EPISODE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 6 verses 12-20. It is found in our books on pages 134-135.

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SPANISH:

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING FOLLOWING TODAY’S DIVINE LITURGY: The Parish Council will be meeting today at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will take place in the second floor conference room.

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 this coming Friday, March 4. A flyer/reservation form has been included in the February and March 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. Today is the last day for reservations.

OIKOS LECTURE SERIES BEGINS: As announced in the March Herald, OIKOS (Orthodox in Koinonia Outreach Services), under the direction of Dr. Katina Kostoulas, Ph.D., is sponsoring a series of talks aimed at informing, engaging, and edifying our parishioners in any number of areas involving individual growth, family dynamics, and parish life. The lectures will take place the first Sunday of each month, during the coffee hour. For next Sunday, March 6, our speaker will be Alexander Kozak, a freelance writer and web developer, who studied classics at Harvard and King’s College, Cambridge, and who has a master’s degree in Greek from U. C. Berkeley. He has taught Annunciation Cathedral’s Introduction to Orthodoxy class since 2007. His topic will be “What if the Fall Had Never Happened?” and he will make special reference to the thought of St. Maximus the Confessor. For April (April 3), we will hear from Basil Crow, our accomplished chanter. For May (May 15), because of Pascha and Mother’s Day, we will hear from Professor Martha Klironomos, head of the Modern Greek Studies Program at SF State. Future lectures will include Janine Economides, Dr. Katina Kostoulas, and Steven Harris, Ph.D.

PSYCHOSAVVATA SERVICES AT THE CEMETERY CHAPEL: Psychosavvata (Saturday of Souls) services will not take place at the Cathedral. Instead, they will take place at the Chapel of the Greek Orthodox Memorial Park, Colma on Saturday, March 5, beginning at 8:30 a.m., on Saturday, March 12, beginning at 10 a.m., and also on Saturday, March 19, beginning at 10 a.m.

OYAA PLAYOFFS: OYAA playoffs will take place at the Cathedral this Saturday, March 5, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

TAX AID: This is a service provided gratis to low income citizens. CPAs donate their time to help prepare tax returns. The Cathedral is donating its space for this purpose. Tax Aid will take place Saturday, March 5, and Saturday, March 12, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., as well as Wednesday, March 16 and Wednesday, March 23, 5 p.m.–9 p.m.

PARISH ORATORICAL FESTIVAL MARCH 13: We look forward to hearing from our Sunday School children on Sunday, March 13, when they participate in the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival. Practice for participants, Grade 4 through High School, will take place on Sunday, March 6.
There are 135 of them. Some have already been installed. We look forward to the completion of their installation, so that we may proceed with the stucco, the tile roofs, the 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 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 are hoping to affix the large cross over the dome this Palm Sunday, April 24, and to lighting the cross on Pascha, as we intone “Come receive the light.” What a thrill this will be for the Greek Orthodox Community, as well as for San Francisco and the Bay Area! Some one out there may want the privilege of placing the cross above the dome, or above the narthex, thus essentially donating the dome or the narthex. 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 projected a timetable for completion of the project, including the normal functioning of the garage. As announced, we are planning to hold a Gala event, to celebrate a great accomplishment, this 95th year of our existence as a community, as we proceed to work on the interior. The Gala will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2016. 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.

May God bless our undertaking, and may God continue to inspire you and generations to come through this landmark house of worship, which you are building to His glory.

“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)