**COMMUNITY KITCHEN/YOUNG ADULT GET TOGETHER:** Community Kitchen will take place this Tuesday, October 17, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 5:30 pm for table set-up and food prep. Following, our Young Adults, who spearhead Community Kitchen, will gather in the second-floor conference room for wine & cheese. It is an opportunity to for Young Adults to meet other Young Adults, many of whom are new to San Francisco, and to welcome them into our community family.

**GREEK SCHOOL, SUNDAY SCHOOL:** As noted, Greek School resumed on September 30. Sunday School, meanwhile, began on September 10. We are pleased to note the enthusiasm among both our staff (more teachers volunteering/great programs) and our students (more hands-on learning). Let’s keep up the enthusiasm. And let’s keep making up these educational programs better and better, teaching our children the ways of the Lord and also our cultural heritage. Sunday School begins at 10:30 a.m., and Greek School begins at 10:00 a.m. We urge you to bring your children to our church schools.

**UNICEF BOXES:** Unicef boxes will be distributed next Sunday during Sunday School. We thank you for helping your children collect money for Unicef (typically, on Halloween). Unicef funds programs for children throughout the world.

**CHURCH BASKETBALL:** Basketball practice for our lower school (boys and girls) will take place this Tuesday, October 18 and Wednesday, October 19, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. each day.

**DANCE PRACTICE AS SCHEDULED:** Dance practice will take place today, as scheduled, today and also this Friday, October 20, 6:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. As FDF is a whole month earlier this year (January instead of February), our groups are intensely preparing to compete (for the older groups), and for exhibition (for our little group).

**YOUNG ADULT DANCE PRACTICE:** The newly formed group of Young Adults will practice this Tuesday, October 17, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**HONORING PATRICIA ALECK DECEMBER 3:** It is customary for the immediate past president of the Ladies Philoptochos to be honored, at the conclusion of her service as President (as it is also custom for the immediate past president of the Parish Council to be so honored). Our Ladies Philoptochos will honor Pat with a pre-Christmas fête, on Sunday, December 3. As we will be in the preparation period for the great feast of the Nativity of our Lord, the hall will be "dressed up" for Christmas. The theme of the event is JOY. Joy as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. Joy as we celebrate the spirit of service and generosity, which Pat embodies. Her love for her Church and her life-long dedication to the Cathedral—as Parish Council member, as Stewardship chair, as Parish Council President, as Philoptochos member and as Philoptochos President. A lifetime of devoted service! The event will benefit the Building Fund. We’re sure you will not want to miss it.
WE CAN’T WAIT FOR IT TO FINISH: However, with the current building boom in San Francisco, the Contractor is having trouble getting subs to do the work. We’re in the home stretch, though. As you see, we are nearing completion of the exterior. We are also about a month away from receiving a Conditional Use Permit to enable us to secure a third-party operator to run the parking. As for the interior: we hope to begin the upper wall installation by the end of 2017. However, in order for us to continue, we need your prayers and your continued financial support. First, we have outstanding pledges, to the tune of $600,000. Statements went out last week. Follow-up phone calls have been made by members of the Parish Council. May we ask you to make good on your Building Fund pledges by the end of 2017? Please give serious consideration to doing so, to enable us to continue rebuilding the Cathedral. If you have not yet contributed, won’t you consider making a gift this calendar year? We invite you to join in and let’s finish what we’ve undertaken to do, that is, to rebuild our church and 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. More than likely, this will take place to coincide with our 100th anniversary, in 2021. Let’s keep going, Annunciation!

“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)