SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2021

SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

EPITLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 16, Verses 16-34.

THE BLIND MAN: This morning’s Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John, Chapter 9, Verses 1-38.

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

GREEK SCHOOL AND SUNDAY SCHOOL: Once again, we extend congratulations to our Greek School and Sunday School programs upon the completion of their respective school year. All of our teachers and students are to be commended for overcoming the difficulties of this past year by holding classes virtually. Our Sunday School held its final class on Sunday, May 23rd and will resume in the fall (hopefully, for in-person instruction), on Sunday, September 26th. Similarly, our Greek School held its final class yesterday, June 5 and will resume in the fall (again, hopefully, for in-person instruction) on Saturday, September 11.

CATHEDRAL’S 100TH ANNIVERSARY: 100 years ago, on May 17th, 1921 a banquet was held at the Fairmont Hotel, celebrating the decision to establish the Cathedral. Two days later, on May 19, a group of San Francisco Greeks, essentially the first Parish Council, met to discuss a path forward. The former Archbishop of Athens, Meletios Metaxakis, presided over the meeting and noted how, at the Fairmont Hotel (in the Gold Room, specifically) two days earlier, “a decision was made to establish the cathedral church...” The next day, May 20, the Council met again, with Metaxakis presiding, and decided to purchase property at Hayes and Pearce Streets and to erect the cathedral there, along with a school, diocesan offices, and an orphanage. The rest is history. In 1928, the community voted to relocate to its present location on Valencia Street. And the Cathedral’s 100-year-old story continues from there. But, it all began on May 17, 1921.

STEWARDSHIP AND YOU: Dear Parishioners and friends of the Cathedral, All times can be said to be trying times. This, for certain, can be said about the upending last 16 months, which has taken its toll upon our worship life. Thankfully, we are recovering and are engaged in the rebuilding of our parish life and its many ministries. It is of vital importance that you continue to pledge and fulfill your support, through stewardship and, now that more and more people are being vaccinated, by in-person worship. In spite of the pandemic, 2020 was a banner year for us: we ended the year with 323 stewards (which includes 7 new families!). This year, however, we are reporting only 249 stewards, as of May 27, 2021. We know that some of you are waiting until later in the year to declare your support. We would encourage you to do so sooner rather than later.

HILARION THE RIGHTEOUS, THE NEW SAINT; ATTALOS THE WONDERWORKER

"Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs, granting life."
CONSTRUCTION MANAGER FOR PHASE 2 HIRED. This week, the Parish Council, acting on the recommendation of the Building Committee, hired Joel Josehart as construction manager to coordinate and oversee the completion of the interior of the new cathedral. We are in the process of interviewing contractors for the work. Joel will help us transition from contractors who built the exterior and bring to a conclusion some pending matters, as the garage. Meanwhile, the Capital Campaign Committee has resumed its task of raising the funds to complete the project, estimated at $4 million. The Cathedral already has on hand the $1.5 million bequest by the late Sam George as well as money from the paver project... 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.”