

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: MAY 29, 2016

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

THEODOSIA THE MARTYR, OLVIANOS THE HIEROMARTYR

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 11, verses 19-30; it is found in our books on pages 86-87.

Ὁ Απόστολος, Πράξεων τῶν Αποστόλων τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 11, ἐδάφ. 19-30: Ἐν ταῖς ἡμεραῖς ἐκεῖναις, διασπαρέντες οἱ Ἀπόστολοι ἀπὸ τῆς θλίψεως τῆς γενομένης ἐπὶ Στεφάνῳ διήλθον ἕως Φοινίκης καὶ Κύπρου καὶ Ἀντιοχείας, μηδενὶ λαλοῦντες τὸν λόγον εἰ μὴ μόνον Ἰουδαίους. Ἦσαν δὲ τινες ἐξ αὐτῶν ἄνδρες Κύπριοι καὶ Κυρηναῖοι, οἵτινες εἰσελθόντες εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν, ἐλάλουν πρὸς τοὺς Ἑλληνιστάς, εὐαγγελιζόμενοι τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν. Καὶ ἦν χεὶρ κυρίου μετ' αὐτῶν· πολὺς τε ἀριθμὸς πιστεύσας ἐπέστρεψεν ἐπὶ τὸν κύριον. Ἠκούσθη δὲ ὁ λόγος εἰς τὰ ὦτα τῆς ἐκκλησίας τῆς ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις περὶ αὐτῶν· καὶ ἔξαπέστειλαν Βαρνάβαν διελθεῖν ἕως Ἀντιοχείας· ὃς παραγενόμενος καὶ ἰδὼν τὴν χάριν τοῦ θεοῦ ἐχάρη, καὶ παρεκάλει πάντας τῇ προσθέσει τῆς καρδίας προσμένειν τῷ κυρίῳ· ὅτι ἦν ἀνὴρ ἀγαθὸς καὶ πλήρης πνεύματος ἁγίου καὶ πίστεως· καὶ προσετέθη ὄχλος ἰκανὸς τῷ κυρίῳ. Ἐξῆλθεν δὲ εἰς Ταρσὸν ὁ Βαρνάβας ἀναζητῆσαι Σαῦλον, καὶ εὐρῶν ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν. Ἐγένετο δὲ αὐτοὺς ἐνιαυτὸν ὅλον συναχθῆναι τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ καὶ διδάξαι ὄχλον ἰκανόν, χρηματίσαι τε πρῶτον ἐν Ἀντιοχείᾳ τοὺς μαθητὰς Χριστιανούς. Ἐν ταύταις δὲ ταῖς ἡμέραις κατήλθον ἀπὸ Ἱεροσολύμων προφηταὶ εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν. Ἀναστὰς δὲ εἰς ἐξ αὐτῶν ὀνόματι Ἄγαβος, ἐσήμανεν διὰ τοῦ πνεύματος λιμὸν μέγαν μέλλειν ἔσσεσθαι ἐφ' ὅλην τὴν οἰκουμένην· ὅστις καὶ ἐγένετο ἐπὶ Κλαυδίου Καίσαρος. Τῶν δὲ μαθητῶν καθὼς εὐπορεῖτό τις, ὥρισαν ἕκαστος αὐτῶν εἰς διακονίαν πέμψαι τοῖς κατοικοῦσιν ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ἀδελφοῖς· ὁ καὶ ἐποίησαν, ἀποστείλαντες πρὸς τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους διὰ χειρὸς Βαρνάβα καὶ Σαύλου.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 4, Verses 5-42. It is found in our books on pages 175-181.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην, κεφ. 4, ἐδάφ. 5-42 εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 174-180.

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Four:

When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore, and Christ our God has risen from the dead, and granted to the world His great mercy.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου μαθήτριά, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκόλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY: Because of the Memorial Day holiday weekend, there will be no Sunday School today. Sunday School will resume next Sunday, June 5, which is also the last day of the 2015-2016 Sunday School year. Meanwhile, Greek School will resume next Saturday, June 4 and will end the following Saturday, June 11.

AMAZING TURNOUT OF YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE DANCE PROGRAM: Once again, we take this opportunity to welcome back all the children who are participating in the dance program and also welcome all those who are new to our program here at the Cathedral. It's wonderful to see this enthusiasm, as dance practice resumes. There is no practice today, because of the Memorial Day holiday weekend. Dance practice will resume next Sunday.

PHILOPTOCHOS MEETING TODAY: The Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos will meet today in the second floor conference room, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

AN HISTORIC EVENT: Measuring 9 feet high and weighing 470 pounds, the cross over the new Cathedral dome was hoisted up by helicopter last Saturday, at approximately 8:20 a.m. Following a safety meeting at 7 a.m., electricians and other workers assembled atop the dome to prepare to guide the wires through the dome (as the cross will be lit at night) and also to secure the cross to the base. Meanwhile, the smaller cross, measuring 4 feet and weighing about 200 pounds, was installed over the entrance to the new Cathedral, above the narthex. Afterwards, **Father Stephen** led the congregation into the chapel, where the Divine Liturgy was celebrated on this historic day, which also coincided with the Feast of Sts. Constantine & Helen, "Equal to the Apostles."

The Christian Emperor Constantine is known for having seen the cross in the midday sky, along with the writing, EN TOUTO NIKAI (By this, you will conquer). He had the cross placed on his army's flags, and overcame his opponents. This ushered in the Edict of Milan, in the year 312. Christianity was recognized, putting to an end the persecution against Christians. Constantine's mother, Helen, found the Cross upon which our Lord was crucified, when she conducted an archeological tour of the Holy Land and built several churches, as Golgotha and the Holy Sepulchre, in Jerusalem, and the place of the Nativity, in Bethlehem.

The Cathedral's crosses are adaptations of the Theodosian crosses found on the columns and other artifacts of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia which was built in 415. (This was the second Hagia Sophia.) An earlier church, said to have been built by the Emperor Constantine, was destroyed by fire and the later, 6th century church, which still stands, was built by Justinian.

We invite you to view the vimeo, filmed by Kostas Petrakos: <https://vimeo.com/167581393>

We also invite you to view photos and videos taken by Barker/O'Donoghue (the company which arranged for the placement of the Crosses), Goldman Architects (the Cathedral's Architect), and Ken Katen (the Cathedral's construction representative). These are available for the next week only by logging onto: <https://goldmanarchitects.egnyte.com/fl/hHYjaE9ezM>

THE RAISING OF THE CROSS: AN EVENT OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE!

As noted, the large bronze cross, which measures 9 feet and weighs 470 pounds, was raised over the dome last Saturday morning. Amid the largest building boom in San Francisco since the 1906 Earthquake, a church also rises. It is the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, (which was lost to the 1989 Earthquake). Its identifiable symbol—the cross—also rises. A sign of sacrifice, a sign of hope. A sign of faith in the future. A sign of our trust in God. What a great day for our Faith! What a great day for San Francisco! 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 this great City, for all to see., and especially on this day, the 29th of May, when Constantinople—the Queen City—fell in 1453! The smaller, 4-foot cross, weighing approximately 200 pounds, was also installed over the narthex. All this has to be paid for. Surely, someone out there may want the privilege of having donated the cross and the dome. Actually, someone is considering making a donation of \$1 million for this purpose. Meanwhile, 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, protecting His Commonwealth, unto the ages. Amen.



“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)