

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: MAY 8, 2016

ANTIPASCHA: ST. THOMAS SUNDAY

THE APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST JOHN: MOTHER'S DAY

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from John's First Universal Letter, Chapter 1, verses 1-7: THAT WHICH WAS from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life - the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us - that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing this that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρώτης Καθολικῆς Ἐπιστολῆς Ἰωάννου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 9, ἐδάφ. 11-14: Ὁ ἦν ἀπ' ἀρχῆς, ὁ ἀκηκόαμεν, ὁ ἐωράκαμεν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς ἡμῶν, ὁ ἐθεασάμεθα, καὶ αἱ χεῖρες ἡμῶν ἐψηλάφησαν περὶ τοῦ λόγου τῆς ζωῆς. Καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἐφανερώθη, καὶ ἐωράκαμεν, καὶ μαρτυροῦμεν, καὶ ἀπαγγέλλομεν ὑμῖν τὴν ζωὴν τὴν αἰώνιον, ἣτις ἦν πρὸς τὸν πατέρα, καὶ ἐφανερώθη ἡμῖν. Ὁ ἐωράκαμεν καὶ ἀκηκόαμεν, ἀπαγγέλλομεν ὑμῖν, ἵνα καὶ ὑμεῖς κοινωνίαν ἔχητε μεθ' ἡμῶν· καὶ ἡ κοινωνία δὲ ἡ ἡμετέρα μετὰ τοῦ πατρὸς καὶ μετὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ· καὶ ταῦτα γράφομεν ὑμῖν, ἵνα ἡ χαρὰ ἡμῶν ἡ πεπληρωμένη. Καὶ ἔστιν αὕτη ἡ ἀγγελία ἣν ἀκηκόαμεν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀναγγέλλομεν ὑμῖν, ὅτι ὁ θεὸς φῶς ἐστίν, καὶ σκοτία ἐν αὐτῷ οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδεμία. Ἐὰν εἰπῶμεν ὅτι κοινωνίαν ἔχομεν μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐν τῷ σκότει περιπατῶμεν, ψευδόμεθα, καὶ οὐ ποιοῦμεν τὴν ἀλήθειαν· ἐὰν δὲ ἐν τῷ φωτὶ περιπατῶμεν, ὡς αὐτὸς ἐστὶν ἐν τῷ φωτὶ, κοινωνίαν ἔχομεν μετ' ἀλλήλων, καὶ τὸ αἷμα Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ καθαρίζει ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ πάσης ἁμαρτίας.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 20, Verses 19-31. It is found in our books on pages 165-167.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην, κεφ. 20, ἐδάφ. 19-31. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 164-166.

Introduction to Orthodoxy (*Sundays, 9.a.m., upstairs*). This 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. We explore 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@sneakemail.com.

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SPANISH: Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo; danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día; perdona nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; no nos dejes caer en la tentación, y líbranos del Mal.

40 DAY BLESSING: Today we welcome little Lucas Michael, son of Stephanie Pappas and Robert Li, who is being presented to the Church for the 40 day blessing.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY: The Cathedral extends congratulations and best wishes to all mothers on this Mother's Day. As one source puts it, "Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society." The modern holiday known as Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908, when **Anna Jarvis** held a memorial service for her mother. Her mother had been a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers on both sides in the American Civil War. Anna wanted to honor her mother by continuing the work she began and to set aside a day to honor all mothers, because they were "the person who has done more for you than anyone in the world."

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MOTHERS OF THE YEAR 2016: Every year, our Ladies Philoptochos names one or more than one Mother of the Year. This year, two mothers were named: **Zetta Ambus and Emilia Sarikakis**. They are both exemplary mothers, worthy of the honor. Their faith and their dedication to their family and to the Church are worthy of emulation. In years past, among other things, they were a great part of the support staff at Annunciation's summer camps in Yosemite. For a number of years now, they are a mainstay at our food festival *loukoumades* booth and food line, respectively. Their association dates back to Hania, Crete, where they are not only related, but where they were married in the same church on the same day. We congratulate them—Axies!—and we extend best wishes, along with our gratitude for their faithful example.

FESTIVAL MEETING THIS TUESDAY: As noted in the *May Herald*, there will be a meeting of the Festival Committee this Tuesday, May 10. The meeting will take place in the second floor conference room, beginning at 7 p.m. We welcome everyone's input and participation as we continue to plan this year's Greek Food Festival. The Festival will take place on our present site, Friday, September 16, Saturday, September 17, and Sunday, September 18.

OIKOS LECTURE NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 15: Because of Pascha (May 1) and Mother's Day (May 8), our next OIKOS lecture will take place on Sunday, May 15. Our speaker will be **Professor Martha Klironomos, Ph.D.** Martha has served as Director of the Center for Modern Greek Studies, the Nikos Kazantzakis Chair, at S.F. State University, where she has been teaching courses in Modern Greek language and literature and Comparative and English literature since 1996. She will speak on the Bloomsbury Group and how their travels to Greece and Italy inspired the integration of Byzantine motifs into their art.

SOUP KITCHEN A WEEK FROM TUESDAY: Our Soup Kitchen will operate on Tuesday, May 17, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. We are grateful to our team of volunteers for seeing to the continuation of this vital ministry. In April, we were blessed with all the members of GOYA and their parents, who showed up to help and, afterwards, met with GOYA Advisor Matia Kostakis. We are grateful to our Young Adults for spearheading and maintaining this ministry and look to other organizations to help take "ownership" of this ministry as we move forward. Meanwhile, we welcome your ongoing volunteer assistance and support, as we try to offer some sustenance to our special guests.

THE RAISING OF THE CROSS: STILL WAITING.

The large cross, which will go over the dome, and which measures 9 feet and weighs 470 pounds, is about to be raised over the dome. We had hoped to announce the exact day and time for this significant event on Palm Sunday. However, this did not happen, both because of determining the best and less expensive way of positioning the cross (by crane—which would necessitate closing of Valencia Street—or by helicopter, which has its own challenges), and also because of last minute wiring changes to enable the lighting of the cross on a permanent basis. The raising of the cross is a big deal for us, as it marks the firm “planting” of our Orthodox Christian faith, here in the heart of San Francisco, for all to see. Meanwhile, some one out there may want the privilege of placing the cross above the dome, thus essentially donating the dome. Father Stephen is looking for a donation of \$1 million and is confident one of you will step up for this honor. To mark the completion of the exterior of the building, later this year, and to celebrate our 95th year as a community, we will hold a **Gala event on November 5**. Now, for the interior of the Cathedral: with God’s help, we hope to be able to complete it by the end of 2017, and to consecrate the Cathedral to the glory of God to coincide with our 100th anniversary in 2021. God will bless us, indeed, if it is His Will that His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who laid the cornerstone back in 1997, also consecrates it to God’s glory in 2021!

May God enable our undertaking, and may God continue to inspire you and generations to come through this landmark house of worship, which you are building to glorify His holy Name.



“The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified.”

(Ecumenical Patriarch
Bartholomew, Ground breaking,
November 6, 1997)