INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 6, Verses 12-20. It is found in our books on page 134-135.

The service known as artoklasia (literally, “breaking of bread”) recalls the feeding of the 5000 by Jesus. It is offered today, in thanksgiving, by the Navarino Messinian Society, on the occasion of the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord. The feast, celebrated February 2, marks the occasion when Mary and Joseph took the Child to the Temple, when he was 40 days old. The Feast is of special significance, especially for the people of Kalamata, Greece, whose church is dedicated to Panagia Ypapanti, Our Lady of the Presentation. The Navarino Messinian Society will hold its dinner-dance this Saturday, February 10, at the Cathedral’s Korinthias Hall, beginning at 7 p.m. For reservations, please see Kalliope Fousekis, President, or another member of the Committee following today’s Divine Liturgy.

PARISH ASSEMBLY TODAY: The Assembly will take place in our Korinthias Hall, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. In addition to Opening Prayer and the Election of an Assembly Chair, the agenda includes: 1. Rebuilding of the Cathedral: Where we are, where we are going. 2. Election of the Nominating Committee for Parish Council Elections. 3. Election of Delegates to the Archdiocese Clergy-Laity. We will also hear from Janis Petrou, Philoptochos President, approve the March 26, 2017 minutes, and hear a financial report. The meeting is timed to last 45 minutes.

PHILOPTOCHOS: The Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos will hold a general meeting today, following the Parish Assembly. The meeting will take place in the second-floor conference room.

DIVINE LITURGY THIS SATURDAY: It is the Feast of St. Charalambos. It is also the day designated as “Saturday of Souls.” Father Stephen will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at the Chapel of the Greek Orthodox Memorial Park, in Colma, beginning at 10 a.m. He will also celebrate the Liturgy next Saturday, February 17 (dedicated the remembrance of monastics). Following the services, memorial services will take place for our deceased forebears and brethren.

STEWARDSHIP AND YOU: Our 2018 Stewardship Campaign is well underway. 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. In an effort to properly acknowledge and thank you for your support, we will list the names of all Stewards in our March Herald. In case you’ve misplaced your card or if you wish additional cards for family members, these, as well as information about our Stewardship program, may be found at the pangari. They are in an envelope marked “Stewardship.” We also invite you to direct any questions you may have concerning our Stewardship program, to Father Stephen or a member of the Parish Council Stewardship Team. Let’s make 2018 a banner Stewardship year for the Cathedral. Together, we can do it!

BASKETBALL PRACTICE THIS WEEK: Basketball practice will take place this week on Wednesday, February 7 and on Thursday, February 8, beginning at 7 p.m.

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.
HAPS HONORING METROPOLITAN GERASIMOS: The Hellenic American Professional Society of California (HAPS) cordially invites everyone to attend its 41st Annual Commemoration of Greek Letters Day. The event will take place next Sunday, February 11, here at the Annunciation Cathedral, beginning with Divine Liturgy concluding with an Artoclasia, honoring its scholarship recipients. A luncheon will follow at 1 p.m. in our Korinthias Hall. During the Luncheon, the 2018 Axion 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.

The committee asks that you respond by tomorrow, February 5th, indicating your attendance at the luncheon. The donation is $60 per person. Reservations are secured upon receipt of your check and are held at the door. Please remit your check payable to the “Hellenic American Professional Society” or “HAPS” to Jason Bezis, 3661-B Mosswood Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549-3509. For more information, please call 925 962-9643 or e-mail, jbezis@yahoo.com.

“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.”