SUNDAY, JULY 1, 2018

FIFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

STS. COSMAS AND DAMIAN, THE HOLY UNMERCENARIES

TODAY’S MNEMONOSYNA: This morning’s Memorial Services are being offered in memory of our brother Savas D. Savas, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago, and our sister Katina Pantazis, who fell asleep in the Lord 3 years ago. Aionia I Mmim! Eternal Memory!

40 DAY BLESSING: This morning, we welcome 40-day old Iris, daughter of Laura Moussa and Adonis Garefalakis. Na Mas Zis! Long Life!

CLERGY-LAITY: This year’s Archdiocese Clergy-Laity will take place in Boston, from July 1 through July 6. The Cathedral will be represented by Fr. Stephen (who leaves in the morning), and by Archon Paul Sogotos.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, SUNDAY SCHOOL HAVE ENDED FOR THE SUMMER: Sunday School will resume Sunday, September 9. Greek School will and resume Saturday, September 29. We wish our children a restful, safe, and productive summer, and forward to welcoming our kids back in September.

LOOKING AHEAD: Father Stephen will be away Sunday, July 15. Father Stephen Scott, Abbott of Holy Cross Monastery in Castro Valley, will celebrate the Divine Liturgy, at the usual time, on July 15.

SUNDAY STREETS ON JULY 15: We’ve been informed that Valencia Street will be closed to automobile traffic on Sunday, July 15. Please park in the lot behind the Cathedral, at 14th and Stevenson Streets, or on one of the side streets. People needing to drop off people who are unable to walk may do so, and then turn around and continue west on 14th Street.

LOOKING AHEAD AT THE FESTIVAL: TIME TO THINK ABOUT COOKING: Our Festival will take place September 28, 29, and 30. In preparation, our baking schedule is as follows: August 14, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, September 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, & 19. Please give thought to your participation. We need your help. Grace Koutoulas, Festival Co-chair, can be contacted for additional information.

HEALTH GOODS DRIVE: Our Young Adults, in tandem with our Ladies Philoptochos, are conducting a “health goods drive.” By “health goods,” we mean toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash. These items will be given out to our guests who come to Community Kitchen on Tuesday, July 17. Items may be brought to church and left at the pantry.

THANK YOU: We thank you, our parishioners and friends, for stepping up to help the Cathedral meet this year’s balloon payment. If we have what we have, meaning all of our buildings and our church community, it is because of the faith and generosity of the Cathedral’s parishioners and friends. May God, in the words of the intonation immediately following the distribution of Holy Communion, “save His people and bless His inheritance.”

COMMUNITY KITCHEN ON JULY 17: As July 17 is the third Tuesday of the month, Community Kitchen, under the leadership of the Cathedral’s Young Adults, and the assistance of the Philoptochos, will take place beginning at 5:30 p.m., set-up, and 6:30 p.m., service. As always, we welcome your assistance for both set-up and service. As Father Stephen will be away at this time, we will not have a Young Adult gathering following July’s Community Kitchen.
GETTING CLOSER AND CLOSER: YES! The laying of the pavers in the courtyard and all around the new Cathedral is nearing completion. The walls along Valencia Street have been built. Eventually the walls will be clad in granite, the same as the façade of our ancillary facilities building. The sidewalk along both Stevenson St. and Valencia St. has been poured (except for a section which will accommodate trees and parking meters). One step closer to using our parking component. And how about our beautiful courtyard fountain? All this takes time, and money. Remember, we have a balloon payment to the bank in July, in the amount of $400,000.00, to reduce the principal. If you have not yet contributed, we invite your participation. 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 µου 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 humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified.”

“Καὶ ποιήσεις µου ἁγίασµα, καὶ ὀφθήσοµαι ἐν ὑµῖν.” (Exodus 25:8).