SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians, Chapter 2, Verses 16-20. It is found in our books on pages 148.

Ὁ Απόστολος: Πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 16-20:

Ἅδερφαι, εἰδότες ὅτι ὁ θεός δικαιοσύνην ἐν τοῖς ἁγίοις ἔδωκεν τῷ Ἰσραήλ· οὐκ ἔχει δικαιοσύνην ἄνθρωπος ἐν τῇ ἁγιάσματι τοῦ θεοῦ. Εἰ δὲ, ἐν τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ τῆς ἁγιασμοῦ, δικαιοσύνην ἐπονομάζεται· ἐν δὲ τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ ἀποκαθίσταται ἡ ἁμαρτία. Εἰ δὲ, ὡς ἐν τῇ ἁγιασμῷ, ἐπονομάζεται ἡ ἁμαρτία. Εἰ δὲ, ὡς ἐν τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ τῆς ἐκκλησίας, ἐπονομάζεται ἡ ποιμενικῆ ἁμαρτία. Εἰ δὲ, ὡς ἐν τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ τῆς ἡμετερίας, ἐπονομάζεται ἡ ἀνθρωπική ἁμαρτία. Εἰ δὲ, ὡς ἐν τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ τῆς ἀνθρωπολογίας, ἐπονομάζεται ἡ παντοκράτορική ἁμαρτία. Εἰ δὲ, ὡς ἐν τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ τῆς δικαιοσύνης, ἐπονομάζεται ἡ πανομοιότητα ἁμαρτίας. Εἰ δὲ, ὡς ἐν τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ τῆς ὑπομονῆς, ἐπονομάζεται ἡ ἀπειθεία ἁμαρτίας. Εἰ δὲ, ὡς ἐν τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ τῆς ἀπειθείας, ἐπονομάζεται ἡ ἁμαρτία τῆς ἀπειθείας. Εἰ δὲ, ὡς ἐν τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ τῆς ἀφοσίας, ἐπονομάζεται ἡ ἁμαρτία τῆς ἀφοσίας.

The Lord rose, we give glory to You. When the angelic powers appeared at your tomb, those who guarded You became as though dead. You arose, O Lord: we give glory to You.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 8, Verses 34-38, Chapter 9, Verse 1. It is found in our books on pages 307-309.

Ἡ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκου, κεφ. 8, ἑδάφ. 34-38, κεφ. 9, ἑδόρ. 1. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 306-308.

Today’s Apolytìkion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Six (Plagal 2):

When the angelic powers appeared at your tomb, those who guarded You became as though dead. And, standing by your sepulcher was Mary, seeking your pure and sacred body. You died vanquishing Hades and, uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the Virgin bestowing the gift of life. From the dead You arose, O Lord: we give glory to You.

The reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 8, Verses 34-38, Chapter 9, Verse 1. It is found in our books on pages 307-309.

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-agkозак@sneakemail.com or the Introduction to Orthodoxy class is now being offered two Sundays a month (rather than every Sunday). For the remainder of September, it is being offered today, Sunday, September 17.

HONORING PATRICIA ALECK: It is customary for the immediate past president of the Ladies Philoptochos to be so honored. Our Ladies Philoptochos will honor Pat with a pre-Christmas fête, on Sunday, December 3. The event will benefit the Building Fund. Details are forthcoming.

SOPHIA & HER THREE DAUGHTERS: FAITH, HOPE, & LOVE

FESTIVAL SET-UP: Today begins our festival set-up. We welcome your assistance, as we get physically ready for our Festival this week, Friday, September 22, Saturday, September 23, and Sunday, September 24.

DANCE PRACTICE TODAY: Dance Practice will take place today, as scheduled.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY: The Parish Council will meet today, in the second-floor conference room, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN/YOUNG ADULT GET TOGETHER: Community Kitchen will take place this Tuesday, September 19, 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 and, inasmuch as a number of them expressed an interest in forming a Young Adult dance group, to meet with Michael Garibalddi. Michael has taught Young Adults in the past, and is willing to teach the new group.

CALLING FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS: Everyone, especially our Philoptochos women, have been hard at work preparing for this year’s Greek Food Festival, to take place September 22, 23, and 24. We are still in need of volunteers in the following areas: Food Preparation, Loukoumades, Taverna, Set-up, Food Procurement, Music, Permits, Gyro, Lamb and Pastry and Coffee Booths. Please contact Chris Kyriacou, Parish Council President, chris.kyriacou@mac.com or Deno Konstantinides, denoocom@gmail.com or Grace Koutoulas, gmkoutoulas@yahoo.com. Meanwhile, we can use your assistance tomorrow, Monday, for the preparation of Baklava, 9 am – 5 pm; Chicken prep on Tuesday, September 19, at noon; and Galaktoboureko & Rizogalo, which will take place Wednesday, September 20, 9 am to 5 pm.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY: The Parish Council will meet today, in the second-floor conference room, beginning at 12:30 p.m.
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 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. 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)