SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT LENT: MARY OF EGYPT

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Hebrews, chapter 9, verses 11-14. It is found in our books on page 144.

“Who can despise him who despises the day of the Lord? For he is a servant of the Lord. The day of the Lord is a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and darkness. And if any man shall despise the day of the Lord, he shall be punished.”

THE RIGHTEOUS TITOS; THE VIRGIN MARTYR THEODORA

TODAY IS GODPARENTS SUNDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL: For almost thirty years, the Cathedral has been observing “Godparents Sunday” on the Sunday before Palm Sunday. As Palm Sunday falls on April 9 (next Sunday), today is “Godparents Sunday.” It is a special opportunity for you to have called your Godparents, or your Godchildren, and to have invited them to come and worship together. Just before Holy Communion is offered, we will recite our Baptismal vows:

1. Do you renounce Satan? R: I renounce Satan. Κατατάσσομαι τῷ Σατανᾷ. Αποτάσσοµαι. 2. Have you renounced Satan? R: I have renounced Satan. Πιστεύεις Αὐτῷ; Πιστεύω. 3. Do you join yourself to Christ? R: I do. Συντάσσοµαι τῷ Χριστῷ. 4. Have you joined yourself to Christ? R: I have. Συντάσσοµαι τῷ Χριστῷ. 5. And, do you believe in Him? R: I believe in Him as King and as God. Καὶ πιστεύεις Αὐτῷ; Πιστεύω ὡς Βασιλεῖ καὶ Θεῷ.

DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS THIS FRIDAY/DIVINE LITURGY, PALM TYING, ON SATURDAY: On Friday, April 7, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Immediately following, the Young Adults will convene at an area restaurant, for dinner. On Saturday, April 8, Lazarus Saturday, the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated, beginning at 10 a.m. Afterwards, our GOYA invites everyone to stay and help prepare the palms which will be distributed the next day, which is Palm Sunday.

ICON WORKSHOP AT ANNUNCIATION JUNE 19

If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Christina Vasilios, Kozák@sneakemail.com.

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY: (Sundays, 9 a.m., upstairs). This class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodoxy and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey, but it is also open to people who are already Orthodox and who would like to deepen their understanding of their faith. We explore Christian theology and practice through reading selections of Scripture, the Church Fathers, the lives of the Saints, and other texts representative of the Orthodox worldview. These readings are the starting point for our discussions, which aim at clarifying doctrine and worship and helping us to discover (or rediscover), week after week, why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Alexandros Kozák at orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com.

Today's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 10, Verses 32-45. It is found in our books on pages 299-301.

The semeiwnýmè eúanagleikí perikope ék toú kata Márrkon, keφ. 10, évàphi. 32-45, eýriskeitai eis tā biblia maías, sel. 298-300.

Today’s Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Eight (Plagal Four): Descending from on high, O merciful Lord, for us did You endure three days in the tomb, that we may be released from the passions of this world, You who are our Resurrection and our Life, Lord, glory to You. 

EE ὄψεσας κατηλθες, ο Εὐστάθιος, ταφην κατεξέχει τριήμερον, ἵνα ἔλευθερωσή τῶν παθῶν, ἢ Ζωή καὶ ἡ Ανάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε, δόξα σοι.

THE LORD’S PRAYER IN SPANISH: Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo; danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día; perdona nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; no nos dejes caer en la tentación, y libramos del Mal.
FULL STEAM AHEAD: We’re moving full steam ahead on our building project! Our landmark Cathedral, which is shaping up to be a center of our faith in the heart of the City, is nearing completion of the exterior. As for specifics, waterproofing of the deck and around the garage has been completed, as is the housing for the garage exhaust ducts. Meanwhile, the archways are also being restored. Oh, yes, we will also install temporary doors (the permanent doors will be added when the interior is completed, before using the space). Then, there’s exterior stone, columns, and ground pavers. That’s about it for the exterior.

(Now for the garage: we hope to start using the garage in about 90 days.) As for the interior: we hope to begin the upper wall installation by the end of 2017, as your generosity permits. In order for us to continue, we need your prayers and your continued financial support. You should be very proud of what you are doing. Share it with your friends, relatives and neighbors. Invite them to come and see just how you are responding to God’s invitation, “Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you.” (from the Septuagint: Καὶ ποιήσεις μοι ἁγίασµα, καὶ ὀφθήσοµαι ἐν ὑµῖν.)

(Exodus 25:8). When everything is completed, we will be able to consecrate the new Cathedral to the glory of God. More than likely, this will take place to coincide with our 100th anniversary, in 2021. God will bless us, indeed, if His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who laid the cornerstone back in 1997, also consecrates it to God’s glory! Now let’s move full-steam ahead to complete what we’ve begun!

“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.”

(Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, Ground breaking, November 6, 1997)