
HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY: CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MOTHERS OF THE YEAR: The Cathedral extends congratulations to the mothers of our community on this world day of honoring all mothers. We extend special congratulations to Annette Chiappari and Niki Kastoras, who were named the 2015 Mothers of the Year at the Mother’s Day Luncheon and Fashion Show, which took place in the Cathedral’s Korinthias Hall. The flower bouquets which will be presented to them at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy are a token of our appreciation to them for their dedication to the well-being of their families and of our Cathedral family. Aries!

SUNDAY DAYS TODAY, MAY 10 AND ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18: On these two Sundays, Valencia between McCoppin Street and 26th Street is closed to through traffic. However, the organizers are aware of the need to access the Cathedral for worship and also of our special requirements to have handicap transport vehicles drop off congregants at the Cathedral entrance. The organizers at the Valencia and 14th Streets intersection are informed of this, and we expect that they have accommodated. Meanwhile, if you wish to learn more about the program, please visit www.sundaystreetsof.com/mission-51015/. If you wish to serve as a volunteer for the October 18 closing, please refer to the pertinent flyers at the panagia or see Fr. Stephen or Fr. Niko.

PARISH ASSEMBLY NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 17: As mandated by the Archdiocesan Regulations, the Parish is required to hold two Parish Assemblies each year. These afford input from all the parishioners in the management of the affairs of the Parish. They are also vehicles for information. The first Parish Assembly for 2015 will take place on Sunday, May 17, following the Divine Liturgy. The agenda consists of:

Opening Prayer: Father Stephen
1. Election of Assembly Chair
2. Reading/Approval of the Minutes of the October 26, 2014 Parish Assembly: Gus Vouchilas
3. Treasurer’s Report: Philippos Athanasiades
4. Reports on: Stewardship (Gus Vouchilas), the 2015 Festival (Angie Leventis), Youth (Father Niko), the Metropolis Clergy Lay (Father Niko) (The Clergy Lay is being held at St. Nicholas Ranch April 27-28)
5. Report on Phase Two: Construction of the Cathedral/Capital Campaign (Ken Katen, Tom Nuris)
6. Election of Nominating Committee (Parish Council elections will take place on Sunday, December 13)
7. Old Business

Members in good standing, as defined in the Archdiocese Regulations, are invited to attend and participate.

LOOKING AHEAD: STEEL SIGNING ON JUNE 14: On Sunday June 14, 2015, a special “steel signing” will take place. On that day, following the Divine Liturgy, a Blessing of the Waters service (episkopostas) will be celebrated. Then, everyone will process out to the construction site, where donors and everyone else will have an opportunity to sign their names on the steel columns, thus forming a physical “connection” with the new Cathedral. Specially inscribed markers will be provided; you get to keep the markers. A light luncheon, provided by Chick ’N Coop, will follow. What exciting times for our community and for San Francisco! The biggest building boom in the City in decades, a house of worship is rising, and a Greek Orthodox Cathedral at that! And to think that we, in our own way, are contributing to the growth of our City by offering this sacred house of worship, for the glory of God, the God who says, “Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you. I will give you a message and a sign among the Gentiles.” (LXX, Exodus 25:8).

LOOKING AHEAD: FOOD FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 18, 19, 20: The Festival will take place on our grounds, similar to last year, Friday through Sunday, September 18 through 20. In order to insure its success, we need your input and assistance: the more volunteers we get the more we can save by not having to hire as many people. The festival is about making money to support the Cathedral’s ministries but, even more importantly, about building community, both our own faith community, and the community at large. Please approach Angie Leventis, our Festival Coordinator, and offer your support.

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

EPISODE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Epistle Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 11, verses 19-30. It is found in our books, pages 86-87.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to John, chapter 4, verses 5-42. It is found in our books on pages 175-181.

PASCHAL TROPARION: Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down death upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

CHRISTOS ANESTH, KAI THEOS KATESTHEREI TOUS, KAI TOUS STO THEOS KATHEKOU.

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 from 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 Kozak at orthodoxy-agkozak@sneakmail.com.

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 libranos del Mal.
STEEL RISING AND RISING! You have only to look through the front gates or the gallery doors to see the Cathedral rising. We've been busy since March 25th laying the vertical or “red-iron” steel (called “red-iron” because of its protective orange-red coating, similar to that of the Golden Gate Bridge). Some 1,000 pieces of red iron steel will form the “skeleton” of the Cathedral. To date, we've erected the steel in the transepts, the apse, including the apse half-dome, and the 50-foot diameter dome itself. By June 14 the towers (one of which will house the elevator), the choir loft and narthex steel will all be in place. It’s shaping up to be a magnificent Cathedral!

On Sunday June 14, 2015, a special “steel signing” will take place. On that day, following the Divine Liturgy, a Blessing of the Waters service (agiasmos) will be celebrated. Then, everyone will process out to the construction site, where donors and everyone else will have an opportunity to sign their names on the steel columns! Special markers will be provided; you get to keep them. What a blessing that day will be, forming a physical “connection” with the new Cathedral. A light luncheon, provided by Chick ’N Coop, will follow.

Our goal is to complete the exterior and also have a fully operational parking structure this time next year, even as work on the interior begins. From start to finish, depending upon fund raising, the work on the interior, including iconography and furnishings, could take another year.

As for the money required to complete the project, surely there are people “out there” who have waited for this moment before making their contribution, be it $1000 or be it $1 million. We pray the Holy Spirit inspires you to put your hand to your checkbook, joyfully, for, as Scripture says, “let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7).

These are exciting times our community and for San Francisco. Amid the biggest building boom in the City in decades, a house of worship is rising, and a Greek Orthodox Cathedral at that! And to think that we, in our own way, are contributing to the growth of our City by offering a sacred house of worship, for the glory of God, the God who says, “Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you. Καὶ ποιήησε μοι ἁγίίασµα, καὶ ὀφθήήσοµαι ἐν ὑµµῖν.” (LXX, Exodus 25:8).

The Church is here to heal, To reconcile, To connect with Christ, To become partakers of the divine glory, To worship God, To proclaim the Gospel, in the original Christian way, That the world may be saved.