FIFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

EPISODE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Epistle Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians, chapter 5, verse 22 through verse 26, chapter 2: Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Gospel Reading of the Day: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 8, verse 28-34 through chapter 9, verse 1. It is found in our books on pages 205-207.

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 the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is abolished, to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is abolished. When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is abolished.

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-aekozak@sneakmail.com.

Annunciation Cathedral Sunday Bulletin: July 5, 2015

A JOYOUS WELCOME, YOUR EMINENCE: The Cathedral is honored today by the presence of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America. His Eminence is in San Francisco, having attended the AHEPA National Convention (including the Daughters of Penelope, the Sons of Pericles and the Maids of Athena). He is the celebrant of this morning’s Divine Liturgy. We are grateful to His Eminence for his leadership, his vision, and his ongoing encouragement of “all things good and beneficial to our souls.” For us, members and friends of the Annunciation Cathedral family, His Eminence posed a challenge and offered encouragement when, in 2006, he attended this community’s 85th anniversary and said, “Either build a landmark, or build nothing at all.” We believe the rebuilding of the Cathedral (albeit 24 years since the Loma Prieta Earthquake), is such an undertaking, an offering of this generation to subsequent generations, an earthly abode for the One who presented us with the ultimate challenge: “Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you.” (Translated from the Septuagint: ΟΣ ΕΓΡΕΣΤΗΣΙ ΤΑΙΣ: ΟΙΑΙΑΙΟΥΣ WELCOME!)

DO YOU HAVE PHOTOS OF OUR GROUND BREAKING? Back in 1997, November 6th, to be exact, His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew broke ground for the Cathedral. You may recall what he said: “Today we break ground for the building of the Cathedral Church itself. This Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified.” These words have reverberated in our hearts ever since, becoming our Mission Statement and our Vision Statement as we rebuild God’s house “in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified.” We would like to put together a video incorporating photos of that glorious day, for use in the future, and we are reaching out to you, asking you to look through your photo albums and locate photos you may have taken on that historic day. We don’t want to keep your photos, but we would like to scan them. If you should locate photos/videos of that day in 1997, and would let us scan them, please let Father Stephen know. We thank you in advance. We thank the Alma Papingu and Denise Yeilding, who have already provided us with photos and memorabilia in their possession.

STILL LOOKING AHEAD: FOOD FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 18, 19, 20: Please note it on your calendars. As stated in the Herald, our coordinator and chairs are in place and the dates are set. This year’s Festival will take place on our grounds, similar to last year, Friday through Sunday, September 18 through 20. 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. When we went before the Planning Department to submit our plans to rebuild the Cathedral, and the hearings that followed, we still recall how some neighbors just showed up in support of the project, saying things like “we love the Cathedral, which we got to know through its Food Festival, and we’re here to speak in favor of its rebuilding.” Talk about community building! The next meeting of the Food Festival Committee will take place Tuesday, July 14 in the second floor conference room, 7 p.m.
WE'VE REACHED THE $10,000,000 MARK!

On October 17, 2013—24 years to the day of Loma Prieta Earthquake, which inflicted irrevocable damage to the old Cathedral—we signed a not-to-exceed contract with McNely Construction in the amount of $10.7 million. Meanwhile, we paid off the loans on the facilities we built in Phase One (almost $2 million) and also Architectural, Consultant and Permit Fees in connection with the rebuilding of the Cathedral (almost $1.5 million). We still have $1 million in the bank and an additional $1 million in receivables (from those who've made pledges to the Capital Campaign, some for as many as 5 years). We have approximately $3.5 million to go to complete the present phase of the construction (everything but the inside of the Cathedral). To do the interior, complete with pews, iconostasis and other appointments, we will need an additional $2.7 million. We have every reason to believe we will raise the money to complete the construction of the Cathedral and to maintain it. A recent study suggests the parking structure below the new Cathedral, rented out during non-church hours, will bring in some $53,000 a month. So, we are not worried about the funds to complete and maintain the Cathedral. We have every faith in our people and, above all, in God. What we are doing at this milestone moment is stopping and giving thanks to God who, as of June 1, 2015, has made it possible for the Annunciation Cathedral Community to raise $10,000,000, as we proceed to rebuild the Cathedral to the glory of God!

"The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all mankind, 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)