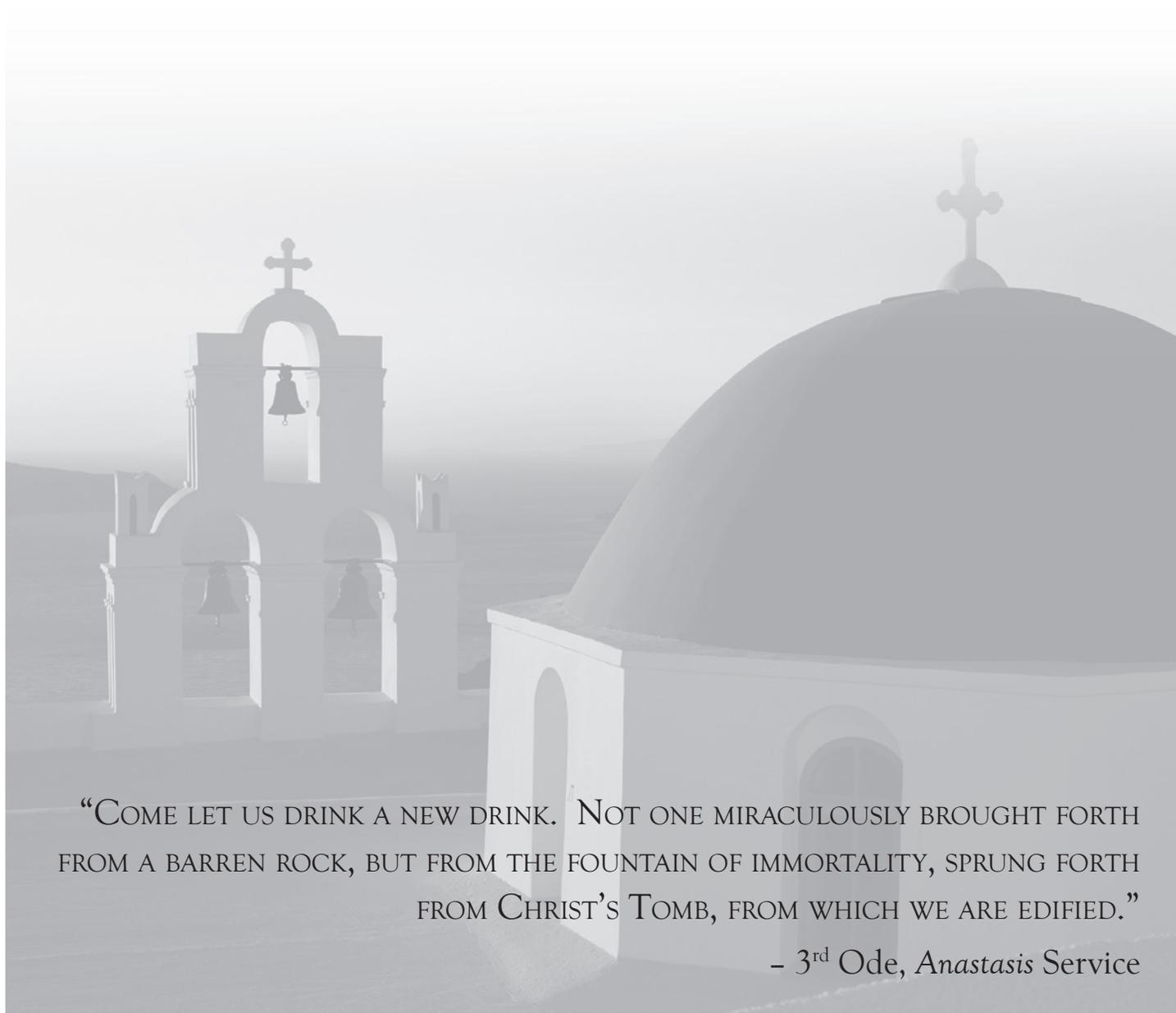
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			Construction Meeting, 10 am		Community Link; Young Adult Presanctified Liturgy and Dinner, 6:30 pm	Saturday of Lazarus; Orthros 9 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Palm Sunday, Orthros 9 am, Divine Liturgy 10:30 am, Bridegroom Service 7 pm	Holy Monday; Bridegroom Service, 7 pm		Construction Meeting, 10 am  Holy Wednesday; Unction, 7 pm	Holy Thursday; Vespers Liturgy, 10 am, 12 Gospels, 7 pm	Holy Friday; Royal Hours, 10 am, Descent from the Cross, 1 pm, Lamentations, 7 pm	Holy Saturday; First Resurrection, 7 am, Paschal Vigil, 11 pm, Anastasis, Midnight
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Easter Sunday; Agape Vespers, 11 am			Construction Meeting, 10 am			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Orthros, 9 am Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am		Soup Kitchen, 6:30 pm	Construction Meeting, 10 am	St. George, Divine Liturgy 10 am	Metropolis GOYA Ice Skating	
26	27	28	29	30		
Orthros, 9 am Divine Liturgy, 10:30 am  Young Adult Sunday Brunch, 12:30 pm		Parish Council, 7 pm	Construction Meeting, 10 am			

“O Christ, Who destroyed Hades and raised up mankind by Your Resurrection, make us worthy with purity of heart to praise and glorify You.”

- A hymn of praise from the *Anastasis* Service

UNITED GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF  
SAN FRANCISCO, THE ANNUNCIATION  
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL  
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“COME LET US DRINK A NEW DRINK. NOT ONE MIRACULOUSLY BROUGHT FORTH  
FROM A BARREN ROCK, BUT FROM THE FOUNTAIN OF IMMORTALITY, SPRUNG FORTH  
FROM CHRIST’S TOMB, FROM WHICH WE ARE EDIFIED.”

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ode, *Anastasis* Service



# Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos Easter Bake 2015

**--PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW--**

	<u>No. of Orders</u>	<u>Total</u>
Easter Bread @ \$15.00 each	_____	\$_____
Koulourakia @ \$8.00 per Dozen	_____	\$_____
Red Colored Eggs @ \$6.00 per Dozen	_____	\$_____
<b>TOTAL</b> Amount of order		\$_____

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TEL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**Your order will be ready for Pick Up on Friday, April 10, (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. only) & Saturday, April 11 (10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon only)**

**Please return completed form to the Cathedral Office or call (415) 864-8000 to place your order. Enclose payment with your order.  
All orders are prepaid:**

**DEADLINE TO PLACE ORDER IS SUNDAY, April 5, 2015**



Check Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

# VAN NESS DETOURS AHEAD

## Alert: Updated Schedule

The HerreroBOLDT construction activity at the Van Ness and Geary Sutter Health's CPMC Campus is entering the next phase: a pedestrian tunnel beneath Van Ness Avenue connecting the 274-bed hospital with the future medical office building.

To construct the tunnel, HerreroBOLDT is working with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and Caltrans (which oversees Van Ness Avenue/US 101) to temporarily close lanes to vehicular traffic on Van Ness Avenue between Geary Boulevard and Post Street. A central detour zone will impact traffic on Van Ness between Ellis and Pine Streets.

Partial nighttime closures of Van Ness Avenue will take place the week of April 6 —April 9, from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m., and three full 72-hour closures will occur the weekends of April 10 (Full Closure 1), April 24 (Full Closure 2) and September 5 (Full Closure 3). Off-street construction will take place April 2015 to August 2015, and will have no impact on Van Ness Avenue; full access will be available.

### CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

<b>Partial Night Closures</b> April 6 - April 9	<b>Full Closure 1</b> (12 a.m. Friday through 11:59 p.m. Sunday)	<b>Full Closure 2</b> (12 a.m. Friday through 11:59 p.m. Sunday)	<b>Full Closure 3</b> (12 a.m. Saturday through 11:59 p.m. Monday)
04.06.15 11 p.m. until 04.07.15 6 a.m.			
04.07.15 11 p.m. until 04.08.15 6 a.m.	Friday 04.10.15 to Sunday 04.12.15	Friday 04.24.15 to Sunday 04.26.15	Saturday 09.05.15 to Monday 09.07.15
04.08.15 11 p.m. until 04.09.15 6 a.m.			

This schedule was selected as the least impactful on local neighbors in partnership with SFMTA and Caltrans. Alternatives would have required between ten and twenty months of nighttime work.

In order to accommodate detour traffic, parking restrictions on Franklin and Gough Streets within the detour zone will be in place during the three 72-hour closures. Please make plans to park at locations other than Franklin and Gough, and notify any visitors or customers so they are aware that traffic and parking will be impacted during the detour weekends. All east-west streets crossing Van Ness will remain open to traffic.

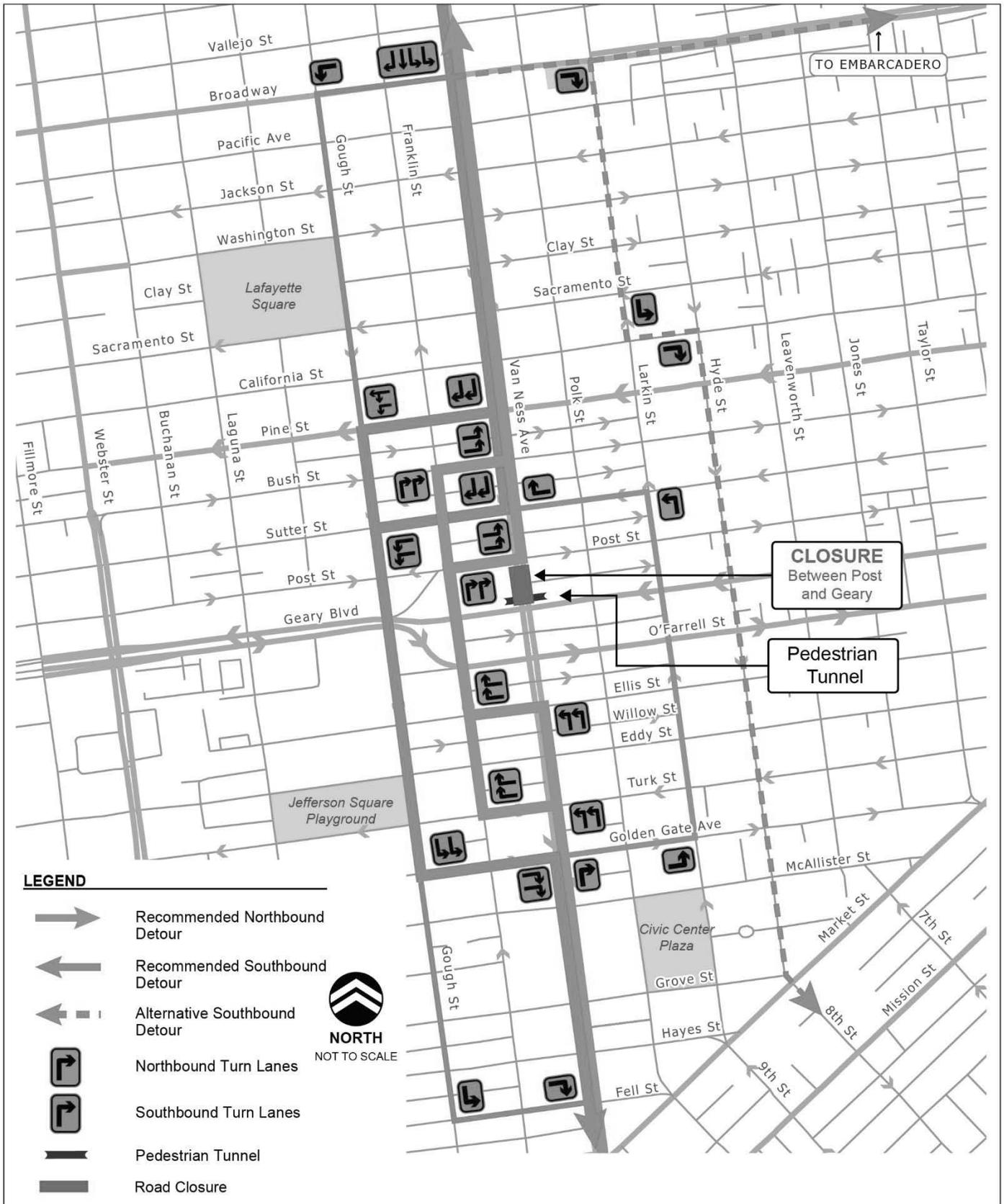
During the 72-hour closures, Van Ness Avenue will remain open to:

- Muni bus routes;
- Golden Gate Transit bus routes;
- Pedestrians along one side of Van Ness;
- Emergency first responders such as the San Francisco Police and Fire Departments;
- Local drivers will have access inside the central detour zone along Van Ness Avenue between Pine and Ellis.

Alternative routes are in place for motorists. A network of message signs will notify people of upcoming impacts.

Visit [www.cpmc2020.org](http://www.cpmc2020.org) for more project details. Check [511.org](http://511.org) for live traffic updates, and please follow on Twitter: @HerreroBOLDT, @CaltransD4, @sfmta\_muni.

Questions? Contact HerreroBOLDT at [vngcproject@cpmc2020.org](mailto:vngcproject@cpmc2020.org) or call (415) 762-7447.



Detours junctions will be staffed by officers and flaggers, and local traffic will continue to have access along Van Ness between Pine and Ellis Streets. One block of Van Ness Avenue between Geary Boulevard and Post Street will be closed.