**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2018**

**MEATFARE SUNDAY**

**VLASTIOS THE HIEROMARTYR; THE EMPRESS THEODORA**

**HAPS HONORING METROPOLITAN Gerasimos:** The Cathedral welcomes members of the Hellenic American Professional Society of California (HAPS), which is celebrating its 41st Annual Commemoration of Greek Letters Day. The event includes an Artaclidion, at the conclusion of this morning’s Divine Liturgy, honoring its scholarship recipients. A luncheon will follow at 1 p.m. in our Korinthis Hall. During the Luncheon, the 2018 Axiosion Award will be given to His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco, for his leadership of the Metropolis and the many new ministries he has introduced for the benefit of our communities and our faithful.

**DANCE BOARD MEETING:** A meeting of the Dance Board will take place today, beginning at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will take place in the second-floor conference room.

**CRAB FEED SATURDAY, MARCH 3:** As noted, this year’s Crab Feed, sponsored by the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos, has been moved from Friday, January 26 to Saturday, March 3. The reason for the move was the unavailability of enough fresh crab to enable us to hold the crab feed in January. We trust you will be as supportive of the event on March 3rd, as the crab feed is a major fund raiser for our Philoptochos. In turn, the Philoptochos supports a number of philanthropies, as well as the rebuilding of this Cathedral.

**DIVINE LITURGY THIS SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17:** Commonly referred to as the “Second Saturday of Souls,” it is a day of remembrance, especially of our monastic brothers and sisters. Father Stephen will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at the Chapel of the Greek Orthodox Memorial Park, in Colma, beginning at 10 a.m. On Saturday, February 25, on which we commemorate the miracle of St. Theodore the Recruit (Tyrus), by means of kollyva, the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated here in our chapel, beginning at 10 a.m.

**STEWARDSHIP AND YOU:** Our 2018 Stewardship Campaign is well under way. We cannot stress how important it is for everyone, age 18 and above, who considers the Cathedral to be your home parish, to support its ministries through Stewardship. For, we are a family, and a family needs all its members doing their part, in order for it to be a happy, functioning family. We are proud to be a family that seeks to enable us to hold the cradle, feed the elderly, promote the arts, and sponsor many other worthwhile activities in our community - all in the name of Christ, who said, “Where your treasure is there your heart will be also.”

**STEWARDSHIP PRACTICE THIS WEEK:** By Week's End on Friday, members were encouraged to invite additional families to their Sunday Divine Liturgy. The message was well-received by those who attended. Let's make 2018 a huge year for outreach and stewardship. Let’s make 2018 a banner year for the Cathedral. Together, we can do it!

**BASKETBALL PRACTICE THIS WEEK:** Basketball practice will take place this week on Wednesday, February 14 and on Thursday, February 15, beginning at 7 p.m.

**FORGIVENESS VESPERS NEXT SUNDAY:** Beginning at 5:30 p.m. next Sunday, at the Church of the Holy Cross, Belmont, a Greater Bay Area service of forgiveness, known as “Forgiveness Vespers,” will be celebrated. All are invited to attend, as we prepare to enter Great Lent, the following day. A makaronada reception, hosted by the Holy Cross community, will follow.

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**EPITLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 8, Verse 8 – Chapter 9, Verse 2. It is found in our books on page 136.

**INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY:** This class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodox and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey. 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 by reading selections from 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) why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Alexandros Kozak at orthodoxy-agkozk@skneakemail.com. Note: The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month (rather than every Sunday). For February, the class met last Sunday, February 4, and is meeting again today, February 11.

**METROPOLIS YOUNG ADULT WINTER RETREAT:** The retreat will take place in Lake Tahoe, February 16-19, at the Galilee Episcopal Camp & Retreat Center. For online registration and more information: www.gosfyouth.org.
CLOSER AND CLOSER: We’re in the home stretch. As you can see, we are nearing completion of the exterior. We’ve recently been awarded a conditional use permit, which will enable us to secure a third-party operator to run the parking. Tentatively, we’ve been given April 1, 2018 for utilization of our parking. As for the interior: we hope to locate a contractor by the end of 2017 for the upper interior wall installation. However, in order for us to continue, we need your prayers and your continued financial support. First, we have outstanding pledges, to the tune of $550,000. May we ask you to make good on your Building Fund pledges? If you have not yet contributed, won’t you consider making your gift? Your gift is fully tax deductible, to the extent allowed by law? More importantly, you will experience the joy of giving (and to such a historic undertaking!), helping make firm our presence as a Greek Orthodox house of worship in the heart of our Great City. In this way, we will be answering the call by God to Moses, when he said “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. Most likely, this will coincide with our 100th-anniversary, in 2021.

“The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all mankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified.”