

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST: APODOSIS OF THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. JOHN OF THE LADDER (CLIMACUS)

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Hebrews, chapter 6, verses 13-20. It is found in our books on page 144.

Ὁ Απόστολος, πρὸς Ἑβραίους ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 6, ἐδάφ. 13-20: Ἀδελφοί, τῷ Ἀβραάμ ἐπαγγελιάμενος ὁ θεός, ἐπεὶ κατ' οὐδενὸς εἶχεν μείζονος ὁμόσαι, ὤμοσεν καθ' ἑαυτοῦ, λέγων, Ἦ μὴν εὐλογῶν εὐλογήσω σε, καὶ πληθύνων πληθυνῶ σε. Καὶ οὕτως μακροθυμήσας ἐπέτυχεν τῆς ἐπαγγελίας. Ἄνθρωποι μὲν γὰρ κατὰ τοῦ μείζονος ὁμνύουσιν, καὶ πάσης αὐτοῖς ἀντιλογίας πέρας εἰς βεβαίωσιν ὁ ὄρκος. Ἐν ᾧ περισσότερον βουλόμενος ὁ θεός ἐπιδειξάτω τοῖς κληρονόμοις τῆς ἐπαγγελίας τὸ ἀμετάθετον τῆς βουλῆς αὐτοῦ, ἐμεσίτευσεν ὄρκῳ, ἵνα διὰ δύο πραγμάτων ἀμεταθέτων, ἐν οἷς ἀδύνατον ψεύσασθαι θεόν, ἰσχυρὰν παράκλησιν ἔχωμεν οἱ καταφυγόντες κρατῆσαι τῆς προκειμένης ἐλπίδος· ἦν ὡς ἄγκυραν ἔχομεν τῆς ψυχῆς ἀσφαλῆ τε καὶ βεβαίαν, καὶ εἰσερχομένην εἰς τὸ ἐσώτερον τοῦ καταπετάσματος· ὅπου πρόδρομος ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν εἰσηλθεν Ἰησοῦς, κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδέκ ἀρχιερεὺς γενόμενος εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 9, Verses 17-31. It is found in our books on pages 295-299.

Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον, κεφ. 9, ἐδάφ. 17-31, εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 294-298.

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Seven (Grave):

O Lord, by your sacred Cross You abolished death and granted to the thief blessed paradise. The myrrh bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The Apostles did preach the Good News at your command—that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing your mercy on the world evermore.

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέφξας τῷ ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρήνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας. Ὅτι ἀνέστης, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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; 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.

TODAY'S MNEMOSYNON: Today's Memorial Services are being offered for the repose of the soul of our sister **Stavroula Lillian Hamberis**, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago.

COFFEE HOUR: Today's coffee hour is being sponsored by the family of **Stavroula Lillian Hamberis**.

PARISH ASSEMBLY FOLLOWING THIS MORNING'S DIVINE LITURGY: As noted in the Herald, our first Parish Assembly for 2017 will take place following today's Divine Liturgy. The agenda may be found in the March Herald. While we will elect a Nominating Committee for the December Parish Council elections, and also delegates to the Metropolis Clergy-Laity at St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center, the main focus will be the Rebuilding of the Cathedral: Where we are, where we are going. You will not want to miss this opportunity to hear and ask questions.

AKATHIST THIS FRIDAY: On Friday, March 31, we will be serving the Akathist, in its entirety. The service of the Akathist includes four Staseis, or parts, which address the Theotokos and ask for her intercession. During the Great Lent, a stasis is intoned along with the compline. The services are known as Salutations, or Hairetismoi. On Friday, all four Staseis will be intoned. This service is known as the Akathist. That's because, traditionally, people stood throughout the entire service. The service originated in the 7th century, when Constantinople was spared from attack, through the intercessory prayers of the Theotokos. The well-known hymn, *Ti Ypermacho*, was composed at that time.

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE: On Sunday, April 30, the Cathedral will honor with a luncheon: **Ted Leventis, John Panomitros, and Annette Chiappari**. The luncheon will take place in the Cathedral's Korinthias Hall, and will benefit the Building Fund. The donation is \$35 per person, \$15 for children 12 and under. For reservations, please call Angie Leventis, at 650 878-2855 or aleventis3@comcast.net.

GODPARENTS SUNDAY NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 2: Please refer to the March Herald, page 4, for the specifics. Plan on bringing your Godparents/Godchildren to church, and to the luncheon afterwards.

ICON WORKSHOP AT ANNUNCIATION JUNE 19-24: Iconographer Theodoros Papadopoulos will hold an icon workshop June 19-24, 9 am. To 4 am. Each day. If you are interested in participating, please call **Pat Preble**, at 415 440-8565.

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, but 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 through reading selections of 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), week after week, why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact **Alexandros Kozák** at orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakemail.com.

FULL STEAM AHEAD: We're moving full steam ahead on our building project! Our landmark Cathedral, which is shaping up to be a center of our faith in the heart of the City, is nearing completion of the exterior. As for specifics, waterproofing of the deck and around the garage is nearing completion. The entrenchment drain is being constructed, as is the housing for the garage exhaust ducts. Meanwhile, the archways are also being restored. Oh, yes, we will also install temporary doors; the permanent doors will be added when the interior is completed, before using the space. Then, there's exterior stone, columns, and pavers. That's about it for the **exterior**. (As for the garage: we hope to start using the garage in about 90 days.) Now, for the **interior**: we hope to begin the upper wall installation by the end of 2017, as your generosity permits. In order for us to continue, we need your prayers and your continued financial support. You should be very proud of what you are doing. Do share it with your friends, relatives and neighbors. Invite them to come and see just how you are responding to God's invitation, *"Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you."* (Translated from the Septuagint: *Καὶ ποιήσεις μοι ἅγίασμα, 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. More than likely, this will take place to coincide with our 100th anniversary, in 2021. God will bless us, indeed, if His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who laid the cornerstone back in 1997, also consecrates it to God's glory! Now let's move full-steam ahead to complete what we've begun!



"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."

(Ecumenical Patriarch
Bartholomew, Ground breaking,
November 6, 1997)