

# LOOKING TOWARDS OUR CENTENNIAL

My fellow Parishioners,

**W**hat a great honor it is to be part of the Annunciation Family as we celebrate 100 years since it was established in 1920. I have been here at Annunciation Sacramento since 1963. Some of my relatives listed below were here quite a few years before 1920.



My grandfather, Gus Harris arrived in 1914 and went to work for the railroad soon after. My mother (Maria A. Demas) was born in Dunsmuir, California in 1927. She was baptized at Annunciation at 6<sup>th</sup> and N Street.

My grandfather on my father's side, came to America in 1898. He settled in on the east coast in the state of South Carolina.

My grandmother's first cousin, George Christopher came to California in 1910. He went on to become the mayor of San Francisco, 1956 to 1964.

If you have the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary album from Annunciation, you will see on page 18 this: "One of the earliest (families) was that of Peter Kerhoulas. He arrived in 1898". In 1966, while attending American River College, I became friends with a Greek student by the name of Peter Kerhoulas. Just a few years ago, by way of DNA, we found out that we are related. Small world indeed.

As we celebrate the Centennial at Annunciation Sacramento, there is another big milestone for our Church coming up that we all should be anticipating with pride and joy. In the year 2033 our Orthodox Faith will be 2,000 years old. I for one have had this on my mind for quite a few years now. Looking forward to it. Are You?

Blessings from my family to yours.

John M. Demas

