FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

EPISODE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul’s letter to Timothy, chapter 1, verses 15-17. It is found in our books on page 131

THE LORD’S PRAYER IN SPANISH: Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo, santificado seas, ven 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 venga  tu Reino, gloria y reino, en la tierra como en el cielo. Amén.

THE ROYAL HOUSE OF JESUS: Hágase tu voluntad, que estás en los cielos, de acuerdo con su voluntad; así que hágase tu voluntad en tierra como en el cielo. No nos dejes caer en el pecado, sí bien en tu presencia seamos rectos. Y cierra contra nosotros el error de nuestros hermanos, y no nos entregues a la tentación, sino en el día de tu poder libralnos del mal.

THE ROYAL HOUSE OF JESUS (DISMISSAL HYMN) is that of Tone One:

Δυνάμει τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι, Ζωοδότα·∙
Δόξα τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου, Χριστέ·∙
δόξα τῇ ημεροθυσίας σου, µµόνε Φιλάάνθρωπε.

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 ας Η坏事ς Ἐκ τοῦ Ἀναπτυσσόµενου πάντων, ὁ Παύλος ἐδάφισεν τὸ ἄνθρωπον πρῶτον εἰµι ἐγὼ∙ ἀλλὰ διὰ τοῦτο ἠλεήθην, ἵνα ἐν ἐµµοὶ παρελθῇ ἡ ἡµέρα διήθες δόξα." This is your parish, brothers and sisters; it is worthy of your participation, your involvement, and your support.

Today’s Memorial: We remember in prayer our sister Helen Checopoulos, who fell asleep in the Lord 40 days ago.

Today’s Basketball Games at Annunciation: Today’s games being played at the Cathedral: 2:00 p.m. Girls Middle School St. Gregory vs. Holy Cross 3:00 p.m. Boys Elementary School Holy Cross vs. Resurrection 4:00 p.m. Boys Elementary School Holy Trinity vs. Annunciation 5:00 p.m. Boys Middle School Ascension 2 vs. Holy Trinity, and 6:00 p.m. Boys Middle School Ascension 1 vs. St. Gregory

\[ \text{Parish Council:} \] The Parish Council will meet today in the second floor conference room, 12:30 p.m.

Crab Feed on March 4: The situation with the crab this year did not allow for us to hold our crab feed, as we usually do, the last Friday in January. However, we’ve been assured that the crab is now safe and plentiful and, so, the Crab Feed will take place on Friday, March 4. A flyer has been included in the February Herald.

Several Windows Are in, More and More Being Installed Until All 135 Are in Place: The windows have been a donor opportunity for us. For a donation of $5,000, parishioners and friends of the Cathedral may donate a window. Their names will be listed as donors on the commemorative plaque, which will be installed in the entryway to the new Cathedral. If you have already given to the Capital Campaign and wish to sponsor a window, you may well qualify for a higher category of giving.

Thank You, 2016 Stewards: A church is only as vibrant as the faith of the people who make up the community. Annunciation Cathedral is blessed to have dedicated people, who worship regularly and who contribute, making possible many ministries offered by their parish. Recently, we’ve had significant changes in the Cathedral’s personnel. This does not, however, diminish the service, which the parish offers to you, its parishioners, nor the level of support which the parish enjoys from you. If anything, it energizes our parishioners to expect, rightfully, more and better programs, as we engage in articulating a vision for our parish for its second hundred years. On December 6, we observed “Stewardship Sunday” at the Cathedral. Through your stewardship, you declared your support of the Cathedral and its ministries for 2016 and beyond. 94 Stewardship pledges were received on that day. (We’re now up to 150.) Now, is this good? Yes and no. Because it represents just under half of the level of support we enjoyed in 2015, and we anticipate we should have 350 or so stewards again in 2016. On the other hand, our community has a potential of having 800 stewards. There are at least that many families with whom we communicate on a regular basis, and who consider the Annunciation Cathedral to be their parish church. So, how do we get everyone on board? By keeping at it, by staying the course. By continuing to extend the invitation, as the Lord himself does. As He says in Scripture, specifically, in the Book of Revelation, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock” (Revelation 3:20).

Meanwhile, we pause to acknowledge and thank our stewards. The February 2016 issue of the Herald, which you should be receiving any day now, features an “honour roll of stewards.” In is issue, we printed the names of all those who will have declared their support for 2016. If, for some reason, you have misplaced your card, please call the Cathedral office at 415 864-8000, and we will be happy to send you another card. If you prefer, you may pick up a card when you come to the Cathedral for worship, or you may speak with Gus Vouchitas, our Stewardship Committee Chair, or with Father Stephen, fatherstephen@annunciation.org. This is your parish, brothers and sisters; it is worthy of your participation, your involvement, and your support.

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WINDOWS GOING IN: We are completely done with metal stud framing and exterior Densglass (the yellow panels you see on the outside). Plywood and wood blocking are now complete on all tile roof areas, as well as the domes. Waterproofing has been completed, with lath, and plaster to follow. Meanwhile, the windows are being installed, and will be completed soon, weather permitting.

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 ποιήήσεις µου ἁγίίασµα, καὶ ὀφθήήσοµαι ἐν ὑµµῖν). (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)