

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul’s letter to the Hebrews Chapter 12, Verse 1-10: BRETHREN, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation which addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor lose courage when you are punished by him. For the Lord disciplines him whom he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers to discipline us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John Chapter 1, Verses 43-51: At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and he said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

Apolytikion of the Feast: Ἦχος β΄. Τὴν ἄχραντον Εἰκόνα σου, προσκυνοῦμεν ἀγαθέ, αἰτούμενοι συγχώρησιν τῶν πταισμάτων ἡμῶν, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός· βουλήσει γὰρ ἡὺδόκησας σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, ἵνα ῥύσῃ οὖς ἐπλασας, ἐκ τῆς δουλείας τοῦ ἐχθροῦ· ὅθεν εὐχαρίστως βοῶμέν σοι· Χαράς ἐπλήρωσας τὰ πάντα ὁ Σωτὴρ ἡμῶν, παραγενόμενος εἰς τὸ σῶσαι τὸν κόσμον.

Mode 2. We venerate Your immaculate icon, O good Lord, and entreat You to forgive our offenses, O Christ our God. By Your own choice you were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, to deliver us, whom You created, from our slavery to the foe. Therefore we cry to You with gratitude: You have filled all things with joy, O our Savior, by coming to save the world.

FDF RECOGNITION: Revmata, our high school group, directed by Eleni Taptelis, Katerina Sarikakis and Kosta Lyberopoulos placed 4th in the Intermediate category. They danced two rounds - one from Crete and one from Western Attica. **To Mellon**, our 4th - 8th grade group, directed by Irene Kyriacou, Katerina Sarikakis, Penny Vardakastanis and Kallie Lyberopoulos placed third in the Junior category. They also danced two rounds - one from Macedonia and one from Epirus.

STEWARDSHIP: Stewardship is the foundation of everything we do as a parish. It supports our ministries, programs, outreach, and the care and maintenance of our beloved Cathedral. Your commitment is not only vital to sustaining our work but also to building a stronger future for our community. Visit www.annunciation.org/pledge or, if you prefer, you can still complete a Stewardship card for 2025 at the Cathedral, and we continue to accept cash and check donations. Your support makes everything we do possible, and together we can continue to build a parish that honors our faith, supports our families, and serves as a beacon of Orthodoxy for the San Francisco Bay Area.

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY: We will celebrate Presanctified Liturgy **this Wednesday, March 12 at 6pm**. Holy Communion is offered at this beautiful Lenten service.

NOTICE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY – MARCH 30 In accordance with the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, a General Assembly will be held on **Sunday, March 30**, immediately following Divine Liturgy. All 2025 stewards of the Annunciation Cathedral are invited to attend this important gathering as we discuss the ministries of our Parish and provide key updates on the future of our community. Your participation, input, and ideas are invaluable as we work together to strengthen and grow our Cathedral. We look forward to seeing you there!

GIVING STATEMENTS: Giving statements for 2024 will be mailed soon to all parishioners. If you have a Realm account, you may also log in at any time to download and print your statement. If you have any questions or notice any discrepancies, please contact the church office at (415) 864-8000 or email RealmHelp@annunciation.org for assistance.

AN INVITATION TO HOST COFFEE HOUR: As part of our revitalized coffee hour program, we’re calling on all ministries, organizations, and our parishioners (individually or in teams!) to sign up to host one or more coffee hours over the course of the new year. We'll supply the coffee/ cream/ sugar, tablecloths, napkins, utensils – and you supply the goodies (e.g., pastries, donuts, bagels, small sandwiches, fruit/vegetable/cheese platters and assorted dips, or other similar items). **Note:** during the Lenten season (Mar 3 - Apr 19) was ask that the food items be suitable for the Lenten fast – i.e., no meat or dairy, please. We’re currently seeking hosts for the month of March (23rd) and April (6th and 27th). Please reach out to Irene Melitas (irene.melitas@annunciation.org, or, 925.212.8561) to sign-up and learn more.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN: Every third Tuesday of the month, we come together to prepare, serve, and share a hot meal with those in our neighborhood. **Our next gathering will take place on Tuesday, March 18.** If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at www.annunciation.org/ck-signup. If you are unable to volunteer but would like to support this important ministry, please consider making a financial donation at www.annunciation.org/ck-donate

COMEDY NIGHT WITH BASILE: Join us for a night of laughter on **Friday, April 25th, 2025** at the Annunciation Cathedral with the one and only Basile the Comedian.. General Admission: \$50 per person. VIP Meet & Greet and preferred seating: \$85. per person. Purchase tickets at www.annunciation.org/basile