August 2013

2013 Food Festival Next Month!
Food Festival preparations are underway for 2013! The new festival committee has now had several well-organized, very productive meetings already this year, under the capable leadership of Bob and Lea Lyberopoulos. Thank you to all who have attended these meetings and who have helped at past festivals, as well. If you would like to lend your time and talents to this year’s Food Festival, we invite you to become a part of the planning process, food preparation, recruiting volunteers or any other way you would like to assist. We need everyone’s help!

One way of assisting this year is by helping to underwrite the cost the materials and ingredients needed. It is our hope that all our food preparation, ingredients, and other costs will be underwritten this year. As a way of expressing our thanks, you, your company, your organization, or your family will be acknowledged in the Festival Souvenir program book. Of course, your donation is fully tax-deductible, to the extent permitted by law.

The following items are available for your consideration:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Napkins</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light Tower</td>
<td>$450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propane</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemista</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning Supplies</td>
<td>$120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ice – Outside Bar</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tablecloths</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken Broth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooking supplies</td>
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<td>Dolmades</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schedule/Menu Printing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tiropites</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Towels</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loukoumades</td>
<td>$850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice – Inside Bar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pastitsio</td>
<td>$900</td>
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<td>Cups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mousaka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fasolakia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gyro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utensils</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lamb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lemon Juice</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Souvlaki</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Several items have already been donated, including $500. for rice and $1900. for festival postcards. If you wish to contribute one of the above items, not already donated, please complete the form below and return it, together with your check, payable to: Annunciation Cathedral Food Festival. If you prefer, you may pay by VISA, Mastercard, or American Express. To do this, please call the Cathedral office at 415 864-8000.

Your Name:__________________________________________
Your Address:_________________________________________
Your Phone Number:___________________________________
Item(s) You Wish to Donate:_____________________________

VOLUNTEER FORM
Name:______________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________
Contact Phone #:______________________________________
Email Address:________________________________________

Please check ALL shifts that you are available to volunteer at “A Taste of Greece 2013”:

**Friday, September 20th:**
___11AM-2PM  ____2-5PM  ____5-8PM  ____8-11PM

**Saturday, September 21st:**
___11AM-2PM  ____2-5PM  ____5-8PM  ____8-11PM

**Sunday, September 24th:**
___11AM-2PM  ____2-5PM  ____5-9PM

Please check all areas that you are interested in:

**Outdoors:**
Admission
Children’s Area
Gyro Booth
Lamb Sandwich Booth

**Indoors:**
Loukoumades
Outside Bar
Food Line – Cashiers
Food Line – Serving
Greek Coffee
Inside Bar
Kitchen
Pastries
Raffle
Sunday School Booth
Clean up

continued next page
WHAT DOES MY GIFT TO THE BUILDING FUND REALLY AMOUNT TO OVER A FIVE YEAR PERIOD?

Below are some different ways to look at how you can make a meaningful gift.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>PER YEAR OVER 5 YEARS</th>
<th>PER MONTH OVER 5 YEARS</th>
<th>PER DAY OVER 5 YEARS</th>
<th>2 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)</th>
<th>3 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)</th>
<th>4 PERSON FAMILY- PER DAY (EACH)</th>
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<td>$1.36</td>
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“I consecrated this house you built to place My name there forever, and My eyes and My heart will be there all days.”  - 3 Kingdoms 9:3

This year’s Food Festival will take place September 20, 21, and 22. We need everyone’s help! Please email Lea and Bob at kar-thia808@yahoo.com or at grk808@yahoo.com for information on the next meeting, or if you have any other questions about where you can help. If everyone contributes, we will make this year’s festival a great success!

BUILDING PROJECT BIDS ARE IN; COUNTDOWN TO THE START OF CONSTRUCTION:

Five firms, namely, Flory Construction (www.floryconstruction.com); Hilbers, Inc. (www.hilbersinc.com); McNely Construction (www.mcnely.com); Vila Construction (www.vilaconstruction.com); and Barker O’Donoghue (www.barkerodonoghue.com) were invited to bid on our project and received bid sets (drawings and requirements): the bids came in on Wednesday, July 17. Our Architect has begun a review of the bids. In turn, the Building Committee met with the Architect to further review the bids and to conduct value engineering, to insure the best possible cost estimate. The Committee will make its recommendations to the Parish Council, which eventually will enter into a contract with the construction company selected. We will keep you informed, by means of the Sunday bulletin, announcements from the pulpit, and also by means of articles in the Herald. We are expecting the issuance of a Building Permit as this issue of the Herald goes to press, enabling us to proceed with excavation and construction. It is too early to set a start date for construction, but we are, at this point, looking at a start date just after the Cathedral’s Food Festival, which will take place on site, at 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco September 20, 21, and 22.

Meanwhile, Giorgos Kordis, a professor of Byzantine Art and Iconography, has submitted a proposal for the iconography. We invite you to click on the following link to view what Professor Kordis is proposing: http://www.annunciation.org/gallery/thumb-nails.php?album=31. Please keep in mind that the actual layout and the colors to be used will be dictated by the lighting and precise measurements, once the interior of the new Cathedral is completed and the surface is prepared. The Parish Council and Building Committee have reviewed the proposal and the Metropolis has granted its approval. We are anticipating installation of the iconography to take place in October of 2014. We thank Jim Lucas for posting the renderings on our site and we are discussing the possibility of uploading drawings from the bid set, as well.

Also of note, the community has now passed the goal of $500,000 towards the matching gift! Many thanks to all who have contributed towards this milestone! With efforts like these, and by God’s grace, we are sure to be successful in achieving our goal!

If you have yet to make a gift to the Building Project and would like to, please contact the Cathedral office at (415) 864-8000 to speak with Father Stephen or Father Niko. All commitments are greatly appreciated, no matter the amount.

“The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, and His word was on my tongue.”  - 2 Kingdoms 23:2
RENDERINGS FOR POTENTIAL ICONOGRAPHY IN NEW CATHEDRAL

Mr. George Kordis, a very reputable iconographer whom Father Stephen met with in June, recently sent us some preliminary renderings of potential iconography for the new Cathedral, based on renderings from Goldman Architects.

For more architectural renderings, please visit http://www.annunciation.org/gallery/thumb-nails.php?album=31 on the Cathedral’s website.

As we draw closer to historic event in the life of our community, we ask for your prayers for the Lord to guide us and see this project to fruition!

ORTHODOX OBSERVER PROFILES
ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL IN ITS JUNE 2013 ISSUE

To view on-line, please visit:
http://www.goarch.org/news/observer p. 21

Tax-Aid Concludes Huge Year

Each of the last two years, the Annunciation Cathedral community has been proud to host Tax-Aid, a non-profit organization that offers to prepare tax returns, free of charge, for families that have a household income of less than $50,000.00. You may have seen the tables, chairs, and computers set up in the Kytherian Room each Wednesday in March, with Manoli Pappas among those volunteering.

For 2013:
914 total volunteers assisted in the city of San Francisco
4,382 tax returns were prepared
$4,388,100 in returns were given to these families
30 sites hosted the Tax-Aid volunteers, including Annunciation Cathedral, the official Mission Site

Hopefully, this is merely the first of many efforts of our community to helping those in the inner-city.

The following is an excerpt from an account by Jeremy Carey, a PhD candidate at Berkeley (and a friend from Marcelo Souza’s former Protestant circles) who describes his spiritual journey towards the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Jeremy was baptized last Pascha.

BECOMING ORTHODOX

By Jeremy Carey

After over two years of thought, prayer, and struggle, I am officially becoming a part of the Orthodox Church. God willing, I will be baptized during Holy Week and have my first communion on Pascha, that is, Easter, 2013. Most of you know about my long interest in Orthodoxy, but I haven’t spoken of it in much detail. For my own sake, to try to collect thoughts that have been long in forming (though I know many must escape words), and for the sake of any who care about me and might be interested, I thought I would try to put down in writing the main considerations that have led me to what for many seems a strange and exotic form of Christianity.

Orthodoxy is richly traditional, and, like all real traditions, has to be experienced over a period of time to have any real grasp of its meaning. Therefore, I can’t pretend to do any justice to what really eventually draws one into Orthodoxy. Still, at the surface level, at the level of what can be communicated fairly clearly, it seems to me that the things which attracted me most can be clustered into two main issues: the nature of the Church, and the nature of salvation. I’ll say a little bit about each of these.

Before I do so, it’s worth pointing out something that can be easily misunderstood. Though it’s fairly easy to focus on the differences between Orthodoxy and other forms of Christianity (for my purposes, primarily Protestant Evangelicalism), they do share much important in common. Though I will have some things to say about what I find problematic about contemporary Protestantism, I don’t see my transition to Orthodoxy as a rejection of my previous experience so much as a fulfillment (and, naturally, at times a corrective) of all that was good in that experience.

Those who know me well know that I grew up in a church whose theology was and is, by the standards of historical Christianity, problematic (to say the least). It wasn’t until my second year in college that I found I could accept the doctrine of the Trinity. This background and the changes that my thought and practice had to go through naturally had an effect on my mindset and the way I approached Christianity. I had grown up thinking that Christianity took a turn for the worst very soon after the death of Christ, and that most Christians for most of history were mistaken in fundamental beliefs. The denomination I grew up in taught that not only was the doctrine of the Trinity, which was so central in the intellectual and spiritual development of the Church, wrong, but it was harmful.

Though I think it has since weakened its stance, I was also taught that salvation depended on a certain way of being baptized and the attaining of certain spiritual experiences, requirements most self-identified Christians throughout the centuries did not meet. As I began to reject these problematic claims, my understanding of the history of Christianity would also have to change, but I never settled how or even gave the matter much explicit thought. Though I

continued next page
was intensely interested in Christian theology, this meant that, like most Protestant Christians, I studied contemporary theologians or, at the limits, those going back to the years after the reformation.

All of this changed for me when my cousin, with whom I’m extremely close, began also to question the same problematic claims of our shared childhood denomination which I had recently rejected. Initially, he seemed at a loss for what to do next, flitting with various non-Christian philosophies and religions. I did my best to steer him towards the reasonable Reformed Christianity of which I was then a part.

To my dismay, it soon became clear that the only options he was taking seriously were Roman Catholicism and Orthodoxy. As we debated for the next year or so, I was forced for the first time to confront my understanding of Christian history and the nature of the Church, and to think seriously about the knee-jerk objections I had been raised with against distinctive practices of the historical churches like prayer to saints and the veneration of the Mother of God (I will not be discussing these here – if you have questions or worries about them, I’d be happy to discuss them further). In the end, he became Orthodox.

By that time, though I had not yet set foot in an Orthodox Church, I was intellectually convinced that Orthodoxy contained a beauty and a fullness that I desired and seemed to me so lacking from my previous understanding of the Church and Christian life. Here I hope to give some hint of this fullness and beauty.

Soon after I came to accept the doctrine of the Trinity, it began to seem incredible to me that most Christians for most of history were so misguided on so many issues that I now had the right answers to. These were men who were closer to the time of the apostles, who shared more of their culture, and who were willing to die for what they saw as the understanding of Christianity needed to ensure the salvation of mankind and the world. Surely these characteristics made them more likely to understand the truth than me, living in comfort and sitting in my ivory tower.

I also began to notice the strangeness of our current ecclesial situation, with thousands of denominations believing so many different things, and many more started every year. Surely this was not Christ’s plan or that of the Apostles in the early days of the Church. This strange situation, which is so easy for us to take for granted, is in fact historically new. There was a time when the Church was (for the most part) unified, and when unity was seen as a necessity.

But what was the basis of this unity? This is an important question in our own day, when Christians are more and more feeling the effects of their separation and longing for a reestablishment of unity. But this unity cannot be cheap. Christians disagree about so much as baptism, the nature of the Eucharist, the church calendar, veneration of the saints, the Sacraments, church hierarchy. How are we to know what is fundamental and who is to judge? Back in my more, let’s say, optimistically ecumenical days, I would have probably proposed something like the acceptance of the Apostle’s Creed at face value as the measure for essential Christian unity.

As long as one can say the creed and mean it, that’s all that matters. Of course, it’s not clear what “face value” means here, and Catholics and Orthodox will mean something very different from Protestants when they talk about the Virgin Mary and the communion of saints and the catholicity of the Church. And what about baptism, which plays no role in this creed? And what about the Eucharist itself?

Though I think it’s correct that there is something like what C.S. Lewis called “mere Christianity”, and that the things which bind us are far more important than the things that separate us, it’s also easy to overestimate the similarities. The fact is that Protestants, by definition (though some groups more than others), consciously reject a huge portion of what most Christians believed and how they acted for the majority of the Church’s existence.

At the least, between, say, 300 and 1000 AD, Christian practice and understanding was fairly uniform and would involve things like a hierarchy of deacons, priests, bishops, and patriarchs; a veneration of relics and holy places; an understanding of the centrality of the Eucharist and Christ’s real presence therein; a special respect for Mary as the Mother of God; following a calendar which includes regular and occasionally intense fasting; ritualized and high-sounding symbolic liturgy (to name just a few – the rejection of these last two seems especially strange to me given how obviously important they were to Judaism and the enormous likelihood that they would be taken up by the earliest Christians, who were primarily Jewish).

**XRONIA POLLA FOR NAMEDAYS IN AUGUST!**

Best wishes to the following individuals who celebrate their namedays in August:

- Patricia Aleck
- Maria Allen
- Maria Bissas
- Patricia Destein
- Sam George
- Maria Georgiou
- Panagiota Koutoulas
- Mary Rally
- Panos Gogonas
- Peter Vlahakos
- Panagiots Zavvari
- Yota Gofas
- Pete Moussouras
- Marie Cardellini
- Mary Chicos
- Maria Demakas
- Patricia Lazarakis
- Maria Nicolacakis
- Maria Nikolakopoulos
- Maria Polyzos
- Patricia Rally
- Marios Stathopoulos
- Panagiots Zarikos
- Peter Cazanis
- Mary Tonas
- Peter Stephens

"The word of the Lord is strong, tried by fire; He is a defender of all who trust in Him."

– 2 Kingdoms 22:31
Tikey’s Divine Liturgy, in Greek, performed for mixed choir and organ, will be available for purchase at the Cathedral during the Cathedral’s Food Festival, September 20, 21, and 22. The donation is $20. As it is being issued on the occasion of ground breaking for the new Cathedral, a copy will be sent as a token of appreciation to each of the 130 donors to the Capital Campaign, which has, so far, raised $3 million for the rebuilding of the Cathedral.

COMMUNITY LINK CONTINUES MINISTERING TO THOSE IN NEED

Community Link, now in its ninth year of existence, is a group of Annunciation parishioners who meet once a month on a drop-in basis to visit members of our community who may be confined due to illness or age. We travel to hospitals, nursing homes and private residences. Many of those we visit no longer have family or friends to support them and just need to know there is someone who cares. A short visit or phone call can lift one’s spirits a great deal. If anyone in the community knows of any other home bound parishioners to add to our list or would like to join us for a visit, please contact, please contact Pauline Oetzel at poetzel@hotmail.com. Upcoming Community Link dates for 2013 are: August 17, September 21, and October 19

JOIN THE 2013 OCMC TEACHING TEAM TO UGANDA

From September 23rd until October 7th, OCMC is sending a Teaching Team to Uganda. This team will offer workshops on Christian Stewardship to both clergy and laity in four regions of Uganda. OCMC is seeking team members who will be strong advocates for stewardship to teach on this team in Uganda. This includes offering presentations on topics that introduce stewardship, self-sufficiency, and self-reliance to the faithful there. People with skills in teaching development, fundraising, and self-sustainability concepts are encouraged to apply to this OCMC Teaching Team. If you feel called to serve on this team, please contact teams@ocmc.org. To find out more about the team, visit http://www.ocmc.org/about/view_team.aspx?TeamId=107.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO MEDICAL AND DENTAL STUDENTS GIVEN BY THE HELLENIC AMERICAN MEDICAL AND DENTAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

The “S. James Vanvas Scholarship Fund” was established in 1986 in honor of S. James (Sparky) Vanvas, D.D.S., Professor Emeritus of the USC School of Dentistry and Oral Surgery. This fund allows the society to provide financial assistance to medical and dental students of Hellenic descent who are from California or attend medical or dental school in California.

HAMDS is currently accepting applications and would like to get the word out there to students who could benefit from this program. DEADLINE: August 31st.

Please visit: http://hamds.org/programs/scholarship/ for application and guidelines or call 818 963-8219.
WEEKLY RETINAN MUSIC & DANCE WORKSHOP, RIZITES

Mission Statement: A Cretan dance, instrumental, & song hobby group/parea, where those who want to learn more in general and for the popular Cretan Glendia they participate in regularly during the year throughout California and the U.S. and Crete, can meet to apply and develop their skills confidently and in an authentic way that maintains strong roots.

Content: The study and style execution of Cretan dances and music from the original provinces in Crete they came from.

Moderator/Teacher/Director: Petros Papageorge petrosp@athertonappliance.com

“I am amazed at the greatness and life-giving power of Divine Communion.”

– St. John of Kronstadt

YOUTH NEWS

Sunday School will resume with a welcoming celebration Sunday, Sept. 8th

2013-2014 School year Volunteers Needed!

Please contact Denise Yeilding to volunteer at dyeilding@yahoo.com. Areas to assist include:

Assistant teachers
Write monthly article for Herald
Coordinate Xmas Play
Food Drive coordinator
Angel Coordinator
Oratorical Festival Chair
UNICEF coordinator
Special Projects

Greek School classes will resume for 2013-2014 on September 7

If you have any questions, or would like to sign up your child up for the 2013-2014 school year, please contact Anthi Janssens (anthij@comcast.net) or Philip Athanasiades (philippos1cy@yahoo.com).

Dance Groups to Resume Practicing August 18

Anyone interested in joining any of the groups, please contact Irene Kyriacou at (650) 591-0690 or email sassygrk@aol.com. The dance groups are as follow:

To Mellon (4-5 year olds)
Thisavri (6-8 year olds) – directed by Shareen Fousekis, Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos and Lea Papavasiloiou
Spithes (9-13 year olds) – directed by Irene Kyriacou, Lea Lyberopoulos & Lea Papavasiloiou
Ekrixi (14 & up) – directed by Michael & Nicole Garibaldi

They will resume practice on August 18.

“I educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”

– Aristotle

Young Adults Go to a Giants Game!!

Our Cathedral Young Adults attended a Giants game on Monday night, July 22! 20 young adults had a wonderful time of fun and fellowship at AT&T Park, as has become a tradition now for the last five years!

Next month, a Paraklesis service will be celebrated on Friday, August 9, at 6:30, as part of the commemoration of the fast season of the Dormition of the Theotokos. Dinner will follow.

**The Cathedral Young Adult group is open to all young adults 22-35(ish)**

For more information on any of our youth groups, feel free to contact Father Niko at fatherniko@annunciation.org, or visit the “Youth of Annunciation Cathedral San Francisco” Facebook group page.

The Cathedral JOY and GOYA Groups will resume this October, after the Food Festival

Altar Group Schedule for August

The schedule for the month will be as follows:

August 4- Group 1
August 11- Group 2
August 18- Group 3
August 25- Group 4

The altar group rosters are as follow:

Group 1 - Niko Pezo, Demetri Rally, Stelio Kyriacou, Kosta Lyberopoulos, Andrew Vellis

Group 2 - Anthony Obester, Demetri Kontonis, Bobby Kontonis, Niko Manetas, Hari Manetas, Matthew Nuris

Group 3 - Steven Flynn, Clint Flynn, Tony Selianitis, Tau-mao Selianitis, Dimitri Selianitis

Group 4 - Anthony Tadesse, Jonas Tesfai, Nathan Tesfai, Steven Monolakis, Panagioti Sogotis, Yianni Sogotis

If any families are interested in their boys joining an altar group, who are above the age of 10, feel free to contact Father Niko Bekris at fatherniko@annunciation.org. Thank you also to Nektarios McKnight for guiding and instructing our altar servers each Sunday. As always, if anyone has any questions or suggestions, feel free to let us know. Thanks!
## AUGUST CALENDAR

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<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MON.</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WED.</th>
<th>THURS.</th>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Paraklesis, 10 am</td>
<td>Festival Cooking (Pastitsio), 9 am - 5 pm</td>
<td>Festival Cooking (Pastitsio), 7:30 am - 4 pm</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthros at 9:00 am Divine Liturgy at 10:30 am</td>
<td>Transfiguration, Orthros 9 am, Divine Liturgy, 10 am</td>
<td>Paraklesis, 10 am</td>
<td>Festival Cooking (Baklava), 9:30 am - 5 pm</td>
<td>Young Adult Paraklesis and Dinner, 6:30 pm</td>
<td>Historical Society Meeting, 10 am</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orthros at 9:00 am Divine Liturgy at 10:30 am</td>
<td>Festival Cooking (Melomakarona), 9 am - 5 pm</td>
<td>Stewardship Committee, 7 pm</td>
<td>Dormition of the Theotokos, Orthros 9 am</td>
<td>Festival Cooking (Koulourakia), 9 am - 5 pm</td>
<td>Community Link, 9 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orthros at 9:00 am Divine Liturgy at 10:30 am</td>
<td>Parish Council, 7 pm</td>
<td>Capital Campaign Committee, 8 pm</td>
<td>Festival Cooking (Spanakopita), 9 am - 5 pm</td>
<td>Festival Cooking (Spanakopita), 9 am - 5 pm</td>
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<td>29</td>
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<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthros at 9:00 am Divine Liturgy at 10:30 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Beheading of St. John the Baptist, Orthros 9 am</td>
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## Services & Sacraments

At The Cathedral

**BAPTISM**
Sophia Eugenia, daughter of Robert and Katie Grohs, was baptized July 27. Her sponsors are Harriet and Fred Callis.

**WEDDING**
The marriage of Juan Carlos Lopez and Yordanos Zere Medhine was celebrated on July 27. Their sponsors are Emmanuel Bereket and Eden Alem. *(Na mas ziōan!) Long Life!*

**FUNERAL**
Theodore Angelopoulos, who fell asleep in the Lord on July 16, was buried July 22. He is survived by his wife, Toula, children Angelo Angelopoulos and Anna Higuera and their families. *(Aionia i Mnimi!) Eternal memory!*
“We need fulfillment, and we know that we can find this in Christ and the life of faith.”

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios