**SF Heritage**

The Annunciation Cathedral celebrates 100 years

We are happy to share that our Annunciation Cathedral was recently featured in San Francisco Heritage, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) whose mission is to preserve and enhance San Francisco’s unique architectural and cultural identity. We hope you enjoy this wonderful feature of our community and history.

Pierce Streets by a group of parishioners from Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. By doing so they established a second Greek Orthodox community in San Francisco — the “first” community was “Greek Town” in the South of Market, which grew into the center of local Greek life after Greek immigrants started to arrive in San Francisco in the 1880s (and in much greater numbers after the 1906 earthquake and fire necessitated the hiring of new workers to rebuild the city).

The St. Sophia community grew rapidly, requiring larger facilities. In April 1928, the community acquired the historic Valencia Street Theater (1908). The theater was known as the “grandest, most beautiful of the West” and the place where entertainer George Burns got his start.

The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation in 1938. Photo credit: Greek Historical Society of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Exterior of the Valencia Theatre, between 1908 and 1924. With seating for 1700 guests, the theater was never a commercial success. However, stars like Ethel Barrymore, Nijinsky, and Pavlova performed here. In the 1920s the theater was converted to St. Sophia’s Greek Orthodox Church – the precursor to the Greek Orthodox Cathedral – and two gilded domes were added. San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.

This post is adapted from text written by Father Stephen Kyriacou, Presiding Priest and Christo Pappademos Pastoral Assistant and Youth Director at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation in San Francisco. St. Sophia, the precursor to the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Metropolis Cathedral, was founded in June 1921 at Hayes and Pierce Streets by a group of parishioners from Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. By doing so they established a second Greek Orthodox community in San Francisco — the “first” community was “Greek Town” in the South of Market, which grew into the center of local Greek life after Greek immigrants started to arrive in San Francisco in the 1880s (and in much greater numbers after the 1906 earthquake and fire necessitated the hiring of new workers to rebuild the city).

Annunciation Cathedral Founding, 1921 at Hayes and Pierce Streets. Photo credit: Greek Historical Society of the San Francisco Bay Area.
In 1929, St. Sophia parishioner Alexandra Apostolides founded the Daughters of Penelope, a women’s organization dedicated to promoting Hellenism, education, philanthropy, civic responsibility, and family. Mrs. Apostolides’ impact on Greek women was profound throughout her life.

During the Great Depression, the community was unable to sustain its financial obligations and the church was lost in foreclosure. Fortunately, within a few years, and working with A.P. Giannini of the Bank of Italy, the faithful were able to again take back their church, signaling the growth of the parish again. During this time, the Saint Sophia community was reorganized and named the United Greek Orthodox Community of San Francisco, the Annunciation.

Over the decades that followed, the church stood as the core of the Greek community of San Francisco. During World War II for example, the Annunciation community led several Greek War Relief efforts. During the war and into the 1950s, a Greek radio program was broadcast from the Cathedral, and became the voice of the Greek community. The radio program broadcast live concerts during Christmas, and these became so popular that parishioners and neighborhood residents stood outside the Cathedral to enjoy holiday music.

August 31, 1954. News copy: “IT’S MADE OF TEN DIFFERENT METALS—Artist Nikos Bel Jon uses steel wool to put finishing touches on an anadized metal tile Byzantine-type mosaic he is completing in his studio at 45 Maiden Lane. Made of 10 different metals and valued at $3,000 the mosaic is a gift by Efthia Demaka, a polio victim, to the Greek Orthodox Church of The Annunciation, 245 Valencia street, it measures 7 1/2 by 12 feet.” San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.
In this photo of the American Indian Center at 229 Valencia Street, you can see a Greek-American food imports store on the ground floor. This business illustrated the presence of the Greek community around the Cathedral, which was located just to the south of here. Today, the Cathedral is located within the American Indian Cultural District. Photo: Max Kirkeberg Collection, DIVA, SF State.

At 5:04 PM on October 17, 1989, the devastating Loma Prieta Earthquake struck, effectively destroying the entire Cathedral building. For a second time, the church was lost. While the congregation of Annunciation Cathedral suffered no loss of life or personal injuries, the earthquake wreaked devastating damage to the Cathedral building. The city closed the building as a result, since structural engineers noted that a portion was in imminent danger of collapse. Parishioners voted to demolish the church and construct completely new facilities.

The rebuilt Cathedral buildings in 2003. Max Kirkeberg Collection, DIVA, SF State.

After two years of searching for an alternate site to rebuild, in 1991, parishioners voted unanimously to rebuild on the same site. One consideration in deciding to remain in its present location was the commitment to the neighborhood, where the church served as an important community anchor. Ground for Phase 1 was broken on November 22, 1992, and the rebuilt Cathedral included a 300 seat chapel, a multi-purpose hall, kitchen, classrooms, and Cathedral offices.

The Annunciation serves as the Cathedral Church for the [ecclesiastical territory of the] Metropolis of San Francisco. While there are several cathedral churches in this Pacific territory, including Holy Trinity, Phoenix; Saint Sophia, Los Angeles and, more recently, the Ascension, Oakland, Annunciation is the seat of the Bishop. As a community, it serves approximately 1,000 families in the immediate area. The Cathedral is also headquarters for many fraternal and national organizations, who have assisted in its rebuilding efforts.

In the years approaching the Cathedral’s 100-year anniversary in 2021, the community decided it was time once again to rebuild. On October 17, 2013, the Annunciation was granted a building permit for a new Cathedral—24 years to the date of the devastating earthquake. Two other buildings were subsequently torn down to make way for this effort, which also includes a new parking structure that benefits the church, school, and Mission District community. Presently, the new Cathedral is 80% completed and the project has moved into Phase II.
Since their beginning in 1921, the Cathedral has taken an active role in offering programs and services that benefit their parishioners and the San Francisco community. Some of the programs the Cathedral provides include the Public Kitchen Ministry and Homeless Feeding Program, senior visitation programs, Dementia Caregivers’ Support Group, and its philanthropic branch, the “Friends of the Poor,” to aid those who may need help due to physical, mental, or financial challenges.

The new Cathedral dome under construction. Photo courtesy of the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation.

Currently, the Cathedral’s dome is the next major project awaiting completion. The dome in Byzantine architecture is of great significance, and is considered the most important feature of the Cathedral because the dome is a representation of Heaven. The Annunciation have commissioned Iconographer and University of Athens professor George Kordis to paint an image of Jesus Christ – “Pantokrator,” which most accurately means “He who holds all” – on the interior surface of the dome once construction is complete.

$14,600,000 (81%) has been raised to date for the total capital campaign budget of $18,000,000. Currently the Cathedral is in the final stage of public fundraising to raise the last portion of the capital campaign for the interior of the Cathedral.

If you would like to donate towards the Annunciation Cathedral’s Capital Campaign (specifically towards their work of finishing the dome), visit www.annunciation.org/donate or contact Father Stephen at fatherstephen@annunciation.org. If you would like to take a tour and view the progress at the new Cathedral, please contact Father Stephen, or by call the Cathedral office at 415-864-8000.
Reopening – “Welcome Back!”

After more than one year of being closed for in-person worship, we are happy to announce that we have officially reopened. Though still working with limited capacity and the necessary social-distancing guidelines, our reopening has been a true joy. To see one another up close after so much time apart has brought renewed energy, jubilation, and life back to the Cathedral. We extend a warm invitation to you to return for services as long as you are comfortable doing so. For a schedule of services and the steps to sign up to attend, please visit our website www.annunciation.org We look forward to seeing you soon!

Building update

While you’ve been away our Building Committee at the Cathedral has been busy coordinating necessary projects with various workers and companies. One important project was a protective copper waterproofing lining along the south wall of our property line. We had a bit of visible leaking in our garage which had not become a serious issue yet, but if left it could have become a problem. Fortunately our Building Committee chaired by Parish Council Vice President Tasso Mavroudis organized a solution and workers came to install a copper seal along the wall.

Also, our many planters surrounding the new cathedral building have been cleared out and newly prepped to hold soil, plants, flowers, and greenery! The prepping of our planters will allow for beautification of our grounds to begin shortly. We look forward to welcoming our people back with new landscaping around our cathedral.

Our next project will be to install the exterior doors all around the new cathedral building. We have had our door man on site to measure and prepare to finish the rest of the building with its proper doors. With each project our Cathedral comes closer and closer to being the finished spiritual home we have all been awaiting with anticipation. If you are interested in supporting these projects please contact either Tasso Mavroudis, our Building Committee Chair or Tom Nuris, our Capital Campaign Chair. Tasso.mavroudis@annunciation.org tom.nuris@annunciation.org
Graduating Seniors
We celebrate our class of 2021 graduates! In what was sure to be a most challenging year filled with unpredictability, our graduates and promotees are a reminder to all of us that new beginnings are possible under any circumstances. The Cathedral is extremely proud of all its youth and especially its graduates. Listed below are our high school graduates, as well as our middle school and grade school promotees. We pray that God guides each one of them as the close one chapter and open an exciting new one in their lives.

High School Graduates:
Michael Kamenis, graduating Junipero Serra High School
Parents: Stratos and Linda (Leni) Kamenis

Isabella Koutoulas, graduating South San Francisco High School
Parents: Kosta and Grace Koutoulas

Giana Papavasiliou, graduating Hillsdale High School
Parents: George and Lea Papavasiliou

Christopher Apostolos Percia, graduating Burlingame High School
Parents: Tessa Ambus

Anastasia Pezo, graduating Mills High School (MHS)
Parents: Lester and Chriseoul Pezo

Adora Argyro Pitcock, graduating Mercy High School Burlingame
Parents: John and Mary Zapantis

Middle School Promotees:
Elias Haginicols
Parents: Leo and Tiffany Haginicols
Michael Johnson
Parents: Spiros and Rola Johnson

Panos Koutoulas
Parents: Gus and Stephanie Koutoulas

Vlasis Kyriacou
Parents: Chris and Irene Kyriacou

Katerina Nicolacakis
Parents: Dean and Maria Nicolacakis

George Polyzos
Parents: Jason Polyzos and Maria Kalligeros Polyzos

Dimitri Vonderheide
Parents: Katerina Leventi and Blake Vonderheide

Dionisios Vorrieses
Parents: Dennis and Renee Vorrieses

Grade School Promotees:
Zetta Eleni Ambus
Parents: Dr. George and Tessa Ambus

Iliana Cazanis
Parents: Peter and Katerina Cazanis

Yiannis Karasakalidis
Parents: Liza Koukkou and Petros Karasakalidis

Katerina Katsi
Parents: Grace Teo and Dimitris Katsis

Sophia Kotsonis
Parents: Shu Yeung and Peter Kotsonis

Sophia Zapantis
Parents: John and Mary Zapantis

2021 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
For 2021, the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation will provide four (4) scholarships, as follows:

1. The John N. Pappas Scholarship, in the amount of $1,000.00
2. The Christos Tsikitas Scholarship, in the amount of $1,000.00
3. Andreas and Nikki Coundouris Scholarship, in the amount of $1,000.00
4. The S. Lee Vavuris Legal Scholarship, in the amount of $1,000.00
5. The Dr. Anthony P. Bagatelos Scholarship, in the amount of 75% of interest earned.

Please complete and forward the appropriate application to the attention of: The Scholarship Committee, 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, California 94103 by September 1, 2021. (Note: due to COVID-19, the date has been changed from May 24 to September 1.)

The application must be accompanied by the following:

* An Official Transcript from the Office of the Registrar at your High School or College (University/ Vocational School) AND Recent SAT or ACT Scores.

* A Letter of Recommendation from ONE (1) Member in Good Standing with the Cathedral of the Annunciation

* A brief resume (2 page maximum) about yourself including: honors/awards, special skills, extracurricular information, education, and life goals.

* Additionally, the applicant (or, if the applicant is under 18 years of age, the applicant’s parent(s)/guardian(s) must be a member of the Annunciation Cathedral. A member of the Cathedral includes support of the Cathedral through Stewardship. A 2021 Stewardship Pledge Card must have been filed with the Cathedral in order for the scholarship application to be considered.

* Relative to the Bagatelos/Vavuris Scholarships: Applicants for the Dr. Anthony P. Bagatelos and the Judge S. Lee Vavuris Legal Scholarships must be of Greek descent or of the Greek Orthodox faith. These scholarships are awarded to students who matriculate at and attend medical/law school, preferably at Stanford University/University of San Francisco and intend to practice medicine/law within the nine county area, surrounding San Francisco Bay, preferably San Francisco.

Up to 75% of the income earned by the Bagatelos Scholarship Fund is awarded in the form of a scholarship for tuition or other school-
related expenses. Typically, the scholarship is awarded to the same student until that student graduates from medical school, provided that, after submitting the initial application, the student requests the medical school to verify to the Annunciation Cathedral, in writing, by June 1, that the student has satisfactorily completed course work for the year. As for the Vavuris Scholarship, the scholarship is awarded by the Annunciation Cathedral, in concert with the Hellenic Law Society. The restrictions which govern the Bagatelos Scholarship do not apply to the Vavuris Scholarship.
* All Applicants: Applicants will be notified as soon as possible following the September 1, 2021 deadline. Certificates of scholarship will be presented on a date and at a venue (virtual or otherwise), which will be included with the acceptance letters to the recipients. see scholarship application, next page

Annunciation Cathedral
Andrew & Efrosine Vellis
Memorial Scholarship

The Sunday School of Annunciation Cathedral has created a scholarship in memory of Andrew and Efrosine Vellis for their dedication to both the Sunday School and the Annunciation Cathedral.

The scholarship is for $1,000.00.

Selection of the recipient will be based on the following criteria:
• Applicant must have been a registered student of Annunciation Cathedral Sunday School with regular participation and attendance; or Sunday School students who have gone on to serve as altar boys or Sunday School teachers with regular participation and attendance.
• Applicant (if over 18 years old) or the parents (if under 18 years old) must be members in good standing of Annunciation Cathedral.
• Candidates must provide evidence of their scholastic standing, including official transcript records.
• All candidates must be students in good standing at an accredited institution of higher education or accredited high school.
• Candidates must submit a fully completed application to the Scholarship Committee of the Annunciation Cathedral Sunday School. The Scholarship Committee to include the parish priest, Sunday School Principal, two Sunday School teachers, and a member of the Vellis Family.
• All required documentation, as listed on the checklist below, must be included with your submission.
• Financial need will be considered, but will not be the uppermost criterion.

MAKE SURE YOUR APPLICATION SUBMISSION INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:
– Official transcripts from High School and College (if applicable)
– Letter of acceptance (for those entering college) or proof that you are a full time student (for those already attending college)
– Submit Two Letters of Recommendation – one of these must be from an Annunciation Sunday School Teacher or a member in good standing of the Annunciation Cathedral
– A brief resume (2 page maximum) about yourself including:
  § Honors/Awards
  § Special skills
  § Extracurricular information
  § Education
  § Goals

Please utilize the general scholarship application, found in this Herald.

Please send your completed applications (with all the required documentation) to:
Sunday School Scholarship Committee
Annunciation Cathedral
245 Valencia Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Incomplete applications and late submissions will not be accepted by the committee, nor will they be considered.

Philoptochos Scholarship
Award 2021

The Annunciation Philoptochos are eager to help support young women and men who are spiritually faithful and productive members of their communities. This year, we have added a new component to the scholarship application process which requires the candidate to demonstrate a type of service they have participated in. This entails documentation to show the committee what was accomplished. We will accept proof of service in your packet. Please refer to “Scholarship Application of the Annunciation” newsletter for more information.

We would like the community to encourage students to apply for a scholarship. This is the time to find students and ask them to apply. We welcome all applicants. We know that our young people are very much involved in making the world a better place to live in.

SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:
It is a requirement of the applicant to give evidence that they have completed community service in keeping with the spirit of the Philoptochos Mission in one or more of the following areas:
• Making a difference in the needs of a local or international community
• Participating in charitable activities
• Serving the San Francisco Annunciation Cathedral
• Helping those in need such as the less fortunate, hungry, elderly
• Supporting global and environmental concerns

Can you demonstrate as an individual how you are helping society? Please provide us with a 1-page letter of intent that you have complied with any of the above. Your application packet should include evidence of how you have fulfilled the above criteria, such as: pictures, projects, certificates, letter from your teacher or project director. We are looking for candidates who have demonstrated community service in order to match the vision of Philoptochos.
2021 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. NAME___________________________________________________________

2. ADDRESS______________________________________________CITY_________ZIP_______

3. AGE______DATE OF BIRTH______________TELEPHONE____________________

4. E-MAIL_________________________________FAX____________________________

5. HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE you are currently attending ______________________

6. COLLEGE you will be attending in the fall_______________________________

7. Field of Study: Major__________Minor___________

8. Actual Grade Point Average____Weighted GPA_____

9. Date of High School Graduation_____________Career Objectives____________

10. Name of Parent(s) or Guardian __________________________________________

11. Address (if different from above) __________________________________________

12. Involvement of Applicant with the Cathedral { } Member { } Youth { } Choir { } Sunday School { } Greek School { } Altar { } Dance Group { } Athletics { } Note: Altar Servers and Sunday School students, please indicate years of service. From_____to_____. Did you participate in the parish Oratorical Festival? Yes { } No { } Other ________________________________

13. School Honors & Awards_______________________________________________

14. Offices held in Class, School, or Church Organizations________________________

15. Out-of-School Activities________________________________________________

16. Have you received a Cathedral, Cathedral Philoptochos or Vellis Scholarship in previous years? YES{ } NO [ ] Number________ Year(s)_____________

(Priority will be given to those who have not previously received a Scholarship.)

APPLICANT’S STATEMENT: I hereby certify that I am a Greek Orthodox Christian (or, of Greek descent, if applicable), spiritually in good standing and a member of the Annunciation Cathedral, San Francisco, California (or otherwise qualify as noted in the instructions). I have answered the above questions correctly and to the best of my knowledge. I will use any funds awarded to me (to be credited to my school account, or to me, if crediting my account will reduce other scholarship awards) as a result of this application for the sole purpose of assisting me in my higher education.

Signature of Applicant___________________________________Date_______________
gladsome tidings. Then Peter and John arrived, having learned from Mary Magdalene what had come to pass, and when they entered the tomb, they found only the winding sheets. Therefore, they returned again to the city with joy, as heralds now of the supernatural Resurrection of Christ, Who in truth was seen alive by the disciples on this day on five occasions.

Our Lord, then, was crucified, died, and was buried on Friday, before the setting of the sun, which was the first of His “three days” in the grave; observing the mystical Sabbath, that “seventh day” in which it is said that the Lord “rested from all His works” (Gen. 2:2-3), He passed all of Saturday in the grave; and He arose “while it was yet dark, very early in the morning” on Sunday, the third day, which, according to the Hebrew reckoning, began after sunset on Saturday.

As we celebrate today this joyous Resurrection, we greet and embrace one another in Christ, thereby demonstrating our Savior’s victory over death and corruption, and the destruction of our ancient enmity with God, and His reconciliation toward us, and our inheritance of life everlasting. The feast itself is called Pascha, which is derived from the Hebrew word which means “passover”; because Christ, Who suffered and arose, has made us to pass over from the curse of Adam and slavery to the devil and death unto our primal freedom and blessedness.

Mary Magdalene, and the other women who were present at the burial of our Savior on Friday evening, returned from Golgotha to the city and prepared fragrant spices and myrrh, so that they might anoint the body of Jesus. The next day, because of the law which forbids work on the day of the Sabbath, they rested. But at early dawn on the Sunday that followed, almost thirty-six hours since the death of the Life-giving Redeemer, they came to the sepulcher with the spices to anoint His body. While they were considering the difficulty of rolling away the stone from the door of the sepulcher, there was a fearful earthquake; and an Angel, whose countenance shone like lightning and whose garment was white as snow, rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards that were there became as though dead from fear and took to flight. The women, however, went into the sepulcher, but did not find the Lord’s body. Instead, they saw two other Angels in the form of youths clothed in white, who told them that the Savior had risen, and they sent forth the women, who ran to proclaim to the disciples these

Holy Week and Pascha

It was truly a blessing to celebrate the services of Holy Week and Pascha with our faithful gathered together again. Although only limited numbers of parishioners were allowed to attend per city guidelines, this year was such a joy compared to last year’s unprecedented services which we spent apart. Enjoy this reading which recounts the events of the Resurrection as well as a few photos from our services in which we were able to welcome back some of our faithful:

Holy Friday Night Lamentations Service

Midnight Anastasi Service
List of Stewards
Please find our list of 2021 pledged Stewards of the Cathedral below. As we navigated the unpredictable waters of COVID-19 restrictions this year, your stewardship contributions were of critical assistance and our appreciation cannot be overstated. Your stewardship offering allows us to continue God’s work year after year. While we always strive for top accuracy in compiling our master list of stewards, unfortunately mistakes do happen. We apologize in advance if you are a steward and you do not see your name listed below. Please let us know and we will remedy our list and make a posting of correction in our next Herald.

Aleck, Demetria
Aleck, Patricia
Allen, Maria & Andrew
Ambus, Anthony & Zetta
Ambus, Dr. Antonia
Ambus, Dr. George & Tessa
Ambus, Dr. Terry & Marina
Anagnostou, Lillian
Arsinooos, Mariam
Arvanitidis, Athena & Nicholas
Athena Arvanti
Athanasiaudes, Philip & Diala
Bagatelas, Michael
Balian, Annamarie & Robert
Banks, Bradley
Bardis, John & Kathleen
Bazgan, George
Benevity Taptelis, Tom & Helen
Bissas, Maria
Blasingame, Katina
Boutiette, Mary Ann & Andrew
Bozionelos, Jim & Florika
Callas, Ellen
Cardellini, Marie
Carter, Eleni Larissopoulos
Cazanis, Katerina & Peter
Cheong, Bryan
Cocoles, Jim & Luba
Contos, Christopher
Curd, Vivian & John
Cusulos, Nan
Dakis, Mrs. Elli
Dalianes, Athan & Marguerite
Davies, Ethel
Decker, Christina
Delis, Nicholas & Stephanie
Demetry, Andrew
Dermitzakis, Katherine
Dhawan, Anirudh & Brittany
Drolapas, Mrs. Themis
Doukas, Kenny & Danae
Efstratis, Jenny & Greg
Eliopoulos, Annette & John
Eliopoulos, Louie
Eliopoulos, Peter John
Elite, Dr. Anthony
Fischer, Gary & Alex Zaphiris
Fkiaras, Evgenia
NFonourgakis, Demetra
Fonti, George & Sophia
Fortunati, Allegra (anonymous)
Fotenos, Mr. James F.
Fousekis, Mr. & Mrs.
Vlasis and Kallioppe
Fousekis, Shareen & Spiros
Fragakis, Charalambos & Marianthe
Franco, Mrs. Helen
Gaier, Samantha
Garibaldi, David & Kathie
Gazulis, Theodore & Christine
Georgatos, Mr. & Mrs. Nicko M.
Georges, Alexander C. W.
Georgiadis, John & Sophia
Gikas, Paul & Meltmem
Glafkides, Mr. & Mrs. Constantine
Glaros, Stanley
Grampas, Bonnie
Gumas, Alexandre
Gumas, John & Janice
Haginikols, Leo & Tiffany
Haralabopoulos, Peter
Haralambopoulos,
Constantine & Eleftheria
Haramis, Maria
Haras, Panagiota
Hernandez, Mr. Jose & Sofia Klefotgionne
Hillas, Patrick
Holloway, Vicki Eleni
Johns, Mr. & Mrs. John
Kallas, John & Kristina
Kallas, Mrs. Louise
Kamenis, Steve & Eleni Linda
Kanakis, Evangelia & Peter
Karas, Angelus
Karas, Bill
Karas, Chris
Karas, Eva
Karas, Joanna
Karas, Kathy
Karsant, Dr. & Mrs. Constantine
Kastoras, Athanasios & Niki
Katen, Ken
Katsanis, Gari
Kavaliris, James & Joanne
Kemper, Scott
Kenney, Danae & Knute
Keramari, Demitrios and Arhondoulou
Kelftogianni, Sofia
Kokalis, Despina Nick
Konstantinidis, Deno C. & Bella
Kontonis, Andreas & Maria
Kontonis, Nick & Athena
Kosaris, Paul & Irene
Kosmas, Dimitra & Fanourgiais, Mike
Kottas, Angelos
Koulos, Mr. & Mrs. Leo Paul
Koupas, Evelyn
Kouropoulos, Georgia
Koutoulas, Dina
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Fundraiser Success! Crab Feed 2021

Thank you for your donations for our crab feed fundraiser. To date, we have raised over $10,000 and will be shared among our ministries. So far, we have given to the following ministries.

• $1000 to SF/Marin Food Bank who we partner with to help with our Ministry of Feeding the hungry through Community Kitchen
• $1000 to Kids ‘n’ Cancer, which is a SF Metropolis ministry that supports children affected with cancer and their families
• $250 to American Heart Association as part of Philoptochos’ February Go Red Sunday, support for women’s health

If you have not yet donated, we are still taking donations to meet our goal of $16,000, and each donor will be entered into a drawing where we will be giving away four icons. Reminder, the drawing is in lieu of our traditional raffle.

See you next year!

Membership Renewal 2021

Greetings to you all with love and faith!

The month of March is known for the start of new beginnings. The word “march” means to move or cause to move along with a steady step with others. It is the perfect time for all of us to renew our pledge of membership forward.

Since 1933 the San Francisco Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos has impacted the lives of many people through our charitable programs and events. We are an integral part of the Cathedral and those in need in our communities. This year, more than ever, because of COVID-19, we need to come together to meet the challenges in front of us.

Your considered membership pledge of a minimum of $50.00 or more allows our chapter to continue the work of Philoptochos. Please keep in mind that $15.00 of your pledge goes to National Philoptochos charities and $15.00 to the Metropolis Philoptochos’s ministries leaving the remainder of your pledge to support our chapter’s programs and initiatives for our church and local community level needs.

If you are a member and have not received your renewal note or if you would like to join our organization, please email Annunciation@annunciation.org or call 415-864-8000 for more information or fill out the below. Membership is open to women and men who are 18 years or older and a Greek Orthodox Christian.

We thank you for your continued support.

Yes, I pledge my support of $50.00 or more to Church, Community and Chapter

After thought and prayer, attached please find my 2021 Philoptochos pledge in the amount of $_____________. Please make checks payable to: Annunciation Philoptochos and mail to 245 Valencia St., San Francisco, CA 94103, Attn: Philoptochos

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________

Phone #: ____________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________
In the Spirit of Philoptochos

Let us celebrate Rose “Rosie” Sogotis! An amazing woman and an incredible recovery! -Parasteka!

Let us remember Terpsichore “Terpsi” Varanis.
May her smile and memory be eternal!

“AND SO LET US BE GLAD AND BEAR WITH PATIENCE EVERYTHING THE WORLD THROWS AT US, SECURE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT IT IS THEN THAT WE ARE MOST IN THE MIND OF GOD.”
- ST. BASIL THE GREAT

Terpsi’s famous Cretan Koulourakia recipe. Enjoy!
Μια μαντινάδα θα σας πω
Που είναι από την Κρήτη
Να ζήσετε χρόνια πολλά
Ωσάν το Ψυλορήτη.

Και πάλι θα την ξανά πω
Απάνω στο λεμόνι
Με τα μέλη όλοι.

One madenatha I will tell you
That is from Crete
May you all live many years
Like Psiloliti. (highest mountain in Crete)

And again I will tell you
Atop of the lemon tree
May we build the Annunciation
With all the members.

Written by Terpsichore
2021 Annunciation Cathedral Mother’s Day

We have missed seeing you all this past year, and missed our traditions, one of which, is our annual Mother’s Day luncheon and fashion show. This year, since we still can’t gather together, we have found some fun virtual ideas for you to connect with the special women in your lives.

Virtual tour of the World’s most beautiful gardens
In this 20-minute video, take a narrated tour of 15 of the world’s most beautiful gardens together. There are a few commercials, so make sure you hit the “skip ad” button.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-8O7dR4wsg

This video, about 6 minutes long (no ads), highlights 10 of the world’s most beautiful gardens. There are several different gardens than in the link above. Take a look at this one too!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wG3R8IspQ0I

“Mom”- osas
Want to try something a little different for Mother’s Day this year? Find your favorite mimosa or create one! There are 40 different mimosa recipes in the link to appeal to anyone’s tastebuds. Find your favorite or try a few with a mimosa bar. Cheers!

https://www.countryliving.com/food-drinks/g3073/mimosa-recipe/

Remembrance of women
On Mother’s Day, May 9th, Father Stephen will read the names of special women that we would like to honor in each of our lives. Please send in names of women, whose names you would like read, living or deceased. We would appreciate a small donation to Philoptochos, $10 or whatever you feel comfortable donating to support our charitable work. Please send your list of names and donation to: Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos 245 Valencia St. San Francisco, CA 94103. All names must be received no later than Friday, May 7th.

Reliving one of our best events – That’s Amore!
Watch one of our favorite fashion shows again – “That’s Amore” for a taste of Italy!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwaDtUZoecLt=208s

Thank you for your never-ending support. Until we can be together again…We wish you all a Happy Mother’s Day!
Greek School News

The Greek Consulate of San Francisco is offering a Summer Internship for college students that would be interested! The Consulate recommends the student have a basic understanding of the Greek Language for the work they would be assisting with. If you or someone you know might be interested in this excellent experience, please contact our Greek School Director Shu Yeung via email, shu_yeung@yahoo.com

New College Youth Group

Last month we had our first meeting of our Cathedral College Students group. It was wonderful to be able to connect with our college students even though they are spread across different locations near and far. College is a very formational time in life, so we are happy to keep our students connected with their church as they experience their respective brave new worlds. If you are a college student yourself or perhaps the parent of a college student, please contact Christo Pappademos or Andrew Miltiades to learn more about this new ministry!

Christo.pappademos@annunciation.org
Andrew.miltiades@annunciation.org

Online Registration:
We are excited to announce that this fall, sign ups and registration for all of our various Youth Ministries will be done online. Parents will now be able to see any and all youth programs being offered by the Cathedral and can sign up their children for as many programs as they’d like.

While it is yet to be known what form our programs will take considering current restrictions and fluctuation of the tiers system, this online registration process will allow us to prepare our youth activities no matter the circumstances. Whether in-person, virtual, or a combination of both, come this fall we will be welcoming our kids to the various ministries of the Cathedral. We cannot wait to welcome our kids back!
Our Altar servers, Archon Paul Sogotis, and Parish Council President Chris Kyriacou with Father Stephen and Metropolitan Gerasimos after the Proti Anastasi service Saturday morning.

Father Stephen and his Grandsons Thanos and Vlasis Kyriacou at Apokathilosis service

Philoptochos President Janis Petrou with two recipients of the Philoptochos Scholarship, Stelios Kyriacou and Andrew Vellis
God has a way of providing. He sees our needs, our desires, and when something is for our good He gives it to us. When someone needs help in something, Christ and Panaghia help.

Saint Paisios of Mount Athos
Spiritual Counsels Vol. II Spiritual Awakening p.282
President Chris Kyriacou, Archon Paul Sogotis, and Christo Pappademos lowering Christ from the Cross during the Apokathilosis service on Holy Friday afternoon
Left to Right: Kostas Lyberopoulos, Christo Pappademos, Vlasis Kyriacou, Parish Council President Chris Kyriacou, Father Stephen Kyriacou, Archon Orphanotrophos Paul Sogotis, Panayioti Sogotis, Stelios Kyriacou, and Yianni Kyriacou after the midnight Anastasis or Resurrection service.