



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ANNUNCIATION  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY  
JANUARY 5, 2025

# Sunday Before Theophany

## January 5, 2025

Fast Day (Oil & Wine allowed) | Mode 3 | 6th Orthros Gospel

On this Lord's Day, the we observe the Eve of the Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; we also remember the Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas; the Righteous Syncletike of Alexandria; Gregory of Akrita; and Apollinaria of Egypt.

### Antiphon I. Mode 2. Psalm 103.

**Verse 1:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and everything within me, bless His holy name.

**Refrain:** Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

**Verse 2:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His rewards.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ, σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

**Verse 3:** The Lord prepared His throne in heaven, and His Kingdom rules over all.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Amen. Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

### Antiphon II. Mode 2. Psalm 146.

**Verse 1:** Praise the Lord, O my soul! I shall praise the Lord while I live; I shall sing to my God as long as I exist.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

**Verse 2:** Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob; his hope is in the Lord his God.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱέ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλουῖα.

**Verse 3:** The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Amen. Only begotten Son and Logos of God....

### Third Antiphon. Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 3.

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ἄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy.

**Apolytikion for the Forefeast of Theophany, Mode 4:** O Zabulon, prepare, and be ready, Nephthalim. \* Jordan River, hold your course, and exultantly receive \* the Master who is coming to be baptized. \* Adam leap for joy with Eve the Foremother. \* No longer hide yourselves, as once in Paradise; \* for having seen you naked He has appeared \* to clothe you in your former vesture. \* The Christ has appeared, wishing to renew \* the entire creation.

Ἐτοιμάζου Ζαβουλών, καὶ εὐτρεπίζου Νεφθαλείμ. Ἰορδάνη ποταμέ, στήθι ὑπόδεξαι σκιρτῶν, τοῦ βαπτισθῆναι ἐρχόμενον τὸν Δεσπότην. Ἀγάλλου ὁ Ἀδὰμ σὺν τῇ Προμήτορι· μὴ κρύπτετε ἑαυτοὺς, ὡς ἐν Παραδείσῳ τὸ πρὶν· καὶ γὰρ γυμνοὺς ἰδὼν ὑμᾶς ἐπέφανεν, ἵνα ἐνδύσῃ τὴν πρώτην στολὴν. Χριστὸς ἐφάνη, τὴν πᾶσαν κτίσιν, θέλων ἀνακαινίσει.

**Apolytikion of the Church, Mode 4:** Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Today is the crowning moment of our salvation, and the unfolding of the eternal mystery: the Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin, and Gabriel brings the good tidings of grace. Therefore with him let us also cry aloud to the Mother of God: Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.

**Festal Kontakion for Theophany, Mode 4:** To the flowing streams today \* of River Jordan \* comes the Lord and cries aloud \* to John the Baptist, and He says, \* "Be not afraid to baptize me now; \* for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Ἐν τοῖς ρεῖθροις σήμερον τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, γεγονῶς ὁ Κύριος, τῷ Ἰωάννῃ ἐκβοᾷ· Μὴ δειλιάσης βαπτίσει με· σῶσαι γὰρ ἤκω, Ἀδὰμ τὸν πρωτόπλαστον.

*After the Trisagion Hymn:*

**Prokeimenon of the Apostle. Mode Plagal 2. Psalm 27.**

O Lord, save your people and bless Your inheritance.

To You, O Lord, I cry; O my God.

**The Reading is from the Holy Apostle Paul Second Letter to the Timothy (4:5-8):**

TIMOTHY, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

**Alleluia**

**The Gospel Reading is from Mark (1:1-8):** The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John was baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

**Parish Council: Team B**

Milt Apostolidis – Team Leader, Nick Avdis, George Chuchas,  
Michael Dariotis, Stella Dariotis, Maria Sampanis



**Altar Guild**  
Kathy Ballas



**Coffee Fellowship**

Sponsored by the Demas & Verrios Families

**Publication Submission Deadlines**

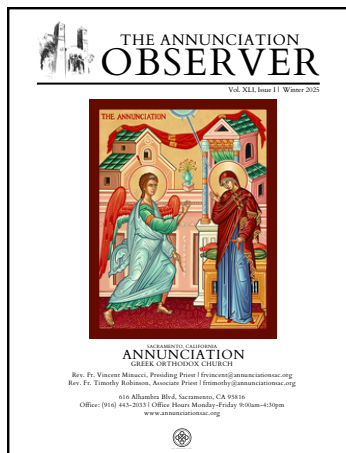
**Sunday Bulletin** - Wednesdays by 4pm to [nhansen@annunciationsac.org](mailto:nhansen@annunciationsac.org)  
*Limited to Annunciation parish and parochial ministry activities and announcements*

**This Week at Annunciation Email** - Wednesdays by 4pm to [nhansen@annunciationsac.org](mailto:nhansen@annunciationsac.org)

**Quarterly Observer** - March 10th to [observer@annunciationsac.org](mailto:observer@annunciationsac.org)

# ANNUNCIATION OBSERVER

WINTER 2025 ISSUE OUT NOW





**3RD ANNUAL TAVLI TOURNAMENT**

**PRESENTED BY: ALEKO VERRIOS &  
PETER CONONELOS**

**LIMITED SPACES  
\$100.00 BUY IN  
\$25.00 SPECTATOR TICKET  
MEZEDES & NO HOST BAR  
GRAND PRIZE- JONATHON ALDER  
TAVLI BOARD**



**SATURDAY | DOORS OPEN AT 1:30PM  
JANUARY 11TH, 2025 | GAMES BEGIN AT 2:00PM**

**The ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
600 ALHAMBRA BOULEVARD, SACRAMENTO, CA**


**PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE DSG**

CLICK LINK BELOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT [VERRIOS.DEMAS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:VERRIOS.DEMAS@GMAIL.COM) OR 916.541.3486







The Philoptochos Society of the Annunciation  
Invites you to the

2025  
**VASILOPITA LUNCHEON**

Sunday, January 12

Immediately following the Divine Liturgy  
Annunciation Hellenic Center

\$20 Adults | \$10 Children 12 & Under

Traditional Cutting of the Vasilopita & Vasilopita Auction



## Epistle Reading Program

The Epistle Reading Program is open to our parish youth (ages 10+) and is a wonderful opportunity for our children to take part in the Divine Liturgy on Sundays, and serve our community!

Please register and select reading dates at the link below. A confirmation will be emailed, along with the reading(s) for the selected date(s). Assistance is available to prepare new readers. Readers are needed every Sunday.

Please contact Nicki Hansen at [nhansen@annunciationsac.org](mailto:nhansen@annunciationsac.org) with questions.

[tiny.cc/epistlereaders](https://tiny.cc/epistlereaders)

**SAVE THE DATE**

*goya*  
**Bowling**   
**& Burgers**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 25**

**ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO COME**

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT NIKKI AVDIS AT [GOYA@ANNUNCIATIONSAC.ORG](mailto:GOYA@ANNUNCIATIONSAC.ORG)

ANNUNCIATION SACRAMENTO





# SUNDAY SCHOOL

Building a solid foundation for Christian education and formation

**REGISTRATION STILL OPEN FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**  
**REGISTER AT [tiny.cc/sunday-school](https://tiny.cc/sunday-school)**

## NURSERY-5TH GRADE

Class begins at 10am.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

Students attend the Divine Liturgy or assist our youth in class lessons and activities beginning at 10am. Middle School and High School lessons begin following Holy Communion.

Please contact [sundayschool@annunciationsac.org](mailto:sundayschool@annunciationsac.org) with questions



## ALTAR BOY REGISTRATION 2024-2025

**2nd Grade and Up**

**Visit [tiny.cc/altar2024](https://tiny.cc/altar2024)**

Please contact Gary Leonard with questions  
[garypleonard@hotmail.com](mailto:garypleonard@hotmail.com)



# STEWARDSHIP 2025

*"Give, and it shall be given unto you."*

Luke 6:38



## STEWARDSHIP FACTS

### Q: DO MY RECURRING STEWARDSHIP PAYMENTS ROLLOVER FROM YEAR-TO-YEAR?

**A:** In past years, recurring stewardship payments have NOT rolled over to the next year and stewards were required to create new pledges and payments at the beginning of the year. For 2025, recurring payments from 2024 will continue on unless stopped by the giver. If you would like to check your 2025 stewardship status or make changes to your recurring payment, please login to your PushPay account at [pushpay.com/login](https://pushpay.com/login) or contact the Annunciation Financial Office at [accounting@annunciationsac.org](mailto:accounting@annunciationsac.org).

### Q: WHAT DOES MY STEWARDSHIP PAY FOR?

**A:** In 2025, it will cost approximately \$3,500/day to keep the church open. Most operating expenses are paid from stewardship. Some examples are utilities, office staff and pastoral salaries, candles, permits, security, and facilities maintenance. Additional costs are directly related to church-funded ministries and programs.

### Q: I ALREADY PAY FOR GREEK DANCE, GREEK SCHOOL, ETC. WHY DO I HAVE TO ALSO PAY FOR STEWARDSHIP?

**A:** These programs operate independently from our general operating budget. The church provides the facility, in addition to facility-related expenses, enabling their operation and receives no money from these ministries. It is also important that families participating in our children's ministries be currently pledged stewards.

Make your pledge online at  
[annunciationsac.org/stewardship](https://annunciationsac.org/stewardship)  
or return a pledge card to the Church Office



STAY UP-TO-DATE ON UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS WITH THE

# *Annunciation Parish Calendar*

[tiny.cc/parishcalendar](http://tiny.cc/parishcalendar)



## *Coffee Hour Fellowship*

The members of Philoptochos want to thank our parishioners who support us throughout the year by sponsoring Annunciation's Sunday coffee hours and bringing pastry and goodies to share. Your sponsorship and sharing promotes fellowship, and we are so grateful.

Please consider hosting a coffee hour anytime during the year! Cookies, fruit, or a cake would be great! Coffee will be made for you.

Contact Donna Wagner at 916-214-9794 to secure a date for hosting a regular coffee hour. When contacting Effie in the church office to schedule a memorial, please let her know if you also wish to host coffee fellowship. She can be reached in the office at 916-443-2033 ext 222.



## **SUMMER 2025 SURVEY**

**HELP US PLAN OUR SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

**Take the short survey at [tiny.cc/summer-survey25](http://tiny.cc/summer-survey25)**





METROPOLIS OF  
SAN FRANCISCO

## **METROPOLIS NEWS**

### **Young Adult Winter Retreat**

Lake Tahoe

Friday, January 17 – Monday, January 20, 2025

Details and registration at [www.gosfyouth.org/youngadults](http://www.gosfyouth.org/youngadults)

### **Greek Village Staff Applications**

June 2025

Information and applications online at [www.ourgreekvillage.com/careers](http://www.ourgreekvillage.com/careers)

### **Summer Camp at Saint Nicholas Ranch**

Session 1: July 6 - 12

Session 2: July 13 - 19

Session 3: July 20 - 26

Visit [www.gosfyouth.org/summer-camp-2025](http://www.gosfyouth.org/summer-camp-2025) for application and details

### **Summer Camp at Saint Nicholas Ranch Staff Applications**

Visit [www.gosfyouth.org/summer-camp#/staff-applications](http://www.gosfyouth.org/summer-camp#/staff-applications) for application and details

### **CrossRoad**

Session details [www.crossroadinstitute.org](http://www.crossroadinstitute.org)

# January 5-12

Sunday, January 5

**Sunday Before Theophany**

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

*No Sunday School Classes*

Monday, January 6

**The Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ**

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

*Church Office Closed*

Tuesday, January 7

**Synaxis of Saint John Baptist**

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 11

11:30am DSG Tavli Tournament

Sunday, January 12

**Sunday After Theophany**

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Vasilopita Luncheon

## THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

600 Alhambra Blvd. Sacramento, California 95816 (mailing address 616 Alhambra)

**OUR MISSION** is to bring all people to full maturity in Christ through Worship (Liturgia), Service (Diakonia), Education (Paideia), Witness (Martyria) and Fellowship (Koinonia), guided and united in all things by the One Holy Spirit.

If you are visiting with us this morning, you are most welcome! Please fill out a Visitor's Card in the Narthex. If you have questions about the Orthodox Christian faith, our schedule of services, or becoming a member of the parish, please go to our website at [www.annunciationsac.org](http://www.annunciationsac.org), or contact the church office to speak with one of the Priests (M-F, 9 am – 3:30 pm, phone (916) 443-2033).

Be sure to visit our bookstore in the Annunciation Hellenic Center (entrance on Alhambra Blvd). The bookstore is open Sundays after Church or call (916) 231-9949 for an appointment.

Rev. Fr. Vincent Minucci, Presiding Priest | [frvincent@annunciationsac.org](mailto:frvincent@annunciationsac.org)  
Rev. Fr. Timothy Robinson, Associate Priest | [frtimothy@annunciationsac.org](mailto:frtimothy@annunciationsac.org)

616 Alhambra Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95816  
Office: (916) 443-2033 | Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:30pm  
[www.annunciationsac.org](http://www.annunciationsac.org)