MEAT FARE SUNDAY

EPISODE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 8, verse 8 – chapter 9, verse 2. It is found in our books on pages 136.

The Lord's Prayer in Spanish: 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.

The 42 Martyrs at Amorium: The 42 Martyrs of Amorium, also known as the Forty-two Martyrs of Sebaste, were early Christians who were martyred under Emperor Maximus the Thracian in the 3rd century.

TODAYS MNEMOSYNA: Today’s Memorial Services are being offered for the repose of the souls of our sister Helen Calofonos, who fell asleep in the Lord 6 months ago, and of our brother John Calofonos, who fell asleep in the Lord one year ago.

WELCOME, FATHER TOM: The Reverend Thomas Paris is Dean Emeritus of Ascension Cathedral, Oakland, where he has served, with distinction, for over 40 years. He has, meanwhile, also headed the St. Nicholas Ranch Board and served the PAOI and other institutions in various capacities. We welcome Father Tom. He will deliver today’s homily. We also welcome Father Tom, looking forward to his frequent participation in services at the Annunciation Cathedral. Two of Father Tom’s and Presbyter Vasso’s children are Priests: Father James T. Paris is Proistamenos of the Holy Trinity Church in Clearwater, FL and Father Paul T. Paris is Proistamenos of the Holy Trinity Church in Portland, OR.

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., and of Dr. Anthony Elite, M.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 week, 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 Kilronnomos, Ph.D., 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 12, beginning at 10 a.m., and also on Saturday, March 19, beginning at 10 a.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 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 today, during Sunday School.
ALMOST ALL THE WINDOWS ARE IN: There are 135 of them. Most of them have been installed, and are now being tested against leaks, before we proceed with the stucco. We look forward to the installation of the copper domes (the large, central dome, as well as the iron half dome), the remaining, tile roofs, the stone along the base of the new Cathedral as well as the planted areas and, of course, the completion of the parking component. Meanwhile, we are planning for 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 will let you know 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. As announced, we are planning to hold a Gala event, to celebrate a great accomplishment, this 49th year of our existence as a community, and to kick off the 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 to the glory of God to coincide with 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)