EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul’s second letter to the Corinthians, chapter 6 verse 16 – chapter 7, verse 1. It is found in our books on page 116.

Today’s Apologytikon (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Five (Plagal 1): Eternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation. As the faithful, we both praise and worship Him for, in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross, and death did He endure, and the dead He raised unto life though His all-begotten for our salvation. Tón synánaxios Lógon Patéi kai Pneumátis, toν Ólaphthénov teýhënta eis swsthón ëmwn, ánivmiwnemivn píston kai prossovniémivn òth nhðskthse saarí análethēn eis to Óstauðí, kai thánonton upómeina, kai eγyeî thè tènðhènta, eî tè ëndhòn Ënvastasètai aithóu.

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 Alexis Kozak at orthodox-agk@snakemail.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.

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 15, verses 21-28. It is found in our books, on page 273.

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/reservation form has been included in the February Herald for your perusal. Please complete the form and return it to the Cathedral, c/o Crab Feed. For additional information, please contact Angie Leventis, aleventis3@comcast.net.

ANNUNCIATION DANCE GROUPS AT FDF! This year marks the 40th anniversary of the event and the Cathedral is proud to be represented by groups this year: Spitíes, our middle & high school group, Thisavrí, our elementary school group, 3rd-5th grade, and To Mellon, preschool & 2nd grade group. To Mellon is making its first appearance as an exhibition group, with 17 dancers. Anaheim, California is once again the destination for this year’s FDF and promises to be another fantastic year of making precious memories. Following three days of intense competition, the event concludes with a Grand Banquet and Awards Ceremonies this evening. For those who cannot attend and want to get a glimpse of the festivities, the final round of competition for advanced senior category that takes place on Sunday following liturgy, as well as the awards ceremony on Sunday will be streamed live. Please keep our groups, their directors, and our families in your thoughts and wish them well.

We will be accepting new members to the dance groups following FDF. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lea Lyberopoulos at karthia808@yahoo.com. Our groups are as follows: Pre-K group, turning 3 1/2 - 4 in 2015, or entering PreK or Kindergarten in fall 2016 Beginning elementary group, Kindergarten-2nd grade in Fall 2015 Thisavrí, 3rd–5th grade in Fall 2015 Spitíes, 6th-10th grade in Fall 2015 Ekrixi, 18 and older.
COUNT THE WINDOWS: There are 135 of them. Some have already been installed. We hope to complete the window installation, weather permitting, by the end of February. This will be followed by the scratch coat, stucco, tile roofs, stone along the base of the new Cathedral as well as the planted areas and, finally, the placement of the cross over the entrance and the cross on the dome.

The crosses are ready. The large cross, which will go over the dome, measures 7 feet and weighs 500 pounds. The smaller cross, which will go over the entrance, above the Narthex, is 4'10" and weighs less. We’re planning to bring them and place them for viewing in our chapel until such time as they will be installed—probably September, to coincide with the Feast of the Holy Cross. Some one out there may want the privilege of placing the cross above the dome, or above the narthex, thus donating the dome or the narthex, as the case may be. Father Stephen is looking for a donation of $1 million and is confident one of you will step up for this honor. Meanwhile, 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, including the normal functioning of the garage: October 31, 2016. At that point, we are planning to hold a Gala event, to celebrate a great accomplishment, as we begin work on the interior. The Gala will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2016. By now, you should all have received a save the date card in the mail. Tessa Ambus, co-chair of the Gala committee, talked about the gala briefly a couple of weeks ago, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. With God’s help, we hope to be able to complete the Cathedral by the end of 2017, and to consecrate the Cathedral in 2018 or 2019, well before our 100th anniversary in 2021.

“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)