ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL SUNDAY BULLETIN: NOVEMBER 29, 2015

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

PARAMONOS & HIS 370 COMPANIONS; DIONYSIOS OF CORINTH

EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 5, Verses 8-19. It is found in our books on page 126.

Ό Ἀπόστολος, πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 5, ἐδάάφ. 8-19: Ἀδελφοί, ὡς τέκνα φωτὸς περιπατεῖτε - ὁ γὰρ καρπὸς τοῦ πνεύματος ἐν πάση ἀγαθωσύνη καὶ δικαιοσύνη καὶ ἀληθεία - δοκιμάζοντες τί ἐστιν εὐάρεστον τῷ κυρίω· καὶ μὴ συγκοινωνεῖτε τοῖς ἔργοις τοῖς ἀκάρποις τοῦ σκότους, μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ ἐλέγχετε· τὰ γὰρ κρυφῆ γινόμενα ὑπὰ αὐτῶν αἰσχρόν ἐστιν καὶ λέγειν. Τὰ δὲ πάντα ἐλεγχόμενα ὑπὸ τοῦ φωτὸς φανεροῦται· πᾶν γὰρ τὸ φανερούμενον φῶς ἐστίν. Διὸ λέγει, Ἔγειρε ὁ καθεύδων καὶ ἀνάστα ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, καὶ ἐπιφαύσει σοι ὁ Χριστός. Βλέπετε οὖν πῶς ἀκριβῶς περιπατεῖτε, μὴ ὡς ἄσοφοι, ἀλλὰ ὡς σοφοί, ἐξαγοραζόμενοι τὸν καιρόν, ὅτι αἱ ἡμέραι πονηραί εἰσιν. Διὰ τοῦτο μὴ γίνεσθε ἄφρονες, ἀλλὰ συνιέντες τί τὸ θέλημα τοῦ κυρίου. Καὶ μὴ μεθύσκεσθε οἴνφ, ἐν ῷ ἐστὶν ἀσωτία, ἀλλὰ πληροῦσθε ἐν πνεύματι, λαλοῦντες ἑαυτοῖς ψαλμοῖς καὶ ὕμνοις καὶ ψὸαῖς πνευματικαῖς, ἄδοντες καὶ ψάλλοντες ἐν τῆ καρδία ὑμῶν τῷ κυρίω.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 18, verses 18-27. It is found in our books, pages 267-269.

Η σημερινή εὐαγγελική περικοπή ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κεφ. 18, ἐδάφ. 18-27. Εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 266-268.

Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone One:

The stone that had been sealed before your tomb by the Jews, and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred Body, O Savior, the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ, glory unto your Kingdom, glory to your Dispensation, O You who alone love mankind.

Τοῦ λίθου σφοαγισθέντος ύπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντον σου Σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωήν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι, Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου, Χριστέ· δόξα τῇ Βασιλεία σου· δόξα τῇ οἰκονομία σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

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-agkozak@sneakemail.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 líbranos del Mal.

2015 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD: Annette Chiappari, Kalliope Fousekis, and Annamarie Balian will be on hand again today, collecting names for this year's Christmas Card. No doubt, you will want to be listed, as the community extends greetings and best wishes to one another on the occasion of Christmas and the New Year. The donation is, as it has been for years, \$25. Our Christmas card this year is a rendering of the Annunciation, written by our Iconographer, Professor **George Kordis**. The card goes to the printers this week and will be mailed with your 2016 calendars and the Program of Services for Christmas and the New Year.

DIVINE LITURGY THIS WEEK: Tomorrow is the Feast of St. Andrew, First-Called of the Disciples. It is also the Thronal Feast of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, which was established by St. Andrew. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated beginning at 10 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY IS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY: As noted, December 6 has been designated "Stewardship Sunday" at the Cathedral. By now, you have all received your 2016 Stewardship Pledge Cards and have given prayerful thought about what you will be contributing in 2016 in support of the Cathedral and its ministries. We have asked you NOT to send in your 2016 Stewardship Pledge Cards. Instead, we have asked you to bring them to church with you next Sunday. Following the *Artoklasia* service we will have an opportunity to publicly declare our support by depositing our stewardship commitments for 2016, in the receptacles provided. This is a symbolic way of saying what more and more of you are saying (as we discussed at last Sunday's Parish Assembly) that Annunciation is our parish. It means a lot to us. We will do whatever we can to support the Annunciation. A light brunch will follow, the offering of Adam Bousiakis of X/O Cafe.

MEETING OF PARENTS WHO HAVE GOYA-AGE CHILDREN (13 to 18 years of age): We've polled the parents and <u>Sunday</u>, <u>December 13</u> appears to be the best date for the parents to meet to discuss our GOYA program, staffing, and vision. The meeting will take place in the chapel following the Divine Liturgy and should last no more than 45 minutes.

2015 PHILOPTOCHOS ANGEL TREE PROJECT TO BENEFIT FOSTER CHILDREN: This Christmas season the Philoptochos is supporting the "Sleep Train Foster Kids" charitable program. This program provides a positive impact on the lives of thousands of foster children by providing them with everyday essential items. We are looking to provide gifts of pajamas and or winter coats to at least 50 foster children between the ages of 5 to 17. These items will be distributed to foster children in the San Francisco and San Mateo areas. The Christmas tree with gift tags have been set up since November 1st. Choose a tag for a specific age and gender. All <u>unwrapped</u> gifts need to be returned to the church by December 6th. Thank you for the generosity you have given over the past years. Contact Vivian Curd at 650-873-6055 with any questions.

ALMOST THERE: We are completely done with metal stud framing and exterior Densglass (the yellow panels you see on the outside). Plywood and wood blocking are also nearly complete on all tile roof areas, including the domes. Waterproofing, window installation, lath, and plaster will follow. Then, the exterior of the building will be virtually complete.

Excitement mounts as we watch this magnificent structure evolve, as it represents everything we are and everything we believe as Greek Orthodox Christians. It is also a symbol of the faith that our own generation has cultivated, and what we hope to leave behind, to inspire the generations to come.

We've noted on a number of occasions that we have raised \$6 million towards this project, with another \$4.7 to go. And we have explained how much has been spent and on what. Additionally, we have projected a timetable for completion of the project--summer of 2016; this includes the normal functioning of the garage. At that point, we are planning to hold a **Gala event**, to celebrate a great accomplishment, as we turn to phase two (the completion of the interior). Work on the interior, including appointments and iconography, should take another year or so. Certainly, we hope to be able to plan for its consecration, in 2017, four years before our 100th anniversary. All this, of course, will depend upon your prayers and continued support.

May God bless our undertaking, for God is the one who spoke to Moses, then, and who speaks to us, today, saying: "Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you." (Translated from the Septuagint: Καὶ ποιήσεις μοι άγίασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν). (Exodus 25:8). May we prove worthy of the trust God has in us to rebuild His Church.



"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)