contact him at https://agkozak.com/intro

Andrew may be reached at Andrew.miltiades@annunciation.org. We had hoped we would have picked up our permit from the Building Department by now, but it’s not signed yet. Once it is signed, we will present it to the Stay at Home order, churches are closed to in-person worship. It is still our goal to open as soon as it is safe to do so. Meanwhile, we invite you to continue to participate in the Sunday services and special weekday services, remotely, through streaming. Thank God for our Technology team, who are making this possible.

YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB: This past Tuesday we launched a virtual Young Adult Book Club in the interest of keeping our Young Adults connected during their time apart. A book club gives us the opportunity to learn more about our faith and one another as we will be meeting for regular virtual discussions. This project is being developed by Andrew Militades and Christo Pappademos. Please contact them for more information. Andrew may be reached at Andrew.militades@annunciation.org. Christo may be reached at Christo.pappademos@annunciation.org.

TODAY’S MEMORIAL SERVICES: Memorial prayers are being offered today for the repose of the soul of our brother Robert Bender, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago, and for the repose of the soul of our sister Louise Bender, who fell asleep in the Lord 4 years ago. Aixouν η μνήμη! Eternal Memory!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2021 STEWARDSHIP: As of today, we are half way toward reaching our goal for 2021. Let us make 2021 a banner year for Stewardship. Please forward your 2021 Stewardship pledge card, if you have not already done so. We also ask for your assistance in encouraging your children, age 18 and above, to also declare their support for the ministries of the Cathedral by submitting their own Stewardship pledge card. A 2021 stewardship pledge card can be downloaded at https://annunciation.org/pledge-card.

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). To light your virtual candles, please visit our web site, www.annunciation.org, and click on the appropriate link, or enter https://annunciation.org/candle.

PHILOPTOCHOS CRAB FEED: Each year, the Philoptochos holds a Crab Feed about this time of the year. The event, attended by as many as 600 people, is not only popular (it boasts the best Dungeness Crab anywhere); it also provides some $16,000 in net proceeds, which fund the Philoptochos’ various philanthropic ministries. In addition to supporting over 15 nationally established ministries, such as heart disease awareness, camps for sick children, and the like, the Philoptochos has been helping people who are in dire financial straits, especially during this time of COVID-19, and also helping support the Cathedral’s feeding program, known as Community Kitchen. Because there is no Crab Feed this year, the Philoptochos is asking for donations. Let’s raise $16,000 for Philoptochos. A donation of $50, $65 (the donation for the Crab Feed), or $100 will be very much appreciated. Checks may be made payable to: Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos and mailed to: 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP: As San Francisco is currently under the Stay at Home order, churches are closed to in-person worship. It is still our goal to open as soon as it is safe to do so. Meanwhile, we invite you to continue to participate in the Sunday services and special weekday services, remotely, through streaming. Thank God for our Technology team, who are making this possible.

CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY FOR THE GARAGE: We had hoped we would have picked up our permit from the Building Department by now, but it’s not signed yet. Once it is signed, we will present it to our local police station, along with a copy of our lease with Golden Gate Parking, which will manage the lot for us. It’s been a challenging role. One of these days it will happen, at long last!

Thank you for your continued support of the Cathedral. As part of our Stewardship campaign, all who sign the pledge card will receive a handmade card with our patron saint, St. Basil the Great. We hope you will consider signing a Stewardship pledge card. A 2021 stewardship pledge card can be downloaded at https://annunciation.org/pledge-card.

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THE PANDEMIC HAS SLOWED US DOWN BUT NOT STOPPED US. The pandemic has slowed down everything building-related. Nevertheless, things are moving along. Granite along the Valencia Street walls and the stone cap have been installed. The roofing and drainage issues have been addressed. The gates are now virtually complete. The lobby doors are in. Stonecraft is laying the remaining pavers. Meanwhile, our permit for use of the garage has been issued but not yet signed. This week, the Architects have finalized the drawings, known as the bid set, for phase 2 (completion of the interior), at a cost of $3.8 million…. 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.”