THE LORD’S PRAYER IN SPANISH:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

THE GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, Chapter 18, Verses 23-35:

The Lord said this parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord or master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everyth-

MNMOSYNON: Today’s Memorial Services are being offered for the repose of the soul of our brother Gus Franco, who fell asleep in the Lord 5 years ago, and also for the repose of the soul of our brother Thanasis Skorinis, who fell asleep in the Lord 5 years ago. Δοξάσω κύριο, ευλογημένος! Eternal memory!

LIGHT A VIRTUAL CANDLE: Thank you for lighting a virtual candle every Sunday, thus keeping hope alive. Whether you donate $1 or $1,000, your gift is one of faith. It helps keep the Cathedral solvent during this universal upheaval. More importantly, it connects us to Him who is the Light of the World (John 8:12) and reminds us of our calling to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). Keep on lighting your virtual candles! To do so, please visit our web site, www.annunciation.org, and click on the appropriate link, or enter https://annunciation.org/candle

GREEK SCHOOL, SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES TO BEGIN REMOTELY: Due to the pandemic, Greek School classes as well as Sunday School classes, will take place remotely, until further notice. Greek School begins on September 5, at 10 am, while Sunday School classes begin on September 12, following the Liturgy. Login information may be found in the Herald, as well on the Cathedral’s web site, www.annunciation.org.

FESTIVAL COMMEMORATIVE BOOK: Even though we will not be able to hold our Food Festival in September, we will, nevertheless, be publishing a Program Book. Entitled Physically Distant, Spiritually Connected, the book is being printed in this, our 99th year as a community, which we are also celebrating. In addition to your ads and sponsorship pages, the book will also contain a directory of the parishioners and friends of the Cathedral. We invite you to be creative: instead of the usual “best wishes for a successful festival,” consider a photo or two of your being sheltered in place during this COVID-19 pandemic, along with a narrative of how you’re coping, how you continue to maintain your connections with one another. Contracts have been mailed out. They are also available online, where you can pick them up, electronically, by visiting our web site, www.annunciation.org. Click on “Support Annunciation Cathedral” and “Festival Ad Book.” The due date is September 15. We invite your participation and thank you for your continued support.

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH: San Francisco’s directive is still in place, namely that “religious gatherings and ceremonies” may take place “outdoors only (up to 12 people), with face coverings and social distancing.” This means that Annunciation Cathedral may not open yet, as we had planned, with up to 40 congregants (25% of capacity, based on social distancing requirements). Meanwhile, we invite you to continue to participate in the Sunday services and special weekday services (as for example, August 15), remotely, through streaming. We are, of course, saddened that we may not open up for in-person worship, for the time being. However, the safety of our people is paramount. Let us continue to pray for one another in these challenging times, and let us stay safe.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR CHURCH REOPENING: When we resume in-person worship, we will need to have between seven (7) and ten (10) volunteers on hand each time the church is open to monitor the parking garage, greet and check in, ask health questions, usher, and provide general oversight. Are you able and are you willing to assist? If the answer is yes, please let us know, so that we can compile a master list of our volunteer pool and begin training. Please click on https://www.annunciation.org/reopening-volunteer

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOX CLASSES: These very popular classes are taking place on a weekly basis, remotely, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Alex Kozak. If you are new to the parish or you are considering being received into the Church through baptism and/or chrismation, as an adult, we invite you to speak with Alex about your wishes and the possibility of joining the Introduction to Orthodoxy class. Please contact him at orthodoxag.kozak@sneakemail.com.
THINGS BEGINNING TO MOVE: The present pandemic has put everything building-related on hold but, now, things are beginning to move again. The granite which along the Valencia Street walls and the stone cap have been installed. The roofing and drainage issues are being addressed as we write this. The gate people came out this week. We’re now waiting for the lobby doors. As soon as we finish this and get our certificate of occupancy for the garage, we can open the garage to self-park. This is necessary if we are to open up the church, as the valet can guide us where to park, but can no longer park our cars for us. As a community, we’ve been through much, especially when we lost everything to the earthquake, back in 1989. But, we’ve bounced back. It wasn’t easy, but we did it, because we have faith, we have hope, and we have unity. So, too, we will weather this pandemic and return to a so-called “new normal,” – i.e. a community where we may do things a little differently, but with the same strong faith in God. After all, it is for Him, in Him, and through Him that we continue to exist at all. Praise God for the Gift of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we are given the faith and the vision to rebuild His Church.

“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.”