SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019

EPISODE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul’s Letter to the Galatians, Chapter 2, Verses 16-20. It is found in our books on pages 257-258.

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY: This class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodox and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey. 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 by reading selections from 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) why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Alexandros Kozak at orthodox-ako2010@verizon.net. Note: The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month. It meets in the second-floor conference room, beginning at 9 a.m. The class is meeting this morning, November 10 and will meet again on Sunday, November 24.

MEETING OF THE NAVARINO MESSINIAN SOCIETY, TODAY FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY: The meeting will take place in the conference room, located adjacent the elevator, on the second floor.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD: Kalliope Fousekis and Annamarie Balian are staffing the Christmas Card table all during the month of November (as well as the first Sunday in December). Do stop by and request your name be included in this year’s Community Christmas Card. The donation is $25 per line.

THE APOSTLES OLYMPAS: Saint Paul’s Church, 100 St. Paul’s Street, Novato. St. Paul’s is excited to share with you that our 100th anniversary celebration begins Saturday, November 23rd. This milestone event is open to all our parishioners and friends. Mark your calendars now.

Light the Path Christmas Luncheon: As of today, we have 66 pavers “adopted.” Forms are available at the piano. Please contact Deno Konstantinidis via cell or email 415-867-8035 / denosf2@hotmail.com. Our support of our Seminarians is a sacred trust. We are blessed in our Metropolis that we have the Bishop Anthony Student Aid Endowment Fund in order to do so. The Light the Path Christmas Luncheon, therefore, is not to be missed. For reservations, call 415 431-2600 or stop by the Philoptochos Light the Path table following today’s Divine Liturgy.

Basketball Practice: Middle School practice will take place this Wednesday, November 13, beginning at 7pm, Grade School practice will take place this Thursday, November 14, beginning at 7 pm. If your child or someone you know is in 6th-8th grade and would like to play, please contact Deno Konstantinidis via cell or email 415-867-8035 / denosf2@hotmail.com.

ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS TO VISIT CATHEDRAL JAN. 24: His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America is coming Sunday, January 26th 2020 for his first visit to our Annunciation Cathedral. This is sure to be a memorable day for our community. His Eminence will celebrate the Divine Liturgy that day. A luncheon will follow. The donation is $30 per person ($15 for children 12 and under). Invitations will go out soon.

ADOPT A PAVER: As of today, we have 66 pavers “adopted.” The first 44 pavers were inscribed in September. Unfortunately, the color used is too pale. The inscriptions will be recolored when the company comes out to inscribe the next 75 pavers. Do consider adopting a paver. A great way to “connect.” Forms are available at the pargon.

STEWARDSHIP: Thank you for making your Stewardship support a priority. Your support makes possible the very existence of this parish, and its ability to offer Liturgical services, educational, & philanthropic programs. Stewardship packets for 2020 have been sent out. (Additional packets are available at the pargon). Please complete and return your card, in the envelope provided, by December 1. Again, we thank you for making Stewardship a priority, as this is the major source of funding for the Cathedral. If you would like more information about Stewardship, drop us a line, or see Dean Nicolakis, Stewardship Chair, after the Liturgy.

100th ANNIVERSARY: In 2021, the Cathedral turns 100. Let us hear from you as to how you think we should best celebrate this milestone event. Take the survey, at www.annunciation.org/100th/. Meanwhile, we are excited to share with you that our 100th Year Gala Banquet will take place, in 2021, in the grand ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, in the same place where the original banquet took place to celebrate the creation of the Cathedral 100 years ago!
PARKING: At long last! Just last week, our Architects and Contractors met with the City to address some remaining issues, including the capacity of the new Cathedral. (The City was arguing that the external alarm was insufficient for the occupancy, which they calculated was in excess of 1000. The truth is, the occupancy is below 1000, and the alarm installed was deemed to be sufficient.) This paves the way for the Fire Inspector to sign off on the Sprinkler System. The next approval, by the Police Department, is expected to be issued subsequently. Meanwhile, we are about to receive the new Valencia Street gates and the lobby doors, so that we can complete the clear path of travel requirement and begin utilizing the garage on a regular basis, and in accordance with the Conditional Use Permit which was granted to us some time ago. It will be a great day when we finally get the ok for the parking, so that we can go on to address completion of the interior. As we go forward, let’s stay positive and focused. Consider what you have accomplished so far! As with Moses, then, in our day we hear God speaking to us: “Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you.” (from the Septuagint: Καὶ ποιήσεις µοι ἁγίασµα, καὶ ὀφθήσοµαι ἐν ὑµῖν). (Exodus 25:8). Building also takes vision, determination and faith. You are doing something extraordinary: you are building His sanctuary, a great sacred space, right the heart of one of the world’s premier cities. Here, our Orthodox Christian faith is poised to proclaim the Gospel message of salvation to a whole new generation of worshipers! 

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