EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Hebrews, chapter 11, verses 24-26, 32-40. It is found in our books on pages 138-139.

24-26, 32-40: Αδελφοί, πίστει Μωϋσῆς μέγας γενόμενος ἠονήσατο λέγεσθαι υίὸς θυγατρὸς Φαραώ, μᾶλλον έλόμενος συγκακουχεῖσθαι τῷ λαῷ τοῦ θεοῦ ἡ πρόσκαιρον ἔχειν άμαρτίας ἀπόλαυσιν· μείζονα πλοῦτον ἡγησάμενος τῶν Αἰγύπτου θησαυρῶν τὸν ὁνειδισμὸν τοῦ Χριστοῦ· ἀπέβλεπεν γὰρ εἰς τὴν μισθαποδοσίαν. Καὶ τί ἔτι λέγω; Ἐπιλείψει γὰρ με διηγούμενον ὁ χρόνος περὶ Γεδεών, Βαράκ τε καὶ Σαμψών καὶ Ἱεφθάε, Δαυίδ τε καὶ Σαμουὴλ καὶ τῶν προφητῶν· οῦ διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰργάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβεσαν δύναμιν πυρός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίρας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυροὶ ἐν πολέμω, παρεμβολὰς ἔκλιναν ἀλλοτρίων. Ἑλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκροὺς αὐτῶν· ἄλλοι δὲ ἐτυμπανίσθησαν, οὐ προσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, ἵνα κρείττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν· ἔτεροι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστίγων πεῖραν ἔλαβον, ἔτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς· ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπρίσθησαν, ἐπειράσθησαν, ἐν φόνω μαχαίρας ἀπέθανον· περιῆλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέρμασιν, ύστερούμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι - ὧν οὐκ ἡν ἄξιος ὁ κόσμος - ἐν ἐρημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὄρεσιν καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὀπαῖς τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὖτοι πάντες, μαρτυρηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως, οὐκ ἐκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρεῖττόν τι προβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωρὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσιν.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 1, Verses 43-51. It is found in our books on pages 289-291.

Ή σημερινή εὐαγγελική περικοπή ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην, κεφ. 1, ἐδάφ. 43-51, εὑρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 288-290.

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

When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore, and Christ our God has risen from the dead, and granted to the world His great mercy.

Τὸ φαιδοὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήθυγμα ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἢγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος 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 *MNEMOSYNA*: Memorial prayers are being offered today for the repose of the soul of our brother **Petros Haramis**, who fell asleep in the Lord one year ago and also for the repose of the soul of our brother **Michael Nicolas**, who fell asleep in the Lord one year ago. The family of Michael Nicolas invites everyone to a luncheon, following today's Divine Liturgy, in memory of Michael Nicolas.

TODAY'S PROCESSION: Our Sunday School students will participate in today's procession, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. They will hold icons, as we hear a portion of the proclamation of the 7th Ecumenical Council, which was held in 787 AD, restoring the place of icons in the worship experience of the Church. The final restoration did not take place until the year 843 AD.

SALUTATIONS SERVICES THIS FRIDAY: 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. This Friday, March 10, the second Stasis will be intoned. The final Salutations service, which will take place on March 31, 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.

NEXT SUNDAY'S OIKOS LECTURE: Next Sunday's OIKOS lecture will be in the form of a panel discussion headed by Dr. Barbara Karvelis. She and her team will share with us their experiences working with Syrian and other refugees in Lesbos, Greece. Barbara is well known to us, as she was born and raised in San Francisco and attended the Annunciation Cathedral, participating in all its programs. Her team includes Dr. Cecelia Wamback, Dr. Carolie Sly, and Lydia Stack.

TAX AID: 10-2Tax Aid is a nonprofit coalition of CPAs and attorneys who prepare tax returns for low income families in San Francisco. As in previous years, Annunciation will offer the Kytherian Room for this purpose. This year, the dates are Saturdays, March 4, March 11 and March 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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 orthodoxyagkozak@sneakemail.com.

NOW THAT THE RAINS HAVE STOPPED: Our landmark Cathedral, which you are creating—a center of our Greek Orthodox faith in the heart of the City is waiting for completion of the exterior, now that the rains have stopped. You should be very proud of what you are accomplishing. Share the good news with your friends, relatives and neighbors. Invite them to come and see what you are doing in response to God's invitation, "Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you." (Translated from the Septuagint: Καὶ ποιήσεις μοι ἀγίασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν). (Exodus 25:8). As for specifics, waterproofing of the deck and around the garage has resumed. The entrenchment drain is being constructed, as is the housing for the garage exhaust ducts. Meanwhile, the archways are also being restored. And that's about it for the exterior ---oh, yes, we will also install temporary doors; the permanent doors will be installed when the interior is completed, before using the space.

Now for the interior: we hope to do much of 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. We hope to start using the garage in about 90 days. When everything is completed, we will be able to consecrate the new Cathedral to the glory of God. We are hoping this will take place to coincide with our 100^{th} 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 is let us to resolve to move full-speed 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)