EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul’s letter to the Romans, Chapter 12, Verses 6-14.

Ο Απόστολος, Πρὸς Ρωμαίους Ἐπιστολάς Παύλου το ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 12, ἐδάφ. 6-14: Ἀδελφοί, ἔχοντες διὰ χαρίσματα κατὰ τὴν χάριν τὴν δοθεῖσαν ἡμῖν διάφορα, εἰς προφητείαν, κατὰ την αναλογίαν τῆς πίστεως: εἰς διακονίαν, εἰς τὴν δικαιοσύνην, εἰς τὴν διδασκαλίαν: εἰς τὸ παρακαλοῦν, εἰς τὴν παρακλήσειν: εἰς τὴν ἀληθινὴν διδασκαλίαν. Ἑλπίζω, χαίρομεν τῇ θλίψει ὑπομένοντες· τῇ προσευχῇ προσκαρτεροῦντες· ταῖς χρείαις τῶν ἁγίων, ἐν τῇ διδασκαλίᾳ· εἴτε ὁ παρακαλῶν, ἐν τῇ παρακλήσει· ὁ µεταδιδοὺς, ἐν ἁπλότητι· ὁ προφητεύων· ἑκατέρως· ἑκατέρως. Ὁ Ἀπόστολος, Πρὸς Ρωμαίους Ἐπιστολάς Παύλου, το ἀνάγνωσµα, κεφ. 9, ἐδάφ. 1-8, εὐφημίζεται εἰς τὰ ββία μας, σελ. 206-208.

Today’s Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Five (Plagal 1): Eternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation. As the faithful, we both praise and worship Him for, in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross, and death did He endure, and the dead He raised unto life though His all-glorious Resurrection.

Τὸν συνάναχον Λόγον Πατρί καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεθέντα εἰς σωτήρια ἡμῶν, αὐξηθῷ καὶ προσκυνήσωσί τοι ἱεροτυπίαν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θανάτον υπομείναι, καὶ γέγορον τοῖς τεθνεότας, εἰς τὴν ἐνδόξου Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

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; dones hoy nuestro pan de cada día; perdona nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; no nos dejes caer en la tentación, y libranos del Mal.

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 look forward to welcoming our children 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 the 15th.

SUNDAY STREETS ON JULY 15: We’ve been informed that Valencia Street will be closed to automobile traffic next 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 TO THE FESTIVAL: TIME TO THINK ABOUT COOKING: Our Festival will take place September 21, 22, and 23. In preparation, our baking schedule is as follows: August 14, 21, 22, 28, & 29, and 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 panagari.

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 this July’s Community Kitchen.

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. 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 Kozák at orthodoxagkoza@me.com. Note: The Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month. The class is meeting today, and will also meet next Sunday, July 8. The class meets in the second-floor conference room, beginning at 9 a.m.
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 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 humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified.”