SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019

EPISODE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul’s Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 11, Verses 9-10, 32-40. It is found in our books on pages 150-151.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Following this morning’s Divine Liturgy, our Sunday School children will offer their Christmas program. Please join them in the singing of Christmas carols. A light meal will follow.

ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS TO VISIT CATHEDRAL JAN. 26: Archbishop Elpidophoros of America is coming Sunday, January 26th 2020 for his first visit to our Annunciation Cathedral. A luncheon will follow the 10 am Divine Liturgy (notice the time change for this Liturgy only) at 10:30 a.m. This will be followed by the Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, at 10 a.m.

CALLING ALL ALTAR SERVERS: In anticipation of the arrival of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros, we will be having a brief Altar Boy Training Session for all of our existing Altar Boys as well as any new Altar Boy recruits. We will go over how to serve a Hierarchical Liturgy as well as the basics of serving a standard Divine Liturgy. The training will be led by Christo Pappademos and will take place directly following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, January 11th. Please feel free to email Christo if your son would like to serve in the altar.

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BANQUET: In 2021, the Cathedral turns 100. We are excited to share with you our centennial celebrations. As of December 31, 2020, the original banquet took place to celebrate the creation of the Cathedral 100 years ago! In 2021, the Cathedral turns 100. We are excited to share with you our centennial celebrations. As of December 31, 2020, the original banquet took place to celebrate the creation of the Cathedral 100 years ago!

GAME PLAN: In 2021, the Cathedral turns 100. We are excited to share with you our centennial celebrations. As of December 31, 2020, the original banquet took place to celebrate the creation of the Cathedral 100 years ago!

TRADITIONAL SUCCOT: As of December 31, 2020, the original banquet took place to celebrate the creation of the Cathedral 100 years ago!

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PARKING: At long last! Our Final Fire and Electrical Inspections took place Tuesday, December 3. We passed inspection! However, the holdup is in the Building Department, which has been asked to grant its approval so that we may take the final step—a hearing at our local Police Department—a permit to operate our parking will be, in effect, issued. The ok by the Police Department will enable us to have the parking component up and running right away. 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. 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 ἑαυτῷ ἁγίασµα, καὶ ὀφθήσοµαι ἐν ὑµίν). (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 humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified.”