The 2023 San Francisco Greek Food Festival was a record-breaking success both in terms of revenue and attendance! We thank the hard work and dedication of our Festival Chairs and Committee, generous donors, committed volunteers, and, of course, the many who attended our event, for this amazing achievement!

For over seven decades, our church community has come together in faith, fellowship, and Greek philotimo to produce this beloved annual event.

San Francisco Greek Food Festival an ALL Time Success!

October Schedule of Services

Sunday, October 1
Second Sunday of Luke,
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

Sunday, October 8
Third Sunday of Luke
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

Sunday, October 15
Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

Sunday, October 22
Sixth Sunday of Luke
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

Thursday, October 26
Feast Day of Saint Dimitrios
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

Sunday, October 29
Seventh Sunday of Luke
9:00 Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

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event. Even though the Food Festival is the largest fundraiser for our church, it is indeed more than that. The Festival is an extension of ourselves and an invitation to the broader community to come to our home on Valencia Street in celebration of our Greek culture and faith.

The Festival is an admirable intergenerational volunteer effort that starts months before the actual event and requires countless hours of planning, prepping, cleaning, coordinating, ordering, baking, cooking, setting up. And then during the weekend of the Festival itself, it is three days of non-stop work! Our annual event truly encapsulates the best of who we are. With that, we celebrate all we accomplished this year and look forward to surpassing our record achievements in the coming year!
Donations

Donations fuel the festival, and every single dollar and in-kind donation makes a meaningful impact! We express our gratitude to these individuals for their gracious contributions.

(Donor list as of the cut-off date for publication. Any additional names will be included in next month’s Herald. If this list contains any errors, please contact the church office and the corrections will be reflected in next month’s publication.)

Patricia Aleck & Demetria Aleck
Christina Armatas
Michael Bagatelas
Peter Bagatelas
Mary Chicos
Commerce Holding Company (Greek Orthodox Memorial Park)
Duggan’s Serra Mortuary
Evvia Estiatorio
Mike & Mia Fanourgiakis
George & Sophia Fonti
Gus’s Community Market (The Vardakastanis Family)
Leo & Tiffany Haginicols
Panagiota Haras
James & Joanne Kavalaris
Kokkari Haras
Paul & Irene Kosaris
Kostas Petrakos Films
Kosta, Grace, Panayioti & Isabella Koutoulas
Father Stephen & Presvytera Aliki Kyriacou Family
George & Judy Marcus
Sophie Makras
Michael & Christina Misthos
Robert & Helen Morales
Vaso Moulas
Dean & Maria Nicolacakis
Nick Nicklas
Alexander & Lula Ossipoff
John & Helen Panomitros
Dr. Sophia Papageorgiou
Pete’s Bar-B-Que
Lester & Chrisoula Pezo
Dean Poulakidas
Andrew & Evangelia Zarou
Raymond’s Sourdough Bread (The Ofiesh Family)
Emily Sarikakis
Mike & Katerina Sarikakis
Sequoia Produce Sales (The Teri & George Panagiotopoulos Family)
Archon Paul, Eva, Panayioti, & Yianni Sogotis
Mike & Vicky Spachis
Mario & Anastasia Stathopoulos
Marilena Stavrides
The Chick-N-Coop
Christi Tsipakos
Irene Vafiades
George Vlahos
Loula Vriheas
Volunteers

The Festival is a 100% volunteer effort! We express our gratitude to these individuals who dedicated their time and energy to make our Festival a great event. Their Time and talent makes our festival a success! It takes a village.

Thank you so very much!!

Name:
John Lampros
Antigone Skoulas
Denise Yeilding
Christos Mastrokyriakos
Marilena Stavrides
Christos Kolias
Mia Fanourgiakis
Pauline Oetzel
Zack Montgomery
Allyson Montgomery
Alkinoos Strongylous
Grace Koutoulas
Pat Hillas
Deno Konstantinidis
Chris Kyriacou
Evange Dekaristos
Shu Yeung
Mike Sarikakis
Jim Rakos
Eleni Taptelis
Mike Spachis
Mike Spachis
Alexandra Athanasiadi
Kallie Lyberopoulos
Maria Mastrokyriakos
Magda Lampros
Maxwell J Sugarman
Michael Evans
Penny Vardakastanis
George Ambus
Jenny Dedo
Greg Efstratis
Tessa ambus
Yilin chen
Haroon Iftikhar
Patty Rally
Sabrina T. Kwist
Katerina, Iliana, Giorgo Cazanis
Athena
Zach Tzavelis
Bonnie Grampas
Sally Verdos
Kathy Peterson
Bob Peterson
Foula Vasiliogiorgis
Nick Svetcoff
Tasso Mavrodis
Gus Vellis
Aris Vellis
Andrew Vellis
Genie Mantzoros
Maria Allen
Nick Tarfson

Bella Konstantinidis
Maria Bissas
Vasso Moulas
Ledakourita
Kostas Nikoloudakis
Panos Bakos
Katerina Ziotopoulou
Ariadni Travasarou
Alexanros Panotopoulos
Kyriakos Attouni
Chrisoula Pezo
Lester Pezo
Nico Pezo
Brittany Henderson
Paul Gikas
Ted Gikas
Milen Gikas
Emily Sarikakis
Katerina Sarikakis
Mike Kasolis
Nick Svetooff
Irene Vafiades
Nick vafiades
Kieran Snow
Kelly Rakos
Diber Dimitr Fanourgiakis
John Roberts
Daniel Castagnola
Nico Pappas
Maria Soklaris
Konstantinos Michaiapis
George Kapogliss
Evi Katsouleri
Bill Stavroulakis
Konstantina Tsilipira
Jimmy Cosnos
Aggelos Ioannou
Maria Stranza
Jimmy Cosnos
Antonis Fkiaras
Nephei Aji
Eleni Fkiaris
Michael Stephens
Erica Roberts
Peter Kotsonis
Chris Karas
Stacey Kontakos
Tatiana Kyriakides
Alexia Kleinkorte
Brittany Dhawan
Rachael Johansen
Eric Johansen
LeeLoo Johansen
Gus Johansen
Georgia Vardakastanis
Thalia Benetatos
Ellen Callas
Andi Esteves
Andrew Esteves
Gabby Gonzales
Evangelia Raptis-Zarou
Andrew Zarou
Matheos Zarou
Stella Kasolas
Kevin Yeilding
Katie Yeilding
Socrates Demetriades
Theo Deligiris
Patty Rally
Janine Economides
Mike Economides
Mariam Arsinos
Irene Kyriakou
Vlassis Kyriacou
Thanos Kyriacou
Vasilios Kerr
Cathy Apostol
Barbara Millett
Despina Poulos
Elise Brand
Erika Brand
Panayioti Sogotis
Yianni Sogotis
Zac Wooster
Peter Kotsonis
Sophia Kotsonis
Patricia Pantazis
Sophia Kleftogianni
Kathy Dermazakis
Julie Simonot
Loretta Simonot
George Simonot
Maria Papadaki
Nick Kontonis
Peter Manetis
Dimitri Kontonis
Dimitri Rally
Tom Nuris
Tiffany Hagincols
Elis Hagincols
Taia Konstantinides
Christos Konstantinides
Leo Hagincols
Chris Contos
Maria Lentzou
Filareti Tzalla
Rada Nashawati
Meena Vellis
Vivian Curd
Jan Petrou
Liberty Nuris
Maria Manetis
Maria Bran
Despina Poulos
Maria Vavuris
Rose Sogotis
Vicki Holloway
Eleni Pappas
Pat Aleck
Dusty Spiliotis
Paul Van Wambke
David Dermatzakis
Tony Kutoulas
Anastasia Rakos
Nico Manetis
A Rakos
Tina Kontonis
Maria Nicolakis
Mom Nicolakis
George Vorrises
Tom Pantazis
Zac Montgomery
Lea Lyberopoulos
Lea Papavasiliou
Presvytera Aliki Kyriacou
Scott Schulman
Stefan Schulz
Dean Nicolakis
Andoni Ambus
Tessa Ambus
Iliana Cazanis
Giorgio Cazanis
Andrew Zarou
Matthew Nuris
Kosta Kontonis
Andoni Ambus
Jim Cooles
Luba Cooles
Irene Melitas
Vicky Spachis
Maria Pappis
Paul Sogotis
Jim Vorrisess
Jack Spachis
Helen Panomitros
Evgenia Fkiaras
Vicky Moulas
Bobby Fragakis
Stella Vafiades
Nick Vhreheas
On Sunday, September 10, the Elpida program resumed after our summer break. It was so nice to see the church full of children.

PreK-K was taught by Giana Papavasiliou. Children learned about the Nativity of the Theotokos, which is celebrated on September 8th. Children had the opportunity to celebrate the Theotokos’s birthday. Children made birthday cards and even decorated their own cupcakes to celebrate the Theotokos. We all had so much fun!

Our 1st through 4th graders were taught by Maria Nicolacakis. Maria taught about the great work of St. Euphorosnos. St. Euphrosonos the Cook is celebrated on September 11th. Children learned about his life and his work. St. Euphrososnos is known to carry a bag of apples to represent his journey to paradise. Children completed some fun apple projects, and enjoyed some apple crisp as a class.

Eleni Taptelis bravely took on our largest class, our middle school. Eleni taught our middle schoolers about the Elevation of the Holy Cross that is celebrated on September 14th.

Children learned about St. Helen and her journey to the cross. Children also learned that basil was found growing near the cross when St. Helen found it. Children planted their own basil plants, and will be able to share the herb with their families.

High School this session was taught by Mia Fanourgiakis. Mia focused her lesson on the Church’s Great feasts. Children talked about their own spiritual goals—which lead to a beautiful conversation about the Sacrament of Confession. Christo Pappademos will provide an opportunity for the children to participate in the Sacrament of Confession in the upcoming fall months.

Our next Elpida Sunday will be on October 15th. We hope to see you all there!

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

— Jeremiah 29:11
Men’s Fellowship – Save the Date

Our next gathering of the Men’s Fellowship group will take place on Thursday October 19th. Social/cocktail hour will begin at 6:00 PM. Dinner and program will follow at approximately 7:00 PM. These meetings provide a great opportunity for us to reconnect with our friends, our community, and our faith. If you plan to attend our next meeting, please contact Jim Rakos at jim.rakos@annunciation.org to RSVP.

Parish General Assembly

Our next regularly scheduled General Parish Assembly will take place on Sunday, November 19th in our Church Hall after the Divine Liturgy. All 2023 Stewards of our Annunciation Parish are invited to attend!

Bible Study:

We have been approached by several members to bring back our Bible Study group. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and learn more about our faith.

Please respond to Christo.pappademos@annunciation.org if you are interested in joining in virtually after Church on Sundays in Person. We would love a volunteer to help with inviting and coordinating.

Our Dance Program

We welcome the 2023-2024 dance season with excitement! After an amazingly successful post Covid Fdf, Annunciation Cathedral’s dance groups are ready to get back into action!

Practice has already begun as of Sunday, August 20 after church services. We welcome any new dancers! Revmata, to Mellon, Spithes, Rizes and our youngest group (yet to be named) are ready to begin their dance season with our festival in September. We look forward to showcasing our wonderful dancers at our successful festival.

Our dancers:

4 to 6 year old group— our newest dance group directed by Evgenia Fkiarias. Taia Konstantinides, Alexis Rakos and Anastasia Rakos

Rizes (7 to 9 years old.) are directed by Penny Vardakastanis, Gianna Papavasiliou, and Kallie Lyberopoulos.

To Mellon (10-12 elementary/middle school age ) are directed by Irene Kyriacou and Katerina Sarikakis

Revmata (13-15 Middle school/high school age) are directed by Katerina Sarikakis, Eleni Taptelis, Stelios Kyriacou, and, Kostas Lyberopoulos

Spithes (16-young adult high school/college age) are directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos and, Lea Papavasiliou

Youth ministry Sunday:

Our dance groups were proud to represent themselves at our youth ministry event this past Sunday. There, we showcased how we celebrate our culture and faith through events, performances, and wearing traditional costumes that we are either making or have purchased. Below are some photos of our presentation to our cathedral’s parishioners!

We look forward to another amazing dance year filled with Kefi and new memories waiting to be made!
New Board of Directors Elected On Sunday September 10th following the Divine Liturgy, Fr. Amphilochos Gravalas administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected board members for the 2023-2025 term.

“I do solemnly affirm that I will uphold the dogma, teaching, traditions, holy canons, worship, and moral principles of the Greek Orthodox Church, as well as the Constitutional Charter, discipline and regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, and that I will fulfill faithfully and sincerely the duties and obligations required of the Board of Directors of the Philoptochos Society, so help me God.”

This is the oath taken by board members of each parish chapter. These few words summarize the commitment each member takes upon themselves when joining Philoptochos. Congratulations to the following dedicated group of women: Executive Board Members: Jan Petrou, President, Vivian Curd, 1st Vice President, Liberty Nuris, 2nd Vice President, Meena Vellis, Recording Secretary, Grace Koutoulas, Corresponding Secretary, Mariam Arsinoos, Treasurer.

Board Members: Kathy Dermitzakis, Joanne Glafkidas, Irene Poulakidas, Despina Poulos, Foula Vasilioiorgas, Maria Ramos, Kalliope Fousekis, Rada Nashawati, Irene Kyriacou and Pat Aleck (Advisor).

Food Festival Greek Pastry Booth
Using recipes handed down over many generations the ladies made thousands of koulourakia and kourambiedes, as well as hundreds of melomakarona, baklava and galaktoboureko.

Thank you to each and everyone of the volunteers that worked so hard giving their time and talent to make our booth such a tremendous success. A lot of work went into making this year’s delicious pastries. It all came together because of your love and dedication to Annunciation and Philoptochos.

Calendar 2023-2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
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<td>November 5</td>
<td>'Meet and Greet' Event</td>
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<td>December 2</td>
<td>Christmas Pastry Bake Sale</td>
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<td>December 14</td>
<td>Philoptochos Christmas Party/Lunch @ Nick’s Rockaway in Pacifica</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 14</td>
<td>Vasilopita</td>
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<td>January 26</td>
<td>Crab Feed</td>
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2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

For the 2024 spring semester, the following scholarships will be offered:

1. **Philoptochos Scholarship**, in the amount of $1,500.00
   *Relative to the Philoptochos Scholarship:
   a. Applicant must show commitment to public service through participation in a community, person or cause.

2. **The Andrew and Efrosine Memorial Scholarship**, in the amount of $1,500.00
   *Relative to the Andrew and Efrosine and Vellis Scholarship:
   a. Applicant must have participated in a youth activity such as Sunday school, altar, Greek School, dance group, and/or as a volunteer in a Cathedral-sponsored event.  
   b. The Scholarship Committee and a member of the Vellis Family will review the application.

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 2023-2024 Stewardship Pledge Card must have been filed with the Cathedral in order for the scholarship application to be considered.
* **All Applicants**: Applicants will be notified by phone as soon as possible following the December 3, 2023 deadline. Certificates of scholarship and acceptance letters will be mailed to the recipients.

Please complete the application and forward to the attention of:
The Scholarship Committee

   c/o Vivian Curd

245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, California 94103

Please note that the application must be submitted by December 3, 2023

Should you have any questions, contact Vivian Curd at vscurd@gmail.com
2024 SPRING SEMESTER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. NAME__________________________________________________________
2. ADDRESS_________________________________________________________
   CITY_____________________________________________________________ZIP________
3. AGE________DATE OF BIRTH________________________
4. E-MAIL__________________________________________________________TELEPHONE_____________________
5. HIGH SCHOOL / COLLEGE you are currently attending____________________
6. COLLEGE you will be attending in the spring________________________
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 / Young Adult Group, ☐Choir,
    ☐Sunday School, ☐Greek School, ☐Altar, ☐Dance Group, ☐Athletics
    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, Philoptochos or Vellis Scholarship in previous years?
    ☐Yes ☐No If yes, 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__________________
Dance Groups