THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

EPISODE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verses 4-10. It is found in our books, p. 123.

A solicitar, πρὸς ἑφεσίαν ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσµα, κεφ. 2, ἑδαφ. 4-10: Αδέλφοι, ὁ θεός, πλούσιος ἐν μιᾷ ἡμέρᾳ πάντας, σελ. 267-269.

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.

If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Alexandros Kozak at orthodoxy-agkokazak@sneakemail.com

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 Kozak at orthodoxy-agkokazak@sneakemail.com

PHILOTOCHOS MEETING: The Ladies Philoptochos will meet today in the second floor conference room, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

THIS WEEK’S GOINGS ON: A meeting of the construction committee will meet this Wednesday, beginning at 10 a.m. Meanwhile, lower school basketball practice will take place this Wednesday evening, beginning at 7 p.m. For the dance program, as we get ready for FDF, practices will be taking place not only on Sundays, but on some weeknights and Saturdays, as well. Dance practice will take place this Saturday, December 3, beginning at 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD; TODAY IS THE LAST DAY: Annette Chiappari, Kalliopi Fouskis and Annamarie Balian are on hand to invite you to participate in this year’s community Christmas card. The donation is $25. The card is sent to some 1,000 parishioners and friends of the Cathedral, conveying your collective greetings and best wishes. Today is the last day names are being taken for inclusion in this year’s Christmas card. Tomorrow, the names go to the printers for formatting and printing.

PHILOTOCHOS SPONSORING COFFEE HOUR NEXT SUNDAY: The Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos will be sponsoring the coffee hour next Sunday, December 4.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY: Sunday, December 11 has been designated “Stewardship Sunday.” It is the day when we bring our Stewardship Commitments for 2017 with you. They join the eight who were elected last year. They are: Dean Nicolakakis, Manoli Nuris, Nick Rally, Fousekis and Annamarie Balian. The collection basket at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

STILL BASKING IN THE GLOW OF THE GALA: For some time, we will basking in the glow of our 95th Anniversary Gala, held on November 5. It was a spectacular event. People will be talking about it for a long time. Costas Petakos has given us a link so that you may view a photographic slide show and a video of the evening. The link is: www.kostaspaphotography.com/Gala2016

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS DECEMBER 11: We have seven individuals running for the seven positions that are open. These are: George Ambodiutakis Ambous, S. Christopher Kyriacou, Vassiliki Moulas, Dean Nikolakakis, Manoli Nuris, Nick Rally, and Christopher Ramos. They will be elected to a two-year term, beginning January 1, 2017. They join the eight who were elected last year. Together with Father Stephen, they compose the Parish Council. The eight who were elected last year are: Philippos Athanasiades, George Gavros, Dennis C. Konstantinidis, Katina Kostoulas, Ph.D., Thomas A. Nuris, Paul P. Sogotis, Nicholas Svetcoff, and James D. Vorries.
THE SCAFFOLDING IS COMING DOWN: Now that the tile roof is complete, the scaffolding is being dismantled. We began at the east side of the building, and continued with the north side, the façade, the south sides. You now see what a magnificent, landmark of a building the new Cathedral is shaping up to be.

To mark this achievement, and to celebrate our 99th year as a community, we held a Gala event two Saturdays ago—by all counts, a smashing success! Be sure to view the slide show and video, by putting the following address in your browser: www.kostasphotography.com/Gala2016.

As for the interior, we hope to complete it by the end of 2017, as your generosity permits. We hope to consecrate the new Cathedral to the glory of God to coincide with our 100th anniversary, in 2021. God will bless us, indeed, if it is His Will that His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who laid the cornerstone back in 1997, also consecrates it to God’s glory in 2021! Meanwhile, you should be very proud of yourselves for making this happen. It is your legacy to future generations.

May God continue to inspire you and those who will come after us. The new Cathedral, in the heart of this great City of San Francisco, has a great role to play in bringing people together to praise the holy Name of God. You are building it to glorify Him who spoke to Moses, 3,000 years ago, and Who is speaking to us today, saying: "Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you.”

(Translated from the Septuagint: Καὶ ποιήσεις µου ἁγίασµα, καὶ ὀφθήσοµαι ἐν ὑµῖν). (Exodus 25:8).

“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)