EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verses 14 – 22. It is found in our books on page 124.

Ο Απόστολος Πάντες Εφεσίων Ἐπίσκοπος Παύλου τοῦ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφων 14 - 22. Αδελφοί, Χριστὸς ἐστὶν ἡ εἰρήνη ἡμῶν, ὁ παρέχει τὰ αἰματέρα ἐν, καὶ τὸ μεσοτόπαιν τοῦ φροντιοῦ ἄνω, τὴν ἔκθεσιν ἐν τῇ σωματική αὐτοῦ, τῶν μοίρων τῶν ἐντολῶν ἐν δύναμιν, καταρχήσεις ἴνα τοὺς ἔχων ἀντίθεσις ἐν εἰρήνῃ εἰς ἰδίαν αἱρέσεων, ποιῶν εἰρήνης, καὶ ἀποκατακλατίας τῶν αἱματέρας ἐν εἴναι σώματος τῷ θεῷ διὰ τοῦ σταυροῦ, ἀποκτείνας τὸν θάνατον, καὶ ἐλάθων εὐγενεῖστα ἐν δύναμιν τών μοίρων καὶ τῶν ἔργων ὥστε δι’ αὐτοῦ ἔχων τῆς κοίμησις. Ἡ εἰρήνη τῶν πατέρων, ἀρχαῖα, ἀγαθοπρόοια καὶ αὐτοῦ Παύλου, αὐτόν παρέχει τοῦ θεοῦ, εὐπροσδοξιάν ἐπὶ τῷ θεοῦ τῶν ἀρχαίων καὶ προφητῶν, ὑπὸς οἰκουμενικοῦ τοῦ Παύλου Χριστοῦ, ἐν ὧν πάσα εἰκότω συναναλογίζεμεν αὐτῇ εἰς ναὸν αἰώνιον ἐν κυρίῳ, ἐν ὧν καὶ εἰρηνισμένα ἐς κατακομβήν τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν πνεύματι.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 8, Verses 43-47. It is found in our books on page 269.

Η σημερινή εὐαγγελική περιοδική ἐκ τοῦ κατά Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 18, ἐδάφων 35-43. Εὐρύτερα ἐς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 268.

Today’s Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Seven (Grave Tone):

Ο Οίκου, by your sacred Cross you abolished death and granted to the thief blessed paradise. The myrrh bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The Apostles did preach the Good News at your command—That You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing your mercy on the world evermore.

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέῳξας τῷ λῃστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον τῆς μεθείνας καὶ τῶν ἔργων τῆς ζωῆς. Οἱ αὐτοῦ Απόστολοι παρέχοντον ἐν τούς σοινὸς Δόξον. Ὅτι αὐτῆς ἔχων τὴν κοίμησιν ἐν κυρίῳ, ἐν ὧν καὶ εἰρηνισμένα ἐς κατακομβήν τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν πνεύματι.

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 de mal.

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY: 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. 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 AlexioskKazak at orthodoxy-agkazak@neakemail.com. Note: The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered every two Sundays a month. It meets in the second-floor conference room, beginning at 9 a.m. The class is meeting next Sunday, December 8th and again on December 15th.

TODAYS MNEMOSYNO: Today we will offer a Memorial Service for our beloved Connie Panagotacos, 1 year since her passing. Let us join her family in praying for the repose of her soul. May her memory be eternal!

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD: Kalliope Fousekis and Annamaries Balian are staffing the Christmas Card table today! As this is the last day when we can accept your names for inclusion in the Christmas Card, we urge you to stop by the table following today’s Divine Liturgy. The donation of $25 per line helps defray the cost of the card, printing, and mailing. Thank you for your support.

ALZHEIMER’S/DEMENTIA CARE GIVERS SUPPORT GROUP: The group will meet this Tuesday, December 3, at 11 a.m. The meeting will take place in the conference room.

BASKETBALL PRACTICE: Basketball practice continues this week! Middle School practice will take place this Wednesday, December 4, at 7pm, and Grade School practice will take place this Thursday, December 5, at 7 pm. For more information, please contact Deno Kontandinos via cell or email. 415-867-8035 / denokont@hotmail.com

ST. NICHOLAS DAY SERVICES AT ST. NICHOLAS: The next weekday service to be held will be the Divine Liturgy on the occasion of the Feast of St. Nicholas, Friday, December 6. We will join our Antiochian Orthodox brothers and sisters at the Church of St. Nicholas, 5200 Diamond Heights Blvd., San Francisco. Matins at 10 am, followed by the Divine Liturgy at 11 am. An agape meal will follow in the church hall. Everyone is invited.

LIGHT THE PATH LUNCHEON DECEMBER 7: The Light the Path Christmas Luncheon, which supports our seminarians, is not to be missed. You may still be able to secure a seat or two. However, the committee will need to know asap. Do stop by the Philoptochos Light the path table following today’s Divine Liturgy.

ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS TO VISIT CATHEDRAL JANUARY 26: His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America is coming Sunday, January 26th 2020 for his first visit to our Annunciation Cathedral. A luncheon will follow the Divine Liturgy. Invitations will go out soon. If you wish to attend the luncheon, you must make reservations, so that we know how many people to expect. We cannot accept walk-ins the day of the luncheon.

ADOPT A PAYER: As of today, we have 75 pavers “adopted.” The first 44 pavers were inscribed in September. Unfortunately, the color used is too pale. The inscriptions will be redone when the company comes out to inscribe the next 75 pavers. As this will be done on December 14, we urge you to get your forms in asap. Forms are available at the pangi.

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 pangi). Please complete and return your card, in the envelope provided, before the end of the December. Remember: Annunciation is only as strong as the support it receives from its faithful. Are you in?

100th ANNIVERSARY: In 2021, the Cathedral turns 100. 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! Our Final Fire Inspection has been set for Tuesday, December 3. Assuming the inspection is successful, a permit to operate our parking will be, in effect, issued. A full narrative may be found in our December 2019 Herald. The subsequent ok by the Police Department, will enable us to have the parking component up and running within a month. Meanwhile, the upper and lower elevator lobbies have been carpeted, as have the stairs from the garage leading up to the narthex. Any day now, we are waiting for 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, following our December 3rd inspection, 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!