EPHESIANS READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul’s first Letter to Timothy, Chapter 4, Verses 9-15: Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For this to end we toil and suffer reproach, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Till I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 1, Verses 1-10. It is found in our books on page 271.

Sunday’s Holy Liturgy: The培养 of the Soul: Apostolic (Plagal Four). Descending from on high, O merciful Lord, for us you endured three days in the tomb, that we may be released from the passions of this world, who are our Resurrection and our Life, Lord, glory to you.

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY: (Sunday, 8 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. 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 Michael Caredis at ochortodox-agkozak@sneakemail.com. Note: The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month (rather than every Sunday). The schedule for next month is: February 4, 11.

TODAY’S MNEMOSYNON: Today’s Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of our brother Michael Caredis, who fell asleep in the Lord 2 years ago.

42ND FOLK DANCE AND CHORAL FESTIVAL A GREAT SUCCESS: The Metropolis Folk Dance and Choral Festival, which took place at the Marriott Marquis last weekend, was a great success. With over 108 groups participating, it was the largest FDF to date. The Cathedral was represented by five groups, namely, To Mellon, Revmata, Thisavi, Sphires, and Atthisi. To Mellon, our youngest group, received participation medals. Thisavi received second place in the Division 2 Choral Competition. Thisavi also received Fourth Place in the Junior Category. Sphires received Fourth Place in the Division 1 Intermediate Category. Atthis, the young adult group, performed at a non-competitive level on Sunday, following the Divine Liturgy, and just before the Advanced Senior Competition. In our opinion, all our groups are winners. The young people will present their trophies at the conclusion of today’s Divine Liturgy.

BASKETBALL GAMES AT THE CATHEDRAL TODAY: The games being held at the Cathedral today are as follows: Girls Middle School, St. Gregory and Holy Cross, at 2 p.m. Boys Elementary School, Holy Cross and St. Gregory, at 4 p.m. Boys Elementary School, Holy Cross and Annunciation, at 5 p.m.

PARISH COUNCIL: The Parish Council will meet today in the second-floor conference room, beginning at 12:30 p.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 meets all its ministries 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 February 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 year for Stewardship for the Cathedral. Together, we can do it!

BASKETBALL PRACTICE THIS WEEK: Basketball practice will take place this week on Wednesday only (because of the set-up for Crab feed on Thursday), beginning at 7 p.m.

CRAB FEED THIS FRIDAY: The Philoptochos will hold its annual Crab Feed dinner this Friday, January 26, as noted in the Herald. Please refer to the January Herald for further information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/GREEK SCHOOL AND THE REFURBISHED CLASSROOMS: We remind students that teaching materials (books, etc.) only are permitted in the classrooms: no balls, food, etc. Classrooms (tables and chairs; whiteboards, etc.) are to be left in the same condition as they were found.

THE LORD’S PRAYER IN SPANISH: Padre nuestro, que estáis 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 líbranos del Mal.

The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month (rather than every Sunday). The schedule for next month is: February 4, 11.
HAPS HONORING METROPOLITAN GERAISMS: 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 on 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 Monday, 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 exalted and all of creation sanctified.”