



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ANNUNCIATION
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON
FEBRUARY 16, 2025

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

February 16, 2025

Mode 1 | No Fasting (Regular Fasting Schedule) | 1st Morning Gospel

This Lord's Day, we remember the Lord's parable of the Prodigal Son; we also remember Pamphilus the Martyr & his Companions; Flavianos, Patriarch of Constantinople; and Romanos the Younger.

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 Υἱὲ 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 Word of God....

Antiphon III. Resurrection Apolytikion. Mode 1.

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου Σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν· διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι ζωοδότα. Δόξα τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε φιλόνηρωπε.

The stone had been secured with a seal by the Judeans, * and a guard of soldiers was watching Your immaculate body. * You rose on the third day, O Lord * and Savior, granting life unto the world. * For this reason were the powers of heaven crying out to You, O Life-giver: * Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ; * glory to Your kingdom; * glory to Your dispensation, only One who loves mankind.

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.

Kontakion for the Sunday of the Prodigal, Mode 3: Τῆς πατρῶας, δόξης σου, ἀποσκιρτήσας ἀφρόνως, ἐν κακοῖς ἐσκόρπισα, ὄν μοι παρέδωκας πλοῦτον· ὅθεν σοι τὴν τοῦ Ἀσώτου, φωνὴν κραυγάζω· Ἥμαρτον ἐνώπιόν σου Πάτερ οἰκτίρμων, δέξαι με μετανοοῦντα, καὶ ποιήσον με, ὡς ἓνα τῶν μισθίων σου.

I revolted senselessly * out of Your fatherly glory; * I have squandered sinfully * all of the riches You gave me.* Hence to You, using the Prodigal's words, I cry out,* I have sinned before You, merciful loving Father.* O receive me in repentance, * I pray, and treat me * as one of Your hired hands.

After the Trisagion Hymn:

Prokeimenon of the Apostle. Mode 1. Psalm 32.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we hope in You.

Rejoice greatly in the Lord, O righteous ones; praise is fitting for the upright.

The Reading is from the Holy Apostle Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (6:12-20):

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

Alleluia

The Gospel Reading is from Luke (15:11-32): The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired

servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Parish Council: Team B

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



Altar Guild

Katia Sampanis



Memorials

Alexandros Exadactelos (three years), Aphrodite Exadactelou (14 years),
Haralambos Exadactelos (34 years), Lt. Sabe Legatos (80 years)

Coffee Fellowship

Sponsored by the Hebenstreit Family

Publication Submission Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin – Wednesdays by 4pm to 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

Quarterly Observer – March 10th to observer@annunciationsac.org

FDF 2025

FEBRUARY 13-16 · ANAHEIM, CA



Please join us in praying for the safe travels of our dancers, directors, dance families, and Fr. Vinnie, as they journey to Anaheim for FDF 2025 this weekend.

Good luck, dancers! Your Annunciation family is cheering for you!



KIDS 'N' CANCER MONTH

Please join Philoptochos in the month of February for our Kids 'n' Cancer fundraiser to support our Kids 'n' Cancer Agape Camp. We support 4 camps in our Metropolis for children with cancer and their families. Each camp will invite about 20 families for 4 days of spiritual, fellowship and fun. There always is a theme and special surprises for the families.

Philoptochos thanks you for your continued support for this worthy cause.

- Sunday, February 2nd - Pancake Breakfast
- Sunday, February 9th - Super Bowl Nacho Sunday
- Sunday, February 16th - Kids 'n' Cancer Coffee Hour
- Sunday, February 23rd - Our Fabulous Cake Raffle

ANNUNCIATION SENIOR LEAGUE (ASL)

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Thursday, February 20th, 2025 - 11:30AM to 1:30PM

ST. KATHERINE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, ELK GROVE

CONTACT: Diane Petersen (916) 214-4644

PRICE: \$15 per person at the door

GUEST SPEAKER: Nancy Econome author of "The Classic Grill"

Annunciation Philoptochos Society presents

A Scrumptious Cake Raffle



Sunday, February 23

Following the Divine Liturgy
Annunciation Hellenic Center

Raffle tickets for these beautiful cakes on fancy platters will be sold on the Sunday of the raffle, during coffee hour.



2025 ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

SENIOR DIVISION (GRADES 10-12) · JUNIOR DIVISION (GRADES 7-9)

ANNUNCIATION PARISH FESTIVAL

Sunday, March 30, 2025 · Following the Divine Liturgy, 12:30pm

AWARDS

National finalists are eligible to receive the following:

- St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival Scholarship: \$500 to \$2000
- FAITH - An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism: to be announced

Finalists at any level are eligible to receive the following:

- Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College: \$2,500 up to \$30,000 per year

Find topics, tips, manual & award information at www.goarch.org/oratorical

Questions? Interested in participating?
Contact nhansen@annunciationsac.org



Please join us for
tea & treats at a

MYRRHBEARER MEET & GREET



Sunday, March 9

*Classroom 2209
Following the Divine Liturgy*

Girls 2nd grade and up



RSVP at tiny.cc/teaparty25

ANNUNCIATION SACRAMENTO

LENTEN
YOUTH
RETREAT

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS
APRIL 12, 2025

ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO COME



ANNUNCIATION



SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 23 - 27

MORE DETAILS TO COME



ANNUNCIATION BOOKSTORE NEWS

Happy Valentine's Day! We carry lots of sweet heart items for your loved ones. Soy Candles; red heart or cross bracelets; Korres brand olive oil hand and body cream, and gift sets; and more!

Musical Art Hearts Stand up sweet little Art Hearts - "Love You to the Moon", "Always in my Heart" and "Guardian Angel Protection"

And don't forget - "Happy Birthday Everyone" ~ from Father Vinnie We now stock "Father Vinnie soy birthday candles" because it's everyone's birthday! Of course, they have colorful sprinkles on them and burn for hours. It's a great gift for all ages. Buy one for the family and light it over and over as a family birthday tradition.

Supporting your Bookstore is supporting your church as we give back to the community. This year we purchased icons for the priests to gift at weddings and baptisms.

Dollar Days Are Coming The third Sunday of every month is Dollar Days. Check out the table outside the Bookstore door for icon and book deals.



Korres Set



Musical Art Hearts



Birthday Candles



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 with questions.

tiny.cc/epistlereaders



Annunciation Costume Inventory Project

We are creating a digital inventory of our costume collection and its rich history and would like to include as many photos and examples as possible.

- Did you dance with the Annunciation in the past?
- Do you have photos of yourself, your children, or grandchildren in these costumes?
- Did you sew or help with costumes?
- Do you have any other information about the costumes or do you still have old costumes at home?

In particular, we are looking for group and individual photos from the 1970s to the present day. We have already inventoried many costumes stored at the church, but we know there are more out there!

Please text or email Anastasia if you have questions, information or photos at 530-574-2756 or panagaa@crc.losrios.edu.

If you'd like to see what we've inventoried so far, the digital costume record forms can be accessed by scanning the QR code.



This inventory is a work in progress and some costume forms are still incomplete as we gather more information.



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

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 with questions



ALTAR BOY REGISTRATION 2024-2025

2nd Grade and Up

Visit tiny.cc/altar2024

Please contact Gary Leonard with questions
garyleonard@hotmail.com



Is the Lord Jesus calling you?

Do you want to learn more about Orthodox Christianity
and becoming an Orthodox Christian?

In recent months, our Parish has been blessed with a number of people inquiring about the Faith. **Are you among these inquirers?** We would like to share our Faith with you in an organized and systematic way. Beginning Tuesday, February 18, and continuing through Great and Holy Lent and Pascha, we will be offering an **Introduction to Orthodoxy Class** (for adults). We will meet in the downstairs Conference Room in the Hellenic Center. Class will begin at 6 pm and meet for about an hour and half. If you cannot come in person, but you would like to participate via Zoom, please tell us, and we will endeavor to accommodate you.

Required Texts:

- Dr. Eve Tibbs, *A Basic Guide to Eastern Orthodox Theology: Introducing Beliefs and Practices* (Baker Academic, 2021). This excellent recent book is available in print (our bookstore has some copies), Kindle, and Audio.
- Mark Nauroth, *The Power of the Creed* (Worldview Guys Media, 2019). This privately published text is only available in print, BUT Mark, a Parishioner at St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church in Irvine, CA, has also done a series of YouTube videos based on the book. Search for Mark Nauroth on YouTube. 13 videos. (Caution! There is a lot of religious "junk" on YouTube. I think you know this!)

If you are interested in attending this class, please email me at frtimothy@annunciationsac.org. I need your name and an email address.

Fr. Timothy Robinson, Associate Priest



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.

DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT FALLING?

"A Matter of Balance" is an empowering workshop designed for individuals who wish to overcome their fear of falling and embrace a more active lifestyle. Over the course of eight weeks, participants engage in two-hour classes that focus on building strength, enhancing balance, and boosting confidence.

This transformative program not only addresses physical aspects but also incorporates strategies to help you manage concerns about falls. By the end of the workshop, you'll find yourself more self-assured and ready to enjoy life to the fullest, equipped with the tools and confidence to engage in activities you love without fear!

Eight two-hour sessions in Annunciation Hellenic Center
Wednesdays, 1 - 3 PM
March 5 - April 23, 2025

Join us! It's free! Invite a friend!



A MATTER OF
BALANCE
MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS


To sign-up or for more info, call Dennis Ferreira, (916) 747-1442

Sponsored by the Family Wellness Initiative.
Program licensed and overseen by UC Davis.

A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model

Recognized for Innovation and Quality in Healthcare and Aging, 2006, American Society on Aging.
A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model was developed by a grant from the Administration on Aging (#90AM2780).





The Family Wellness Initiative Open House

JOIN US: —

THE *Beauty*
OF AGING TOGETHER
LIKE FINE WINE
CAND THE *Joy* OF
HEALTHY
LIVING



We warmly invite you to join us!

— ♥ —


Wednesday, February 26, 2025

11 am - 1 pm

Arrive early as the program starts promptly at 11

Annunciation Hellenic Center Foyer

(616 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento)



THIS open house showcases the fun, education, and value of the *Family Wellness Initiative* as we make new friends, invest in our health, and care for those who exercise and eat with us.

If you want to age in place within our community, join us to discover ways this program can help you support your future or current caregivers, preserve your family's wealth, and lower your long-term care costs.

Our vision is to help individuals and families navigate the challenges of aging and caregiving with the support of our faith community.

Come and join us for a simple meal and learning opportunity about a program that could make a big difference today and in all the years ahead.



To RSVP and
share a light
Lenten lunch,
please call
Bernadette
Kontos at
916-505-3946

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 or contact the Annunciation Financial Office at 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
or return a pledge card to the Church Office



February 16-23

- Sunday, February 16** **Sunday of the Prodigal Son**
9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Philoptochos Kids 'n' Cancer Coffee Hour
No Sunday School Classes
FDF 2025, Anaheim, CA
- Monday, February 17** *Church Office Closed for Presidents' Day*
- Tuesday, February 18** 6:00pm Introduction to Orthodoxy
- Thursday, February 20** 11:30am ASL Luncheon *at St. Katherine, Elk Grove*
6:00pm Byzantine Chant Class
- Saturday, February 22** **Saturday of Souls**
9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- Sunday, February 23** **Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday)**
9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Philoptochos Kids 'n' Cancer Cake Raffle

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

Annunciation Parish Calendar
tiny.cc/parishcalendar

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, 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
Rev. Fr. Timothy Robinson, Associate Priest | frtimothy@annunciationsac.org

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